

**FINNEYTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Regular Meeting, January 17, 2023**  
**Finneytown Secondary Campus Media Center**  
**8916 Fontainebleau Terrace**  
**Cincinnati, OH 45231**  
**Open Forum 6:00pm**  
**Regular Meeting 6:30pm**

The Finneytown Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, in the Media Center of the Finneytown Secondary Campus, 8916 Fontainebleau Terrace, Cincinnati, OH 45231. Mr. Gast, Ms. Lee, Ms. McMullen and Mr. Rea. The President called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

**13-23** Ms. McMullen moved, seconded by Ms. Lee, that the Board approve the agenda as presented. The President declared the motion passed.

Mr. Reeb arrived at 6:32pm.

**14-23** Mr. Rea moved, seconded by Ms. McMullen, that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of December 19, 2022 and the Organizational Meeting and Budget Hearing of January 5, 2023 and the Special Meeting of January 12, 2023. The President declared the motion passed.

**Student Recognition**

The Finneytown Board of Education honored Lucy Sanders and Maddalyn Hill, Finneytown Elementary students and Girl Scouts, for showing true character, bravery and courage, in a way that exemplifies the Wildcat Way and the Girl Scout Law, helping to save a girl from drowning during a Girl Scout field trip.

**Presentations**

**State Board of Education Representative Katie Hofmann**

Newly elected District 4, State Board of Education Representative, Katie Hofmann addressed the Board. Hofmann brings 37 years of teaching experience, 20 years as an officer in the Cincinnati Public teacher's union, and her longtime advocacy for the whole child framework to the State Board. The whole child framework recognizes children need to be healthy in order to learn. They need to feel safe at school. They need to be supported. They need to be challenged with academics. They need a rich curriculum that is meaningful to them. Ms. Hofmann expressed her excitement to work with us over the next four years to achieve those goals in our district and to face the challenges that lay ahead, including Senate Bill 1, which attempts to limit the state board of education's powers, and universal private school voucher plans, which siphon dollars away from public education.

### **Finneytown Social and Emotional System and Support Team**

Mr. Muchmore, Ms. Utley, Ms. Styles, Ms. McNair, and Ms. Shelton gave a presentation regarding the social and emotional system and supports provided to students in the District. These supports are guided by the tenets of safety, belonging/connection, emotional/ physical development, positive self-esteem, and learning. Examples include: social and emotional curriculum, Family Groups (elementary), Mentor Groups (secondary), MindPeace Room (secondary), RP room and facilitators, Responsive Classroom approach, and Catalyst Counseling referrals. Ms. Shelton, Executive Director, MindPeace, indicated that Finneytown Schools is "Best in Class" for serving the whole child, and serves as a model for other schools in the area.

### **Administrative Report (29:30 minutes)**

**Dr. Laurie Banks, Superintendent** – discussed the following:

- ProAction Café – Another great turnout of students, staff and families involved in conversations that matter at ProAction Cafe last Monday. Hosted topics included: gifted programming, positive storytellers, addressing littering, motivating staff/students and others, communicating with our children, behavioral development, and bias growth. Our next gathering will be on February 6, 2023.
- OFCC – On February 2, we will have the Owner Kick-Off Meeting with OFCC at 10:30am at District Office. We will meet our new project manager, Tom Bannon. Ms. Lee will attend on behalf of the BOE and LRFP team.
- LRFP – On February 8 the LRFP team will convene to review plans and advise our administration on future decisions.
- Lunch Fees –
  - The negative balance due to lunch fees continues to grow. This is a challenge as the district will be responsible for this debt, which takes funds from another opportunity or resource for our students.
  - We are working in partnership with Milford Food Services to contact families and encourage them to pay this debt through emails, newsletters, and phone calls.
  - This is a state-wide and national problem for which legislative advocacy is being sought.
- Retirement – Beverly Thal is retiring after 23 years in the district and 18 in the district office. We appreciate her service. She will be incredibly missed.

