FINNEYTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting, February 20, 2024
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, February 20, 2023, in the Media Center of the Finneytown Secondary Campus, 8916 Fontainebleau Terrace, Cincinnati, OH 45231. Ms. Lee, Ms. McMullen, Mr. Plaut and Mr. Reeb were present. The President called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

21-24 Ms. McMullen moved, seconded by Mr. Plaut, the Board approved the agenda as presented. The President declared the motion passed.

22-24 Ms. McMullen moved, seconded by Mr. Plaut, the Board approved the minutes from the Regular Meeting of January 16, 2024 and the Special Meeting of February 1, 2024. The President declared the motion passed.

Quarterly Staff Member Awards:

Mr. Reeb, Board of Education Member, recognized the following staff members for their outstanding work over the last quarter:

Queylah Gaines, Finneytown Elementary 6th Grade Teacher, nominated by Ms. McEntush.

Molly Profitt, Secondary Campus Science Teacher, nominated by Ms. Diaz.

OSBA Student Achievement Fair 2023

Finneytown Local School District art teachers, Ms. Ficke and Ms. Althoff, recognized Finneytown Secondary Campus students whose artwork was selected for showcase at the OSBA Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair held in Columbus, Ohio.

Administrative Report

Dr. Laurie Banks, Superintendent – discussed the following:

- 2023-24 Scholastic Art Awards Winners were recently announced; more to come.
- Stronger Connections Grant Invitations went out to the families of future wildcats, ages three to five, entering kindergarten next year or in future years, so we can begin creating connections now.
 - March 14 morning and evening sessions focused on good reading and learning habits, early literacy, social emotional development and self-help skills.
 - April 4 morning and evening sessions on what it means to be a kindergarten parent and how to enroll.
 - We had great turnout and success with our early childhood care providers invite at the end of January.

- AASA Conference Our team facilitated a roundtable to discuss "Leadership is Convenership" with other educational leaders/influencers. We had the privilege of making connections and sharing our work with individuals across the country. It was a learning experience and a fantastic opportunity. We appreciate the Board's support for this work.
- Residency A team is working to revise our administrative guidelines and required documentation for improved clarity, consistency, and enforcement of enrollment residency requirements. These will go into effect next school year. We are not an open enrollment school district. This is necessary to protect taxpayers. Modifications will be shared with the Board.

Public Address Michael Hamel

My name is Michael Hamel and I reside at 8532 Brent Drive. Good evening and thank you for letting me speak tonight. What I have to say this evening is nothing new for most of you, but I am going to continue to make the request. I am again asking for you, the Board, to do the right thing, the moral thing, and remove the Gender-Neutral label from the bathrooms at the elementary school, and replace them with the correct and accurate label of "Boys" and "Girls" room. I believe I know how this can be easily accomplished. After speaking with the lead-architect of the Secondary School project, he reassured me that their group does not adhere to the same ideas that the bathrooms should be labeled any other than, "Boys", "Girls", "Men" or "Women"s rooms so, when the Secondary Schools plans are finalized, and ready to go to construction, we have them alter the layout of the K-6 bathrooms to facilitate the new labeling with individual private bathrooms, "Boys" and "Girls", then reconstruct them during the summer. There are some of you that do not agree with the "old fashioned idea" that there are only two genders. I am not alone in this belief. In fact, in the Bibles that you all have at your disposal, this message is repeated and supported many, many times. Male and female was the biology God taught us about, and male and female are what he confirms to this day. Some of you believe that these bathroom configurations are 100% safe. Sure, it is designed for K-6. It has floor-to-ceiling enclosure that is supposed to be secure. That means nothing to the student or adult that wants to use the facility to do drugs; that means nothing to the adult, or should we say "minor attracted person" because that is the new name for pedophile, that has the power and will to find some way to interfere with a child's ability to leave that restroom against their will? Safe from bullies? I can assure you that the bullying has just moved to a different area. What about the student who has been (cyber)bullied and is now using the facility to barricade themselves in, pondering the next move. What about the cutter? They are now securely behind a solid door... Gender-neutral is not an idea to teach our kids. There is nothing scientific about it, there is nothing that proves they were "born that way". This is just a way to begin the pattern of confusion at a very young age, by people that most kids trust for the truth. Yuval Noah Harrari, Israeli historian, philosopher, author and pseudo-scientist, made very clear recently when he said, "science is not about truth, it is all about power..." This is Humanist doctrine at its finest.

