

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 20, 2022

The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, Ohio held a Regular Meeting on the 20th of October, 2022 in the Catherine D. Milligan Community Room at Fairfield High School.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Present: Mr. Begley, Ms. Berding & Mr. Clark
Absent: Mrs. Gundrum and Mrs. Shorter

Also present: Mr. Smith, Mrs. Lane, Mrs. Hauer, Dr. Rice, Mrs. Aug, Mr. Perry & Mr. Wolterman
Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mr. Begley

PRESENTATIONS/RESOLUTIONS

A. FCSD Board of Education Student Advisory Committee – Ryan Bellamy

Mr. Bellamy, Principal at Fairfield High School introduced three students from Fairfield and members of the Student Advisory Committee.

- Kayla Vo is a junior and is involved in Show Choir, Asian American Association, Women’s Leadership Club, and Big Brother/Big Sisters Organization. She is a volunteer manager at a non-profit for CCDA in Hamilton and is a nail technician.
- Katelyn White is also a junior at Fairfield. She is a member of Fairfield Choraliers, Young Life, Youth Coalition, and Technology Student Association. She works at Skyline and Niederman Family Farm.
- Zach Thompson is a senior at Fairfield who is involved in National Honor Society, Marching Band, Jazz and Wind Ensemble, Student Leadership Equity Team. Zach works at Graeters and McDonalds.

Katelyn White spoke to the board and stated they were going to ask a few questions about what the school board is and basically wanted to learn more about it. Her first question was “What made you want to be a board member?” Ms. Berding replied that as the newest board member, serving about ten and a half months, she was taught by her father growing up, “if not you, then who?”. She said she always served the community whether by volunteering at events or being a part of the community. When her father left the school board, she decided it was her turn to step up. She is a Fairfield graduate, loves the school district and was a member of the arts and marching band. She wanted to come to the board and help preserve those things, so they will continue to achieve excellence. She wanted to give diversity to the board and give a little voice to people who didn’t think they had a voice until now.

Kayla Vo asked, “What do you enjoy most about being a board member?” Ms. Berding responded that her favorite part so far has been the activities such as Teacher Appreciation, Golden Apple Awards, Opening School Year Ceremony and Graduation. She said handing out diplomas to the students was definitely a touching moment.

Zach Thompson asked, “What are your biggest challenges and frustrations on the school board?” Mr. Begley commented that honestly COVID wreaked havoc with all school

boards. There was no rule book, no play book. It was a big challenge. They were learning on the fly. We were looking for direction and direction wasn't given. Beyond that, school boards should be apolitical and now there is a lot of pressure on school boards. It can't be about political ideology, needs to be about what's the best interest of the school.

Kayla Vo asked "What challenges do you face when deciding on tough or controversial issues and what steps do you take to make decisions? Mr. Begley stated that you have to stay true to what they are here to do and that is to advocate for the students and if it makes financial sense. They have to be good stewards of the public's money.

Zach Thompson asked "What are the roles in the school district that they may not know about?" Mr. Clark answered by saying they do tours of the school buildings which is one of his favorite things to do. He also said they do not get paid a lot of money, it is a volunteer position. The role is a passion they all have and they get to represent the community.

Katelyn White asked if there was one initiative that could be implemented in the school district, and what would it be? Ms. Berding commented by saying the board had a lot of good ideas before she came on. They had planned but because of COVID, they had to go in full force with the one-to-one ratio where students learn virtually. Kids are tech savvy and we were able to give them the tools for learning. She also said, personally, she would like to help secure a financial standing for the school district. They've looked at numbers and projecting to help get through that.

Katelyn White's next question was "What would you like to change in the district to help students and staff?" Mr. Clark commented that he would like to piggy-back on what Ms. Berding said and he would like for the district to be free standing and not have to rely on a levy. He also stated he wished parents were more involved by going to conferences, board meetings and helping with homework. He'd like to see more interaction and working together with teachers.

Kayla Vo's last question was "Do you ever think about the future generation and how your decisions affect them?" Mr. Clark stated that everything they do affects students now and future generations. They look at finance, building, purchasing or not purchasing or buying something that needs to be put off, curriculum and security. They put a lot of thought and discussion into what the future generations will look like.

