

December 8, 2016

Reorganization meeting of the Freedom Area Board of Directors was held in the Middle School Library. President Sayre called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Board Members Present:

Alan Colorito (Via Telephone)
Dawn Greene
Harry Gilarno
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 of Curriculum & Instruction
William Deal, Principal, High School
Steven Mott, Assistant Principal, High School
Ryan Smith, Principal, Middle School
Richard Edder, Principal, Elementary School
Randy Walker, Food Service Director
Gary Mortimer, Director of Buildings and Grounds
John Rosa, Faculty and Athletic Director
Scott Smith, Construction Representative/Clerk of Services

Solicitor:

Matthew Hoffman, Esq.

Chairperson Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Petcovic, to elect Harry Gilarno as
Pro-Tempore Chairperson Pro-Tempore to conduct the reorganization meeting of the
Board of Directors.

All members voting yea. Motion carried.

Election of Chairperson Pro-Tempore Gilarno declared nominations open for
President President of the Board of Directors.

Motion by Rocco, seconded by Greene, to retain Jennifer Sayre as
President of the Board of Directors and Mary Ann Petcovic as Vice
President of the Board of Directors.

Gilarno called nominations closed.

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

Sayre thanked the Board for their vote of confidence and assumed the President's chair.

Board Meetings Monthly Board meetings for the Board of Directors of the Freedom Area School District will be as follows:
 (A) Committee Meetings – 1st Tuesday of the month
 (B) Regular Board Meeting – 2nd Tuesday of the month

Meetings will begin at 7:00 pm for the year 2017. All meetings will be in accordance with the Sunshine Law. Central Office will advertise in the newspaper the meeting nights. Meetings are open to the public. Business can be conducted at the Regular Board Meeting. Monthly meeting exceptions are as follows:

<u>With the Following Exceptions:</u>		
	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Regular</u>
January 2017:	January 10	January 17
April 2017:		April 18
July 2017:	To Be Determined	

Adjourn Motion by Rocco, seconded by Greene, to adjourn. All members voting yea. Motion carried – 9 Yeas.

Reorganization meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm and the Business Meeting began.

BUSINESS MEETING:

The Freedom Area School Board began their Regular Board (Business) Meeting on December 8, 2016, in the Middle School Library following the Reorganization of the Board. President Sayre called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

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

Senior High School students were in attendance to observe a School Board meeting to fulfill Graduation requirements.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Dr. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent, acknowledged Norina Baker, Middle School Student, for her artwork in designing the District's 2016 Holiday Card (**Copy Attached**)
- John Rosa, Athletic Director, presented to Soccer Coach Colin Williams, Assistant Coaches, and soccer team members, Certificates from Senator Elder Vogel and from State Representative Robert Matzie of the PA

House of Representatives for the 2016 WPIAL Championship Winning High School Girls Soccer. Congratulations were extended to the team adding that this was a very exciting season.

- Freedom Area High School H.O.P.E. and Student of the Month Awards for December 2016 were presented by Assistant Principal Steven Mott:
 - H.O.P.E. Award – Tie (Theme – “Most Influential”)
 - Ruthanne Gudzan, Spanish Teacher
 - Keith Kovalic, Music Teacher/Band Director
 - Student of the Month Awards (Theme – “Creativity in School”)
 - 12th Grade:
 - Boy - Michael Fricke
 - Girl - Tara Carr
 - 11th Grade:
 - Boy - Jason Norman
 - Girl - McKenzie Deitrick
 - 10th Grade:
 - Boy - Cash Pcola
 - Girl - Lynzey Waddingham
 - 9th Grade:
 - Boy - Cade Skuse
 - Girl - Ella Walden
 - Freedom Area Middle School Student of the Month Awards for November 2016 (Theme – “Citizenship”) was presented by Principal Ryan Smith
 - 8th Grade:
 - Boy - Brett Boyd
 - Girl - Angel Clinkscates
 - 7th Grade:
 - Boy - Logan Harley
 - Girl - Skylar DeThomas
 - 6th Grade:
 - Boy - Luke Snavely
 - Girl - Jordan Lizzi
 - 5th Grade:
 - Boy - Chase Grable
 - Girl - Daisy Lewis
 - Freedom Elementary School H.O.P.E. Award for December 2016 (Theme - “Someone Who is Helpful”) was presented by Principal Rich Edder:
 - Kristine McCowin, First Grade Teacher
- The District is in receipt of the following Thank You Cards:
 - From the Freedom Girls Softball Team, Boosters and Parents for their contribution toward the cost of the Infield Mix for the

Softball Field. A Thank You was also given to Gary Mortimer for his time in pricing and organizing the delivery of the Mix.

