FINNEYTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting, September 18, 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 Monday, September 18, 2023, in the Media Center of the Finneytown Secondary Campus, 8916 Fontainebleau Terrace, Cincinnati, OH 45231. Mr. Gast, Ms. Lee, Ms. McMullen, Mr. Rea and Mr. Reeb were present. The President called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

120-23 Ms. Lee moved, seconded by Mr. Rea, the Board approved the agenda as presented and amended. The President declared the motion passed.

121-23 Ms. McMullen moved, seconded by Mr. Reeb, the Board approved the minutes from the Special Meeting of July 27, 2023, the Regular Meeting of August 21, 2023 and the Special Meeting of September 7, 2023. The President declared the motion passed.

Administrative Report

Milford Food Service Update, Tina Reynolds, Director of Nutrition Services – discussed the following:

- The National School Lunch Program is the most regulated school program in the country in terms of rules, regulations and paperwork. We take care of this so the district can focus on its core educational mission.
- Studies show the healthiest meal a student will receive is the school lunch.
- Milford Nutrition Services (Milford) provides breakfast and lunch, hot and cold options, unlimited fruits and vegetables and a variety of meal and ala carte choices.
- This program is offered at no cost to the school district and paid for by federal and state subsidies and student meal prices.
- Milford has a registered dietician on staff. School meals must abide by strict nutritional calorie ranges. An important goal of our program is to educate and build healthy eating habits, teaching kids how to make healthy food choices for themselves.
- Milford food services has partnered with Finneytown Schools since 2012. Several staff members are Finneytown residents. When possible, food is sourced locally. Student requests and feedback is regularly solicited and implemented.
- While food prices have dramatically increased over the past 12 months, minimal price increases were passed on in the form of school meal prices this year.
- An alternate meal policy was implemented to address the high negative lunch charge balances. Students with unpaid balances above a certain threshold are offered cheese sandwiches as part of a full meal, including milk, fruits and vegetables, until they can take care of past due balances.
- A Finneytown donation account has been set up to accept donations from anyone that wants to help Finneytown students that are behind on their meal charges. Checks can be dropped off at the Finneytown Schools and should be made out to Milford Nutrition Services. Please indicate "Finneytown lunch charge donation" on the memo line.
- The district is also working hard to get families connected to resources available for qualifying needy families.

 Milford continues to work on vegetarian option solutions, including meat substitutes.

Dr. Laurie Banks, Superintendent – discussed the following:

- It is critical that families eligible for Free and Reduced lunch and breakfast get connected and sign up. It helps not only with school meals, it also affects federal Title I funding received by the district.
- District State Report Cards were released by ODE.
 - o Our District, elementary and secondary campus each earned a three-star rating, which "meet standards".
 - o Report card strengths include:
 - Progress measure which is the growth all students are making based on their past performances
 - Gap Closing measure the reduction in educational gaps for students in subgroups (i.e. students with disabilities or students who have English as a second language, etc.)
 - Graduation Rate was four stars.
 - o Report card areas for work include:
 - Achievement was two stars, which is not where we want to be. But when you break down, we saw some improvement over grade level cohorts in different areas, including math, science and literacy, language arts
 - Chronic Absenteeism We saw a decrease in our chronic absenteeism, though we are still looking for improvement.
 - Early Literacy was one star. We adopted a new K-3 literacy program this year. We created a literacy coordinator position to help with onboarding in our classrooms
 - Gifted We met the gifted indicator, but not the gifted performance index. We added a gifted services coordinator to work with our students and classroom teachers on professional development.
 - There's a lot to celebrate for our staff who were here last year. Our new coordinator positions along with our new hires, who bring energy and new ways of looking at things, will put us on the path to continue the trend positive.
 - We'll go back through the results to make sure it aligns before published.
 There's an appeal process if we see any discrepancies in the data.
- Marching Band I want to give a shout out for our marching band. I had the
 opportunity to see them perform Saturday at 8:45am at the University of Louisville.
 For the first time in marching band history, at the Bands of America contest, they
 got Champion and performed at the regional finals. We have a lot to celebrate.
- Staff Facilitators this past last week we launched our professional learning cohorts being led by our Restorative Practices (RP) and Problem Based Learning (PBL) facilitators. These meet twice a month with our staff either before or after school. The intention is to engage in learning around things and practices in the classroom with the hope that our adult learning will impact student learning. We shifted this year to four RP/PBL facilitators to give us more flexibility in building staff capacity. Then, we have the gifted coordinator, the literacy coordinator and the transition coordinator. The transition coordinator's focus right now is the

pathways, which is more secondary campus. Part of that work is creating partnerships to connect our students with experiences or connections for job pathways they're considering. Our hope is that the position will grow to be K 12. The literacy coordinator is focused on the K-3 literacy adoption right now, but we see that role growing to serve grades K-12.

- Job Description Benefit Link Update Ms. Ruffin and I met briefly about the benefit package link. I shared a template of what that could look like for the board to review.
- ProAction Café Our first event was held on September 11. It was well attended.
 We had alumni, students, staff, administrators and partners. The topics are
 whatever the people who are in attendance bring. At this one, hosted topics
 included: athletics, transition from preschool to kindergarten, lunch fees, behavior
 in the classroom, high school busing, and artificial intelligence. Our next ProAction
 Cafe is on October 20, at secondary in the media center at 9am. This is a staff inservice day, to attract different people.
- Strategic Planning Tim Burton, who is facilitating, met with our district office administration team. His next step is to meet with the Board of Education to work through some of the same things he did with the administration, to be followed with some community engagement surveys.

