

The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, Ohio, held a Regular Meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> of February 2014 in the Catherine D. Milligan Community Room.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 6:32 pm.

ROLL CALL – Present: Mr. Berding, Mr. Hare, Mr. Heisler, Mr. Kearns & Mrs. Shorter  
Absent: None

Also present: Mrs. Lane, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Wildow, Mr. Weiser & Mr. Clemmons  
Absent: Mr. Otten

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATIONS/RESOLUTIONS

A. Spotlight on Fairfield Middle School – Roger Martin  
Middle School Science Fair overview was given by Mrs. Piatt & Mrs. Miller

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. Presentations are limited to five (5) minutes each.

14-15 RESIGNATIONS/LEAVE OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT – Mr. Martin

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

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

A. Personnel -- Certificated

1. Resignations

- a. Dawn Eck, Middle, Destination Imagination  
(effective 2013-14; for personal reasons)
- b. Danielle Garner, Senior High, Destination Imagination  
(effective February 14, 2014; due to lack of student participation)
- c. Charlotte Knowlton, Senior High, Intervention Specialist  
(effective at the end of the 2013-2014 school year; for personal reasons)

2. Leave of Absence

- a. Kate Horwarth, Senior High, Intervention Specialist  
(effective March 12, 2014 through April 6, 2014; for childrearing purposes)

- b. Danielle Pohlman, East, Intervention Specialist  
(effective .25 day on February 18, 2014, through April 6, 2014; for childrearing purposes)

3. Employment

- a. STARS Extended Day Instructor

Stephanie Dodd

(The above-noted person is recommended for employment as a STARS Extended Day Instructor effective February 4, 2014, for 11 weeks up to a maximum of 5.5 hours a week at the rate of \$20.00 per hour, to be paid out of Title I funds. Employment is contingent upon satisfactory submission of all required documents.)

- b. **Extracurricular 2013-14**

**Senior High**

Michael Berkemeier, Volleyball, Varsity Head, Boys  
Michael Chacksfield, Track Assistant  
Rodney Hubbard, Baseball Assistant  
O. Randy Johnson, Baseball Assistant  
Dana Kraft, Volleyball Assistant, Boys  
Jason Krause, Track Assistant, **50%**  
Jason Krause, Weight Room Supervisor Assistant, 33%  
R. Mike Morgan, Tennis, Boys  
Aaron Revel, Baseball, Reserve Assistant  
Alexa Thompson, Softball, Assistant  
Jason Tobkin, Volleyball Assistant, Boys  
Lindsay Traxler, Softball, Reserve Assistant  
Dennis Valentini, Track Assistant, **50%**

**Freshman**

Kelsey Berryman, Softball Assistant  
David Cook, Baseball, **40%**  
Rose Franz, Class Sponsor  
Jessica Grimes, Volleyball, Boys  
Gretchen Price, Softball

**Middle**

Doug Meddings, Wrestling 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>  
Tom Robertson, Tennis, Boys 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>  
Darren Ling, Select Band Assistant Director

**Intermediate**

Matt Crapo, Intramural Volleyball, 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>  
Aaron Fitzstephens, Intramural Bowling 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>

c. ESL Tutors

A. Cassandra Davis  
Jordan Fortenboher

(Periodically the district has students who qualify for English as a Second Language services as determined through the district's established assessment process. It is recommended that the above-noted person(s) be employed as an ESL Tutor at the rate of \$24.34 per hour, effective for the 2013-2014 school year.)

d. Home Instructors

Valerie Williams

(Periodically the district has students who qualify for home instruction by placement on an IEP developed through the Special Services Department. It is recommended that the above noted person(s) be employed as Home Instructors at the rate of \$24.34 per hour, effective for the 2013-2014 school year.)

e. Substitutes

Connie Bowling  
Stephanie Dodd  
Kelsey Meyer

(All recommendations are for the 2013-14 school year at a rate of \$75 per day.)

f. Volunteers

Joshua Beck, Freshman, Softball  
Morgan Coburn, Freshman, Softball  
Andrew Guenther, Senior High, Baseball  
Gregory Wilson, Senior High, Baseball

(The above-noted persons are recommended for approval as volunteer coaches for the 2013-14 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. Shorter

Public comments: None

Board comments: Mr. Heisler asked how the less than 100% supplemental positions are determined.

