

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 1, 2024

The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, Ohio, held a Work Session Meeting on the 1st of February, 2024 in the Catherine D. Milligan Community Room at Fairfield High School.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 6:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Present: Mr. Begley, Mrs. Berding-Miller, Mr. Clark, Mrs. Gundrum & Mr. Napier
Absent: None

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

NATIONAL ANTHEM – FHS Students

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Abby Berding-Miller

PRESENTATIONS/RESOLUTIONS

A. Music is All of Us – Jill Wilhelm

Mrs. Wilhelm spoke to the Board regarding the importance of music education and shared a presentation with a year in review.

Mr. Clark stated that we have such a great music program and thanked Mrs. Wilhelm for the presentation.

Mrs. Gundrum stated that music is so important and that it can change your mindset and your mood.

Mr. Napier thanked them for all that they do. He said he went to the Show Choir performance recently and it was amazing.

Mrs. Berding-Miller stated she was a band kid and how it helped her be part of a community. She also commented that music is such an important part of our lives.

Mr. Begley told Mrs. Wilhelm that she has the support of the Board and thanked her for all that she does.

B. State of the District – Billy Smith

Mr. Smith shared a presentation titled, “FCSD in a Flash”, which highlighted some of the many things that go on during the year in Fairfield. Mr. Smith said the State of the District is strong and the goal is to continue providing the best educational experience for every single student that walks through our doors.

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

24-11 RESIGNATIONS/EXTRACURRICULAR RESIGNATION/UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT – Mrs. Hauer

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

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 1, 2024

A. Personnel – Professional

1. Resignations

- a. Janet Cappola, Compass, Reading Center
(effective March 1, 2024; for retirement purposes)
- b. Candice Griffin, Central, Intervention Specialist
(effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year; for personal reasons)
- c. Michelle Hilbert, District, Instructional Specialist
(effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year; to accept another position in the district)
- d. Jennifer Skirvin, District, Supervisor of Special Services
(effective June 30, 2024; to accept another position in the district)

2. Extracurricular Resignation

- a. Candice Griffin, Central, Elementary Drama Club Advisor 50%
(effective 2023-2024 school year; for personal reasons)

3. Unpaid Leave of Absence

- a. Alyssa Byrum, Senior High, Social Studies
(effective for .25 of the day on March 14, 2024 through April 19, 2024;
for childrearing purposes)

4. Employment

- a. Michelle Hilbert, South, Assistant Principal (recommended for a new two-year administrative contract effective July 1, 2024-June 30,2026, for 203 days, on the professional administrative salary range 1 for a replacement position)
- b. Jennifer Skirvin, District, Director of Special Services (recommended for a new two-year administrative contract effective July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2026, for 218 days on the professional administrative salary range 2 for a replacement position)
- c. Extracurriculars 2023-2024

Senior High

Eric Cimini, Technical Director, Electronic 50%

Freshman

Travis Abrams, Wrestling
John Rogers II, Basketball, Girls

Middle – Creekside

Haley Lewis, Cheerleader Coach, 6th Grade
Patrick O’Leary, Leadership Weekend Coordinator

Middle- Creekside & Crossroads Combined

Craig Reed, Swim Team Coach (additional due to numbers)

Central Elementary

Elizabeth Houchens, Elementary Drama Club Advisor 50%

d. Substitute Teachers 2023-2024

Charles Lohrke
Ella Pohlen
Jaime Powell

(All recommendations are for the 2023-2024 school year at a rate of \$125 per day.)

e. Academic Support Tutor 2023-2024

Emily Smith

(It is recommended that the above-noted person(s) be employed as a designated Academic Support Tutor at the rate of \$33.71 per hour, effective for the 2023-2024 school year.)

f. Volunteer- Coaching 2023-2024

Rachel Elizondo

(The above-noted person is recommended for approval as volunteer coach for the 2023-2024 school year in district athletic programs. Board approval of volunteers is a requirement of the Ohio High School Athletic Association. Recommendation is contingent upon submission of all required documents.)

(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

24-12 RESIGNATIONS/UNPAID LEAVES OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT– Mrs. Hauer

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

B. Personnel – Support

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 1, 2024

1. Resignations

- a. Anthony Agoston, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective the end of the day January 19, 2024; for personal reasons)
- b. Donna Brown, East, Food Service Assistant
(effective the end of the day January 26, 2024; for personal reasons)
- c. Sandra Clay, Freshman, Educational Assistant

(effective the end of the day February 20, 2024; for retirement purposes)
- d. Brennan Gallo, Central, Educational Support Assistant
(effective the end of the day January 26, 2024; for personal reasons)
- e. Kristy McWhorter, Freshman, Food Service Assistant
(effective the end of the day January 8, 2024; for personal reasons)
- f. Jordan Posey, Senior High, Educational Assistant
(effective the end of the day January 22, 2024; for personal reasons)
- g. Jaime Powell, Central, Educational Assistant
(effective the end of the day January 9, 2024; for personal reasons)
- h. Andrea Smith, Senior High, Educational Assistant
(effective the end of the day January 19, 2024; for personal reasons)
- i. Marie Sok, East, Educational Support Assistant
(effective the end of the day January 18, 2024; for personal reasons)
- j. Amber Urban, North, Educational Assistant
(effective the end of the day January 12, 2024; for personal reasons)

2. Unpaid Leaves of Absence

- a. Colin Cunningham, Creekside, Custodian
(extension of unpaid leave of absence effective January 1, 2024 through January 15, 2024)
- b. Tammy Miller, Transportation, Educational Assistant
(effective January 16, 2024 through January 22, 2024; for personal reasons)
- c. Kimberly Tabor, Senior High, Food Service Assistant
(extension of unpaid leave of absence effective December 8, 2023 through February 5, 2024; for personal reasons)