Public Address

Matt Wilber

I been trying for a couple of years to help the district as I could. I was a math teacher for 35 years and coach, including at the college level, for most of that time. Our football team hasn't gotten a league win in the last 20 years. I'm trying to figure out how to shift that. I have grandchildren attending. You have done a tremendous job with them. Athletic letters don't seem to mean anything to kids anymore. I saw the district's expiring strategic plan online. I couldn't find anything objective on it to evaluate. I wish the athletic coaches were given budgets. How many kids need to be on a team to justify its existence? Maybe we shouldn't have all these athletic teams. Maybe we should drop some of them. We need 7th and 8th grade teams and youth programs. If there is anything I can do to help let me know. Thank you.

Chad Engleman

Good evening, everyone. When I was looking at the agenda for tonight, I realized that there's a meeting tomorrow night. The agenda is not on the internet. There's nothing on Facebook posting the meeting for tomorrow night. I hope that topic isn't important because no one knows about it. Secondly, this agenda tonight is not the agenda that's online right now. There's an added piece, here in my hands, that is not on the internet. The optics of that don't look good. I think we need to try to make sure that we follow through on posting the agendas on the internet, being used in the meetings. If you must add something, it should be added as a carry-on, so it doesn't look like we tried to sneak in a line to the agenda. Like I said before, we have no idea what's happening tomorrow. So that's it. Thank you guys.

Board Coordination Matters

Ms. McMullen, discussed the following items:

- Happy Rosh Hashana to our families that celebrated their new year. Also, happy Spanish Heritage Month.
- Primary PTA I attended this meeting virtually
 - o The PTA carnival was an exceptional event. Thanks to everyone who donated time, money resources for our students. Kudos to everybody who participated
 - Winter Market is coming December 2 from 12-3pm. The market will consist of local vendors. Get your holiday shopping in. Everything goes back to the PTA for our teachers and students
 - o Dance registration is open. Classes start on September 25. If your child is interested in dancing, it's a great program. Reach out to Brooke Woods.
- Secondary PTA I attended this meeting
 - Homecoming Tailgate will be September 29 from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. There's going to be food trucks, vendors, and games. If you're interested in getting involved reach out to Scott Meyer. He is also our Diversity Equity and Inclusion coordinator so reach out to him if you're interested.
 - Jihad Rashid, a Finneytown alumnus, is hosting a coat drive this month. If you have any coats lying around, donate them to the secondary campus. You have until October 2.
 - o Teacher Conference Keep an eye out for SignUpGenius. Conferences are scheduled for October 4 and October 15. Food items are needed. If you don't have time to go shopping, you can donate funds.
 - Student Achievement A new apprenticeship program has been created to help address the educator shortage, targeting individuals already working in the schools for apprenticeships to obtain their teaching license. This program offers scholarships up to \$7,500 per year for four years.
 - Medicaid Unwinding Since the pandemic, families will have to reapply for Medicaid. I don't know if we have a way to communicate that to parents, through newsletters or in other ways. I know that that those funds are critical for families and for the district
- I was contacted by Al Long, who is partnering with some HBCUs and some local schools, including Princeton and North College Hill, in a virtual event for students who might want to attend a HBCU. He asked if Finneytown would be a guinea pig to watch and see if it's something we might be interested in for next school year. These events will be taking place on November 2 and November 3. If you're interested you can reach out to myself, Ms. Lee or Mr. Rea.
- I've had some parents ask me: If we still offering choir? Why French is only being offered online?

Dr. Banks: Choir is not being offered this year. I will investigate the reason for this and report back. French is being phased out due to low demand, making this subject cost prohibitive. French I is no longer offered. French II is being offered online in its last year to get these students a second year in their foreign language.

Mr. Rea, discussed the following items:

- OSBA Business Meeting Ms. Lee, our OSBA business meeting delegate, is not able
 to attend the Capital Conference in November. I will be representing the district in
 that meeting as the alternate. Mr. Oliverio, can you please investigate if there is
 paperwork to be filed to make this happen for us and ensure our voice is heard
- Board Candidates To those running for school board: There are more people running than seats. Since we don't know who's going to win, if you are interested in attending, should you be one of the ones that win the election, please let us know so that we can have it prepared for you to attend.

Mr. Reeb, discussed the following items:

- Finneytown Music Parents Association (FMPA)
 - o FMPA had their inaugural carwash at Finneytown Elementary. They raised a lot more money than they expected. They have a lot of donations from parents. The kids had a lot of fun. Thank you on behalf of FMPA to all those who came out and got their cars washed and supported our students.
 - Thank you Northminster Presbyterian Church for donating money to cover food at band camp. They helped make some ends meet that weren't going to be met otherwise.
 - There are savings accounts offering great rates right now, between 4.5% to 5%. FMPA is looking into this and will to get more interest. All support organizations please take note. If your support agency is not getting a high interest rate on your savings, please take time to investigate this opportunity.
- Whitaker Development
 - In regard to the statement that Tony is going to share, I hope everyone in the room will be happy with the statement. I do want to say that in our process of thinking about the Whitaker property, I brought up a few times the possibilities of putting ballfields at Whitaker. I've tossed around in my own head and with the board, and others, all sorts of different ideas of what I think might make sense to go there. I believe that what we're going to be announcing tonight is a good option, if it goes all the way through and sees its eventual fulfillment. In speaking with our administration, I do think that students traveling to ballfields at Whitaker doesn't make a whole lot of sense, if we can keep them here on this campus, or at least at Cottonwood. I'm hopeful that we'll be able to work with the township to find a developer for the property that will result in something that every one, or a large number, in our community are happy with. I want those that are listening to know that I've always been an advocate for owner occupied homes and nothing over two stories at that site. Although the outcome won't be set until we get further into the process, and enter into agreements with developers, I do feel that we, with the township as a partner, are on the right track and I am optimistic.
- Chick-fil-A Is on its way to being finished. I'll touch base with whoever the manager is there, introduce myself on behalf of the board, encourage them to recognize the Finneytown Local School District on the walls of their restaurant.
- Videotaping of Meetings Dr. Banks shared in her board update the cost we would be looking at. Is that a discussion that we want to have right now? I see that there could be benefits of having every meeting taped. I shared at the last meeting,

there are also negatives to it. To those that are watching, I'm glad that they're watching. But there's a benefit in having people here in person. To those that are here in person, I appreciate you being here. But I know that sometimes you can't make it in person. So you might want to watch a video later on your own time. Those are my thoughts about recording meetings. I know that Mr. Anderson is not complaining about his video recording task and he would probably be here anyway. But I do feel that if someone's going to do the recording, that it shouldn't be one of our administrators. We don't need to record the meetings where we're just going into Executive Session. But any meeting of substance, we want to have somebody there to record it, knowing it's going to probably result in a little less community participation and attendance.

