

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WORK SESSION  
MARCH 6, 2025

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The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, Ohio, held a Work Session Meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March, 2025 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, Mrs. Berding-Miller, Mr. Clark & Mr. Napier  
Absent: Mrs. Gundrum

Also present: Mr. Smith, Ms. Lee, Mr. Hussel, Mrs. Hauer, Mrs. Aug, Mr. Perry & Mr. Clemmons  
Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Scott Clark

*Mrs. Gundrum arrived at 6:32 p.m.*

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER RE-EMPLOYMENT OF JAMES PIERCE – Jason Hussel

Mr. Hussel recommended James Pierce to be re-hired as a bus driver.

PRESENTATIONS/RESOLUTIONS

A. Update on K-5 ELA Curriculum – Mandy Aug

Mrs. Aug introduced Georgine Bowman, Coordinator of Elementary Curriculum and Instruction and Aimee Dunn, Orton Gillingham District Trainer to update the Board on K-5 ELA Curriculum. Mrs. Bowman stated they will go over three points in the presentation – The Science of Reading, FCSD Reading Curriculum and Impact on Students.

Mrs. Dunn talked about The Science of Reading and stated it is a comprehensive body of research that offers conclusive and empirically supported insights into how we learn to read, the essential skills involved, their interactions, and the brain regions responsible for reading development.

Mrs. Bowman spoke about the FCSD Reading Curriculum. She stated on size DOES NOT fit all and that there is no such thing as a “complete comprehensive program”.

Mrs. Bowman then went on to discuss The Impact on Students. She showed data for 2023-2024 Orton Gillingham and DIBELS for first and second grades comparing Fall to Spring. She also presented Grade 3 Fall OST Scores from 2020-2024, Grade 4 OST Spring ELA scores, and Grade 5 Spring OST Scores. She reported all are making progress.

The Board thanked them for the presentation.

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

25-21 RESIGNATIONS/UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT– Mr. Hussel

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

A. Personnel – Professional

1. Resignations

- a. Nicholas Dorsey, Senior High, Science

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(effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year; for personal reasons)

- b. Kristen St. Clair, Sacred Heart, Intervention Specialist  
(effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year; for personal reasons)

2. Unpaid Leave of Absence

- a. Mary Jones, Creekside, School Counselor  
(effective for .5 days from February 24, 2025 through February 28, 2025; for personal reasons)

3. Employment

- a. Elementary Summer School Principal 2024-2025

Michelle Hilbert

(The above-named person is recommended for employment as an administrator for the 2025 elementary summer school program as noted, at a rate of \$34.39 per hour for up to thirty-six (36) hours weekly, plus twenty (20) additional hours to be distributed as needed before, during, and after summer program sessions, from May 28, 2025 through June 27, 2025.)

- b. Extracurriculars 2024-2025

**Senior High**

Jennifer Carroll, Volleyball, Assistant Boys

Andrea Gemperle, Track, Assistant 75%

Dallas Haggard, Track, Assistant 75%

Raymon Jones, Track, Assistant 75%

Dwight Pringle, Wrestling, Assistant

Bryan Siebenaller, Track, Assistant 75%

**Freshman**

Travis Abrams, Wrestling

Ryan Forbush, Baseball

Dallas Haggard, Track 50%

Raymon Jones, Track 50%

**Middle- Creekside and Crossroads Combined**

Lily Gonzalez, Tennis, Boys 7th/8th Grade (Contract #1)

Lily Gonzalez, Tennis, Boys 7th/8th Grade (Contract #2)

**Central**

Allie Washing, Elementary Intramural Volleyball Coach

**Compass**

Samantha Andrews, Elementary Select Choir Director (additional due to numbers)

Lisa Gundler, STEAM Club Assistant

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Berding-Miller

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mrs. Berding-Miller, Mr. Clark, Mrs. Gundrum & Mr. Napier

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

25-22

RESIGNATIONS/UNPAID LEAVES OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT/SUPPORT  
SUBSTITUTES/TERMINATION– Mr. Hussel