B. EL Program Update – Mandy Aug & Jen Crawley

Mrs. Aug started by saying their last presentation was in November 2020 which focused on takeaways from English Language needs assessment with Hamilton County Educational Service Center in Fall 2020. That needs assessment, the growing number of English Language students and needs of students help guide the work and changes they make to the program. Mrs. Aug introduced Maegan Noland, Administrative Assistant in Curriculum. Ms. Noland supports the English Language program by making sure students are screened, enters all the data, schedules interpreters and also put together tonight's presentation. Mrs. Aug then introduced Jennifer Crawley. Mrs. Crawley is new to the curriculum department this school year. She has experience as a middle school French teacher at another district, an EL Tutor, and an EL Teacher at North Elementary then at Crossroads Middle. She is also a Fairfield parent.

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Mrs. Crawley showed a slide show presentation with the following information:

- Currently, we have English Learners from over forty different countries
- They speak over 40 different languages (the top three are Spanish, Nepali and French)
- Over four hundred students are identified as Immigrant Youth in Fairfield City Schools

How do we identify English Learners?

- The pre-identification is made during the enrollment process with the Home Language Survey.
- Should another language be listed on the Home Language Survey, the student will be screened using the Ohio English Language Proficiency Screener in kindergarten through twelfth grade. Fairfield also identifies preschool students with the pre-IPT.
- Students will qualify for English Learners Services if they score in the Overall Performance Level of Emerging (1) or Progressing (2).
- English Learner students in Ohio are assessed yearly using the Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA) in kindergarten through twelfth grade until they reach the Ohio Performance Level of Proficient (3).

English Language Students by Building

Senior High – 212 (14.4%)	South – 118 (8.0%)
Freshman – 71 (4.8%)	North – 89 (6.1%)
Crossroads – 92 (6.3%)	East – 83 (5.5%)
Creekside – 119 (8.1%)	Compass – 199 (13.5%)
West – 152 (10.3%)	Central – 336 (22.8%)

Potential English Language Students in 2022-2023

429 (87.2%) Screened, Already Qualify
63 (12.8%) Did Not Qualify

Issues facing many of the English Language and Immigrant Youth students and families

- Cultural Challenges – societal norms, American customs, faith/religious, beliefs, behaviors
- Language Challenges – basic needs, social-emotional, academic
- School Challenges – students with limited or interrupted formal education, peers, high-stakes tests, graduation
- Life Challenges – separation from family, finances/working, deportation, homelessness

The increase in student population has increased need for:

- Title III Compliance
- Family engagement
- Diversity/cultural awareness
- Curriculum
- Technology
- Data collection
- Bilingual staff

- Socio-economic assistance
- Translations/interpreters

Over the last six years, our English Language population has doubled. We started out with six TESOL endorsed teachers, now there are fourteen. There are three buildings that have more than one TESOL endorsed teacher – Central, Compass and High School. Currently, there are fifty-two English Language tutors and the student to teacher ratio is 105:1.

Multilingual Family Supports

- Mario Amaya and Johan Aquino are district Spanish liaisons who help in communication with Hispanic families
- Interpreter services linked with Affordable Language Services and Accuracy Now, a program of Catholic Charities
- Three-month trial with six languages (Spanish, French, Nepali, Vietnamese, Arabic and Portuguese) of our Family and Interpreter Messaging System
- Seeking our bilingual staff who often assist with interpreting outside of their school day responsibilities

Students with Limited or Interrupted Formal Education (SLIFE)

- Below grade level for their age (by at least two years)
- May have limited skills in their home language
- Have had gaps or limited formal education for a variety of reasons
 - Refugees
 - Migrants
 - Poverty
 - Need to work to support family or themselves
 - Civil strife
 - Natural disasters
 - War
- There is a high dropout rate among this population of students

Fairfield SLIFE Program (Name to be determined)

- To begin with the 2023-2024 school year
- Will be housed at Fairfield Freshman School
- Will serve all SLIFE/Newcomers who meet criteria

The program will focus on:

- credit acquisition and career readiness
- sheltered content instruction
- American culture and school experience

Ms. Berding asked what is TESOL? Mrs. Crawley said it's an endorsement offered in Ohio. It stands for Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. It requires eighteen hours of course work.

