FINNEYTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Meeting
Brent Board Meeting Room
February 13, 2025
5:30pm

The Finneytown Board of Education met in special session on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at Brent Board Meeting Room, 8791 Brent Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45231. Ms. McMullen, Ms. Lee, Mr. Plaut, Mr. Rea, and Mr. Reeb were present. The President called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm.

In the absence of Mr. Oliverio, Treasurer, Mr. Plaut was appointed to be Treasurer Pro Tempore.

16-25 Mr. Rea moved, seconded by Mr. Reeb, to dispense with the Opening Ceremony and approval of minutes from the regular meeting of January 27, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

17-25 Mr. Plaut moved, seconded by Mr. Rea, consideration of the school year calendar for 2025-2026. The President declared the motion passed.

18-25 Mr. Rea moved, seconded by Ms. Lee, to adopt the following Resolution in Support of Full Implementation of the Fair School Funding Plan.

Resolution in Support of Full Implementation of the Fair School Funding Plan

Whereas, the methodology for the Fair School Funding Plan (FSFP) (otherwise known as the Cupp-Patterson School Funding Plan) was developed by school funding experts and practitioners, and

Whereas, the development of the FSFP was to create a funding mechanism that would be fair and equitable for all districts statewide, and

Whereas, the overriding aim of the crafters of the FSFP was to meet the criteria contained in Ohio's Constitution which calls for a thorough and efficient system of common schools, and

Whereas, the FSFP has had the overwhelming support of the education community and many lawmakers from around the state, and

Whereas, the Governor and the General Assembly prudently devised a six-year phase-in of the FSFP in order to minimize the stress on state resources, and

Whereas, the first four years of the FSFP (along with appropriate updates to the data used within the formula methodology) have been successfully implemented, and

Whereas, the final two years of implementation of the FSFP have not yet been accomplished, now

Therefore be it resolved, that the Finneytown Local School District Board of Education urges the 136th General Assembly to implement the final two-year phase-in of the FSFP, and

Further be it resolved, that the board urges that the phase-in include appropriate updates to the data used within the formula methodology

We urge this action in order that districts across the state may receive the full benefits of the FSFP and that lawmakers may examine the effectiveness of the FSFP when fully implemented.

Mr. Rea requested clarification of the adoption item before proceeding.

19-25 Ms. Lee moved, seconded by Mr. Rea, to pause adoption of this resolution until the next meeting.

RC: Mr. Rea, yes; Mr. Plaut, yes; Ms. McMullen, yes; Mr. Reeb, yes; Ms. Lee, yes. The President declared the Motion to Pause passed.

20-25 Mr. Rea moved, seconded by Ms. Lee, that the Board discuss changes to the following board policies related to immigration:

Policy 5111- Eligibility of Resident and Non-Resident Students
Policy 5540- Schools and Community Agencies

Mr. Rea clarified that Policy 5111 is written so that any student that lives within the district can attend FLSD no matter the student's "immigration status". Mr. Rea also clarified that Policy 5540 is written to strengthen the policy to ensure that the students cannot be "pulled" from schools, by ICE, without a warrant. It also requires, the district's attorney be notified of the warrant prior to any agency coming to the district.

After discussion, it was determined that no vote was required.

21-25 Mr. Rea moved, seconded by Ms. Lee, that the Board discuss the following proposed new board policy:

Policy 7421- Restrooms, Locker Rooms, Shower Rooms and Changing Rooms

Mr. Rea clarified that the new policy aligns with state law and allows FLSD to retain authority over decisions regarding single-use bathrooms. Ms. Lee suggested forming an administrative committee, with at least one Board of Education member present, to develop implementation strategies that prioritize student well-being in the use of single-use bathrooms.

Mr. Plaut expressed concerns about the potential for rushing the policy changes. In response, Mr. Rea explained that state law, and soon federal regulations, are expected to conflict, creating a limited timeframe to implement necessary changes and protect FLSD and administrative licenses from potential legal risks.

Mr. Plaut also raised concerns about bypassing the Policy Committee in the decision-making process, reminding Board members of his role on that committee.

After discussion, it was determined that no vote was required.

22-25 Mr. Rea moved, seconded by Ms. Lee, that the Board discuss the following proposed board policy revision:

Policy 1540- Suspension of Administrative Contracts

Mr. Plaut voiced concerns of rushing policies without going through the Policy Committee.

23-25 Mr. Plaut motioned, seconded by Ms. McMullen to Pause Discussion of Policy 1540 until after the Policy Committee talks about it.

RC: Mr. Rea, no; Mr. Plaut, yes; Ms. McMullen, yes; Mr. Reeb, no; Ms. Lee, no. The President declared that the Motion to Pause Discussion had failed.

After discussion, it was determined that no vote was required.

24-25 Mr. Rea moved, seconded by Ms. Lee, consideration of the following new/revised policies.

Adoption 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.

Policy 1540- Suspension of Administrative Contracts
Policy 5540- Schools and Community Agencies
Policy 7421- Restrooms, Locker Rooms, Shower Rooms and Changing Rooms

After discussion, it was determined that no vote was required.

25-25 There being no further business, Mr. Reeb moved, seconded by Mr. Rea, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously. The president declared the meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

Jelicia McMullen, President

ATTEST:

Seth Plaut, Treasurer Pro Tempore