

**April 7, 2016**

The Freedom Area School Board held their Regular Board Meeting on April 7, 2016, in the Middle School Library. President Sayre called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

**Board Members Present:**

Alan Colorito  
Harry Gilarno  
Dawn Greene  
Gerald Inman  
Julie Leindecker  
Lori Pail  
Mary Ann Petcovic  
Lorraine Rocco  
Jennifer Sayre

**Board Members Absent:**

**School Staff Present:**

Dr. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent  
Noriene Plate, Business Manager  
Misty Slavic, Director, Curriculum & Instruction  
William Deal, Principal, High School  
Ryan Smith, Assistant Principal, High School  
Frank Hernandez, Principal, Middle School  
Richard Edder, Principal, Elementary School  
Scott Smith, Construction Representative/Clerk of Services  
Gary Mortimer, Director, Buildings & Grounds  
John Rosa, Faculty Member & Athletic Director

**Solicitor:**

N/A

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

**NOTES:** Senior High School students were in attendance to observe a School Board meeting to fulfill graduation requirements.

THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS HELD AN ATHLETIC COMMITTEE MEETING ON THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016 PRIOR TO THE START OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Congratulations to Big Knob Elementary School for receiving the 2014-15 Keystone Award for Academic Excellence. Big Knob was (1) one of only (3) three Schools in the County to receive this Award. Three of our elementary students were chosen as Freedom Area Elementary School Title I Distinguished Students of the year. These three students were then interviewed by a representative of the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Of our three students, second grade

student Noah Chaousy, was chosen by the Pennsylvania Department of Education as one of three state level Title I Distinguished students. He will be recognized for his accomplishments at the PAFPC conference on May 2<sup>nd</sup> in Seven Springs.

Invitation:

- Borough of Conway for District Participation in the May 2016 Memorial Day Parade, Commences at 11:30 A.M.

Other:

- Dates to remember:
  - May 2016 Board Meeting to be held on May 12
  - \*\*June 2016 Rescheduled for June 14
  - High School Musical, “The King and I”, April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 P.M., May 1<sup>st</sup>, Matinee, 2:00 P.M.
  - High School Prom, Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 P.M.
  - High School Senior Project Presentations, May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 - 3:00 P.M.
  - Middle School Concert Dates:
    - Chorus, Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 P.M.
    - Band, Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 P.M.
  - High School Spring Concert, Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 P.M.
- Use of School Facilities Schedule (According to Policy) (Enclosure)

**PUBLIC/COMMUNITY RELATIONS:**

President Sayre reviewed Board Policy 903: Public Participation in Board Meetings, saying members of the public must preface their comments with their name, address, and group affiliation (if appropriate). All comments should be addressed to the Presiding Officer, be relevant to business that is before the Board and observe required timelines (Prior Formal Request – 10 Minutes, Informal Request – 5 Minutes). Comments should not be personally directed, abusive, or obscene.

**MINUTES**

Motion by Petcovic, seconded by Pail, to approve the Business meeting minutes of March 17, 2016.

Roll Call    Yea Votes – Sayre, Petcovic, Gilarno, Leindecker, Colorito, Inman, Rocco, Pail,  
Vote            and Greene. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

**ENCLOSURES**

- A. Use of School Facilities Schedule (Communications, Item D.)
- B. Free/Reduced Lunch Report as of March 29, 2016 – District at 49.12%
- C. Cyber/Charter School Enrollment as of March 30, 2016– Current Projected Annual Cost for 2015-2016 School Year \$752,282.71; 32 Cyber/Charter Students, 32 Brick and Mortar Students –Total No. of Students - 64

- D. BVIU School Board Notes for March 23, 2016 Meeting
- E. Budget Transfers (Finance, Item D.)
- F. Agreement with Police Departments to Provide Police Coverage for School Activities (Operations, Item D.)
- G. Average Daily Membership for Freedom Area School District, 120 Day Report – 1,433
- H. List of Student Activity Account Signatures for Students and Activity Sponsors (Extra-Curricular – Item C)