- From the Yellow Ribbon Girls for the Donations collected for the Christmas Care Packages for the Troops and for the Monetary Donation from the Middle School Pep Club.

Invitation:

- BVIU 2016 Reorganization Meeting, Tuesday, December 13, 5:45 P.M., Beaver County Career & Technology Center.

Other:

- Presentation of Financials for Year Ending June 30, 2016 by Auditors Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood LLP. Steve Niedenberger gave an “Unqualified Opinion” of the district’s finances, meaning it was a “Clean Audit” report. A Clean Opinion on District Financials is the highest that can be obtained. Also a Clean single audit was reported. Congratulations extended to Noriene Plate, Business Manager and business office staff. **Attached to the minutes in the minute book is the “Independent Auditor’s Report - Report on the Financial Statements”**
- January 2017 Board Meetings to be held on January 10 (Committee) and January 17 (Regular),

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.

Jake Weaver, Freedom, requested tax forgiveness for years 2014 and 2015 for property he purchased at 903 Sixth Avenue through a Judicial sale. The purchase was made in 2014 but he has only recently been able to work on it. Weaver stated the property had no value during those two years.

MINUTES:

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Petcovic, to approve the Minutes of November 3 and November 10, 2016.

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

ENCLOSURES:

- A. Use of School Facilities Schedule (According to Policy) (Communications, Item D.)
- B. Free-Reduced Lunch Report as of December 1, 2016 – District at 46.38%
- C. BVIU School Board Notes for October 26, 2016 Meeting (Correction Made to Attendance)
- D. BVIU School Board Notes for November 16, 2016 Meeting
- E. List of Student Activity Account Signatures for Students and Activity Sponsors (Extra-Curricular, Item B.)
- F. Average Daily Membership for Freedom Area School District, 60 Day Report – 1,403

Information:

- G. Cyber/Charter School Enrollment as of December 6, 2016 – Current Projected Annual Cost for 2016-2017 School Year \$763,440.00; 27 Cyber/Charter Students, 38 Brick and Mortar Students – Total No. of Students - 65

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Dr. Fuller, Superintendent, provided the following information:

Policy 827 - Conflict of Interest - Minor revisions were approved last month that required written notification of the reason when a conflict of interest prevents a Board Member from voting on an action item. When there are changes to this policy, we ask that Board Members sign-off that they have reviewed the policy. A signature sheet is coming around for that purpose.

School Wide Positive Behavior Support Program Grant – Mrs. Slavic was working on a \$10,000 grant to support the development of a school-wide positive behavior support program at the Middle School. Mrs. Slavic will provide a brief update:

Mrs. Slavic said the grant was written to support the Middle School behavior modification program, or to be more specific, to create a School Wide Positive Behavior Intervention System (SWPBS). This program is supported and encouraged by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and all training is provided through PaTTAN and the Beaver County Intermediate Unit. The goal of SWPBS is to provide consistent expectations by the staff, parents, and students that will result in positive behavior changes and an improvement in school culture.

A total of \$10,000 was obtained from this grant, with \$9,000 paying for professional development of the teachers, administration, and parents, and \$1,000 going towards the needed supplies to reinforce positive student behaviors through awards, rewards, and parent meeting supplies.