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

B. Personnel – Support

1. Resignations

- a. Charity Gialloreto, Creekside, Educational Assistant  
(effective the end of the day February 7, 2025; for personal reasons)
- b. Lisa Medley, East, Educational Assistant  
(effective the end of the day May 31, 2025; for retirement purposes)
- c. Solayna Turner, Creekside, Educational Assistant  
(effective the end of the day March 3, 2025; for personal reasons)

2. Unpaid Leaves of Absence

- a. Elizabeth Cain, Creekside, Clerk IV  
(effective .25 day February 4, 2025; for personal reasons)
- b. Priscilla Glenn, Crossroads, Educational Assistant  
(extension of unpaid leave of absence effective February 18, 2025 through February 19, 2025; for personal reasons)
- c. Amanda Jenson, Transportation, Bus Driver  
(effective .5 day February 7, 2025; for personal reasons)
- d. Larry Marshall, Transportation, Bus Driver  
(effective .25 day February 5, 2025; for personal reasons)
- e. Cheryl Smith, Transportation, Bus Driver  
(effective .25 day February 13, 2025 through February 21, 2025; for personal reasons)
- f. Anna Wilson, Transportation, Bus Driver  
(effective .25 day February 14, 2025; for personal reasons)

3. Employment

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- a. Ashley Dare, District, Payroll Supervisor  
(recommended for a new two-year administrative contract effective July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027, for 228 days, on the support administrative salary range 2 for a replacement position)
- b. Michelle Deaton, North, Educational Assistant  
(effective February 24, 2025; for a replacement position)
- c. Kathleen Dorton, North, Food Service Assistant  
(effective February 24, 2025; for a replacement position)
- d. Patricia Frederick, Central, Educational Assistant  
(effective February 24, 2025; for a replacement position)
- e. Jayda Haney, East, Educational Assistant  
(effective February 24, 2025; for a replacement position)
- f. Nicolas Oursler, Compass, Temporary Custodian  
(effective March 10, 2025 through June 10, 2025; for a replacement position)
- g. Charly Sciutti, Crossroads, Food Service Assistant  
(effective February 18, 2025; for a replacement position)
- h. Bill Ungerbuhler, Transportation, Bus Driver  
(effective February 24, 2025; for a replacement position)

4. Support Substitutes 2024-2025

Melanie Bell - Bus Driver, Driver Trainee, Educational Assistant  
Brittany Beverly – Food Service  
Renee Edwards – Food Service  
Roberta Keller – Educational Assistant, Office  
Erin Overpeck – Food Service

(All recommendations are for the 2024-2025 school year at a rate approved by the Board, and contingent upon satisfactory submission of all required documents.)

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Gundrum

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mrs. Berding-Miller, Mr. Clark, Mrs. Gundrum & Mr. Napier

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

C. Items for Board Discussion

1. Momentum Award at North Elementary – Mandy Aug

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Mrs. Aug said North Elementary earned the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Momentum Award. This award recognizes schools that improved their performance index from 2023 to 2024 report card and received a value-added progress rating of four or more stars. She congratulated the staff and students at North Elementary.

2. Biennium Budget and Potential Impact on the FCSD – Amy Lee

Ms. Lee gave an update on the Governors proposal which is going to freeze base costs to the level it was in 2022 and local wealth factors to 2024 levels. She stated if this passes the negative cash will show up in 2027 not 2029 in the Five Year Forecast in November.

Mr. Smith commented to educate yourself, do your research and contact your Representative to see where they stand on public education.

3. Performance Contract – Amy Lee and Jason Hussel

Ms. Lee recommended a performance contract for Ashley Dare for mid-May through July 1<sup>st</sup> for training for her new role as Payroll Supervisor.

4. Board Policies – Kim Hauer

a. IGBAA- Special Education Model Policies and Procedures

Mrs. Hauer stated the 2009 guidelines were outdated and this policy was a necessary update.

b. BDDH- Public Participation at Board Meetings

Mrs. Hauer said this revision is to change from five minutes to three minutes and will be on the next board agenda for approval.