Review of Action Steps from last month

- 1) Provide Finneytown athletic budget and band budget information as compared to other schools in our league to Mr. Rea and copy the Board Done
- 2) Follow up with Mr. Tom Burton on the status of final Treasurer and Superintendent job descriptions Done
- 3) Follow up with Mr. Tom Burton on the Strategic Plan community input session feedback and next steps Done
- 4) Forward topics for the February 1 special meeting work session to Ms. Lee and Dr. Banks so that the agenda can be finalized and posted Done
- 5) Send out sympathy card on behalf of the Board Done
- 6) Send out Ohio School Design Manual (OSDM) link to Board members Done
- 7) Set up monthly Board Walk signups Done
- 8) Begin weekly Superintendent Board President meetings February 12 Done

Board Coordination Matters Strategic Plan Update

- WeEmpower has completed a summary report on the strategic plan input session feedback, identifying key words and themes. While participation from the community appears low, at over 300 responses, it rates very high compared to other districts.
- WeEmpower is putting together a draft and some ideas for us based upon the input. Our next step is to schedule a working session to discuss their strategic plan draft, expected by the end of the month.
- With respect to the staff input, there was interest in receiving further clarification. Often the Board gets its information incidentally, through the grapevine, or from parents rather than from direct interaction with staff about their experiences. The strategic plan feedback report summarized staff responses about support as 23% negative, received as 33% negative. Can we get a better understanding of what this means? Do staff feel unsupported?
- Supporting staff can be a point of focus for our Strategic Plan discussions with our consultant, both for the plan itself and the development of the action plans that support it. This staff feedback can be used for other things as well, not just for the strategic plan, and combined with other feedback to identify and provide better support.

Special Meeting Work Session

- A special meeting and work session was tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 4, 2024 at 6:00pm, subject to the availability of the district's attorney for an executive session. This meeting will be held in the Secondary Campus Media Center.
- Additional topics for the public portion of the February 4, 2024 special meeting need to be submitted to Ms. Lee and/or Dr. Banks by February 28. Note: Because work session dates were not announced and approved at the Organizational Meeting, they are considered special meetings. Special meeting agendas must be posted in advance and cannot be changed at the meeting.

Ms. McMullen, discussed the following items:

- OSBA Planning Committee I attended this virtual meeting last month. It is a small group of board members from different parts of the state. It was nice to represent Finneytown. The meeting was facilitated by Kathy MacFarland, Deputy Chief Executive.
- Future of Public Education Meeting I attended this small group of board members selected by the OSBA. There were lots of impactful topics discussed, such as artificial intelligence. It was helpful to engage with other districts on these important issues.
- School Board Partners I was invited, interviewed and selected to be a part of School Board Partners Cohort 6. This is a yearlong fellowship. It consists of 98 board members from across the country, representing 76 districts, 2.2 million students and 28 states. 80% of us are people of color. We meet weekly to discuss things going on in our districts and network with one another. I've connected and talked with people in leadership roles from Boston, Atlanta, and all over.
- Primary PTA
 - o Our next meeting will be March 6 at 7pm.
 - A Black History Celebration is planned for February 22 from 6:30pm 8:00pm. It's a free event for all families to enjoy. We'll have pizza, brisket, all kinds of fun activities, live music. Come out and celebrate Finneytown's diversity.
 - Fundraiser Buddy cards are being sold through the end of February for \$10 each. PTA receives \$5 for every one sold.
- Secondary PTA
 - Mr. Plaut attended last month I will be attending on February 27. The meeting starts at 7pm.
- Beyond Differences Finneytown
 - o I attended the February 7 meeting. It was a very impactful meeting. There were a lot of things discussed that I shared with Laurie that need to be addressed. If you're looking to get involved or if you have a background in Diversity Equity and Inclusion, we invite you to come out and share your feedback and concerns. Thanks to Scott Meyer and Kelly Lynch for facilitating these meetings. The next meeting is March 5 at 7pm.
- Finneytown Music Parents Association (FMPA) Attended
 - A lot of our educators attended OMEA conference, which provides continuing education for our music instructors.
 - Students are getting ready for their spring concerts, learning new music and growing.
 - Voices of Harmony will be performing on May 10 at Florence Y'all Stadium. Thanks to Ms. Fields for facilitating this amazing opportunity for our students.
 - o Fundraisers -
 - Butter Braids are selling on Monday, February 26 through March the 12. Volunteers are needed. Reach out to Maggie Laird if you're interested in helping.

- March 28 J. Gumbos dine-to-donate.
- April 13 mattress sale
- April 27 spaghetti dinner at Finneytown Elementary. Volunteers are needed.
- A carwash is being planned for May.
- I met with Dr. Banks and took a tour of the Secondary Campus
- Black Excellence Celebration I will be attending this event at Finneytown Elementary on February 23 and will provide an update.

Mr. Reeb, discussed the following items:

- Personnel Committee did not meet.
- Finance Committee did not meet.
- Springfield Township Trustees Sara Braun was sworn in as a new Trustee at the January meeting.
- Springfield Township Trustees
 - Residential Incentive Grant Application Everyone that lives in Springfield Township, and also works in Springfield Township, is eligible to get an income tax refund, by completing and returning the required form along with the required proofs of residency. You can drop it off in person at the township's administrative office. The submission is due September 2.
 - Board of Trustees Meeting I did not attend but did watch the recorded meeting and had a conversation with Mr. Chris Gilbert. Mr. Gilbert was excited to share that grant funding has been secured for a bunch of street projects in the township. The township purposefully bid out these paving jobs earlier than most other municipalities in the county to get on this funding, which paid off, preserving local tax dollars. Fourteen streets are going to be repaved in the township.

Mr. Plaut, discussed the following items:

- Finneytown Schools Educational Foundation
 - An organizational meeting will take place on February 26 at 7:30pm at the Secondary Campus Media Center.
 - The Foundation is trying to get as many alumni and students (future alumni) to the meeting and involved as possible.
 - Information is available at Wildcatalumni.org. This is a new website.
 They are rebranding and doing great things to help the district out with
 fundraising for future facility upgrades to the Gym, the PAC and other
 projects down the road.
 - o Scott Haarlammert is the current President and seeking reelection.
- Finneytown Secondary PTA
 - Starting to gear up for the AfterProm event.

Ms. Lee, discussed the following items:

- Superintendent Weekly Meetings I started meeting weekly with Dr. Banks. I
 find these meetings incredibly beneficial, and feel more connected, more
 aware and better prepared to address guestions in the community.
- Finneytown Athletic Association (FAA)
 - o The transition to spring sports is coming up.
 - FAA has a new FAA president. Congratulations to Chris Statt on becoming the new president. Thanks to Dave Bruder, who worked tirelessly in that role.
- Strategic Plan Met with Tom Burton. We will discuss the strategic plan in detail once we get the draft and can invite him to a meeting to discuss it with us.