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Mr. Clark inquired about the three-month trial of the Family Messaging System and the cost associated with it. Megan Noland was able to respond with \$10/month per language (six languages = \$60/month) and 10¢ /per minute, we pay 85¢ for Spanish and 95¢ for other languages. Mr. Clark commented that he gets to work with a lot of English Language students and this is an amazing way to communicate.

Mr. Begley expressed that this was eye-opening data. There are huge challenges with all the different languages and that must create a strain in trying to connect with all the students. Mrs. Crawley said they are teaching them English so she didn't need to know how to speak each language. Mr. Begley also commented on the percentage of students – 22% in Central and 14% in High School. Mrs. Crawley stated the graduation clock is ticking for those in high school and last year they had all of the English Language students graduate.

COMMUNICATION - None

This is the portion of the meeting where you, the residents of the Fairfield City School District, are invited to share your thoughts with the Board. In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient fashion, a maximum of thirty (30) minutes of public participation may be permitted at each meeting. Please know that this time has been set aside for the Board to listen to you. Your comments are valued and will be taken into careful consideration. The Board will not engage in dialogue at this time. Presentations are limited to five (5) minutes each.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

22-88 RESIGNATIONS/UNPAID LEAVES OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT – Mrs. Hauer

MOTION – Moved by Ms. Berding to approve the following:

A. Personnel – Professional

1. Resignations

- a. Nancy McCloskey, District, Speech Language Pathologist
(effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year; for personal reasons)
- b. Melinda Sander, West, Preschool Intervention Specialist
(effective at the end of the day October 13, 2022; for personal reasons)
- c. Elizabeth Welsh, Creekside/Crossroads, French
(effective at the end of the day October 10, 2022; for personal reasons)
- d. Lauren Woods, Central, Intervention Specialist
(effective at the end of the day October 10, 2022; for personal reasons)

2. Extracurricular Resignation Correction 2022-2023

- a. **Compass – Correction from October 6, 2022**
Kristi-Anne Covert, Unit Leader Grade 2
(effective 9/11/2022, 10% of contract fulfilled, for personal reasons)

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Corrected from: Kristi-Anne Covert, Unit Leader Grade 2
(effective 2022-2023 school year; for personal reasons)

3. Unpaid Leaves of Absence
 - a. Kelsey Grosser, Freshman, Intervention Specialist
(effective November 30, 2022 through January 16, 2023; for childrearing purposes)
 - b. Rachel Moore, Creekside, 7th grade Math
(effective November 7, 2022 through November 28, 2022; for childrearing purposes)
4. Employment
 - a. Sonya Goggin, West, Preschool Intervention Specialist
(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract for the 2022-2023 school year, effective October 18, 2022; for a new position)
 - b. Credit Recovery and/or Credit Flexibility Instructor(s) 2022-2023

Kevin Flaig

(The above-named person is recommended for employment as a credit recovery and/or credit flexibility instructor at the rate of \$33.05 per hour for the 2022-2023 school year for up to ten (10) hours per student per class.)
 - c. Extracurricular(s) 2022-2023

Senior High
Deion Curtis, Winter Guard Assistant Instructor
Lori Vail, Drama Club Producer

Crossroads Middle
Kyle Bolser, Department Head Integrated Language Arts Grade 8

Central Elementary
Elizabeth Houchens, Elementary Wellness Coordinator

Compass Elementary
Teresa Detherage, Unit Leader, Grade 2 90%
 - d. Substitute Teacher(s) 2022-2023

Gina Boothe
Maiya Caldwell
Jennifer Sauer
Elizabeth Welsh
Lauren Woods

(All recommendations are for the 2022-2023 school year at a rate of \$125 per day.)

(All employment is contingent upon satisfactory submission of all required documents.)