Ms. Lee, discussed the following items:

- Videotaping of Meetings I did not have time to look into it this month, but I would like to discuss it more. I think there are more options than hiring a for-profit company to record. We have students in media clubs and other ideas brought to us by some of our parents as well. I don't think it needs to be done by Mr. Anderson or one of our administrators. But I'm very open to exploring our options. Maybe there isn't as much in person participation, but there is a lot of benefit to being able to see it online. There are a lot of parents who don't have childcare, access to a car, or who have to work at that time, that would be able to watch it later.
- Policy Updates The policy committee met with NEOLA on September 11. Updates were mostly cut-and-dried wordsmithing. Nothing stood out as contentious.
- Finneytown Athletic Association / Finneytown Athletic Boosters
 - o I attended the FAA meeting on September 10 virtually and the Boosters meeting on September 13 in person.
 - o Fall sports are well underway. We've had some wins under our belt for various teams, including football. Very happy to see the sports doing well.
 - They need volunteers. Boosters started the parent one-time concession shift volunteer requirement. It was apparently a lot of fun. I saw positive comments on Facebook. So, sign up for concessions. It's a lot of fun.
 - Upcoming events:
 - Volley for the Cure is coming up September 27-29. They are holding a raffle to earn money for breast cancer awareness and breast cancer survivors.
 - Homecoming Parade is September 28. It will be the same night as soccer senior night.
 - Homecoming Tailgate is on September 29.
 - Fall sports Senior Nights are going to be October 20
 - Winter sport kickoff is November 6.
 - The meetings are very comprehensive, going over the budgets for each sport, making sure that financial needs are covered.
- Long Range Facilities did not meet.
- OSBA has several different conferences and events coming up.
 - Capital Conference in November is a major focus. I am unfortunately not able to attend this year due to work responsibilities.
 - o Regional Fall Conference is coming up on October 12
 - o Sunshine laws training, required for all Board members, is due October 31.

Mr. Gast, discussed the following items:

- Videotaping of Meetings We will put this topic on the agenda for next month when we can make some sort of decision.
- Finneytown Schools Educational Foundation (FSEF)
 - o This organization is going through a transition to a Board of Trustees. This is a major transformation in focus and sharpening of their discussions. It's not so much of a change in what they're delivering, but how it is delivered. It's impressive to see people who have been doing it much longer than I really welcomed the change. They have hired a consulting company to guide this process on its way towards some big plans to be shared at a future date. I am very pleased with what I've seen.
- District State Report Card When the rating came out, I sent a quick note to Dr. Banks, thanking her and her team for their hard work. If you're going to talk to Dr. Banks about anything, you'd better mention her team. If you don't, she will. There's a lot of teamwork going on. She very quickly deflected the compliment because her mind immediately went to what we still need to work on. Even when she spoke tonight, she didn't focus on the higher ratings as much as the work still to be done. Programs to address areas for growth were being promoted even before the ratings came out. A three-star rating is effective, it's meeting standards, but we will be going higher. I want to thank everybody involved for your hard work. We're just we're just warming up. Specific plans and people are already in place to continue the improvement we've begun.

Board of Education Statement on the Whitaker Property Development

Mr. Gast read the following statement on behalf of the Board of Education:

The Finneytown Local School District Board of Education and Administration understand the need to support a tax abatement strategy, combined with a reduced land sale or lease agreement as an incentive to support a new development; however, the District must also realize a timely and sufficient level of new tax income. This revenue would allow the District to borrow/finance locally funded facility master planning initiatives on the Finneytown Secondary Campus that have a high level of community use. These initiatives include upgrades to the Performing Arts Center, and the gym, the building of the baseball and softball fields, as well as other facilities.

Finneytown Local School District Board of Education and administration's intentions in working with Springfield Township trustees are to:

- 1. Establish an open and transparent process for identifying interested development partners
- 2. Promote owner-occupied housing units of significant quality and value
- 3. Focus on a cohesive and concurrent development of both District and Township properties (excluding the preserve) adjacent to Warder
- 4. Jointly evaluate proposals to determine the best long-term value for the community
- 5. Negotiate a final development agreement that is a Win-Win-Win for Springfield Township, the Finneytown Local School District, and the developer.

Mr. Gast summarized the key elements of the statement as follows: The Board of Education and administration are looking for an owner-occupied development, of sufficient value against which we can borrow money, to be used to locally fund accessory secondary campus school construction projects to include renovation of the performing arts center and the gymnasium, and the construction of softball and baseball fields here on this campus, for the safety and convenience of our student athletes. The township has more acres of property on the other side of Warder, than we have on the Whitaker site. Our goal is for all of this acreage, on both sides, to be developed at once, rather than in separate phases. The owner-occupied, less dense proposal on the Whitaker site works, if it can be combined with the simultaneous development of the township's 15 acres on the other side of Warder. This combined site proposal creates a total project valuation on par with the higher density original standalone Whitaker development proposal. At this valuation level, the school district will have a sufficient tax revenue stream against which to borrow and finance the accessory secondary campus improvements. Thank you.