### **Public Address (33:30 minutes)**

#### **Rebecca Carrasco**

My son is in second grade and has an IEP. There isn't a resource room at the new Elementary School for kids in second to sixth grade. That means when my son needs his speech or occupational therapy, he and the therapist don't have a dedicated place to go. They have to find an empty

room and work there. It's not always the same room and he often works in the huddle rooms in the hallway which have big glass windows. With such large windows, there's no privacy for my son's interventions and at some point he is going to feel self-conscious that his classmate walk by and look at him. The idea of using whatever room is available also means that the teachers and the students don't have a place to keep their tools, such as noise canceling headphones, visual aids and school supplies, that are needed during intervention time. A resource room gives students with an IEP and their teachers a trusted space to focus on their work when the general classroom is not appropriate. As a former teacher myself, I also understand the importance of having a classroom where I usually worked. I was able to decorate the walls, have my materials at hand, and my students knew every day where they would sit and where to find the materials they needed. Since there are empty classrooms on the first floor, I request that one of those rooms be used as a resource room for children with IEPs. One room I observed last fall was being used to store books for the book fair, so it was obvious that it was not being used by a teacher for a class. What do we need to do to get a classroom dedicated as a resource room for our children and their teachers?

**Board Coordination Matters (37:30 minutes)**

**Mr. Reeb, discussed the following items:**

- Facilities Tour – I took a tour of our Brent, Whitaker, the Quonset Hut and the bus storage lot with Mr. Anderson. A few months ago, I received a valuable tour of our student-occupied buildings, while school was in session. I have toured all our entire district K-12. General assessment of the recently vacated buildings is they are in worse shape than I thought. It is doubtful these spaces will be used again. The Board will need to decide the future of these older buildings, which to keep and which not to keep.
- Springfield Township Trustees – A City Barbeque restaurant is under construction. This chain typically puts up a school mural in their restaurants. I plan to reach out to them about the content of that mural and propose our students be involved.
- Board Meeting Length – I have had some concerns about the length of our board meetings over the last year. Shorter meetings respect the time of all that attend these meetings. I request this topic be discussed.

**Ms. McMullen, discussed the following items:**

- Elementary PTA – I attended this meeting
  - Thanks to everyone that came out to the family game night. It was a good time and nice to see old and new faces. Thanks to everyone that donated items and time to this event.
- Secondary PTA – I plan to attend this meeting next month.

**Mr. Gast, discussed the following items:**

- Finneytown Educational Foundation
  - Meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month; I plan to attend next week's meeting.
- Board Meeting Length
  - Meeting length is determined by the number of topics discussed and how long you discuss them
  - Meeting length reduction goal suggestions:
    - Although two board members serve on most committees, only one members should coordinate and report out on that committee
    - Board Coordination reports should be limited to 5 minutes
    - Discussion Topic commentary can be more efficient if focused on concerns and issues with the proposal rather than verbalizing and repeating blanket support, which can be communicated with your "Yes" vote
    - Discussion Topic commentary should also be held to 5 minutes per board member
    - The number of items to be discussed by the Board at any particular meeting should be limited to a reasonable number that can be accomplished in a meeting of reasonable length.
    - Topics that do not require immediate action should be placed in queue for discussion at future meetings.
    - These are all suggested time lengths for cooperatively working toward shorter meetings; there is no plan to cut someone off.

**Ms. Lee, discussed the following items:**

- Athletic Boosters – I have not met with them yet
- Finneytown Athletic Association –
  - I need additional officer contact information
  - The last meeting was moved and I could not attend
- Long Range Facilities Planning Committee – did not meet
- Personnel Committee – Met; we are working but have nothing to report yet
- OSBA –
  - VirtualTownhall meetings have not yet resumed since the holidays
  - A new virtual OSBA Forum is being created to tackle critical issues and discuss them providing insights and strategies – January 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am.
  - Discussed the COSSBA Conference in Tampa March 30<sup>th</sup> – April 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - Deadline to register is January 28<sup>th</sup> for early discount
    - Finneytown School District will be presenting at the conference
  - Board Member 101 – January 21<sup>st</sup> in Columbus, OH
  - Board Member 201 – February 4<sup>th</sup> in Mason, OH
  - Virtual Appreciology – the art and science of appreciation; a free virtual event on February 7<sup>th</sup>

- *Beyond Differences Finneytown Board Committee* –
  - Mr. Gast and I have been reviewing applications, checking references, interviewing applicants. Based upon this work, we are recommending Scott Meyer and Kelly Lynch as Co-Leaders for this committee
  - If we have consensus alignment, we will set up the first meeting to discuss our goals.