Acceptance of Board Committee Report

• Beyond Difference Finneytown – Minutes February 7, 2024

23-24 Ms. McMullen moved, second by Ms. Lee 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 January 31, 2024*

U.S. Bank	0.0995%	\$ 267,732.24
U.S. Bank (construction fund)	0.5300%	\$ 3,680,432.85
STAR Ohio	5.5400%	\$ 20,595,093.99
STAR Ohio (construction #2)	5.5400%	\$ 3,219,619.27
STAR Ohio (construction #1)	5.5400%	\$ 1,164,816.24
STAR Ohio (OFCC state share)	5.5400%	\$ 1,319,987.05

c) Interest Earned on Depository and Investment Accounts as of January 31, 2024*

General Fund	\$ 99,771.53
Construction Fund	\$ 20,583.11

d) Monthly Bond Project Spending and Commitment Report*

[See attachment]

e) Approval of Payment - FY24*

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:

DATE VENDOR AMOUNT 9/15/23 Hamilton County ESC \$63,391.11

(St. Vivian auxiliary service program supervision, psychology, nursing, counseling, speech/language and instruction for 2023-2024)

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

24-24 Mr. Plaut moved, seconded by Mr. Reeb 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) Acknowledgement of Resignations*

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

Tim Dunn Academic Success Coordinator

Effective January 17, 2024 (personal)

Chad Yeargin Assistant Principal

effective June 30, 2024 (personal)

b) Revision of Contract - Supplemental 2023-2024*

The Board rescinded the following supplemental contracts originally approved on January 16, 2024:

Reggie Hall	Head Coach Varsity Boys Basketball	\$2,000.00
Armand Tatum	Technical Director, Jump Start Theater	\$1,208.00
Charles Williams	Head Coach, Varsity Boys Basketball	\$5,553.00

c) Revision of Contract - Supplemental 2023-2024*

The Board rescinded the following supplemental contracts originally approved on November 20, 2023:

Queylah Gaines

M.S. Cheer Coach

\$1,130.00

d) Approval of Contract – Supplemental 2023-2024*

The Board approved the following supplemental contracts, effective August 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024:

Reggie Hall	Head Coach Varsity Boys Basketball	\$4,871.00
Armand Tatum	Site Manger	\$2,000.00
Charles Williams	Head Coach, Varsity Girls Basketball	\$5,553.00
Gerald Warmack	Head Boys Track Coach	\$3,507.00
Gerald Warmack	Head Girls Track Coach	\$3,507.00
Ariel McCoy	Vocal Director for H.S. Musical	\$1,208.00
Brian Watson	Head Varsity Softball Coach	\$3,312.00
Tim Dunn	Head Varsity Boys Tennis Coach	\$1,656.00
Greg Jones	Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach	\$1,656.00
Antonio Willis	M.S. Football Coach	\$1,800.00
Michael Weiler	Head Varsity Baseball Coach	\$5,066.00
Brian Moragne	Head M.S. Track Coach	\$2,500.00
Montorius Webley	Assistant Girls Varsity Basketball Coach	\$3,215.00
Ariel McCoy	Choreographer for H.S. Musical	\$935.00
Gerri Williams	M.S. Cheer Coach	\$935.00
Megan Kelly	Art Department Stipend	\$500.00

e) Approval of Payment – Certified Staff Members*

The Board approved payment to the following certified staff members at a rate of \$19.87 per hour not to exceed 10 hours per person, effective August 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024:

Lara Walker	Black History Exhibit
Julie Ficke	Black History Exhibit
Carolyn Althoff	Black History Exhibit
Megan Kelly	Black History Exhibit
Brad Delaney	Black History Exhibit
Sam Fronk	Black History Exhibit

f) Certified/ Classified Substitute and Stipend Rates for the 2023-2024 School Year paid through the Center for Collaborative Solutions*

- Daily Substitute Teacher \$110 daily
- Building Substitute Teacher \$125 daily
- Long-term Substitute Teacher \$125 daily
- Substitute Nurse \$272 daily
- Substitute Educational Aide \$15 hourly
- Substitute Secretary \$16 hourly