Acceptance of Committee Report:

None this month

122-23 Mr. Rea moved, second by Ms. McMullen, that the Board adopted the "Consent Calendar" as follows:

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 August 31, 2023*

U.S. Bank	0.1476%	\$	573,349.92
U.S. Bank (construction fund)	0.5200%	\$	3,672,680.83
STAR Ohio	5.4800%	\$ 25	5,585,266.00
STAR Ohio (construction #2)	5.4800%	\$	3,155,666.88
STAR Ohio (construction #1)	5.4800%	\$	1,196,431.43
STAR Ohio (OFCC state share)	5.4800%	\$	1,399,530.98

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

General Fund \$121,408.92 Construction Fund \$20,597.91

d) Monthly Bond Project Spending and Commitment Report*

[See attachment]

e) Approval of the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources*

The Board approved the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources.

[See Attachment]

f) Approval of Permanent Appropriations for the 2023-24 School Year*

The Board approved the following Permanent Appropriations resolution for the 2023-24 School Year:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Finneytown Local School District, Hamilton County, Ohio, that to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of said Board of Education, during the fiscal year, ending June 30,

2024, the following sums be and the same are hereby set aside and appropriated for the several purposes for which expenditures are to be made and during said fiscal year, as follows, viz:

		TOTAL
GENERAL FUND 001 General Fund		19,980,992
Tota	al General Fund	19,980,992
	CIAL REVENUE FUNDS	
018		32,000
019		1,070,000
	Classroom Facilities Maintenance	50,000
	Student Activity	250,000
	Auxiliary Service	327,863
	OneNet Connectivity	3,600
461	HSTW	0
499	Misc. State Grants	0
507	CARES Act ESSER	1,723,581
510	CARES Act CRF	1,, 20,001
516	Special Education, Part B	1,008,384
551	Limited English Proficient	20,643
	Title I	•
584	Student Support & Academic Enrichment	386,335
JU 1	ocadent Support & Academic Enfichment	61,721

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a) Approval of Contract – One Year Limited Certified*

The Board approved a one year limited contract for the following new certified staff member, effective September 7, 2023 through June 30, 2024:

Armand Tatum

Intervention Specialist

b) Approval of Contract – Supplemental 2021-2022*

The Board approved the following supplemental contract, effective September 1, 2023 through June 1, 2024:

Tim Dunn

Athletic Academic Coordinator

\$2,000.00

c) Approval of Payment - Certified Staff Members*

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

Elizabeth Florea	7th Grade ELA Department Support	\$19.87/hr.
Macy Bruner	7th Grade ELA Department Support	\$19.87/hr.
Meredith Cottrell	PBIS	\$19.87/hr.
Marina Deters	PBIS	\$19.87/hr.
Angela Creutzinger	PBIS	\$19.87/hr.
Doug Dirr	PBIS	\$19.87/hr.
Andrea Draeger	PBIS	\$19.87/hr.
Elizabeth Gutierez	PBIS	\$19.87/hr.
Lauren Henline	PBIS	\$19.87/hr.
Ryan Richmond	PBIS	\$19.87/hr.
Britany Utley	PBIS	\$19.87/hr.
Lauren Woodward	PBIS	\$19.87/hr.

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, 2023 through July 31, 2024:

Michale Holland Malissa Hawkins Amanda Stevenson Tom Budday Lauren Woodward Patti Ferris Patti Ferris Lisa Samuel	Mentor — Ben Johnston Mentor — Elizabeth Florea Mentor — Jeannette Jinkinson Mentor — Jeremiah Veiga Mentor — Juliah Crepage Mentor — Lacey Casanove Mentor — Michelle Fisk Mentor — Lintonia Wyche	\$500.00 \$1,000.00 \$500.00 \$1,000.00 \$1,000.00 \$500.00 \$500.00
Melissa Hawkins Elijah Sanders Kate Pitchford Taylor Theissen Mike Grote Teyah McEntush David Backer Caty Wilde Lauren Henline Melissa Hawkins	Mentor – Macy Bruner Mentor – Max Wildenhaus Mentor – Molly Proffitt Mentor – Olivia Bause Mentor – Sarah Diaz Mentor – Victoria Butcher Mentor – Will Segar Mentor – Armand Tatum Mentor – Carrie Hamsher Mentor – Megan Kelly Mentor – Teyah McEntush Mentor – Teyah McEntush Mentor – Jonathan Engel Mentor – Ryan Richmond Mentor – Evienne Epifano Mentor – Daniel Geisel Mentor – Kristin Barnes	\$1,000.00 \$500.00 \$1,000.00 \$1,000.00 \$500.00 \$500.00 \$1,000.00 \$1,000.00 \$1,000.00 \$500.00 \$500.00 \$1,000.00 \$500.00
Lauren Henline	Mentor Specialist	\$1,500.00

e) 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, 2023 through July 31, 2024:

Macy Bruner	7th Grade ELA Department Support	\$19.87/ hr.
Elizabeth Florea	7th Grade ELA Department Support	\$19.87/ hr.
Kristin Barnes	7th Grade ELA Department Support	\$19.87/ hr.
Thomas Budday	7th Grade ELA Department Support	\$19.87/ hr.
Melissa Hawkins	7th Grade ELA Department Support	\$19.87/ hr.
Janelle Sowders	7th Grade ELA Department Support	\$19.87/ hr.
Lynn Volz	7th Grade ELA Department Support	\$19.87/ hr.
Lara Walker	7th Grade ELA Department Support	\$19.87/ hr.

Patti Ferris	Student Services Records Consolidation	\$22.00/ hr.
Beth Noble	Student Services Records Consolidation	\$22.00/ hr.
Shannon Backer	Literacy Leadership Meetings	\$19.87/ hr.
Karen Bause	Literacy Leadership Meetings	\$19.87/ hr.
Jennifer Bayless	Literacy Leadership Meetings	\$19.87/ hr.
Patti Ferris	Literacy Leadership Meetings	\$19.87/ hr.
Megan Geis	Literacy Leadership Meetings	\$19.87/ hr.
May Pat Grosser	Literacy Leadership Meetings	\$19.87/ hr.
Amy Vonderhaar	Literacy Leadership Meetings	\$19.87/ hr.
Whitney Walker	Literacy Leadership Meetings	\$19.87/ hr.
Lauren Woodward	Literacy Leadership Meetings	\$19.87/ hr.
Amanda Stevenson Shelly Westerfield Olivia Bause	Literacy leadership Meetings Literacy Leadership Meetings KG Camp	\$19.87/hr. \$19.87hr. \$19.87/hr.

f) Approval of Payment – New Employee Orientation*

The Board approved payment to the following staff members who have performed duties outside of the regular work schedule, effective August 17 - 19, 2023:

William Segar	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Macy Bruner	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Elizabeth Florea	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Jeremiah Veiga	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Olivia Bause	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Juliah Crepage	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Michelle Fisk	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Jeannette Jinkinson	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Ben Johnston	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Max Wildenhaus	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Victoria Butcher	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Kristen Barnes	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Lintonia Wyche	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Sarah Diaz	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Molly Proffitt	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Armand Tatum	New Employee Orientation	\$300.00
Lacey Casanova	New Employee Orientation	\$100.00

g) 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 September 14, 2023:

Anderson, Kamesha Barnes, Cheryl Barnett, Althea Bast, Elena Behrman, Matthew Bellamah, Christopher

Calhoun, Brenda Christian, Auree Clark, Sterling Cobb, Brianna Collins, Keasha Colvin, Gayle Cook, Gary Cooper, Edward Copeland, David

Crumpley, Tanagna Davis, Elonah Davis, Gordon Davis, Rollins Denlinger, Scott Dunlap, Nelson Dunn, Tim

Duskin, Deemiah Eldridge, Meghan Elliott, Bianca Emch, Holly Evans, Deboragh Evans, Patricia

Fairman, Dara Fegelman, Todd Fischoff, Ann Gaines, Queylah Gandert, Elizabeth

Garvin, Barbara Giffin, David

Gilbert, Jaylin

Gray, Kiara Haarlammert, Stephanie

Hardy, Diane Hartman, Matthew

Binford, Cornelia Blank, Diana Blanks, Earl Blyberg, Zachary

Bonds, Alexia Braswell, Keith

> Hershey, Caroline Hess, Leanne Hill, Kristin Hopkins, Samuel Horton, Vanius Howard, Elaine Hudson, Denesha Jones, Darrell

Karle, Gail Kelley-Gerton, Lisa Lemon, Richard Lynch, Gracey Marshall, Gwen Martin, Artis Maxam, William May, Emily McKinley, Arlinda Meder, Hannah Meier, Paulette Mollineaux, Susan

Mosher, Parker Nashid, Wadeeah Nelson, Diamond Osterbrock, Dylan Page, Candace Paige-Mack, Aysia Palmore, Cori Parham, Ebony

Perez, Adesina Phipps, Marilyn Pittman, Felicia Pollington, Connie

Powell, Victoria Price, Tanya

Brewer, Valeri Brown, Camryn Brown, Kara Burkhardt, Heather Burton, LaGina

Bush, Briann

Rivers, LaStarr Ruffner, Sara Saxton, Elna Schnur, Bethany Scholles, Emilie Schuler, Emily Sears, Demetria Shaw, Phtllis Smith, Kimberly Smith, Tamara St.Hilaire, Melissa Stegman, Jessica Stevenson, Alisha Sullivan, Clyde Taylor, April Tennyson, Emma

Thomas, Jenna Trebus, Pattie Tubbs, Quinetta Uetrecht, Kimberly Underwood, Mason

Vanarsdall-Schwartz, Mary

Vaughan, Randall Vaught, Alijah Walker, Kimberly Walton, Ronald Weiler, Michael Williams, Tracey Wilson, Celina Wilson, Makayla Winter, Stephany Wise, Donnise Wood, Jeffery

Wrentz, Kyra

Hartman, Ronald

Ray, Colleen

Yisrael, Nesyah

Zupon, Lisa

Hayden, Larita

Rice, Alisha

Henderson-Pitts, DeLaine

Richey, Sheila

h) Approval of Family and Medical Leave*

The Board approved the following Family Medical Leave:

Whitney Walker, School Psychologist, beginning approximately September 25, 2023, and continuing an intermittent basis for a maximum period of 12 weeks.

i) Approval of Unpaid Medical Leave*

The Board approved the following Unpaid Medical Leave:

Glenda Bedinghaus, Educational Assistant, beginning approximately August 17, 2023.

j) Approval of AASA National Conference*

The Board approved the following administrator for the AASA National Conference February 14- February 18, 2024 San Diego, California. To Facilitate Round Table Conversation: Leadership is Convenership.

Grant Anderson Laurie Banks Jen Dinan Eric Muchmore

k) Adoption of Resolution - Payment In Lieu of Transportation*

The Board adopted the following resolution declaring transportation impractical for a certain pupil, pursuant to the requirements of Ohio Revised Code §3327 and the procedures set forth by the Ohio Department of Education:

WHEREAS the student identified below have been determined to be a resident of this school district, and eligible for transportation services; and

WHEREAS after a careful evaluation of all available options, it has been determined that it is impractical to provide transportation for this student to the selected schools; and

WHEREAS the following factors as identified in Revised Code §3327.02 have been considered:

- 1. The time and distance required to provide the transportation
- 2. The number of pupils to be transported

- 3. The cost of providing transportation in terms of equipment, maintenance, personnel, and administration
- 4. Whether similar or equivalent service is provided to other pupils eligible for transportation
- 5. Whether and to what extent the additional service unavoidably disrupts current transportation schedules
- 6. Whether other reimbursable types of transportation are available; and

WHEREAS the option of offering payment-in-lieu of transportation is provided in Ohio Revised Code:

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Finneytown Local School District Board of Education hereby declares that it is impractical to transport the student identified below and offers the parent/guardian of said student payment-in-lieu of transportation:

Evan King (Caitrin King, parent)
Simon Meyer (Kendra Meyer, parent)
Anna and Luke Sellers (Brain Sellers, parent)
Charles and Grace Troescher (Brittany Troescher, parent)
Cecilia, Elijah and Vivan Blom (Thomas Blom, parent)
John Wayne Baker and William Baker (Karolin Kroning, parent)

I) Consideration of New / Revised Policies*

The Board considered the following new/revised policies, which will be presented for final adoption at the next regular meeting of the Board:

0141.2 0164	CONFLICT OF INTREST NOTICE OF MEETING
2623.02	THIRD GRADE READING GUARANTEE
3120.08	EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONNEL FOR CO- CURRICULAR/ EXTRA-
	CURRICULAR ACTIVIES
4120.08	EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONNEL FOR CO- CURRICULAR/ EXTRA-
	CURRICULAR ACTIVIES
5320	IMMUNIZATION
5330	USE OF MEDICATION
5337	CARE OF STUDENTS WITH ACTIVESEIZURE DISORDERS
6240	BOARD OF REVISION COMPLAINTS AND COUNTERCOMPLAINTS
6700	FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT (FLSA)
7440	FACILITY SECURITY
8120	VOLUNTEERS
8210	SCHOOL CALENDAR
8330	STUDENTS RECORDS
8600	TRANSPORTAION
8650	TRANSPORTATION BY SCHOOL VAN

9160	PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS
9211	DISTRICT SUPPORT ORGANIZATION
9270	EQUIVALENT EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE SCHOOLS & PARTICIPATION
	IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR FOR STUDENTS NOT ENROLLED IN THE
	DISTRICT

m) Adoption of Resolution – General Liability Insurance for Approved School Support Entities FY24*

The Board approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Finneytown Board of Education contracts for its insurance coverage program through Liberty Mutual Insurance, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education's insurance policy contains general liability insurance coverage provisions for 'school support entities" that are officially approved and recognized to receive such coverage, and

WHEREAS, the Finneytown Board of Education is legally permitted to purchase a policy of insurance to cover "school support entities" against liability on account of damages or injury to person or property resulting from any act or omission of the organization, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has received application from the Finneytown Secondary PTA, indicating the necessity of general liability coverage, as well as information from which to conduct a risk assessment, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education and/or its representatives have performed due diligence in reviewing these applications and the risk assessment materials, and found applications that satisfy its requirements, and

WHEREAS, the amount of the general liability coverage is \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 in aggregate, and the cost of the coverage has been identified as being provided at no additional cost (\$0 premium);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Finneytown Secondary PTA is hereby approved to receive general liability coverage under the Board of Education's policy for the 7/1/23 through 6/30/24 insurance policy year, for which it will be charged \$0 (no cost).

The Board approved the following Alternate School Food Authority Arrangement:

Finneytown Local School District transfers authority to operate specified school meal programs for the students of the district to Milford Exempted Village School District, who accepts all legal and financial responsibility for operating the specified school meal programs, which shall become effective July 1, 2023 and shall remain in effect until July 1, 2024 unless terminated by a prior notice of not less than 60 days from one party to the other. The term of this agreement can be extended upon mutual agreement of the parties and upon approval from the Office of Nutrition.

o) Approval of Document Management Lease Agreement – Modern Office Methods*

The Board approved the following lease agreement:

Finneytown Local School District with Modern Office Methods to lease document management equipment, replacement parts, repairs, software, software licenses, software components and related professional services at a fixed cost of \$2,097.44 per month for 60 months, effective October 1, 2023.

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

Job Posting Benefit Package Resolution

124-23 Ms. Lee moved, seconded by Mr. Reeb, that the Board approve a motion to update future electronic job postings to include a link to the employee benefit packages offered and available to employees hired by the school district.

Dr. Banks: Our job postings can be found on the Hamilton County Educational Service Center's Applitrack system, which can be accessed from our website. Benefit package information is not included by our district or any other schools using that website to our knowledge. We communicate benefit package information in our offer of employment letter. There is a capability to set up a benefit link to the electronic job posting. My slight hesitation with posting job benefits online is that it can look different based on whether you're full time or part time, which means we will need to come up with different links. The other piece, I don't see this becoming a decision maker for anyone coming to work for us. For a lot of educators, there's the assumption if you're in public education, you'll receive the retirement system, good health care and dental care wherever you go.

Mr. Rea: This proposal to include benefit information was my recommendation. After looking at our job postings I wondered why we weren't providing, as bullet points – comprehensive benefit package, including paid parental leave, work in a 1 year old building (elementary), or breaking ground on a new campus (secondary).

Research suggests, if there are distinguishing benefits available, people are 70% more likely to apply for the job. I talked about a funnel and getting more people applying and then our system was going to narrow them down. I truly think paid parental leave is a win for getting people to apply for our jobs.

Mr. Gast: Unlike the private sector, benefits look pretty similar between districts, without much differentiation. If you're looking for that, you can find them out by searching. My curiosity is why isn't anybody else listing their benefit package? Is it that way because nobody else ever thought of it before or is there some other reason?

Ms. Lee: It might be because the benefits are so similar in the public sector and there are often no distinguishing differences. But Finneytown is more than a school. We offer more. Our salaries are actually very nice. We offer benefits that would make us stand out versus other schools.

Mr. Gast: Benefits are subject to negotiated agreements that change over time. If somebody's hired next year and there is a one year wait, there's no guarantee that by the time they're eligible, that benefit will still be available. Right now, it's an MOU. We'll find out, over the next two years, how much money it costs. Once known, the union may instead want to negotiate it in the form of salaries.