**Mr. Rea, discussed the following items:**

- Springfield Township Trustees –
  - The Board had a shifting of committees effective for the new calendar year.
  - I will be working with Springfield Township. I have reached out to Chris Gilbert, Township Administrator, and made plans to get together once a month for coffee.
  - The Township is very happy about the district’s decision to make Brent available for the temporarily displaced Arts Connect Program. Thanks Dr. Banks for working with the township.
  - Katie Hofmann, State Board of Education District 4 Representative, is always willing to assist us in any way and represent out interests.

**15-23** Ms. Lee moved, seconded by Mr.Rea, that the Board adopt the “Consent Calendar” as follows (52:00 Minutes):

Action by the Board of Education in adoption of the “Consent Calendar” at this point of the agenda means that all items appearing with an asterisk (\*) after the title constitute the “Consent Calendar” and are adopted by one single motion, unless a member of the Board of Education or the Superintendent requests that any such item be removed from the “Consent Calendar” and voted upon separately.

**a) Monthly Financial Report\***

**b) Depository and Investment Balances as of December 31, 2023\***

|                               |         |                  |
|-------------------------------|---------|------------------|
| U.S. Bank                     | 0.1000% | \$ 618,226.57    |
| U.S. Bank (construction fund) | 0.5300% | \$ 3,685,154.42  |
| STAR Ohio                     | 4.1900% | \$ 17,708,647.19 |
| STAR Ohio (construction #2)   | 4.1900% | \$ 3,051,159.78  |
| STAR Ohio (construction #1)   | 4.1900% | \$ 1,347,408.95  |

**c) Interest Earned on Depository and Investment Accounts as of December 31, 2023\***

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| General Fund      | \$65,931.64 |
| Construction Fund | \$16,713.92 |

**d) Monthly Bond Project Spending and Commitment Report\***

[See attachment]

**e) Approval of Payment - FY23\***

The Board approved payment of the following invoice(s) representing purchases that were made prior to the issuance of a valid purchase order of the district:

| <b>DATE</b> | <b>VENDOR</b>   | <b>AMOUNT</b> |
|-------------|---|---------------|
| 10/4/19     | Markel Corporation<br>(Insurance policy deductible on prior year insurance claim) | \$ 2,500.00   |
| 8/17/18     | Markel Corporation<br>(Insurance policy deductible on prior year insurance claim) | \$ 2,500.00   |

**RC:** Ms. McMullen, yes; Mr. Rea, yes; Mr. Reeb, yes; Mr. Gast, yes; Ms. Lee, yes. The President declared the motion passed.

**16-23** Ms. McMullen moved, seconded by Mr. Rea, that the Board adopt the "Consent Calendar" as follows (1:00:30 minutes):

Action by the Board of Education in adoption of the "Consent Calendar" at this point of the agenda means that all items appearing with an asterisk (\*) after the title constitute the "Consent Calendar" and are adopted by one single motion, unless a member of the Board of Education or the Superintendent requests that any such item be removed from the "Consent Calendar" and voted upon separately.

**a) Acknowledgement of Resignations\***

The Board acknowledged the following resignations, which had been previously accepted by the Superintendent:

|                      |   |            |
|----------------------|---|------------|
| <b>Corina Bowman</b> | Extended Care Coordinator<br>effective January 31, 2023 | (personal) |
|----------------------|---|------------|

**Kayla Miller** 7<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Teacher (personal)  
effective January 9, 2023

**b) Rescission of Contract - Supplemental 2022-2023\***

The Board rescinded the following 2022-2023 Supplemental Contract, originally approved on November 21, 2022:

**Zach Jung** Choreographer, Musical Theatre

**c) Approval of Contracts – Supplemental 2022-2023\***

The Board approved the following Supplemental Contracts, effective August 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023:

|                               |  |            |
|-------------------------------|--|------------|
| <b>Zach Blyberg</b>           | Head Coach, Freshman Basketball        | \$2,338.00 |
| <b>Janet Cain</b>             | Director, Jump Start Theater           | \$1,753.00 |
| <b>Janet Cain</b>             | Producer, Jump Start Theater           | \$1,130.00 |
| <b>Elijah Fenwick-Sanders</b> | Head Coach, Co-ed Swimming             | \$1,208.00 |
| <b>Kayla Fields</b>           | Director, Elementary Chorus            | \$1,656.00 |
| <b>Cameron Hoffman</b>        | Head Coach, 8th Gr. MS Boys Basketball | \$1,656.00 |
| <b>Zach Jung</b>              | Technical Director, Musical Theatre    | \$1,656.00 |
| <b>Ariel McCoy</b>            | Technical Director, Jump Start Theater | \$1,208.00 |
| <b>Ariel McCoy</b>            | Choreographer, Jump Start Theater      | \$682.00   |
| <b>Ariel McCoy</b>            | Choreographer, Musical Theatre         | \$935.00   |
| <b>Ariel McCoy</b>            | Vocal Director, Musical Theatre        | \$1,208.00 |
| <b>Lynn Volz</b>              | Head Coach, Middle School Wrestling    | \$2,553.00 |
| <b>Charles Williams</b>       | Head Coach, Varsity Girls Basketball   | \$5,553.00 |

**d) Approval of Payment – Certified Staff Members\***

The Board approved payment to the following certified staff members who will perform duties outside of the regular work schedule, effective August 1, 2022 through July 31, 2023:

|                        |  |            |
|------------------------|--|------------|
| <b>Kristin Barnes</b>  | 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Department Support | \$19.87/hr |
| <b>Thomas Budday</b>   | 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Department Support | \$19.87/hr |
| <b>Melissa Hawkins</b> | 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Department Support | \$19.87/hr |
| <b>Janelle Sowders</b> | 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Department Support | \$19.87/hr |
| <b>Lynn Volz</b>       | 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Department Support | \$19.87/hr |
| <b>Lara Walker</b>     | 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Department Support | \$19.87/hr |

**e) Approval of Unpaid Health Leave\***

The Board approved the following Unpaid Health Leave:

**Teyah McEntush**, Teacher, beginning January 4, 2023 and continuing until approximately February 14, 2023

**f) Approval of Substitute Teachers Provided by Comprehensive Substitute Solutions\***

The Board approved the following substitute teachers who are employed by Comprehensive Substitute Solutions and may be assigned to fill absences for the Finneytown Local School District, effective January 12, 2023:

|                       |                     |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Barnes, Cheryl        | Fegelman, Todd      | Meier, Paulette     |
| Barnett, Althea       | Fischhoff, Ann      | Mollineaux, Susan   |
| Bell, Danny           | Gaines, Queylah     | Mosher, Parker      |
| Bellamah, Christopher | Gaski, Karen        | Nelson, Diamond     |
| Binford, Cornelia     | Giffin, David       | Page, Candace       |
| Blair, Ernetta        | Gilbert, Jaylin     | Palmore, Cori       |
| Blank, Diana          | Gray, Kiara         | Parham, Ebony       |
| Blanks, Earl          | Haarlammert,        | Perez, Adesina      |
| Blunt, Sharron        | Stephanie           | Phipps, Marilyn     |
| Brewer, Valeri        | Hardy, Diane        | Pittman, Felicia    |
| Brinkman, Rosa        | Hartman, Ronald     | Pollington, Connie  |
| Brown, Camryn         | Hayden, Larita      | Powell, Victoria    |
| Brown, Charles        | Hershey, Caroline   | Price, Tanya        |
| Brown, Kara           | Hess, Leanne        | Ray, Colleen        |
| Calhoun, Brenda       | Hopkins, Samuel     | Reppart, Jackson    |
| Colvin, Gayle         | Horstman, Zach      | Rice, Alisha        |
| Connor, Kathryn       | Horton, Vanuis      | Richey, Sheila      |
| Cook, Gary            | Howard, Elaine      | Ruffner, Sara       |
| Copeland, David       | Hudson, Denesha     | Ryan, Samantha      |
| Crumpley, Tanagna     | Hughes Jr., George  | Scholles, Emilie    |
| Curtis, Hayley        | Jackson, Dionna     | Schuler, Emily      |
| Davis, Elonah         | Jones, Darrell      | Shaw, Phyllis       |
| Davis, Gordon         | Jurell, Megan       | Skidmore, Carson    |
| Davis, Rollins        | Kelley-Gerton, Lisa | Smith, Tamara       |
| Denlinger, Scott      | Laird, Maggie       | St.Hilaire, Melissa |
| Downs, Gheiril        | Lemon, Richard      | Stegman, Jessica    |
| Dunn, Tim             | Lockett, Teylar     | Sukovaty, Holly     |
| Duskin, Deemiah       | Marshall, Gwen      | Sullivan, Clyde     |
| Ellis, Ruth           | Martin, Artis       | Tennyson, Emma      |
| Evans, Deborahagh     | May, Emily          | Thomas, Jenna       |
| Evans, Patricia       | McCrary, Leandre    | Tubbs, Quinetta     |