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Dr. Fuller, Superintendent, reported on the following:

- A. Report on PSBA’s “Every Student Succeeds Act” Study Group Meetings. Board Member Lorraine Rocco provided a brief review of the process and outcome of the Study Group she participated in: Schools Identified as being in the “Bottom 5%”. The resulting White Paper was provided to each Board Member as an informational piece.
- B. Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, is a scheduled Snow Day. There will be no School on this day
- C. PSSA testing begins next Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Motion to approve the following Superintendent’s items was made by Rocco, seconded by Petcovic, and unanimously approved through consent agenda:

- CA:1 Attendance for the following at PDE Every Student Succeeds Act Stake Holders Forum, April 28, June 14, August 30 and October 18, 2016, Harrisburg, Cost Mileage plus Tolls (Possible reimbursement from PDE, Depending on Selection):
  - i. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent
  - ii. Misty Slavic, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
- CA:2 Attendance for the following at the Feedback Session regarding Graduation Requirements provided by Allegheny Intermediate Unit #3, April 26, Homestead, PA, Cost Mileage:
  - i. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent
  - ii. Misty Slavic, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
  - iii. Bill Deal, High School Principal
- CA:3 Attendance for the following at the Pennsylvania Association of Federal Programs Annual Conference, Distinguished Student Award, May 2, Seven Springs Resort, Cost Substitute (Smith, Levenson, Girty), Mileage plus Tolls: (Misty Slavic)
  - i. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent
  - ii. Misty Slavic, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
  - iii. Kim Smith, Title I Reading Specialist
  - iv. Lisa Levenson, Title I Reading Specialist
  - v. Linda Girty, Title I Reading Specialist
- CA:4 Review and approve Comprehensive Special Education Plan (Misty Slavic gave a report – required every three years due first week of May

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Inman, Rocco, Pail, Sayre, Petcovic, Gilarno, Leindecker,

Vote and Greene. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S AGREEMENT:**

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Greene, to approve a new (5) Five Year Agreement with Dr. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent. The Agreement is effective July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2021.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Rocco, Pail, Sayre, Petcovic, Gilarno, Leindecker,  
Vote and Greene. No Votes – Inman. Motion carried – 8 Yeas

### **FINANCE:**

Motion to approve the following Finance items was made by Colorito, seconded by Rocco, and unanimously approved through consent agenda: **(Copies of items CA:1 – CA:4 are attached to the minutes in the minute book)**

CA:1 Bills in the amount of \$1,109,375.48 (Second Check Run for March 2016)

CA:2 Bills in the amount of \$444,447.68 (First Check Run for April 2016)

CA:3 Primary Center Construction Payment in the amount of \$952.00 + \$72,416.92 = \$73,368.92 (First Check Run for April 2016); as approved by VEBH Architects and S. P. Smith Construction

CA:4 Updated Budget Transfers (Enclosure) (Handout)

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Inman, Rocco, Pail, Sayre, Petcovic, Gilarno, Leindecker,  
Vote and Greene. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

#### Note in Minutes:

NOTICE: May is Month to Elect Board Treasurer for Next Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2016

### **EDUCATION:**

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

CA:1 Approve Released Time According to Act 48:

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

##### 1. Special Education:

- a. Joe Testa, School Psychologist, Strategies for Learning Success among Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders, April 21, Duquesne University, No Cost to District
- b. PA Positive Behavior Support Forum, May 5-6, Hershey, PA, Cost \$300 Registration Fee, Lodging, Meals, Substitute (May 5, Fontaine Only), plus Mileage and Tolls (Will all ride together), Paid by ReNEW Grant:
  - i. Misty Slavic, Director of Special Education
  - ii. Joe Testa, School Psychologist
  - iii. Bill Deal, High School Principal
  - iv. Jessika Fontaine, High School Learning Support Teacher

2. Other:

- a. Courtney Anderson, Cyber Coordinator, Seneca Valley Academy of Choice – OPT Conference, May 3, Seneca Valley School District, Harmony, PA, Cost Substitute

STUDENTS AND STAFF TRAVEL:1. Gifted:

- a. Sara Miller, K-8 Gifted, Invention Convention, May 10, Central Elementary, Beaver Falls, No Cost to District

2. Special Education:

- a. Amy Giles, Fifth Grade Teacher, Special Olympics, May 12, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Cost Substitute

3. Other:

- a. Second Grade Teachers, Field Trip to Carnegie Museum of Natural History, May 5, Pittsburgh, No Cost to District – Funded by Elementary PTA
- b. Kindergarten Teachers, Field Trip to Wagon Trails, May 13, Vienna, OH, No Cost to District – Funded by Elementary PTA
- c. Seventh Grade Teachers and Gene Matsook, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Education Teacher, Field Trip to Heinz History Center, May 19, Pittsburgh, No Cost to District – Funded by Middle School PTSA
- d. Third Grade Teachers, Field Trip to Carnegie Science Center, May 24, Pittsburgh, No Cost to District – Funded by Elementary PTA
- e. Fifth Grade Teachers and Dave Badamo, Middle School Technology Teacher, Strip District Field Trip, June 2, Pittsburgh, PA, No Cost to District – Funded by Middle School PTSA
- f. First Grade Teachers, Field Trip to the Pittsburgh Zoo, June 6, Pittsburgh, No Cost to District – Funded by Elementary PTA
- g. Brad Baldwin, High School English Teacher, 2017 Presidential Inauguration, January 19-22, 2017, Washington, D.C., Cost Substitute Only

CA:2 Maternity Leave for Blaire Lasko, High School English Teacher, beginning approximately May 16, 2016 thru June 1, 2016 followed by FMLA, According to Policy, beginning Approximately June 2, 2016 thru October 28, 2016

CA:3 Resignation for Purposes of Retirement from Henry Podbielski, High School Career Coach, effective June 30, 2016

CA:4 Submission of ALCOA STEM Grant, amount approximately \$65,000

CA:5 Purchase of Pearson's Envision 2.0 Math Series for Grades K-5 at a Cost of \$82,112 (Funded through the Curriculum Fund) (Administrative Report - Misty Slavic)

Roll Call    Yea Votes – Inman, Rocco, Colorito, Pail, Sayre, Petcovic, Gilarno, Leindecker,  
Vote            and Greene. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

**OPERATIONS:**

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

CA:1 Communications Consulting, Inc. for Firewall Services Security, 48 Month Contract, Evaluation Process was done thru PEPPM E-Rate Mini-Bid (This was the only bid received)

- CA:2 Consolidated Communications, Inc. as Long Distance Telecommunications Carrier, Two-Year Contract
- CA:3 Five (5) Year Agreement, 2016-2021, with Freedom Borough and New Sewickley Township Police Departments to provide police coverage for School Activities (Enclosure)
- CA:4 Jennifer Young as Food Services Substitute, Salary According to Contract (Pending Acts 151 and 34 Clearances, Physical and TB Test/Statement)
- CA:5 Purchase of a 2016 Transit-150 Low Roof Wagon, 130"WB XL (K1Z), cost \$26,280.55

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Inman, Rocco, Pail, Sayre, Petcovic, Gilarno, Leindecker, Vote and Greene. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

Gary Mortimer, Director of Buildings & Grounds, provided the following monthly report:

**Monthly Summary:**

- Installed new piping with electrical disconnect and hot water heater to serve the science lab wing at the High School.
- Installation of a new card reader, controls and hardware on the first wing exterior door of the Middle School. This will provide access back into the building after recess at the playground.
- Repairs have been completed to the Elementary sprinkler system on March 29<sup>th</sup>. We experienced another flexible sprinkler head leaking along with two additional locations on the main steel header. Date to be determined to check all accessible sprinkler heads.
- The unit ventilator located in room D115 has had the coil replaced. Upon testing the operation, we found a faulty hot water actuator. The actuator will be delivered in about a week, installed and tested.
- On Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, the installers of the bleachers were here to make modifications to the new bleachers. Adjustments were made to the sway arms and vertical support brackets. We also repaired three wheels along with an interlock contact.