IU Representatives - All will remain except Julie Leindecker will replace Dawn Greene as Legislative Representative:

Motion by Rocco, seconded by Gilarno, to approve the Representatives to the following BVIU Boards:

1. Beaver Valley Joint School Committee, Annual Term (Current Representative – Mary Ann Petcovic, Current Alternate - Lorraine Rocco)
2. PSBA/BVIU Legislative Action Council, Annual Term (Current Representative – Julie Leindecker, Current Alternate – Mary Ann Petcovic)
3. Beaver County Special School Authority Board, Five Year Term (Current Representative – Wanda Murray)

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

Dissertation Studies - We have two educators, 4th grade teacher Ms. Amanda Whitworth and former MS Principal Frank Hernandez, who are nearing the end of their doctoral studies who wish to work with some of our students for their Action Research projects as part of their dissertation project. They have been asked to provide the Board with a brief overview of their study as part of the approval process. Members of the administrative team have met with both Ms. Whitworth and Mr. Hernandez to review their proposals and recommend suggested adjustments. Following their presentations, the following motion was made:

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Petcovic, to approve requests to complete Dissertation Studies at the Freedom Area School District as follows:

1. Ms. Amanda Whitworth, 4th Grade Teacher, Using Literature Circles to Enhance Student Knowledge of Nonfiction Text, Northcentral University (**Program Outline Attached**)
2. Mr. Frank Hernandez, Middle School Principal (West Allegheny School District), Cultural Capital and Academic Achievement, University of Pittsburgh (**Program Outline Attached**)

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

NOTE: Board Member Alan Colorito disconnected from the meeting at 7:41 PM

FINANCE:

Motion to approve the following Finance items was made by Pail, seconded by Rocco, and unanimously approved through consent agenda: (**Copies of items CA:1 – CA:5 are attached to the minutes in the minute book**)

CA:1 Bills in the amount of \$372,220.70 (Second Check Run for November 2016)

CA:2 Bills in the amount of \$493,446.19 (First Check Run for December 2016)

- CA:3 Capital Projects First Check Run for December 2016 in the amount of \$11,050.00
 CA:4 Cafeteria Report for November 2016
 CA:5 Treasurer's Report for November 2016

	<u>November 2016</u>
Wesbanko - Money Market	\$ 4,455,343.24
Wesbanko - Payroll	\$ 11,266.30
Wesbanko- General Checking Account	\$ 190,908.50
PA Treasury Invest	\$ 697,268.45
PSDLAF – Regular Account	\$ 0.00
PSDLAF Max - General Fund	\$ 883,471.84
PSDLAF Term – General Fund	\$ 0.00
Wesbanko/Western Alliance General Fund – CD's CIT bank/First Internet BK of IND	\$ 5,235,000.00
PA Treasury-Invest Capital Projects	\$ 1,190,327.32
PSDLAF Max – Capital Projects	\$ 31,024.82
Wesbanko – Student Activity Account	\$ 47,402.96
Wesbanko Bodkin Scholarship - CD	\$ 192,615.24
Wesbanko Bodkin Scholarship	\$ 26,625.71
PSDLAF MAX – 2014 Construction Fund	\$ 0.00
PSDLAF – 2014 Construction Fund	\$ 8,531.81
Wesbanko - Capital Projects Checking	\$ 333,107.08
Wesbanko - Capital Projects – CD	\$ 202,113.90

- CA:6 '98 Bond Interest Payment of \$25,698.75
 CA:7 Annual Financial Report as presented by Auditors Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood LLP by Steven Niedenberger.
 CA:8 Resolution appointing Barbara Houghton, Accounts Payable Coordinator, as an additional authorized representative to receive any and all information through E-Mail regarding monies collected from Berkheimer (Signatures Required)

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

EDUCATION:

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

- CA:1 Approve Released Time According to Act 48:

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

1. Other:
 - a. Beth Majors, High School Business/Technology Teacher:
 - i. DECA Board Meeting, December 9-11, Hershey, Cost Substitute
 - ii. DECA Advisors Meeting, December 13, North Allegheny High School, Cost Substitute (Half Day)
 - b. Tara Little, Elementary Librarian, "What's New in Children's Literature?" Seminar,

- January 6, Coraopolis, Cost Substitute, Registration Fee and Mileage
- c. Emily Mather, Instructional Coach, PA Institute for Instructional Coaching Professional Development, May 1-3, Penn State, Cost Transportation

STUDENTS AND STAFF TRAVEL:

1. Gifted:

- a. Math 24 Competition, March 8, Penn State – Beaver Campus, Cost Substitute and Transportation:
- i. Sara Miller, K-8 Gifted
 - ii. Wendy Clibbens, Sixth Grade Teacher

2. Special Education:

- a. Jessika Fontaine, High School Life Skills Teacher:
- i. Confirm: Festival of Trees Private Tour, December 1, Brady's Run Park, No Cost to District, Will Use School Van
 - ii. Vicary House Tour, Freedom, December 12, No Cost to District, Will Use School Van

3. Other:

- a. Confirm: Keith Kovalic, High School Music Teacher/Band Director, Honors Band, December 1, Westminster College, Cost Substitute and Registration Fees
- b. Confirm: Beth Majors, High School Business/Technology Teacher, District II DECA Conference, Moon Twp., December 5, Cost Substitute and Transportation
- c. Michelle Koutsourais, 8th Grade Math Teacher, Math Counts Competition, Penn State, Beaver, January 6, Cost Substitute and Transportation
- d. Aaron Fitzpatrick, High School English Teacher, PSPA State High School Journalism Competition, PSU - State College, March 28-29, Cost Substitute, Lodging and Meals, Will Use School Van

CA:2 The following Student Teachers from Slippery Rock University:

1. Barbara Metropoulos, to be placed with Heather Giammaria, High School English Teacher (January 23-March 17) and Lisa Finch, Middle School English Teacher (March 21-May 11) (Pending Receipt of Clearances)
2. David Lovett, to be Placed with K.C. Hastings, High School Math Teacher (January 23-May 11) (Pending Receipt of Clearances)

CA:3 Maternity Leave for Kelly Krawchyk, High School Social Studies Teacher, beginning October 3, 2016 thru November 8, 2016, followed by FMLA, According to Policy, beginning November 9, 2016 through January 9, 2017

CA:4 FMLA (Intermittently), According to Policy, for Erica Davids, Kindergarten Teacher, as needed

CA:5 Homebound Instruction, According to Policy, for the following:

1. Elementary Student
2. Middle School Student

CA:6 Jessika Fontaine, High School Life Skills Teacher, as Mentor for Christina Waters, High School Special Education Teacher, Prorated for the 2016-2017 School Year, Salary According to Contract

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

OPERATIONS:

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

- CA:1 Released Time, According to Policy, for Randy Walker, Food Service Director, to attend ServSafe Manager Certification Course, January 18, Cranberry Twp., Cost Registration Fee
- CA:2 Referral Agreement with Drug and Alcohol Services of Beaver Valley, Inc. effective December 2016 thru November 2018
- CA:3 MOU for Transportation of Children and Youth in Foster Care between the District and Beaver Valley Children and Youth Services (Pending Solicitor Review)

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

Gary Mortimer, Buildings and Grounds Director, gave the following monthly report:

Monthly Summary:

- Conway school update: The building has been cleaned and repairs to the glass in the door completed. We have also repaired one of the second floor exhaust fans found upon cleaning the duct system to be faulty. The building's boiler and pump system has been started up with maintaining a low space temperature. As normal, weekly checks and service to maintain the system has started with the cold weather upon us.
- Over the Christmas break we are scheduling some repairs to the High School kitchen boiler system. The copper supply and return piping will be disconnected and reworked due to the age and condition of the system piping.
- The High School had general repairs to the roof top units including fan motors, actuators, etc... We have completed the additional four electrical circuits for the Fortune 500 class to operate their equipment. In addition, a dedicated electrical circuit was added for the slushy machine in the kitchen.
- A meeting was requested on December 7, 2016 with the New Sewickley Water Authority and the DEP regarding a review of the water test results over the past six months. The main supply water lines, valve locations, along with the flushing and test sites were covered. In addition, an inspection of the domestic and hydronic systems, tempering valves and back flow preventers were completed in all buildings. An operational risk management plan will be completed with future discussion and revisions to come.
- General maintenance regarding the Middle School classroom uninvents were completed. Replacement of two hot water valves was completed. Weekly inspection and cleaning of roof drains due to the leaves continue.

FACILITIES MASTER PLAN:

Scott Smith, Construction Representative/Clerk of Services provided the breakdown of cost for the drainage issue at the new Elementary School. Following discussion, the following motion was made:

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Greene, to issue a final payment to VEBH withholding \$5,405.83 from that payment.

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

EXTRA-CURRICULAR:

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

- CA:1 List of Student Activity Account Signatures for Students and Activity Sponsors (Enclosure)
- CA:2. Payment of the Homecoming Sponsor Stipend in the amount of \$1,150 for the 2015 Homecoming Fall Festival (Administrative Report)
- CA:3 Resignation from Mackenzie Kemerer as Varsity Assistant Softball Coach, effective November 22, 2016
- CA:4 Rescind Resignation from Andrea Niedbala and Kristen Milanovich as Co-Sponsors of the High School Ski Club (Approved May 12, 2016)
- CA:5 Terri Seltzer, Second Grade Teacher, as Elementary Robotics Club Sponsor, Stipend \$1,200, Prorated for start date of December 12, 2016 (Position funded through the ALCOA Foundation STEM Grant) (Clearances on File)
- CA:6 Kristine Ricci, Fourth Grade Teacher, as Elementary Robotics Club Sponsor, Stipend \$1,200, retroactive to November 7, 2016 (Position Funded Through the ALCOA Foundation STEM Grant) (Clearances on File)
- CA:7 Ben Welling as Head Middle School Boys Basketball Coach, Salary According to Contract (Pending Receipt of Updated Act 114 Clearance and Act 126 Training)

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

NOTE: Proposal from ELA Sport to conduct a feasibility study to review the Track Facilities will be held until January 2017. Additional information on configuration, bleachers, cost, replacement, etc. required. Relocating the track to the “open field” area between the two buildings is to be eliminated.

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

Athletic Director’s Report

December 8, 2016

1) Winter Team Rosters

- Boys Basketball – 17 Players
- Girls Basketball – 12 Players
- Wrestling – 19 Wrestlers
- Winter Cheer – 10 Cheerleaders
- Hockey – 3 Players (Blackhawk)
- Gymnastics – 1 Gymnast (Independent)
- MS Boys Basketball – 21 Players

JH Wrestling – 9 Wrestlers

2) Fall Individual Accolades

- We had 8 players make Football TOP 22, that is the most Freedom has ever had
- Freedom had the most TOP 22 players out of all of the teams in our football conference. Nick Henderson, Zach Greene, Randy Simmons, Evan Sweesy, Warren Crawley, Dean Ward, Zach Rosa, and Cody Ross all made TOP 22
- Noah Trombetto, Danny White, Scotty Lazarus, Michael Keith, Kyle Borgman, and Jake Pail all made TOP 22 Honorable Mention
- Nick Henderson was nominated for Mr. PA Football TOP 25 Players in the State
- Coach Liberty was the Pittsburgh Steelers High School Coach of the Week for the Week 1 Playoff Game
- Carson Gilarno and Myla Sharpless were finalists for the Beaver County Times Soccer Player of the Year Award
- Santino Guandolo and Joey Pail were ALL WPIAL, Carson Gilarno was all section
- Myla Sharpless, Lyndsee Monac, and Michaela Watkins were ALL WPIAL and Alexsia Barlamas was all section
- Jacklyn Hartle, Chloe Keller, Lyndsee Monac, Myla Sharpless, Michaela Watkins were all Beaver County Times TOP 22 Players, and Colin Williams was Beaver County Coach of the Year
- Nych Baker, Carson Gilarno, Santino Guandolo and Jordan Herzog all made Beaver County Times TOP 22
- Jarrett Boyd placed in the PIAA Cross Country Meet, and Adam Hessler also qualified

3) MS Football and Cheer Proposal – **Report Attached**

Numbers support a team, look to have all levels – Varsity, JV, MS, and Midgets thrive under new plan.

POLICY:

Motion to approve the following Policy items was made by Rocco, seconded by Petcovic, and unanimously approved through consent agenda (Solicitor's Review Completed):

- Policy No. 912 – Relations with Educational Institutions

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

Adjourn Motion by Rocco, seconded by Petcovic, to adjourn. All members voting Yea.
8 Yeas. Adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Submitted by:

Lorraine Rocco, Board Secretary