Utrecht, Kimberly  
Underwood, Mason  
Vaughan, Randall  
Walton, Ronald

Watson, Todd  
Weiler, Michael  
Williams, Tracey  
Winter, Stephany

Wise, Donnise  
Wrentz, Kyra  
Yisrael, Nesyah

**g) Acceptance of Donations\***

The Board accepted the following donation(s):

Two trumpets, valued at \$250 each, for a total of \$500, to the Finneytown Local School District music program from Carla Earlywine, 7647 Pineglen Dr., Cincinnati, 45224 on December 21, 2022.

A cash donation of \$100,000 to the Finneytown Local School District from Jeffrey and Andrea Immelt on December 26, 2022.

**RC:** Mr. Rea, yes; Mr. Reeb, yes; Mr. Gast, yes; Ms. Lee, yes; Ms. McMullen, yes. The President declared the motion passed.

**Review of Action Steps**

- 1) Reach out to City Barbeque about collaboration on a Finneytown School District mural inside the restaurant – Mr. Reeb
- 2) Send out all *Beyond Differences Finneytown* applications to the rest of the Board of Education – Ms. Lee
- 3) Set up the *Beyond Difference Finneytown* first meeting with Co-Leaders – Ms. Lee
- 4) Send out email concerning COSSBA conference attendance interest among Board members – Ms. Lee
- 5) Schedule a subcommittee meeting to discuss the Paid Parental Leave proposal with legal counsel – Dr. Banks, Mr. Oliverio, Mr. Rea, Mr. Reeb

The next regular meeting of the Finneytown Board of Education will take place on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 6:30pm in the Media Center of the Finneytown Secondary Campus, 8916 Fontainebleau Terrace, Cincinnati, OH 45231. Open forum will begin at 6:00pm.

**Board Member Appreciation Month Presentation**

Dr. Laurie Banks, Superintendent recognized and thanked each of the Finneytown Board of Education members for their time, talent and contributions to the work of the district and allowing us to move forward in the most positive way possible.

**17-23** Ms. Lee moved, seconded by Mr. Gast, that the Board take a short recess.

**RC:** Mr. Reeb, yes; Mr. Gast, yes; Ms. Lee, yes Ms. McMullen, yes; Mr. Rea, yes. The President declared the motion passed.

The Board recessed at 7:39pm.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 7:52pm.

**18-23** Mr. Rea moved, seconded by Ms. Lee, that the Board move to Executive Session, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(g)(1), in order to consider the employment and compensation of a public employee

and

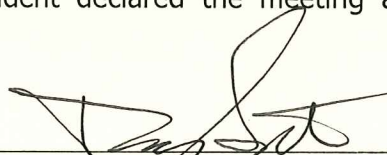
In accordance with ORC 121.22(G)(2), to consider the purchase or sale of property, since disclosure at this time would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to persons whose personal, private interest is adverse to the general public interest.

**RC:** Mr. Reeb, yes; Mr. Gast, yes; Mrs. Lee, yes; Ms. McMullen, yes; Mr. Rea, yes. The president declared the motion passed.

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:52pm.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 9:29pm.

**19-23** There being no further business, Ms. McMullen moved, seconded by Mr. Gast, that the meeting be adjourned. The president declared the meeting adjourned at 9:29pm.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Gast, President



\_\_\_\_\_  
David L. Oliverio, Treasurer

ATTEST: