



FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Board Room  
May 15, 2013

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I. The May 15, 2013 Board Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board was held in the Board Room of the Elementary School, 100 Dartmouth Avenue, Johnstown, Pennsylvania. The Meeting was called to order by Mr. Meekins at 6:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Notice was given that the Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board conducted in the Board Room will be tape recorded and entry constitutes consent to the taping of any individual who comments. Please turn off or silence all electronic devices and refrain from use during the meeting.

III. Roll Call: Present: Susan Bailey, Sandra Chobany, Melissa Garman, Dale Harrison, Edward Jones, Wayne Meekins, Richard Pavic, Stephen Thompson, and Patricia Wilson. Absent: None.

Student Board Representatives: Absent: Elizabeth Chobany and Taylor Harrison.

Others in attendance were Carole Kakabar, John Kowal, Brian McDermott, Administrators; Attorney David Novak, Solicitor; Susan Layton, Teacher; Judith Virgin, School Nurse; Carl Seske, Student; Patricia Craig, Recording Secretary.

IV. Hearing of Citizens/Ferndale Area Education Association

V. Committees Agenda

1. Board

BD-55-05/13 Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Garman, to approve the May 15, 2013 Board Meeting Consent Agenda items. (BD-56-05/13 through IST-27-05/13)

BD-56-05/13 Approve the Minutes of the April 17, 2013 Board Meeting, as presented.

IBG-07-05/13 Summer office hours in all buildings will be 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. All Offices will be closed on Fridays again over the summer from June 14, 2013 through August 2, 2013 for energy conservation purpose. (Employee hours adjusted to fit within four workdays.)

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E-07-05/13

Approve the graduation of the Ferndale Area School District seniors who completed the graduation requirements of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Ferndale Area School District, as attached.

IE-60-05/13

The following have been assigned as pre-student teacher (IUP) in the Ferndale Area Elementary School from May 20, 2013 through May 24, 2013:

| <u>Student Teacher</u> | <u>Cooperating Teacher</u> | <u>Subject</u> |
|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Nicholas Adams         | Jill Vuckovich             | Music          |

IE-61-05/13

The following have been assigned as a student teacher (UPJ) at the Ferndale Area High School for the fall term of the 2013-14 school year:

| <u>Student Teacher</u> | <u>Cooperating Teacher</u> | <u>Subject</u> |
|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Noah Hartung           | Stephen Clawson            | Mathematics    |

F-26-05/13

Approve April Treasurer's Report, as presented.

F-27-05/13

Approve the General Fund and Cafeteria Bills, as presented.

F-28-05/13

Approve Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 Policies and Procedures adoption under the federal requirements of 34 CFR Part 300 and the 2013-2014 Funding Distribution IDEA-B, Section 611.

IF-21-05/13

Received a letter from the Pennsylvania Department of Education informing us that Ferndale Area School District's 2012-13 Consolidated Grant Allocation is being reduced by \$8,188.00.  
 (Title I & Title II)

IF-22-05/13

Community Foundation for the Alleghenies third quarter report (January 1, through March 31, 2013) total value of 501c3 fund is \$1,838.39.

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IF-23-05/13

Received Audit Reports from Ed Cernic, Jr., Cambria County Controller for the following Tax Collector:

Anita Smith                      Ferndale Borough

Based on the results of their examination, they concluded processes within the Ferndale Borough Tax Collector's office can be improved upon to ensure its operating effectiveness.

IF-24-05/13

Review of receipts and disbursements.

P-54-05/13

Approve Holly Beckman and Jayne Blough to the substitute support staff list.

IST-23-05/13

The National Honor Society Induction Ceremony was held on Monday, May 20, 2013 in the High School Auditorium at 8:00 p.m.

IST-24-05/13

The Awards Ceremony was held on Wednesday, May 22, 2013 in the High Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

IST-25-05/13

The annual school picnic was held at Idlewild Park on Saturday, May 25, 2013.

IST-26-05/13

Fernstock was held on Wednesday, May 29, 2013.

IST-27-05/13

A \$500.00 donation was received from Somerset Trust Bank to help pay for Reading Team tee-shirts for 2013-2014. Thank you to be sent by Reading Team advisors.

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

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Election of Secretary

*Section 404 of the Pennsylvania School Code “. . . during the month of May, elect a secretary for a term of four years, beginning the first day of July following such election.”*

BD-57-05/13

Mr. Harrison nominated Melissa Garman as Secretary of Ferndale Area School Board for a four-year term (July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2017) effective July 1, 2013.

BD-58-05/13

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harrison, to close nominations. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

BD-59-05/13

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harrison, to elect Melissa Garman as Secretary of Ferndale Area School Board for a four-year term (July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2017) effective July 1, 2013. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Election of Treasurer

*Section 404 of the Pennsylvania School Code “. . . during the month of May, elect a treasurer to serve for one year, beginning the first day of July following such election.”*

BD-60-05/13

Mr. Jones nominated Dale Harrison as Board Treasurer for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, at a stipend of \$1,200 per year, effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

BD-61-05/13

Mrs. Bailey made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson, to close nominations. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

BD-62-05/13

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Garman, to elect Dale Harrison as Board Treasurer for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, at a stipend of \$1,200 per year, effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

BD-63-05/13

Mrs. Wilson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to appoint a Board Negotiation Committee (Wayne Meekins, Melissa Garman, and Stephen Thompson) to address contract provisions for the 2013-14 school year, (salary and health care only). The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

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| 2.           | <b>Buildings and Grounds</b>  |
| IBG-08-05/13 | Discussion of security and safety improvements to the Elementary and Junior-Senior High School - John Kowal/Carole Kakabar.   |
| BG-13-05/13  | Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson, to approve the expenditure of approximately \$25,000 for security and safety improvements to the Elementary and Junior-Senior High School, excluding door latches. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried. |
| 3.           | <b>Cafeteria</b>  |
|              | None.   |
| 4.           | <b>Education</b>  |
| IE-61-05/13  | Highlights of the Joint Operating Committee - Sandra Chobany/Stephen Thompson.  |
| E-08-05/13   | Mr. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harrison, to review and approve the Professional Development Plan of the Special Education Comprehensive Plan (2014-2017). Report submission is due by May 31, 2013. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.        |
| E-09-05/13   | Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Garman, to approve a Health eTools Program Agreement with InnerLink, Inc., Lancaster, PA, from August 31, 2013 through August 31, 2018. (No cost to District). Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.             |
| 5.           | <b>Finance</b>  |
| IF-25-05/13  | Received notification from Pennsylvania Department of Education that Ferndale Area School District's property tax reduction allocation for 2013-14 is \$303,391.58.   |
| IF-26-05/13  | Presentation of the 2013-14 school year Preliminary Budget - John Kowal/Carole Kakabar.   |

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F-29-05/13

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to approve F-29-05/13 and F-30-05/13.

Approve the 2013-2014 school year Preliminary Budget as presented, using the District's Fund Balance to balance the budget. A property tax increase of 1.75 mills (to 70.8 mills) will be recorded as Unreserved/ Designated to pay for future pension obligations and health care increases. The estimated remaining Fund Balance at June 30, 2013 \$1,315,843 shall be classified as Unreserved, Designated for Debt Repayment. The Preliminary Budget proposed \$11,946,439 in Expenditures and \$9,862,282 in Revenues.

F-30-05/13

Approve printing the 2013-2014 Final Budget as well as having it available for public inspection.

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

F-31-05/13

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to approve the following 2013-2014 Highmark Medical/Drug rates. (Premiums reflect a 15.6% increase)

PPO BLUE

|                       | <u>2012-13</u> | <u>2013-14</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Employee Only         | 519.61         | 600.67         |
| Employee and Child    | 1,162.02       | 1,343.30       |
| Employee and Children | 1,162.02       | 1,343.30       |
| Employee and Spouse   | 1,365.82       | 1,578.89       |
| Employee and Family   | 1,447.05       | 1,672.79       |

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

An Executive Session was held at 7:45 p.m. for the personnel reasons. The Executive Session ended at 8:08 p.m.

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6.

Personnel

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Garman, to approve P-55-05/13 and P-56-05/13.

P-55-05/13

Approve the retirement resignation of Valerie Kasper, Grade 7/8 Reading Teacher, Reading Specialist, effective June 3, 2013, based on a mutual agreement (Memorandum of Understanding) between Ferndale Area Education Association and Ferndale Area School District.

P-56-05/13

Post and/or advertise a Secondary English Certified Teacher, with dual certification in Literature/Reading Specialist or Reading Coach preferred.

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

P-57-05/13

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to post and/or advertise a Secondary Special Education Teacher with certification in a secondary core subject area, math preferred (Vacated by the resignation of Chelsea Cover and long-term substitute position ending May 31, 2013.)