25-23 APPROVAL OF TREASURER AND ASSISTANT TREASURER JOB DESCRIPTIONS

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

D. Item for Board Action

1. Recommend approval of the following job descriptions:

a. Treasurer

b. Assistant Treasurer

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Berding-Miller

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mrs. Berding-Miller, Mr. Clark, Mrs. Gundrum & Mr. Napier

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislative Update – Jerrilynn Gundrum

Mrs. Gundrum said there is a bill pending, SB109, that proposes free breakfast and lunch for public and chartered nonpublic schools.

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B. Butler Tech – Brian Begley

Mr. Begley announced that the All Boards meeting will be held on Thursday, May 1, 2025, which is also a night for Fairfield Board meeting so they will not be able to attend.

C. Student Achievement – Abby Berding-Miller

Mrs. Berding-Miller stated the High School Boys' Basketball Team defeated Lakota East 49-42 and will now play Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup> against Lakota West at noon at Xavier University.

D. Parks and Recreation – Scott Clark

Mr. Clark stated you can vote for Harbin Park for the Best Park in Fairfield.

E. Planning Commission – Billy Smith

No update to report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 12, 2025 – End of 3rd Quarter Grades K-12

March 13, 2025 – Community Connections: Embracing Diversity, 6:00 – 7:30 PM, Fairfield Freshman School, 8790 Gilmore Road.

March 15, 2025 – Crystal Classic, 8:00 AM – 11:59 PM; Fairfield Senior High School, PAC and Arena; and Fairfield Freshman School, Auditorium

March 17, 2025 - Community Conversations, 9:00-10:00 AM, Fairfield Administration Building, Conference Room A. Please contact Angie Neal by 4:00 PM on Friday,

March 14, 2025 to schedule your appointment at [neal\\_an@fairfieldcityschools.com](mailto:neal_an@fairfieldcityschools.com) or 513-858-8568

March 17, 2025 - Community Conversations, 6:00-7:00 PM. Fairfield East Elementary School 6711 Morris Road. Please contact Angie Neal by 4:00 PM on Friday,

March 14, 2025 to schedule your appointment at [neal\\_an@fairfieldcityschools.com](mailto:neal_an@fairfieldcityschools.com) or 513-858-8568

March 20, 2025 – Board Meeting, Regular Session, 6:30 PM, Fairfield East Elementary School, Gymnasium

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Napier - He thanked Mrs. Aug, Mrs. Bowman and Mrs. Dunn for the presentation. He congratulated Sue Hollingsworth on her retirement and North Elementary on their Momentum Award. He thanked Ms. Lee for on the update.

Mrs. Gundrum – She thanked Mrs. Aug, Mrs. Bowman and Mrs. Dunn for the presentation.

Mrs. Berding-Miller – She thanked Curriculum for the presentation. She congratulated North on their award. She stated Mr. Begley, Mr. Clark and herself had lunch with local officials recently. She also thanked Ms. Lee for keeping them informed.

Mr. Clark – He spoke about having lunch with local officials and thanked Mr. Smith for putting that together. He thanked Ms. Lee for the financial update and said to write your representatives and let them hear your voice. He thanked Sue Hollingsworth for her many years of service and congratulated Mrs. Dare on her promotion.

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Mr. Begley – He thanked Mrs. Aug, Mrs. Bowman and Mrs. Dunn for the presentation and said Go Indians on Sunday!

25-24 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Clark to recess to Executive Session at 7:26 p.m. to discuss the following:

The employment of public employees 121.22 (G) (1)  
Court Action R.C.121.22 (G) (3) – Pending or Imminent Litigation  
Collective Bargaining 121.22 (G) (4)

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Berding-Miller

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mrs. Berding-Miller, Mr. Clark, Mrs. Gundrum & Mr. Napier  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried: 5-0

The Board resumed the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

25-25 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Gundrum to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Napier

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mrs. Berding-Miller, Mr. Clark, Mrs. Gundrum & Mr. Napier  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried: 5-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m. by the President, Mr. Begley.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Interim Treasurer