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SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Clark

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Ms. Berding & Mr. Clark

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 3-0

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RESIGNATIONS/UNPAID LEAVES OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT– Mrs. Hauer

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Clark to approve the following:

B. Personnel – Support

1. Resignations

- a. Taylor Fields, Compass, Educational Assistant
(effective the end of the day October 21, 2022; for personal reasons)
- b. Julie Garrett, Senior High, Educational Assistant
(effective the end of the day October 11, 2022; for personal reasons)
- c. Keli Kirby, Senior High, Food Service Assistant
(effective the end of the day December 31, 2022; for retirement purposes)
- d. Michelle Sullivan, Creekside, Educational Assistant
(effective the end of the day October 7, 2022; for personal reasons)

2. Unpaid Leaves of Absence

- a. Chancey Howard, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective September 28, 2022 through October 17, 2022; for personal reasons)
- b. Judith Mullins, Transportation, Bus Driver
(extension of unpaid leave of absence starting September 27, 2022 through November 20, 2022; for personal reasons)

3. Employment

- a. Stephanie Bailey, Crossroads, Food Service Assistant
(effective October 18, 2022; for a replacement position)
- b. Norman Bolling, Central, Temporary Custodian
(effective October 12, 2022 through January 12, 2023; for a replacement position)
- c. Mary Beth Jackson, Crossroads, Food Service Assistant
(effective October 10, 2022; for a replacement position)
- d. Katie Simpson, North, Food Service Assistant
(effective October 18, 2022; for a replacement position)

(All employment is contingent upon satisfactory submission of all required documents.)

SECOND – Seconded by Ms. Berding

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Ms. Berding & Mr. Clark

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 3-0

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22-90 APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICIES/APPROVAL OF 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDARS – Mr. Smith

MOTION – Moved by Ms. Berding to approve the following:

C. Other Items for Board Action

1. Recommend the approval of the following Board Policies:
 - a. EBC: Emergency Management and Safety Plans
 - b. IGDK: Interscholastic Eligibility
 - c. JED: Student Absences and Excuses
 - d. LEC-R (Also IGCH-R): College Credit Plus
2. Recommend the approval of the 2023-2024, 2024-2025, and 2025-2026 School Calendars

Mr. Begley remarked to Dr. Rice about opening this back up for discussion. Dr. Rice said he would survey again in late fall/early winter on how parents and staff felt about the early school start date and longer Thanksgiving break. If there was an overwhelming displeasure, he would look into changing the two school calendars.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Clark

ROLL CALL- Ayes: Mr. Begley, Ms. Berding & Mr. Clark

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 3-0

22-91 APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 15, 2022 AND OCTOBER 6, 2022/APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2022/APPROVAL OF THE 2022-2023 AMENDED APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION/APPROVAL OF DONATIONS/APPROVAL OF PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TRANSPORTATION – Mrs. Lane

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Clark to approve the following:

TREASURER’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

- A. Recommend approval of the minutes of the following meetings:
 - September 15, 2022 – Regular Meeting
 - October 6, 2022 – Regular Work Session Meeting
- B. Recommend approval of the financial reports for the month of September 2022.
- C. Recommend approval of the 2022-2023 Amended Appropriations Resolution.
- D. Recommend approval of the following donations:
 1. A donation of classroom supplies valued at \$62.96 from Ruthie Back to Fairfield North Elementary School.

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2. A donation of game coupons valued at \$47.50 from Gilmore Lanes to Fairfield Creekside Middle School to be used for student incentives.
3. A donation of pizza coupons valued at \$619.00 from Donatos Pizza to Fairfield Creekside Middle School to be used for student incentives.
4. A donation of driving range and miniature golf coupons valued at \$128.00 from Fairfield Fun Center to Fairfield Creekside Middle School to be used for student incentives.
5. A donation of food coupons valued at \$540.00 from McDonalds to Fairfield Creekside Middle School to be used for student incentives.

