

## **OCTOBER 3, 2013**

The Freedom Area School Board held their Agenda Board Meeting on October 3, 2013, in the Middle School Library. Vice President Barbara Heyman called the Business Meeting to order at 7:08 pm, EST.

### **Board Members Present:**

Lorraine Rocco  
Scott Challis  
Harry Gilarno  
Barbara Heyman  
Mary Ann Petcovic

### **Board Members Absent:**

Mike Tibolet  
Bobbie Jo Elmer  
Kathleen Schlegel  
Dennis Sharpless

### **School Staff Present:**

Dr. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent  
Norieni Plate, Business Manager  
Timothy Dadich, High School Principal  
Richard Edder, Elementary School Principal  
John Rosa, Faculty & Athletic Director  
Misty Slavic, Director, Curriculum & Instruction

Guests: **Public sign-in sheet is attached to the minutes in the minute book.**

Vice President Barbara Heyman announced there was an Executive Session held prior to the start of the business meeting to discuss Personnel Matters.

### **PUBLIC/COMMUNITY RELATIONS:**

Mrs. Debbie Baker, Parent and President of Golf Boosters, requested the Board consider placing the Assistant Golf Coach Position saying that in the December 6, 2012 minutes, an Assistant Golf Coach was approved to be added at a salary of \$1,000. The request will be referred to Committee.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

Superintendent Jeff Fuller provided the following report:

▪ Annual memberships:

B.V.I.U. Committees:

Chair - Safe School Committee  
Member - CTC Programs and Services Committee  
Educational Innovation Council  
Transportation Committee

PASA Committees:

Continue as IU12 Representative to the PASA Board of Governors  
Serve on Legislative Committee

▪ Provided an update on the School Resource Officer saying Police Chief Ronald Leindecker of New Sewickley Township and the Township have received a federal grant that will allow the police department to hire an additional officer under the 2013 COPS Hiring Program (CHP). The estimated amount of federal funds to be awarded over the three-year grant period is \$125,000. The money will pay for 75 percent of a School Resource Officer's first year's salary and fringe benefits, less for the following two years. By the fourth year, the Township is responsible for the full salary and benefits. Based on a 260-day contract, the officer would be in our schools for 177 days. This would include our current 176 student days, plus one in-service day, equaling 68% of the contractual days. The Township and District will formalize a MOU to govern the relationship in order to establish Board Policy regarding the Safety Resource Officer.

The officer will also be utilized to teach some safety classes, talk about bullying and advise students how to be cautious when using social media. This grant is one of seven awarded in the state. **A breakdown of the financial obligation to be shared by both New Sewickley Township and the School District for each of the four years of the grant is attached to the minutes in the minute book.**

- Rachel's Challenge Program – Superintendent Fuller said the introduction of the Rachel's Challenge Program went extremely well in the district. In addition, Tim Dadich, High School Principal, said there are a lot of positive things going on as a result of the program, students have signed up to be on various committees and sub-committees, continuous acts of kindness are occurring.

Rich Edder, Elementary School Principal, said that an assembly took place in each building, core components of the program discussed, banners have been placed in each building that students have signed; acts of kindness have been placed on links that have been collected and linked through a continuous chain.

- The District is implementing the NorthWest Evaluation Association assessment to measure Academic Progress as a benchmark for students in grades K-6 Students. An overview of the assessment will be provided to the Board in November.

### **EDUCATION:**

Motion to approve the following education items was made by Petcovic, seconded by Challis, and was unanimously approved through consent agenda according to Act 48:

#### CA:1 **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

##### 1. Other:

- a. Confirm: Beth Majors, High School Technology Teacher, District DECA Advisors Meeting, September 25, North Allegheny School District, Cost Substitute
- b. iPad/iPod Device School Visit, October 7, New Kensington-Arnold School District, Cost Mileage:
  - i. Misty Slavic, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
  - ii. Matt Scala, Director of Technology

CA:2 The resignation from Kelly Krut, Big Knob Elementary Instructional Aide, effective October 1, 2013

Roll Call    Yea Votes – Petcovic, Rocco, Heyman, Gilarno, and Challis.  
Vote            Motion carried – 5 Yeas

### **OPERATIONS:**

Motion to approve the following Operation items was made by Gilarno, seconded by Challis, and unanimously approved through consent agenda:

CA:1 The resignation received from Rachel Walden, Conway Elementary part-time Food Service Employee, effective September 20, 2013

CA:2 The resignation received from Jennifer Henderson, Conway Elementary Cafeteria Monitor, effective October 4, 2013

CA:3 Jennifer Henderson as Conway Elementary Part-Time Food Service employee effective October 7, 2013 (Clearances on File)

CA:4 Participation with New Sewickley Township and New Sewickley Township Police Department in the COPS Hiring Program Grant, pending the development of a Memorandum of Understanding and solicitor review. Note: Federal grant would provide funding for a School Resource Officer to serve the School District for an initial four (4) year period beginning approximately January 1, 2014. Cost to district approximately \$8,000 first year.

Roll Call    Yea Votes – Petcovic, Rocco, Heyman, Gilarno, and Challis.  
Vote            Motion carried – 5 Yeas

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR:**

AD Report     John Rosa, Athletic Director, gave the following Monthly Report:

- 1) Team Updates – Seasons are winding down, our teams have been successful
- 2) 1973 Reunion Team will be at the Football Game this week, expecting a great turnout from these Freedom Graduates
- 3) Lil Bulldog request for using stadium and lighting on 10/9, 10/10, 10/15, 10/14 teams in playoffs (Practice times are usually 6 – 8, but it gets dark between 6:30 – 7). Lil Bulldogs made one of the largest donations (\$500) to PUSH
- 4) Booster Groups – Planning a meeting for in between Fall & Winter Seasons Update on Accountability Reporting and Board Policy
- 5) Positive atmosphere is present – players and parents have reacted positively to the coaches and the work that is going on athletically
- 6) Boys Basketball feedback has been awesome – players are responding well to Coach Cercone
- 7) Winter Online Sports Registrations are beginning for Basketball, Wrestling, and Swimming

Executive Session     Motion by Petcovic, seconded by Gilarno, for the Board to go into executive session at 8:16 pm to discuss the following:

➤ Personnel Matter

Roll Call     Yea Votes – Petcovic, Rocco, Heyman, Gilarno, and Challis.  
Vote     Motion carried – 5 Yeas

Adjourn Executive Session     Motion by Challis, seconded by Heyman, to adjourn executive session at 9:15 pm, EST.

Roll Call     Yea Votes – Petcovic, Rocco, Heyman, Gilarno, and Challis.  
Vote     Motion carried – 5 Yeas

Note: No action taken following Executive Session

Adjourn     Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Challis to adjourn. All members voting Yea. 5 Yeas. Adjourned at 9:15 pm, EST.

Submitted by:

Lorraine Rocco, Board Secretary