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Berding, Mr. Hare, Mr. Heisler, Mr. Kearns & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

14-16 RESIGNATIONS/LEAVE OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT – Mr. Weiser

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

B. Personnel -- Classified

1. Resignations

- a. Amanda Belcher, East, Latchkey Assistant  
(effective January 24, 2014; for personal reasons)
- b. Joy McWhorter, North, Food Service Assistant  
(effective February 3, 2014; to accept another position within the District)
- c. Barbara Weaver, Intermediate, Head Cook  
(effective March 31, 2014; for retirement purposes)

2. Leaves of Absence

- a. Teresa Damron, Freshman, Food Service Assistant  
(effective January 22, 2014 through February 28, 2014; unpaid personal medical)
- b. Susan Landenwitsch, Freshman, Educational Assistant  
(effective February 18, 2014 through May 28, 2014; unpaid personal)
- c. Peggy Reuman, South, Food Service Assistant  
(effective February 3, 2014 through April 3, 2014; unpaid personal)
- d. Pam Sanders, Central, Custodian  
(effective February 5, 2014 through April 7, 2014; extension of unpaid Workers Compensation)
- e. Sharon Smith, Sr. High, Clerk III  
(effective February 11, 2014 through May 10, 2014; extension of unpaid personal medical)
- f. Terry Waterman, Transportation, Chauffeur  
(effective February 17, 2014 through February 28, 2014; extension of unpaid Workers Compensation)

3. Employment

- a. Richard Harrison, Middle, Educational Assistant  
(effective February 21, 2014; for a replacement position)
- b. Sharlene Kollstedt, North, Clerk IV  
(effective January 24, 2014; for a replacement position)

- c. Joy McWhorter, North, Educational Assistant  
(effective February 3, 2014; for a replacement position)

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Heisler

Public comments: None

Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Berding, Mr. Hare, Mr. Heisler, Mr. Kearns & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

C. Item for Board Discussion

1. Fairfield Academy

Fairfield Academy Discussion

Summary of the status of the Fairfield Academy – presented by Mrs. Wildow

Mrs. Wildow stated that the district is looking for some direction from the Board at this point.

The Fairfield Academy would house alternative school students, bring Union Day students back to our schools, offer alternatives to our current students and offer 200 families with electronic school students the option to come back to Fairfield Schools.

For the first year, students in grades 9-12, who make up 51% of the electronic students, will be targeted.

The daily schedule will include an am session and pm session to allow flexibility for students and meet their needs.

An evening session can be considered in the future.

Core courses will include: Math, Science, English and Social Studies.

Special services, intervention specialists and administrators would be provided.

The three year plan is to target grades 9-12 grade for the first year; grades 7-12 for the second year and grades K-12 electronic students for the third year.

Investigation into APEX, an online curriculum program, revealed a 1:1 correspondence for every course required for Fairfield High School students. APEX has everything we need at different levels. Not all alternative school students are academically challenged, so we have a broad range of abilities available, including AP courses.

Cincinnati State partnership in the early stages, but potential is there.

Fairfield Academy Discussion (continued)

The facilities portion of the plan – presented by Tom Weiser

Mr. Weiser took a look at the building to calculate a rough guestimate of cost to change offices to classrooms. The city building inspectors identified changes necessary to convert offices to classrooms.

The cost estimate of \$350,000 includes roof costs of \$115,000 that must be done, due to leaks that have escalated with the melting snow.

Todd Thackery of Steed, Hammond and Paul did a walk-through and evaluated exposed framing to see how to shore up the mezzanine and identify what support is necessary.

There are two issues that must be considered when converting an office to a classroom: Bathrooms must be ADA compliant and the HVAC system requirements are different for fresh air flow. Two of the existing units are economizers and the other six are not. The six units must be equipped with economizers for fresh air compliance.

Demolition is a large part of project.

Todd Thackery of Steed, Hammond & Paul quoted \$426,000 in costs, including the roof. A contingency of \$89,000 is built in the cost. The high side of his estimate was \$546,000 with a contingency of \$114,000, provided that the finishes are high end.

Without specs, the Spaulding estimate was \$350,000-\$425,000 which does not include the roof. Add \$115,000 for the roof and their numbers are higher than SHP.

Spaulding did look at the building and suggested that we gut interior walls and take out the mezzanine so we can design it the way we really want it. Costs include all of the mechanical engineering, drawing plans and permits.

SHP's plan would result in pillars supporting beams in classrooms. Staff could work around the pillars, if necessary.

Timing is an issue for Spaulding, if we want to meet the August 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Unless they start immediately, they cannot meet that deadline. The demo would have to happen with a temporary permit for demolition and the engineering plan would have to happen at the same time.

The Options Academy burnt modular insurance claim is in the \$150,000-\$200,000 range. If we buy another unit, that would take all of the insurance money.

The cost to lease a modular unit is \$50,000 per year. That does not include the expense of the foundation, electrical wiring, wiring for technology and moving the building. All of these expenses would be incurred to get a modular building in order.

Mr. Hare asked if restrooms must be ADA compliant, regardless if you do remodeling or not.

Fairfield Academy Discussion (continued)

Mr. Weiser stated that if the building is not used for classrooms, you do not have to meet ADA standards unless the restroom is remodeled.

Mr. Heisler asked if the insurance money from the Options Building fire can be diverted to the Fairfield Academy. Mr. Weiser stated that we would need to take \$10,000 from the insurance money to move the burned modular.

Mr. Kearns stated we must address roof issue on Donald Drive, no matter what we do.

Mr. Heisler asked what Options Academy is doing for classrooms at this time.

Mr. Weiser stated that the Options classrooms are in the other modular unit until the end of this school year. That will not work for next year.

Mr. Weiser and Mrs. Wildow will meet with Butler Tech about the Options Academy requirements.

Mr. Heisler asked what will be done with the modular that Options occupies at this point in time. Dr. Turney has requested that the modular be used for a computer lab. The unit is already wired for technology and that would be a good use for the unit. Approximately \$20,000 is spent to set up each computer lab, so it would be a cost savings to utilize this modular for a computer lab.

Mr. Kearns asked if the expenditures include the renovation and roof.

Expenditure did include renovation and the roof, but did not include insurance (per Mrs. Lane )

Mr. Weiser stated that if we go out to bid, we cannot have this project done on time. It should be public sealed bid, but because of the time constraint, we would not be able to put the project out to bid.

Mrs. Lane stated we can continue to obtain quotes, but we can handle this as an urgent necessity. She asked Mr. Clemmons to confirm that it is legal to handle this as an urgent necessity.

Mr. Weiser did ask for another bid and he can get a feel if they are subbing the work out. He plans to continue to look at a more economical approach.

Mr. Heisler asked if there would be an advantage to delaying the project another year and if there is a sense of urgency that does not allow the district to wait a year. He asked if the district needs time to develop curriculum for the students.

Mrs. Wildow responded that it would be the same work involved in curriculum regardless of the opening year. She reminded everyone that in one year \$625,000 is spent in services (to Union Day).

Mr. Weiser restated that these must all be done this year regardless of the startup date of the academy:

We must replace Options modular.

Computer labs must be created at the middle school.

The roof must be replaced at 211 Donald Drive.