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

Mr. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve P-58-05/13 and P-59-05/13.

P-58-05/13

Approve the resignation Tonia Mitchell, High School Cook, letter dated April 27, 2013.

P-59-05/13

Post and/or advertise for Substitute Cooks and Dishwashers.

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

P-60-05/13

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harrison, to post and/or advertise for Teacher Aides (Required certified teachers). Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

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Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve P-61-05/13 and P-62-05/13.

P-61-05/13 Approve the resignation of JD Jones as a Driver Education Instructor, effective June 1, 2013.

P-62-05/13 Employ Arthur McClucas as a “Behind the Wheel” Driver Education Instructor, effective June 1, 2013, at a stipend of the current curriculum per hour rate.

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

P-63-05/13 Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to employ Damian Bursa as a Secondary General Maintenance/Custodian, at a stipend of \$13.34 per hour, with full benefits, effective May 17, 2013. (Vacated by the retirement of Larry Illig.) Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson, to approve P-64-05/13, P-65-05/13, and P-66-05/13.

P-64-05/13 Approve the Elementary Guidance Counselor to work up to ten days beyond the regular school year, at the discretion of the building principal, up to five days for summer guidance duties at hourly rate, and up to five days for Comprehensive Guidance Planning at the curriculum rate.

P-65-05/13 Approve the Secondary Guidance Counselors to work up to eighteen days beyond the regular school year, at the discretion of the building principals, up to thirteen days for summer guidance duties at hourly rate, and up to five days for Comprehensive Guidance Planning at the curriculum rate.

P-66-05/13 Approve the School Nurse to work up to six days beyond the regular school year for the purpose of preparing the annual report and beginning new documentation for the 2013-2014 school year, subject to the discretion of the Superintendent at hourly rate.

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.



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Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Garman, to approve P-67-05/13, P-68-05/13, and P-69-05/13.

P-67-05/13

Pending federal funding for the AmeriCorps Program, approve Ferndale Area Elementary School application for four full-time AmeriCorps workers for the 2013-2014 school year, starting August 20, 2013 and ending June 20, 2014. The cost to the District is \$7,800 per worker. (Two workers paid by District. Two workers paid by Title I.)

P-68-05/13

Pending federal funding for the AmeriCorps Program, approve Ferndale Area High School application for one full-time AmeriCorps worker for the 2013-2014 school year, starting August 20, 2013 and ending June 20, 2014. The cost to the District is \$7,800 for one worker. (Paid by District.)

P-69-05/13

Post and/or advertise for AmeriCorps workers (required certified teachers).

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

7.

Student Activities

ST-71-05/13

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Bailey, to approve the resignation of Susan Leftwich as the Assistant Junior High Girls' Basketball Coach (fall sport), effective May 13, 2013. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

Mrs. Wilson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to approve ST-72-05/13 through ST-77-05/13.

Approve the following coaches for 2013-14 fall sports season:

ST-72-05/13

-- Donald Robertson, Johnstown, as an Assistant Varsity Football Coach, at a salary of \$2,740 for a 16-week season;

ST-73-05/13

-- Paul Byer, Johnstown, as an Assistant Varsity Football Coach, at a salary of \$2,356 for a 16-week season.

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ST-74-05/13

Post and/or advertise the following fall sports positions:

- Assistant Varsity Football Coach
- Head Varsity Cheerleading Advisor
- Head Junior High Cheerleading Advisor
- Assistant Junior High Girls' Basketball Coach

ST-75-05/13

Post and/or advertise the following spring sport positions (June 1):

- Head Junior High Girls' Volleyball Coach
- Assistant Junior High Girls' Volleyball Coach
- Head Varsity Baseball Coach
- Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach
- Junior High Baseball Coach
- Head Varsity Girls' Softball Coach
- Assistant Varsity Girls' Softball Coach

ST-76-05/13

Post and/or advertise for Weight Room Supervisor(s). Maximum of 250 hours from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

ST-77-05/13

Post and/or advertise for an Athletic Director. (Interim Athletic Director expires June 30, 2013.)

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

ST-78-05/13

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pavic, to approve preliminary approval of the Spanish III & IV students' trip to Madrid, Spain in June 2014, at an approximate cost of \$2,835 per student, (Barbara Freeman, Spanish Teacher). Expenses paid through fundraisers and individual students. No cost to District. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Harrison, Jones, Meekins, Pavic, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

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8. Workshops/Conferences

None.

The June Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

VI. Adjournment

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harrison, to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. All were in favor.

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