Ms. Lee: At that point, they will be part of the union and those discussions and can advocate for what they need within their union. Everyone understands that no current benefit is ever guaranteed for life. I don't think paid parental leave is the only distinguishing benefit. Competitive salaries and new building are perks I think we should be listing.

Mr. Reeb: If the goal is to highlight parental paid parental leave, the sample provided doesn't accomplish that. Do we want to highlight this new benefit? Or do we want to provide a general list of all our benefits? list. What we have now is a general list. I'm fine if we post our benefits, unless Dr. Banks thinks there's a strategic reason for not sharing this information. Is it going to make it more difficult to negotiate with teachers or show too many of our cards?

Dr. Banks: I'm hearing two things, one that functions more like a recruiting tool, and one that provides overall benefit package information. The one I shared with the board was more of a generic benefit overview. Its purpose was not intended to recruit or differentiate us from other districts. I think that looks different and I would want the board to be involved in its development.

Mr. Reeb: If you're comfortable with what you put forward, I am happy to include that in our job descriptions.

Ms. Lee: I'm always for more transparency. I'm fine with the benefit overview. I would also be happy to work on development of a recruiting tool focused piece for the job postings, if you want to work with the board on it.

Mr. Rea: I think we're missing out. The teacher shortage is real. We need to separate and distinguish ourselves to attract more applicants.

Mr. Gast: The only risk is to do it poorly. Are we willing to spend some money with a consultant to develop this?

Dr. Banks: I do think when people apply for jobs in education, they check out the school and search the website before applying. I would expect an applicant to know we have and are constructing new buildings.

Mr. Rea: The goal is to get them to click the link for more information. It talks about our Finneytown community, that voted for new buildings for their staff. There are other positive messages as well, that can help us address the teacher shortage that every school district is experiencing. I don't think it'll hurt us. All it can do is help.

Dr. Banks: Is it possible to start the link in January of 2024? There is some legwork behind the scenes to make all this happen.

Mr. Rea: I'm not okay with just a link. I think we need a whole new job posting, highlighting the benefits of Finneytown. I'm not going to vote yes on this as it stands right now. I need something more than the benefit overview link. I need to know that it's going to move forward.

Dr. Banks: It sounds like we're talking about two different things: a recruiting tool and a benefit package. The benefit package is what I shared. We can upload that as a PDF link to the job postings. If we're talking about a recruiting tool, we send Ms. Miller and Ms. Baker out to various universities and do a great job at outreach. I think we're creating work where there doesn't need to be work. I know I said this before. Yes, I understand paid parental leave is just us. But again, this puts people in the classrooms that are then out of the classrooms, which goes against what we're here to do for our kids. So, I'm a little bit confused about the intent. If it's a recruiting tool, I would argue we don't need it.

Mr. Rea: But yet we don't have the staff that we need. We're short kindergarten teachers. So obviously we need something else. What we're doing isn't meeting our needs right now. No school districts are. Everyone's got shortcomings. I think this is a way to differentiate ourselves. I think it's a lost opportunity if we don't take advantage of it.

125-23 Ms. Lee moved, seconded by Mr. Reeb, to amend the motion to update future electronic job postings to include a link to the employee benefit packages

offered and available to employees hired by the school district to be effective January 1 2004. The President called for a voice vote and declared the motion passed.

RC: Mr. Gast, yes; Ms. Lee, yes Ms. McMullen, no; Mr. Rea, no; Mr. Reeb, abstain. The motion did not pass.

126-23 Ms. Lee moved, second by Mr. Rea, the Board adopted the Memorandum of Understanding between the Finneytown Local School District and the Finneytown Schools Educational Foundation, INC.

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ("MOU") is entered into on this 18th day of September, 2023, by and between the Finneytown Local School District ("School District") and the Finneytown Schools Educational Foundation, Inc. ("Foundation").

Recitals:

WHEREAS, the School District is a public educational institution committed to providing a high quality education to its students and serving as a hub for overall development of the Finneytown community, and

WHEREAS, the Foundation, established in 1986, is a designated IRS section 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and advancing educational initiatives and programs within the School District, and

WHEREAS, both parties recognize the importance of collaboration to enhance the educational opportunities and resources available to current and former students and staff, as well as all stakeholders of the School District.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, the School District and the Foundation hereby agree as follows:

1. Purpose and Objective:

- a. The School District and the Foundation will work cooperatively to advance and promote educational infrastructure, initiatives, and programs for the benefit of the School District's students, staff, and community.
- b. The Foundation will support the School District by providing additional financial resources, fundraising efforts, and outreach in order to strengthen educational opportunities for current and future students.
- 2. Roles and Responsibilities:
- a. The School District will:
- i. Provide the Foundation with relevant information about its educational infrastructure and programming needs to enable the Foundation to align its support effectively.
- ii. Collaborate with the Foundation to prioritize the areas for funding and support.
- iii. Maintain effective lines of communication with the Foundation which may include appointing a School District liaison to sit on the Foundation's board of trustees or working directly with a Foundation-appointed liaison to the School District's central

office.

- iv. Designate a representative or representatives to act as primary points of contact for each of the School District's funding priorities.
- b. The Foundation will:
- i. Promote the mission, vision, and goals of the School District to the local and alumni communities.
- ii. Engage in fundraising activities, which may include seeking outside grants, to provide financial support for the School District's educational infrastructure and programming needs.
- iii. Work with the School District to ensure that funds and resources are allocated effectively and transparently for the intended purposes.
- c. No third party has any right or standing to challenge decisions made by the School District or the Foundation with respect to the use of the resources or capabilities of either party.
- 3. Decision-Making and Governance:
- a. The Foundation will maintain a governing board of trustees that will include representatives from the School District, alumni, and community.
- b. The Foundation will hold periodic meetings of its board of trustees, not less than semiannually, where funding priorities will be established considering the needs and goals of both parties.
- c. Decisions made by the Foundation concerning resource allocation and support will be guided by the best interests of the School District and in accordance with the Foundation's mission.
- 4. Financial Matters:
- a. The Foundation will maintain accurate financial records and provide periodic reports to the School District or its representatives regarding fund balances, including receipts and expenditures.
- b. The Foundation will direct financial support to the School District in a manner consistent with the mutually agreed priorities and with the consent of the School District's representative(s).
- c. Any fundraising program exceeding \$100,000 in aggregate requires the establishment, and mutual approval, of a separate fundraising agreement between the Foundation and the School District that defines the scope, timing, intended financing, governance, and, if applicable, any in-kind contributions of the campaign.
- d. Disbursement of funds from the Foundation to the School District will be made when documentation is provided to the Foundation regarding the nature and purpose of the expense that is consistent with the goals and purpose of each fundraising program.
- e. Both parties agree, unless otherwise established within a separate fundraising agreement, that no residual responsibility exists for either party beyond the scope of each individual disbursement.
- 5. Information Custodianship and Publicity:
- a. The School District owns, and is responsible for the privacy and/or public use of, information about its students, staff, and educational programs.
- b. The Foundation owns, and is responsible for the privacy and/or the public use of, information about School District alumni, its fundraising programs, or events.
- c. Neither party may use private information owned by the other party without prior

written consent, in a manner inconsistent with applicable law, or not guided by the best interests of the other party.

- d. The security and integrity of information owned by either party should be governed by sound professional practice, applicable law, and by policy of the owning party.
- e. Any individual released from employment from either the School District or the Foundation must promptly return any information owned by either party to the respective party.
- f. Either party may, at any time, request the other party to alter the use of its proprietary information to better serve its interests.
- g. Upon discovery that information owned by either party has been improperly disclosed or accessed, the incident will be promptly reported to the other party and, if necessary, to the proper law enforcement agency.
- 6. Survivability and Amendment: a. This MOU will survive turnover within the leadership of the School District or leadership of the Foundation b. This MOU can be amended at any time by either party by providing such amendment in writing to the other party. The amendment must be approved by the boards of both parties in public session, which approval will not be unduly withheld.
- 7. Term and Termination: a. This MOU will commence upon the adoption date and continue for a period of five (5) years (the "Initial Term") unless either party sooner terminates the agreement, which it may do by providing written notice to the other party not less than one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the date of termination. Subject to early termination, this MOU will automatically renew for successive five (5) year terms (the "Renewal Term"), and together with the Initial Term, collectively, the "Term".
- 8. Entirety of Agreement: a. This MOU represents the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations, and agreements, whether oral or written.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Finneytown Local School District this 18th day of September, 2023

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the School District and the Foundation have caused this Governance Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives.

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

127-23 Ms. McMullen moved, second by Mr. Gast, the Board approved termination of employment proceedings / limited teaching contract.

WHEREAS, the Finneytown Local School District Superintendent has recommended to the Finneytown Local District Board of Education that the Board terminate Darla Fiedeldey's teaching contract for reasons more fully set forth below; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has received evidence from the Superintendent

which specifically supports and documents the reasons to consider the termination of that teaching contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent, as follows:

Section 1. That Darla Fiedeldey be furnished with written notice, signed by the Treasurer, of the Board's intent to consider termination of her employment/limited teaching contract for the following acts:

Failing to report to work from August 17, 2023 through September 18, 2023 without being in an approved leave status.

Engaging in insubordination by not complying with multiple written directives to report to work as assigned.

Engaging in conduct unbecoming an educator by refusing to perform services and duties.

Disregarding the best interests of her students and colleagues by not reporting for duty as required.

These acts constitute good and just cause for the termination of your employment contract, as required by Ohio Revised Code section 3319.16.

Section 2. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, Darla Fiedeldey is hereby suspended without pay and benefits, effective September 18, 2023, for the aforementioned reasons, pending the conclusion of the termination process.

If any sums have been overpaid to Darla Fiedeldey, said sums are to be recouped by the Treasurer's Office.

Section 3. The Treasurer is hereby directed to inform Darla Fiedeldey, in writing, of the Board of Education's action, with a copy of this Resolution and notice of her right to a hearing, all to be sent to her by certified mail and regular mail.

Section 4. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning or related to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were adopted in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all applicable requirements of the Ohio Revised Code.

RC: Ms. Mullen, yes; Mr. Rea, yes; Mr. Reeb, no; Mr. Gast, yes; Ms. Lee, yes. The President declared the motion passed.

Review of Action Steps

- 1) Obtain information on the unfilled choir position Dr. Banks
- 2) Provide Mr. Rea the OSBA Capital Conference Delegate packet when it arrives Mr. Oliverio, Ms. Gooden.
- **3)** Notify OSBA concerning the Finneytown Local Capital Conference business meeting delegate switch from Ms. Lee to Mr. Rea Mr. Oliverio
- **4)** Visit Chick-fil-A on behalf of the Board of Education to welcome and encourage them to recognize the Finneytown Local School District on the walls of their restaurant Mr. Reeb
- **5)** Provide copies of the policies reviewed with NEOLA on September 11 with Board Members Dr. Banks
- **6)** Provide the Board information to be presented at the AASA National Conference Leadership is Convenership round table conversation facilitated by the Finneytown administrative team at a regular board meeting Dr. Banks

The next regular meeting of the Finneytown Board of Education will take place on Monday, October 16, 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.

128-23 Mr. Rea moved, seconded by Ms. McMullen, that the Board move to Executive Session, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1), to consider employment of public employees of the district.

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

The Board entered Executive Session at 8:43pm.

Mr. Reeb left at 9:05pm

Dr. Banks joined at 9:09pm

Dr. Banks left at 9:11pm

The Board returned to Regular Session at 9:15pm.

129-23 There being no further business, Mr. Rea moved, seconded by Mr. Gast, that the meeting be adjourned. The president declared the meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Top Gast, President

ATTEST:

David L. Oliverio, Treasurer