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR:**

Motion to approve the following Extra Curricular items was made by Greene, seconded by Gilarno, and unanimously approved through consent agenda:

- CA:1 Kelly Guerra as Middle School Pep Club Sponsor, Beginning 2016-2017 School Year, Salary According to Contract
- CA:2 List of Student Activity Account Signatures for Students and Activity Sponsors (Enclosure)
- CA:3 The Following Coaches:
1. Rick Boyd, Volunteer Middle School Baseball Coach (Clearances on File)
  2. Rick Jones, Volunteer Middle School Baseball Coach (Clearances on File)
  3. Scott Levenson, Volunteer Middle School Baseball Coach (Pending Act 114 Clearance)
  4. Brian Collins, Volunteer Middle School Baseball Coach (Pending Act 151 Clearance)

5. Joseph Cochran, Volunteer Middle School Baseball Coach (Pending Act 151 Clearance)

Roll Call Yea Votes – Greene, Colorito, Sayre, Gilarno, Rocco, Inman, Pail, Petcovic,  
Vote and Leindecker. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

John Rosa, Athletic Director, gave the following monthly report:

- **SPRING SPORTS UPDATES**
  - Varsity Baseball 3-3 (2-0 in section play)
  - Varsity Softball 3-2 (1-1 in section play)
  - Varsity Boys Track 4-1 (1-0 in section play)
  - Varsity Girls Track 3-2 (1-0 in section play)
  - MS Volleyball finished season 8<sup>th</sup> (5-10), 7<sup>th</sup> (9-6)
  - JH Baseball 1-3
  - MS Softball 0-1
  - Boys MS Track 0-2
  - Girls MS Track 0-2
- The Tribune rankings have us tied for 7<sup>th</sup> place in overall AA Rankings
- Great work by our maintenance department on preparing the facilities for spring sports
- Work has begun to schedule 2016-2017 Athletic Schedules: Important dates include Sept 9 (Veterans-Police-FireFighter Night) and Oct 1 (Homecoming Festival)
- Strength and conditioning training is going very well, 30 kids in weight room on a daily basis even through spring sports
- We have 5 JH Baseball Coaches who are volunteering their time. This was needed due to our coach having a trip out of the country for 10 days. These coaches are JH only and most are the PONY coaches that will be coaching this group of kids this summer.

### **FACILITIES MASTER PLAN:**

Scott Smith, Construction Representative, gave a construction progress update saying the items on the punch list were getting smaller but not completed at this time. A Warranty List will be created in August since our first anniversary is September 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Leindecker, for the Board to adjourn the business meeting and go into Executive Session at 8:20 pm to discuss Legal and Personnel Matters.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Greene, Rocco, Gilarno, Petcovic, Sayre, Pail, Leindecker, Colorito,  
Vote and Inman. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

NOTE: Board Member Harry Gilarno left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Motion by Petcovic, seconded by Leindecker, for the Board to go out of Executive Session at 9:10 pm.

Roll Call    Yea Votes – Greene, Rocco, Petcovic, Sayre, Inman, Leindecker, Colorito,  
Vote            and Pail. Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Following Executive Session, the Board held a public Finance Meeting to discuss the  
2016/17 Proposed Final Budget.

Adjourn    Motion by Petcovic, seconded by Leindecker, to adjourn. All members voting Yea.  
8 Yeas. Adjourned at 9:55 pm.

Submitted by:

Lorraine Rocco, Board Secretary