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 February 15, 2024:

Amann, Michael Anderson, Kamesha Baker, Nadia Barnes, Cheryl Behrman, Matthew Bellamah, Christopher Binford, Cornelia Blank, Diana Blanks, Earl Blyberg, Zachary Bonifas, Elizabeth Bram, Kerri Braswell, Keith Brewer, Valeri Brightwell, Faye Brown, Camryn Burkhardt, Heather Bush, Brianna Casada, Abigail Chaffer, La'shawntay Christian, Auree Clark, Sterling Cobb, Brianna Collins, Keasha Colvin, Gayle

Cook, Gary Cooper, Edward Copeland, David Davis, Gordon Davis, Rollins Dunn, Tim Duskin, Deemiah Elliott, Bianca Evans, Deboragh Evans, Patricia Fairman, Dara Fischoff, Ann Fisk, Summer Frazier, Brandon Garvin, Barbara Giffin, David Gilbert, Jaylin Gray, Kiara Griffith, Klarke Haarlammert, Stephanie

Hardy, Diane
Harris, Dominique
Hartman, Matthew
Hartman, Ronald
Hauck, Samantha

Hayashi, Donna Hess, Leanne Hicks, Grace Horton, Vanius Howard, Elaine Imhulse, Andrew Jones, Darrell Jones, Tykeisha Karle, Gail

Kelley-Gerton, Lisa Marshall, Gwen Martin, Artis Maxam, William McKinley, Arlinda Meder, Hannah Meier, Paulette Miday, Nicole Miles, Linda Namenyi, Tytus Nashid, Wadeeah Osterbrock, Dylan Page, Candace Palmer, Jasmine Parham, Ebony Phipps, Marilyn

Pittman, Felicia
Pollington, Connie
Potensky, Chris
Price, Tanya
Ray, Colleen
Rice, Alisha
Richey, Sheila
Rivers, LaStarr
Schnur, Bethany
Schuler, Emily
Sears, Demetria
Sfarnas, Jim
Sharp, Stephen

Shaw, Phyllis
Smith, Kimberly
Springs, Margo
St.Hilaire, Melissa
Stevenson, Alisha
Still, Cameryn
Sullivan, Clyde
Tennyson, Emma
Thomas, Jenna
Thompson, Saige
Tirschek, Katelin
Tubbs, Quinetta
Vanarsdall-Schwartz, Mary

Walker, Kimberly
Walton, Ronald
Washington, Adolphus
Weiler, Michael
Wilkerson, Kenyon
Wilson, Celina
Wilson, Makayla
Winter, Stephany
Wise, Donnise
Wood, Jeffery
Zupon, Lisa

Vaughan, Randall

h) Approval of Overnight Student Trip*

The Board approved the following overnight student trips:

Michigan Speech Coaches, Inc. Mackinac Tournament

Destination: Mackinac Island, MI

Depart: Friday, May 17, 2024

Return: Sunday, May 19, 2024

Transportation: District van, driven by staff members certified as drivers

Supervision: Two staff members

Anticipated Cost per Student \$500.00 for 7 participants (up to \$577.00 for 4 participants)

i) Approval of Resolution of Participation - HCDDS*

The Board approved the following resolution of participation:

Finneytown Local School District with Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services (HCDDS) to provide a special education program during the 2024-2025 school year to children ages 6 through 21 who are identified as needing intensive educational services.

HCDDS will charge the District for services rendered at the per pupil rates as follows: \$50,000 for students served at Rost or Fairfax School and transported by the District.

j) Adoption of Resolution – REJECTION OF ALL BIDS FOR THE FINNEYTOWN SECONDARY CAMPUS – BUILDING 100 RENOVATION PROJECT*

WHEREAS the Board identified a need to renovate the Secondary Campus Building 100 Building, prepared a Bidding Package, which included the design drawings/specifications and legal bidding/contract documents for the Project, published the required legal notice, and publicly advertised, soliciting sealed bids, in compliance with R.C. 3313.46 and 2 C.F.R. 320(b)(1).

WHEREAS, five (5) bids were received by the date and time specified in addenda to the Bidding Documents, by the Treasurer/CFO, or designee; and

WHEREAS, all bids, having been opened and tabulated, exceeded the engineering bid estimate by more than 10%; and

WHEREAS, the Board has previously reserved the right to reject all bids.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board elects to exercise its right to reject all bids.

The district has set aside and budgeted \$700,000 from our ESSER grant for HVAC work at the 100 building. At our special meeting, on February 1^{\prime} 2024, a shift toward keeping the entire 100 building, rather than only a portion, was reported. Given this commitment to the entire building it is now more economical to renovate the HVAC for the entire building at one time. Because bids for the project came in over budget and are being rejected, the district is considering pullout of the HVAC into a separately funded project, so that completion of the HVAC work will not be significantly delayed. The ESSER grant has certain spending timelines that can be more comfortably met with a faster construction timeline.

k) Approval of Resolution of AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF BIDS FOR ABATEMENT AND DEMOLITION OF OLD BRENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND OLD WHITAKER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (BP-1)

The Superintendent requests the Board grant authority to the Treasurer/CFO to solicit bids for the abatement and demolition of the old Brent Elementary School and old Whitaker Elementary School (collectively the "Project").

Background:

- 1. The Board is currently participating in a Classroom Facilities Assistance Program (CFAP) Project (the "Project") administered by the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission, and has determined that the old Brent Elementary School and old Whitaker Elementary School are no longer needed for school purposes and should be abated and demolished as part of the Project.
- **2.** Elevar Design Group ("Elevar") was selected to provide design professional services for the Project.
- 3. The Superintendent and Treasurer/CFO are working with Elevar to prepare the Bidding Package which includes the design drawings/specifications and legal bidding/contract documents for the demolition and abatement scope of the Project.
- 4. Upon approval of the Board, the Treasurer/CFO will publicly advertise the availability of the Bidding Package and solicit sealed bids, in compliance with R.C. 3313.46.
- 5. On the date specified in the Bidding Documents, or another date arising by addendum, or by operation of law, the Treasurer/CFO will open and tabulate the bids received and determine the lowest responsible bidder; once identified, a contract with the selected bidder will be presented to the Board by the Superintendent for consideration and approval, subject to the Board's right to reject all bids.

The Board of Education resolves as follows:

- 1. The Board determines that the old Brent Elementary School and old Whitaker Elementary School are no longer needed for school purposes.
- 2. The Board authorizes the Treasurer/CFO to publish the required legal notice(s) for the Bidding Package for Project and solicit bids for the work, once the Bidding Package is finalized, and in compliance with R.C. 3313.46.
- 3. The Board further authorizes the Treasurer/CFO to carry out the bid process, in accordance with state and federal law. The bids will be tabulated following such opening, and a report of the tabulation with a recommendation for award of the contract will be provided to the Board by the Superintendent for consideration and approval, subject to the Board's right to reject all bids.

I) Acceptance of Donations*

The Board accepted the following donation(s):

Weight room equipment for the Finneytown Local School District athletic department, valued at \$25,499.01, from the Finneytown Athletic Boosters on February 1, 2024.

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

Review of Action Steps

- 1) Work on finalization of a work session agenda for the tentative March 4 special meeting Dr. Banks, Ms. Lee
- 2) Contact district attorney to confirm availability for a tentatively scheduled March 4 at 6pm special meeting Dr. Banks

The next regular meeting of the Finneytown Board of Education will take place on Monday, March 18, 2024 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.

25-24 There being no further business, Ms. McMullen moved, seconded by Mr. Plaut, that the meeting be adjourned. The President declared the meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.

Lindsay Lee, President

ATTEST:

David L. Oliverio, Treasurer