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 1, 2024

- d. Barbara Vaughn, Crossroads, Educational Assistant
(extension of unpaid leave of absence effective January 11, 2024 through February 3, 2024; for personal reasons)
 - e. Donna Wolfe, West, Clerk IV
(extension of unpaid leave of absence effective January 1, 2024 through February 1, 2024; for personal reasons)
3. Employment
- a. Greta Powers, West, Educational Assistant
(effective January 16, 2024; for a new position)
 - b. Teresa Shackelford, Freshman, Custodian
(effective January 3, 2024; previously temporary custodian; for a replacement position)
 - c. Sharon Suttles, Transportation, Educational Assistant
(effective February 2, 2024; for a replacement position)

(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. Emergency Closing Plan for the Continuity of Learning – Mandy Aug

Mrs. Aug stated that HB33 required a name change for the plan. It required an approval from the FCTA and will be on the next board agenda for board approval.

2. Renaming of the Performing Arts Center – Lance Perry

Mr. Perry said he was contacted by Jay Muldoon and Mindy Reed, who run the FHS theater program about changing the name of the Performing Arts Center. According to the Board Policy FF, in order to change the name a person has to have a special significance and/or the person has made an outstanding contribution to the school and/or district. Jim and Pat Davis founded the theater program at FHS over 50 years ago. Sadly, Jim Davis passed away in late October of 2023. At the next board meeting, Mr. Muldoon and Mrs. Reed will lead a presentation to the board highlighting the reasons why they are requesting to rename the Performing Arts Center to the Performing Arts Center, The Jim and Pat Davis House. The term “house” is used to reference any area of the theater that is not a playing space or backstage area. The name on the exterior of the building would not change. This will be on the agenda for approval at the next meeting.

Mr. Napier commented he thinks it is a great idea.

3. EPC Bus Bids – Lance Perry

Mr. Perry stated the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council performs an annual bid process for school buses. In order for the District to take advantage of the volume pricing, the District must become a member of the purchasing cooperative. The board will need to pass a resolution to be a part of the EPC.

4. Board Policies – Bill Rice

a. IGDK – Interscholastic Extracurricular Eligibility – Revised

Dr. Rice said this is a revised policy due to HB 33.

b. JECBC – Admission of Students from Non-Chartered – Revised

This is also a revised policy due to HB 33.

c. JEC – School Admissions – Revised

This is due to HB 33.

d. JN – Student Fees, Fines, and Charges

This is due to HB 33.

e. Resolution to Authorize OSBA to Review Policies in Light of HB 33
Legislative Changes

Dr. Rice stated that there are over one hundred policies that need changed mostly with one-word changes. This resolution will give OSBA authority to review the policies, make the changes and give back to us for approval. This will take place at the next meeting.

5. Resolution for 2024-2025 Membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association – Billy Smith

Mr. Smith stated this action will take place at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislative Update – Jerrilynn Gundrum

Mrs. Gundrum spoke about HB 279 which would require occupant restraining devices to be installed on all school buses within five years. After the tragic crash in Clark County, the state developed a task force which made some recommendations and seatbelts were not one of the recommendations.

B. Butler Tech – Brian Begley

The applications for next school year were due on January 31st. There was a ten percent increase in applications received. The Bio Science Center is due to expand and will double in size and will have 350 more full-time students.

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 1, 2024

C. Student Achievement – Abby Berding-Miller

She congratulated the FHS Mock Trial Team who competed at the Ohio Center for Law Related Education District Mock Trial Competition and won against Talawanda on January 22nd. They also had two junior students who won Best Attorney and Best Witness.

D. Parks and Recreation – Scott Clark

Mr. Clark commented that there are new red boxes outside of five different parks that hold library books. He mentioned that on February 6th there is a program called Owl Prowl at Harbin Park from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. which will teach what makes owls such amazing hunters and then searching the trail for these cool creatures. On February 28th, there is a preschool open house for the 2024-2025 school year at the Community Arts Center. Mr. Clark also said there will be upgrades done to the smaller parks which will be happening soon.

E. Planning Commission – Billy Smith

Mr. Smith said there was nothing relevant to the school district but did mention that Chick-Fil-A on Gilmore has applied for an expansion of their drive-thru lanes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 15, 2024 – Board Meeting (Regular Session) 6:30 PM, Fairfield Senior High School, Catherine D. Milligan Community Room

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Berding-Miller – She thanked Mrs. Wilhelm and her students and thanked Mr. Smith for the state of the district presentation. She mentioned the thing that stuck with her most was the impact on the community and that the community has on us which was highlighted in the presentation. She also stated she was excited that we are elevating our current staff to higher positions within the district.

Mr. Napier – He wished his wife a happy birthday. He also thanked Mr. Smith for the presentation. He said the work that is done is phenomenal!

Mrs. Gundrum – She thanked the entire music department and Mr. Smith for the great presentations. She stated that we are surrounded by special people.

Mr. Clark – He thanked all the students for playing and singing. He also thanked Mrs. Wilhelm and the whole music department. He thanked Mr. Smith for the presentation. Lastly, he thanked all the PTCs for raising funds for the students.

Mr. Begley – He said he echoed all the comments. He thanked Mrs. Wilhelm for her twenty-two years of service and thanked Mr. Smith for the state of the district presentation.

24-13

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Napier to recess to Executive Session at 8:02 p.m. to discuss the following:

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

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 1, 2024

Court Action R.C.121.22 (G) (3) – Pending or Imminent Litigation

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 8:57 p.m.

24-14

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Clark to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m. by the President, Mr. Begley.

President

Attest: _____
Treasurer