Fairfield Academy Discussion (continued)

We can continue to receive public bids on roof and the carpet as well as the larger items, as we have time.

Union Day is making changes for next year; we may no longer have that as an option for our students.

Mr. Hare pointed out that our academic standards are not being met at Union Day and that students at Union Day must go somewhere. The question is whether or not the program and structure is the best thing educationally for our kids. He would rather spend money on kids' education vs transportation, etc. Standards are not being met out of our district.

Mr. Hare asked where the students would register for the E-school if the academy is not created. If we do not create the Fairfield Academy, where would students register? He would like to have the program started sooner as he heard that Union Day will not be functioning and is concerned about where those students will go. The best educational option is to get the students back here as soon as possible and move forward.

Mrs. Shorter has heard that the hours will be cut substantially at Union Day next year. Mrs. Lane stated that the hours were cut this school year without notice to our district. We were notified students receive three hours of education for non-special education students.

Mr. Kearns pointed out that a delay will cost us money as we have to decide how to apply the insurance money. Net cost of \$47,000 the first year for the program; it will cost \$50,000 just to lease the modular. He stated that this academy strengthens our district and supports students with options that we need. Mr. Kearns has a hard time seeing how we would save money when we have expenditures for next year.

Mr. Weiser pointed out that prices of labor and materials will increase.

Mr. Hare asked if the financing will come out of the general fund with no need to borrow money. Mrs. Lane stated that the monies will come out of the general fund and no money would be borrowed.

Mrs. Lane reviewed slides from last meeting.

Expenses at Union Day School total \$625,000 include seats and bussing.

Mr. Heisler asked if all expenses would go away. Mrs. Lane responded that all of the expense would not go away as we have 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders that will continue to use Union Day School. A projected fee of \$127,000 will be spent for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders that will attend Union Day School next year. We do not know if 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade will disappear next year. If Union Day disappears, we will need a plan to place those students.

The district will see a \$500,000 savings by not using Union Day for grades 9-12 next year.



Fairfield Academy Discussion (continued)

Mrs. Lane stated:

Cost renovation of 211 Donald Drive is \$350,000, including the roof.

Total one-time costs are \$440,000.

The ongoing costs are \$578,000 which includes an administrator, 5 teachers, a part-time custodian, software, a social worker and 2 part-time educational assistants.

The district would save \$472,320 if 60 eSchool students return to Fairfield. This is a conservative estimate of the number of students that would return.

The projected savings of \$48,000 includes variables such as whether or not we can pull back the electronic students and whether or not we use the insurance money.

Mr. Heisler stated that one time cost could be greater than what was presented, based on additional information that the district learned since the slides were prepared.

Mrs. Lane responded that if we use insurance money it could be a wash to offset the cost on contractor estimate.

Mrs. Wildow has asked for the green light to move forward with the project. She stated that the administrator has to be the right fit for the building and its purpose.

Mr. Heisler asked how difficult will it be to find the right person. Mrs. Wildow responded that there are people with a real passion and would be phenomenal at this position.

Mr. Hare mentioned that one of the things that would attract an administrator would be the ability to do the planning from the ground up and to envision the facility as it should be done. Typically, an administrator inherits staff and this would be an opportunity to be responsible for the hires. He noted that this would draw some talented people out as they can design the facility and hire staff.

Mrs. Wildow stated that we do not know who might be interested within the district.

Mr. Hare stated that we should do what is best educationally and not have students spend another year at Union Day.

Mr. Kearns asked if there were any objections to moving forward on the concept.

Mr. Hare reminded everyone to be wise about the spending green light and report as necessary to the Board. He asked that the district not be lavish, but not so frugal that we short something that becomes a problem. He gives the green light on the project and requested report on progress. Mr. Kearns agrees with Mr. Hare.

Mrs. Shorter would like to see the development of a marketing plan for e-school students.

Mr. Kearns asked if there are any objections to moving forward with the Fairfield Academy Plan. There were no objections.

14-17 APPROVAL OF POLICIES/APPROVAL OF GRADES 9-12 PROGRAM OF STUDIES

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

D. Other Items for Board Action – Mr. Martin

1. Recommend approval of revisions to the following board policies:
  - IGBC Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability
  - IGBA Programs for Handicapped-Disabled Students
  - JECBB Open Enrollment
2. Recommend approval of the 9-12 Program of Studies

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Shorter

Public comments: None

Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Berding, Mr. Hare, Mr. Heisler, Mr. Kearns & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

14-18 APPROVAL OF MINUTES/APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR JANUARY 2014/  
APPROVAL OF THE 2013-2014 AMENDED APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION/ DONATIONS

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

TREASURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

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

January 8, 2014 – Organizational Meeting

January 25, 2014 – Board Retreat/Regular Meeting

February 6, 2014 – Work Session

B. Recommend approval of the financial reports for the month of January 2014.

C. Recommend approval of the 2013-2014 Amended Appropriations Resolution.

D. Recommend approval of the following donations:

1. A donation of \$350 from Wal-Mart (Princeton Road) to Fairfield North Elementary to be used for classroom materials.
2. A donation of two backboard adjusters valued at \$2675 from Fairfield Township Youth Basketball League to Fairfield West Elementary.
3. The following donations were made in support of Fairfield Middle School's Science Fair:
  - \$100 from Fairfield Athletic Boosters
  - \$20 from Joe Siebenburgen

\$75 from Anthony Lanzalaco  
\$100 from Fairfield Middle School PTC

**Total donations for 2014: \$4,819.00**

E. Recommend approval to authorize the Treasurer to pay invoices against the following purchase order that has not been processed in accordance with Section 5705.41(D):

1. Purchase order #3403494 – Polygon US Corporation - \$5,750.00

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Berding

Public comments: None

Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Berding, Mr. Hare, Mr. Heisler, Mr. Kearns & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 1, 2014 – Crystal Classic, all day, FHS

March 6, 2014 – Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, FAB Conference Room A

#### BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

##### Mr. Berding

He congratulated all of the athletes, including Emma Otten, who competed in Canton at the state swim meet.

He thanked Mr. Weiser and his staff for their efforts at keeping the walkway areas clear during the inclement weather.

##### Mrs. Shorter

She encouraged everyone to attend the Crystal Classic on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

##### Mr. Hare

He wished all of the athletes and choirs good luck. He congratulated the music parents on their award for work behind the scenes.

He stated that he received his property tax bill like everyone else and reminded everyone that the Bond Levy and PI issues are 2.60 mills which will increase his taxes by \$198 starting in 2015.

He reminded everyone that if the levy fails, the district will lose the **\$19 million subsidy**. If the levy fails in May, the next proposed levy would need to be 3.25 mills which would result in a tax increase of \$248 for him.

He stated that delaying the approval to implement the Facility Plan will cost him an additional \$50 per year and that does not include projected increases in construction costs.

Mr. Hare's Comments (continued)

The fundamental questions that he asks are:

1. In what year do we replace Central Elementary and the Freshman School?
2. What will be the cost in delaying the project? It will cost him an additional \$50 per year.

He stated that an additional savings would result from the projected utility costs dropping from \$1.02 per square foot to \$.85 per square foot.

He stated that the existing buildings are not a good environment for our students.

14-19 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Hare to recess to Executive Session at 7:40 pm to discuss the following:

The appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of public employees 121.22 (G) (1)  
Collective Bargaining 121.22 (G) (4)

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Heisler

Public comments: None

Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Berding, Mr. Hare, Mr. Heisler, Mr. Kearns & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

The Board resumed the meeting at 8:10 pm.

14-20 ADJOURNMENT

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Heisler

Public comments: None

Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Berding, Mr. Hare, Mr. Heisler, Mr. Kearns & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm by the President, Mr. Kearns.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer