

The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, Ohio, held a Regular Meeting on the 21st of November 2019 in the Catherine D. Milligan Community Room.

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

ROLL CALL – Present: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. O’Neal & Mrs. Shorter
Absent: None

Also present: Mr. Smith, Mrs. Lane, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Aug, Mr. Penney & Mr. Clemmons

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Michael Berding

PRESENTATIONS/RESOLUTIONS

A. Senior High School Spotlight - Bill Rice

Judy Falcone presented information on the Work Study Program. Students also presented their experiences in the program.

Mr. Berding thanked the students and their parents for attending the meeting. He commended the students for speaking to the Board.

B. EdChoice - Mandy Aug, Nancy Lane & Billy Smith

Mr. Smith, Mrs. Aug and Mrs. Lane presented information regarding the expansion of the EdChoice Program.

The scholarship program was expanded in the budget bill. Fairfield has no schools on the list for 2019-2020, but has seven schools on the list for the 2020-2021 school year. Past report card data is being used to help determine what districts/buildings qualify.

Incoming kindergarteners for 2020-2021 may qualify for a \$4650 scholarship to attend a private school.

Current Fairfield City School students in grades K-7 may also qualify for the scholarship if they attend our K-8 schools with the exception of Fairfield South and Crossroads Middle School.

If K-7 students never enrolled in Fairfield City Schools, they are not eligible for the scholarship.

Fairfield City School District students that are in grades 8-11 may qualify for the scholarship to attend a private school. The scholarship amount for grades 9-12 is \$6000 per student. Students in grades 8-11 who have never enrolled at Fairfield City School District and attend a private school are eligible for the scholarship.

The district is projecting a revenue loss of \$3,373,500 for fiscal year 2020-2021, \$3,540,000 for fiscal year 2021-2022, \$3,717,150 for fiscal year 2022-2023 and \$3,900,300 for fiscal year 2023-2024.

Mr. Smith stated that this is the time to reach out to legislators to express concerns about the program and the expansion of the program. There was no public discussion to allow groups to respond to the changes.

Board Discussion regarding EdChoice

Mrs. Shorter agrees with Mr. Smith regarding EdChoice and believes that the program is an overreach with little accountability.

She asked Mrs. Lane to clarify the state allocation vs. local property taxes percentage. Is the percentage at 10%?

Response: Mrs. Lane stated that is correct.

Mr. Smith stated that the legislators are claiming that the Ohio Department of Education misinterpreted the legislation. However, the Ohio Revised Code has language that documents the intent of EdChoice. The Ohio Department of Education does not write the Ohio Revised Code; that is the function of the legislators. Changes must be made by the legislators.

Mrs. Lane further stated that it is impossible to estimate finances with all of the unknowns regarding EdChoice.

Mr. Begley agreed and stated that it is impossible to project finances. The enrollment capacity for the private schools is another unknown.

Mrs. Shorter pointed out that the enrollment capacity will change with supply & demand.

Mrs. Gundrum viewed the Ohio Department of Education website and noted that several Butler County private schools were on the list of approved options including Cincinnati Christian, Immanuel Lutheran, Fairfield Educational Building, St. Ann's, St. Joseph's, St. John the XXIII, and Badin High School.

Additional high schools in Cincinnati were listed as options per Mrs. Lane.

How far a parent is willing to travel is another unknown.

Mr. Begley asked if we are required to transport the students that opt to attend private schools.

Response: Transportation in lieu of is available for schools within 30 minutes driving distance from the Fairfield School that the student would attend. The allotted amount is \$250. We must transport the students to schools that we are currently providing bus service to.

Mr. Smith stated that we must educate the public regarding EdChoice. The loss of funding for our school district will have a huge impact. The students that are currently attending private schools at the high school level need only apply for the scholarship and will likely receive the money.

The simple process for a private school to get on the Ohio Department of Education acceptable list will allow that list to continue to grow.

The private schools will be able to pick and choose students. The private schools have already started the recruitment process by reaching out to parents.

Mrs. Lane has received public records requests from private schools to provide student information for the outreach process.

Mrs. Shorter pointed out that public schools must accept all students, regardless of personal issues, special needs, or ability. The private schools have no accountability measurement. Public schools are accountable, even though the system is not perfect. She wants everyone to look beyond the face value of this initiative.

Mrs. Gundrum asked what type of turnout is expected.

She questions what parents will be willing to do to meet the rigorous and non-academic hoops that private schools require.

Response: after the initial 60,000 scholarships are exhausted, the number will be increased by 5% and will continue to grow.

It is predicted that the highest number of students that will take advantage of the scholarships will fall in the high school (9-12) and the elementary (K-3) groups.

It was reiterated that the 9-12 grades can be granted the scholarship without having attended the Fairfield City School District.

Mr. Berding asked if incoming Freshmen can apply for the scholarships.

Response: They are eligible as Freshmen.

Mr. Berding asked who provides the funding for EdChoice.

Response: The Ohio Department of Education.

Mr. Berding further stated that the public schools are being punished for the lowest performing test takers who will not be accepted into the private schools. The students that are succeeding will now have an outlet as they will be able to meet the requirements of the private schools.

Mr. Berding sees this as an attack on public education and wonders about separation of church and state. He feels that taxpayers will be less likely to pass a new school levy knowing that the money will be funding private education. He further stated that the legislators need to hear from us in a quick manner as this is an attack on teachers' livelihood.

Mr. Berding asked Mrs. Aug, Mrs. Lane, Mr. Martin and Mr. Smith to reach out to the Board to request the Board's assistance by meeting with legislators in Columbus or the Ohio Department of Education, or by meeting with educators at the state house. Mr. Berding summarized that this is not helping the lower level students as money is being taken from them.

Mr. Smith stated that the district will be engaging shareholders to minimize the long term damage of the program. He wonders if there will be a lawsuit as public monies will be utilized for private schools. He made it very clear that the approach of the district is not an attack on private schools.

C. Fairfield City School District Survey Results - Gina Gentry-Fletcher

Mrs. Gentry-Fletcher reviewed the survey results with the Board.

Board Discussion on the results of the survey.

Mr. Begley told Mrs. Gentry-Fletcher that her efforts are appreciated by the Board. He is disappointed that approximately 13% of those surveyed do not know about the Student Health Center. He feels that the district has pushed hard to make the public aware and that must continue.

Mr. Smith advised that there has been an increase in the students served at the Student Health Center.

Mrs. Gundrum thanked Mrs. Gentry-Fletcher for putting the information together. She wonders if it is the same people who do not feel safe on the bus as the people who do not feel safe at school. She wonders if there is a common denominator to that concern or would they not feel safe anywhere. She would be interested in any information regarding this going forward.

Mrs. Shorter complimented Mrs. Gentry-Fletcher on the survey.

Mr. Berding noted that 38.5% of the responses were from elementary schools; 38% was from the high school. He recommended that a link to the website be placed on parent email in order to draw parents to the website.

He did comment that 213 people did not respond to the finances questions.

He feels that this is a great start to gather information and looks forward to additional comments, the good as well as the bad.

COMMUNICATION - None

This is the portion of the meeting where you are invited to share your thoughts with the Board. 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

19-112 RESIGNATIONS/EMPLOYMENT – Mr. Martin

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Shorter to approve the following:

A. Personnel – Professional

1. Resignations

- a. Beth Baltzell, Compass, 3rd grade
(effective May 31, 2020; for retirement purposes)
- b. Mary Donovan, Central, Intervention Specialist
(effective January 1, 2020; for retirement purposes)

2. Employment

a. Extracurriculars – 2019-2020

Senior High

Timothy Arthur, Bowling Coach, Assistant
Andrew Brinker, Wrestling, Assistant

Darion Capers, Basketball, Sophomore, Boys
Robert Dashley, Bowling Coach, Assistant
W. Terrell Davis, Basketball, Assistant Boys
Jacob Fields, Pep Band, 50%
Patrick Kimball, Technical Director, Stage
Trisha Lutterbie, Interalliance Club Advisor
Phillip Matteson, Bowling Coach, Assistant
Kevin McDonald, Basketball, Assistant, Girls
Terrence Mitchell, Basketball, Assistant, Girls
Cathy Ogilvie, Swim, Diving, Boys & Girls
Curtis Rouse, Wrestling, Assistant
David Shotwell, Swim Coach, Boys/Girls, 50%
Erin Williams, Pep Band, 50%

Freshman

Logan Estes, Basketball, Assistant Boys
Michael Stelljes, Basketball, Girls
Angela Tolbert, Basketball, Girls

Creekside Middle

Jennifer Barthelemy, Intramural Basketball, Girls 6th
Jeffrey Burns, Basketball, Girls 7th/8th
Justin Cunningham, Basketball, Boys 7th/8th
Jennifer Painter, Cheerleading Coach, 7th/8th Basketball

Calvin Phiffer, Basketball, Girls 7th/8th
Joshua Scott, Basketball, Boys 7th/8th
Shelby Stearns, Intramural Bowling 6th
Shelby Stearns, Intramural Volleyball 6th

Crossroads Middle

Jessica Dukes, Hope Squad Advisor, 2/3
Chris English, Basketball, Girls 7th/8th
Kevin Fletcher, Basketball, Boys 7th/8th
Jon-Paul Henderson, Basketball, Girls 7th/8th
Sandy Lang, Hope Squad Advisor, 2/3
Michelle Osborne, Hope Squad Advisor, 2/3
Jennifer Painter, Cheerleading Coach, 7th/8th Basketball
Francine Ross, Intramural Basketball, Boys 6th
Francine Ross, Intramural Basketball, Girls 6th
Francine Ross, Intramural Bowling 6th
Francine Ross, Intramural Track 6th
Francine Ross, Intramural Volleyball 6th
James Sawyer, Basketball, Boys 7th/8th
Christina Stover, Jazz Band Co-Director

Middle (Crossroads Middle and Creekside Middle combined)

Cathy Ogilvie, Diving Coach
Craig Reed, Swim Team Coach 7th/8th (additional due to participants)
Shaun Shanklin, Wrestling, 7th/8th
David Shotwell, Swim Team Coach 7th/8th
Sean Spiegel, Wrestling, Assistant Coach

Central Elementary

Gary Smith, Intramurals

Compass Elementary

Samantha Chaney, Elem. Select Choir Director (due to additional participants)
Latrice Watkins, STEM Club Assistant (due to additional participants)

South Elementary

Walt Squier, Intramurals

b. Substitute Teachers 2019-2020

Alison Ficklin

(All recommendations are for the 2019-20 school year at a rate of \$94 per day.)

c. Substitute Nurses 2019-2020

Kaitlyn Fathergill

(All recommendations are for the 2019-20 school year at a rate of \$94 per day.)

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Begley

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. O’Neal & Mrs. Shorter
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 5-0

19-113 RESIGNATIONS/UNPAID LEAVES OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT – Mr. Penney

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. O’Neal to approve the following:

B. Personnel – Support

1. Resignations

- a. James Stamper, Senior High, Custodian
(effective end of the day October 15, 2019; per agreement)

2. Unpaid Leave of Absence

- a. David Anglin, Senior High, Custodian
(effective October 12, 2019 through November 3, 2019; extension of unpaid leave for personal reasons)
- b. Ray Frybarger, District, Maintenance
(effective November 5, 2019 through November 21, 2019; for personal reasons)
- c. Melissa Snow, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective .50 day on September 26, 2019 through November 20, 2019; for personal reasons)

3. Employment

- a. Paula Belknap, North, Food Service Assistant
(effective November 11, 2019; for a replacement position)

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Shorter

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. O’Neal & Mrs. Shorter
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 5-0

C. Items for Board Discussion

1. Staffing Needs for EL - Mandy Aug

We need to add 3.50 tutors to this year’s staff.

2. Student Wellness & Success Funding Plan - Nancy Lane

The funding will provide \$683,000 to the district for 19-20 and \$960,000 in 20-21.
Mrs. Lane presented information on how the money will be used.

3. Five Year Forecast - Nancy Lane

Mrs. Lane presented the Five Year Forecast to the Board.

4. Board Policies

- a. EEA - Student Transportation Services - Joe Penney
- b. CD - Management Team - Roger Martin
- c. FL - Retirement of Facilities - Roger Martin
- d. IF - Curriculum Development - Mandy Aug

19-114 APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICIES

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Shorter to approve the following:

D. Other Items for Board Action

1. Recommend the approval of the following Board policies:

- a. BF – Board Policy Development and Adoption
- b. CCB – Staff Relations and Lines of Authority
- c. CE – Administrative Councils, Cabinets and Committees
- d. DECA – Administration of Federal Grant Funds
- e. EGAAA – Copyright

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Gundrum

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. O’Neal & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS

19-115 EMPLOYMENT – Mr. Martin

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. O’Neal to approve the following:

A. Personnel - Professional

1. Employment

Extracurriculars 2019-2020

Senior High

Kyle Smith, Basketball, Assistant Boys

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Shorter

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. O’Neal & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

19-116 APPROVAL OF MINUTES/APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR OCTOBER 2019/ APPROVAL OF THE 2019-2020 AMENDED APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION/ DONATIONS/DISPOSALS/APPROVAL OF TRANSPORTATION IN LIEU OF STUDENTS RESOLUTION/APPROVAL OF FIVE YEAR FORECAST

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

TREASURER’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

A. Recommend approval of the minutes of the following meetings:

October 14, 2019 – Regular Meeting

November 7, 2019 – Regular Work Session Meeting

B. Recommend approval of the financial reports for the month of October 2019.

C. Recommend approval of the 2019-2020 Amended Appropriations Resolution.

D. Recommend approval of the following donations:

1. A donation of books valued at \$55 from Ruthie Back to Fairfield North Elementary School.
2. A donation of \$3,000 from Dougie & Ray’s to the Fairfield City School District for the Lunch It Forward Program.
3. A donation of twenty-eight new coats valued at \$1,400 from Father John Roettele Knights of Columbus Chapter #8115 to Fairfield East Elementary School.
4. A donation of \$100 from the Fairfield Community Foundation to the Fairfield City School District to be used for the Costumes for Kids Program.
5. A donation of \$1,000 from Constance & Douglas Cullen to Fairfield East Elementary School to be used to purchase books for students.

Total donations for 2019: \$87,340.92

E. Recommend approval of the disposal of the following fixed assets:

<u>Tag Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Location</u>
6305	Camcorder	Creekside Middle School
6314	Video Cassette Recorder	Creekside Middle School
14023	Exercise Bike	Creekside Middle School
15081	BMI Evaluation Machine	Creekside Middle School
15083	BMI Evaluation Machine	Creekside Middle School
19811	Projector	Crossroads Middle
20466	Smartboard	Crossroads Middle
25002	Hand-held response units	Crossroads Middle
25003	Hand-held response units	Crossroads Middle
25004	Hand-held response units	Crossroads Middle
25509	Hand-held response units	Crossroads Middle
25510	Hand-held response units	Crossroads Middle
25511	Hand-held response units	Crossroads Middle
25512	Hand-held response units	Crossroads Middle
25513	Hand-held response units	Crossroads Middle
25514	Hand-held response units	Crossroads Middle
25515	Hand-held response units	Crossroads Middle
25516	Hand-held response units	Crossroads Middle
25517	Hand-held response units	Crossroads Middle
26120	Computer	Crossroads Middle
26407	Computer	Crossroads Middle
26681	Computer	Crossroads Middle
26684	Computer	Crossroads Middle
27071	Computer	Crossroads Middle
27072	Computer	Crossroads Middle
27074	Computer	Crossroads Middle
28134	Computer	Crossroads Middle
28827	Tablet	Crossroads Middle
28828	Tablet	Crossroads Middle
28829	Tablet	Crossroads Middle
26061-26090	Computers	Crossroads Middle
26091-26128	Computers	Crossroads Middle
28087-28116	Computers	Crossroads Middle
21723	Computer	District Office
25215	Computer	East Elementary
27291-27320	Computers	East Elementary
21602	Laptop	High School
17790	Laptop	Latchkey
17793	Laptop	Latchkey
19382	Laptop	Latchkey
27013	Laptop	Latchkey
9550	Computer	North Elementary
11731	Computer	North Elementary
16659	Computer	North Elementary
19557	Projector	North Elementary

20554	Hand-held response units	North Elementary
21727	Computer	North Elementary
21795	Computer	North Elementary
21990	Projector	North Elementary
22430	Smartboard	North Elementary
22540	Smartboard	North Elementary
22651	Hand-held response units	North Elementary
22992	Computer	North Elementary
23329	Smartboard	North Elementary
23938	Computer	North Elementary
23940	Computer	North Elementary
25216	Laptop	North Elementary
25249	Computer	North Elementary
29198	Computer	North Elementary
27419-27448	Computers	North Elementary
CNFC56V0JD	Printer	North Elementary
CNJKK91201	Printer	North Elementary
CNLJY03035	Printer	North Elementary
840	Vision Tester	South Elementary
18055	Printer	Special Services
18205	Printer	Technology
22173	Computer	Technology
9462	Printer	Transportation
11673	VCR	West Elementary
21110	VCR	West Elementary
21206	Projector	West Elementary

- F. 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>
Dane Billingsley Jr.	Central Montessori Academy, 1	Leslie Billingsley
Olivia Harris	Mother Teresa Catholic, 5	Monique Harris
Micah Head	Liberty Bible Academy, Kdg.	Joseph Head
Jessa Head	Liberty Bible Academy, 1	Joseph Head
Makenna Head	Liberty Bible Academy, 4	Joseph Head
Jaden Leonard	St. Vivian, 8	Angela Leonard
Abby Snell	Cinti. Hills Christian Academy, 4	Ronald Snell
Anna Snell	Cinti. Hills Christian Academy, 7	Ronald Snell
Noah Heidger	Beautiful Savior Lutheran, 7	Jessica Sorn
Margot Sorn	Beautiful Savior Lutheran, Kdg.	Jessica Sorn
Greyson Thomas	Mother Teresa Catholic, 2	Bryan Thomas
Brooklyn Thomas	Mother Teresa Catholic, Kdg.	Bryan Thomas
Ethan Vandewater	Mother Teresa Catholic, 5	Cheryl Vandewater

G. Recommend approval of the Five Year Forecast.

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. O’Neal

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. O’Neal & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislative Update – Balena Shorter

Mrs. Shorter attended the Ohio School Boards Association Black Caucus Dinner and saw Charlotte McGuire – the State Board of Education Board Representative from our area. She also attended the legislative platform session, the student achievement fair and some additional sessions.

She noted that there are not many platform changes.

B. Butler Tech – Michael Berding

Mr. Berding has emailed the newsletter for Butler Tech to the Board.

Mr. Tom Alf, a Butler Tech Board Member, passed away last week.

C. Planning Commission – Brian Begley – No report

ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 27, 2019 - Conference Exchange Day (No school)
November 28 & 29, 2019 - Thanksgiving Break (No school)
December 1, 2019 - City of Fairfield Parade of Lights, 6:00PM, Wessel Drive
December 5, 2019 - Business Advisory Council Meeting, 1:00PM, Fairfield Freshman School
December 10, 2019 - Special Board Meeting (Board Retreat), 5:30PM, Fairfield Freshman School
December 12, 2019 - Board Meeting, 6:30PM, FHS Catherine D. Milligan Community Room
December 23, 2019 - Conference Exchange Day (No school)
December 24, 2019 - Winter Break Begins (No school)
January 6, 2020 - School Resumes After Winter Break

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. O'Neal

The Costumes for Kids event at Central Elementary was a great event.
She is impressed that the district can act quickly when a need is identified.

Mrs. Gundrum

She thanked the Transition to Work students for speaking tonight.
She extended her condolences to the Alf family.
She wished everyone a great Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Shorter

She echoed all of the comments made.
She congratulated the football team on their accomplishments.
She was very impressed by senior night with the collective G.P.A. and varied career goals of the senior football players.
She complimented the girls' soccer team on the fact that they are the full package – athletic as well as academic accomplishments.
She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Begley – no comments

Mr. Berding

He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
He thanked the students that presented tonight.

19-117 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Shorter to recess to Executive Session at 8:50 pm to discuss the following:

The employment, discipline and compensation of public employees
121.22 (G) (1)
Purchase or Sale of Real Estate 121.22 (G) (2)
Court Action 121.22 (G) (3) - Pending and Imminent Litigation

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Begley

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. O'Neal & Mrs. Shorter
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 5-0

The Board resumed the meeting at 9:54 pm.

19-118 ADJOURNMENT

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. O’Neal

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. O’Neal & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 pm by the President, Mr. Berding.

President

Attest: _____
Treasurer