Total donations for 2022: \$40,068.50

- E. Recommend that the Board of Education adopt the following resolution for declaring transportation to be impractical:

WHEREAS the student(s) identified below have been determined to be residents of this school district, and eligible for transportation services; and

WHEREAS after a careful evaluation of all available options, it has been determined that it is impractical to provide transportation for these student(s) to their selected school(s); and

WHEREAS the following factors as identified in Revised Code 3327.02 have been considered:

1. The time and distance required to provide the transportation
2. The number of pupils to be transported
3. The cost of providing transportation in terms of equipment, maintenance, personnel and administration
4. Whether similar or equivalent service is provided to other pupils eligible for transportation
5. Whether and to what extent the additional service unavoidably disrupts current transportation schedules
6. Whether other reimbursable types of transportation are available; and

WHEREAS the option of offering payment-in-lieu of transportation is provided in Ohio Revised Code: Therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Fairfield City School District Board of Education hereby approves the declaration that it is impractical to transport the students identified herein and offers the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the following, payment-in-lieu of transportation.

<u>Student Names</u>	<u>Schools Selected & Grades</u>	<u>Parents/Guardians</u>
Landon Kinross	Mother Teresa, K	Kelly Kinross
Oliver McPhillips	Mother Teresa, K	Lisa McPhillips
Hunter McPhillips	Mother Teresa, K	Lisa McPhillips

SECOND – Seconded by Ms. Berding

ROLL CALL- Ayes: Mr. Begley, Ms. Berding & Mr. Clark

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 3-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislative Update – Balena Shorter

Mr. Begley gave an update on behalf of Mrs. Shorter. The State Board of Education approved a resolution recommending the General Assembly repeal a mandatory retention under the third-grade reading guarantee. House Bill 497 is before the Ohio Senate.

B. Butler Tech – Brian Begley

Mr. Begley mentioned that Butler Tech has completed the Natural Science Center on time and under budget. There will be an Open House on October 27.

C. Student Achievement – Jerrilynn Gundrum

Since Mrs. Gundrum was absent, Ms. Berding announced that the Fairfield Marching Band was going to the state competition at Hillard Bradley High School next weekend. She gave her congratulations on qualifying for state.

D. Parks and Recreation – Scott Clark

Mr. Clark stated that Harbin Park is underway and in the next six weeks the large shelter and heated restrooms would be in place. Some time in November, there will be a grand opening with hot chocolate and smores. During the summer, there will be a playground area with wet pad. He also mentioned that he was able to go on a tour of the theater at the Community Arts Center. He was amazed to see everything in the background and mentioned it was still in good shape for being approximately twenty years old.

E. Planning Commission – Billy Smith

Mr. Smith said at the October 12th there was nothing school related but for future consideration, the commission did approve a one-year extension request to Joe Schwarz for the Benzing Estates planned residential unit which is located off of Gilmore Road.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 20, 2022 – End of 1st Quarter, Grades K-12

November 3, 2022 – Board Meeting (Work Session), 6:30 PM, Fairfield Senior High School,
Catherine D. Milligan Community Room

November 8, 2022 – Inservice Day #3, No students

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Clark gave his thanks for the presentation on English Language students. He was impressed to hear about the call-in line with the numbers that were presented.

Ms. Berding also thanked Megan Noland and Jennifer Crawley for the English Language presentation. She also commented that the Marching Band's start time was at 11:15 a.m. on Saturday.

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Mr. Begley thanked Kayla, Katelyn and Zach who are a part of Mayor Mitch Rhodus' youth commission. He also thanked Mrs. Aug, Mrs. Crawley and Ms. Noland for the presentation. He said it was an excellent slide presentation and very informative. Mr. Begley also wanted to give an update on the two Board members who were absent - Mrs. Gundrum is very sick and Mrs. Shorter's father passed away.

22-92 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Ms. Berding to recess to Executive Session at 7:21 p.m. to discuss the following:

The employment and discipline of public employees 121.22 (G) (1)

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Clark

ROLL CALL - Ayes: Mr. Begley, Ms. Berding & Mr. Clark

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 3-0

The Board resumed the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

22-93 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION- Moved by Ms. Berding to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Clark

ROLL CALL - Ayes: Mr. Begley, Ms. Berding & Mr. Clark

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 3-0

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m. by President, Mr. Begley.

President

Attest: _____
Treasurer