

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WORK SESSION  
MARCH 7, 2024

The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, Ohio, held a Work Session Meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March, 2024 in the Cafeteria at Fairfield Compass Elementary.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mike Napier

PRESENTATIONS/RESOLUTIONS

A. Compass Elementary School Spotlight – Asha Lambert

Mrs. Lambert introduced the IDEA Architects Group which is led by Rebecca Dwenger who is an Instructional Technology Coach with the Hamilton County ESC. She works with 5<sup>th</sup> grade enrichment teachers Mrs. Lattarulo, Mr. Waddell and Ms. Haddix. Her role this year has been to support technology use in the classroom, to enhance student engagement, improve accessibility and learning outcomes. The students are looking at innovative ways to differentiate instruction through technology.

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

24-20 RESIGNATIONS/ UNPAID LEAVES OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT – Mrs. Hauer

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Berding-Miller to approve the following:

A. Personnel – Professional

1. Resignations

- a. Hannah Cottingim, District, School Psychologist  
(effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year; for personal reasons)
- b. Jeff Sims, Freshman, Math  
(effective June 1, 2024; for retirement purposes)
- c. Paula Wagner, East, 5th grade ELA, 50%  
(effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year; for personal reasons)

2. Unpaid Leaves of Absence

- a. Chelsey Cavender, South, 3rd grade  
(effective April 26, 2024 and April 29, 2024; for personal reasons)
- b. Stephanie Dodd, South, Intervention Specialist  
(effective May 8, 2024; for personal reasons)

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- c. Erika McGuire, South, 4th grade  
(effective April 9, 2024 through May 3, 2024; for childrearing purposes)
- d. Idil Oguz, Compass, Music  
(effective for .25 of the day on March 20, 2024 through May 22, 2024; for childrearing purposes)

3. Employment

- a. Ryann Kaeding, North, Intervention Specialist MD/SC unit  
(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract for the 2024-2025 school year, effective August 5, 2024; for a new position)
- b. Claire McCurley, East, Preschool Intervention Specialist  
(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract for the 2024-2025 school year, effective August 5, 2024; for a new position)
- c. Samantha Munday, District, Supervisor of Special Services  
(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)
- d. Laura Yoder, East, Reading Center, additional 50% contract  
(recommended for an additional percentage to her continuing contract for the 2024-2025 school year, effective August 5, 2024. This brings her to a 100% continuing contract status)
- e. Extracurriculars 2023-2024

**Senior High**

Natalie Elliott, Softball, Reserve Assistant  
James Roth, Baseball, Reserve Assistant

**Freshman**

Natalie Elliott, Softball, Assistant 30%  
Natalie Elliott, Softball 30%  
Ryan Forbush, Baseball  
Michael Lewis, Basketball, Assistant Boys

- f. Substitute Teacher 2023-2024

Steve Kessler

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

- g. Volunteers – Coaching 2023-2024

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Zachary Bredek  
Tyler Chalk  
Tyler Hines  
Michael Wazyniak

(The above-noted persons are recommended for approval as volunteer coaches 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 Mr. Napier

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

24-21 RESIGNATIONS/UNPAID LEAVES OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT– Mrs. Hauer

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

B. Personnel – Support

1. Resignations

- a. Greta Powers, West, Educational Assistant  
(effective the end of the day February 20, 2024; for personal reasons)
- b. Donna Wolfe, West, Clerk IV  
(effective the end of the day February 14, 2024; for personal reasons)

2. Unpaid Leaves of Absence

- a. Brenda Hanna, Transportation, Chauffeur  
(effective .25 day February 29, 2024 through April 16, 2024; for personal reasons)
- b. Michael Speights, Central, Educational Assistant  
(effective January 25, 2024 through February 13, 2024; for personal reasons)
- c. Kimberly Tabor, Senior High, Food Service Assistant  
(extension of unpaid leave of absence effective February 6, 2024 through March 31, 2024)

3. Employment

- a. Elizabeth Armstrong, Senior High, Educational Assistant  
(effective February 14, 2024; for a replacement position)

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- b. Ross Baker, Senior High, Educational Assistant  
(effective February 26, 2024; for a replacement position)
- c. Madison Caldwell, West, Educational Assistant  
(effective March 4, 2024; for a replacement position)
- d. Tanya Denny, North, Custodian  
(effective February 29, 2024; previously temporary custodian; for a replacement position)
- e. Angela Jones, North, Educational Assistant  
(effective February 20, 2024; for a replacement position)
- f. Riley Joseph, Compass, Educational Assistant  
(effective February 15, 2024; for a replacement position)
- g. Christopher Young, Creekside, Temporary Custodian  
(effective March 4, 2024 through June 4, 2024; for a replacement position)

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Clark

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

C. Items for Board Discussion

1. Bilstein Bridge Closure – Lance Perry

Mr. Perry spoke about the Bilstein Bridge Closure which will be a nine-month closure. The date was originally scheduled to begin on March 18<sup>th</sup> but has now been changed. A new date will be set hopefully soon and Mr. Perry will let the Board know when that is scheduled to happen. He has been working with the City of Hamilton, City of Fairfield and the Fairfield Police Department on handling the closure. It appears that the High School traffic plan will be the only one affected.

2. Related Services Staffing – Kim Hauer

Mrs. Hauer stated that with special needs growing there is a need to add two Occupational Therapists and two Speech Therapists for the 2024-2025 school year. This was already calculated in the Five-Year Forecast and is projected to save approximately \$68,000 compared to contracting these positions out.

3. Board Policies – Bill Rice

a. IGD – Cocurricular and Extracurricular Activities

Dr. Rice stated this is changed due to House Bill 33.

b. IGDJ – Interscholastic Athletics

Dr. Rice stated this is changed due to House Bill 33.

c. KGB – Public Conduct on School Property

Dr. Rice said this is a revised policy due to the passage of Issue Two, the legalization of marijuana. Lawmakers will draft and pass further legislation regarding this policy.

24-22 REQUEST TO RENAME THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AT FAIRFIELD SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL/APPROVAL OF THE MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS OF STUDIES – Mr. Smith

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

D. Other items for Board Action

1. Recommend the request to rename the Performing Arts Center at Fairfield Senior High School as the “Performing Arts Center – The Jim and Pat Davis House “ in honor of their dedication and service to the students, staff and community.
2. Recommend approval of the Middle School and High School Programs of Studies.

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Berding-Miller

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

24-23 RESIGNATION/EMPLOYMENT – Dr. Rice

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

A. Personnel – Professional

1. Resignation
  - a. Jordan Smith, Academy, English  
(effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year; to accept another position within the District)
2. Employment
  - a. Jordan Smith, Senior High, Assistant Principal  
(recommended for a new two-year administrative contract effective July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2026, for 213 days, on the professional administrative salary range 2 for a replacement position)

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Napier

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislative Update – Jerrilynn Gundrum

Nothing to report.

B. Butler Tech – Brian Begley

Mr. Begley said Café Lee is open. He also mentioned Precision Machining Olympics were held and that seventeen of the twenty-five students were offered employment.

C. Student Achievement – Abby Berding-Miller

Mrs. Berding-Miller recognized five students at Compass Elementary who currently have art on display at Queen City Clay in Norwood. They will be on display through mid-April. The students are Corbin Clay, Kamarri Johnson, Sam Mason, Wendy Ortiz Mendoza and Maddison Sellers.

D. Parks and Recreation – Scott Clark

Mr. Clark said that Friday evening at the Community Arts Center there is an artist gallery titled “The Wave” from 6-8 p.m. He also said on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, HOPPIN’ Easter Egg Hunt is at Village Green Park from 10:00-11:30 a.m. He mentioned that Marsh Lake has been stocked with 250 lbs. of trout for fishing.

E. Planning Commission – Billy Smith

Nothing relevant to the school district.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 9, 2024 – Crystal Classic, 8:00 AM – 11:00 PM. Fairfield Senior High School, PAC & Arena

March 11, 2024 – Community Conversations 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM, Fairfield Administration Building, Conference Room A.

March 12, 2024 – Community Resource Fair 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM, Crossroads Middle School Cafeteria, 255 Donald Drive.

March 13, 2024 – End of 3rd Quarter Grades K-12

March 14, 2024 – Community Conversations, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, East Elementary Media Center, 6711 Morris Road.

March 21, 2024 – Board Meeting (Regular Session), 6:30 PM, Creekside Middle School Cafeteria, 1111 Nilles Road

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Napier – Mr. Napier thanked the students for presenting tonight.

Mrs. Berding-Miller – Mrs. Berding Miller thanked the IDEA Architects for their presentation. She congratulated Jordan Smith on her promotion and welcomed Samantha Munday. She also thanked Mr. Perry for being diligent on the bridge closure, Dr. Rice on keeping up on all the board policy changes and Mrs. Hauer on all the work she has done with interviewing to meet state minimums and staying fiscally responsible with the district’s money.

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Mr. Clark – Mr. Clark welcomed Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Munday. He said it was a great honor to re-name the Performing Arts Center to the Performing Arts Center – The Jim and Pat Davis House. He thanked Mrs. Lambert and all the students who did a great job on their presentation.

Mr. Begley – Mr. Begley said he was at Compass in Mrs. Prather’s third grade class this week. They read “Dragons Love Tacos”. He wanted to thank all the volunteers who make Crystal Classic a success.

24-24 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Berding-Miller to recess to Executive Session at 7:14 p.m. to discuss the following:

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Napier

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

The Board resumed the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

24-25 ADJOURNMENT

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Napier

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. by the President, Mr. Begley.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

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