

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
January 6, 2011

1

The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, Ohio, held an Organizational Meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January 2011 at the Fairfield High School Community Room.

A moment of silence was observed for Dr. Farrell's son, Reed Farrell.

A. Appointment of President Pro Tem – Jerome Kearns

The meeting was called to order by the President Pro Tem at 6:30 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL – Present: Mr. Kearns, Mrs. Ko, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray & Mrs. Shorter  
Absent: None

Also present: Mrs. Milligan, Mr. Otten, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Lane & Mr. Clemmons

11-01 ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FOR 2011 (ORC 3313.14)

A. Nominations

(If more than one person is nominated, the President Pro Tem shall publicly call the roll of the Board and ask the members to vote their choice. If only one person is nominated, a motion to close nominations, a second, and a vote by acclamation will elect the President.)

Mrs. Ko nominated Jerome Kearns for President.

MOTION – Moved by Dr. Morris to close the nominations.

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Shorter

Public comments: None

Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Kearns, Mrs. Ko, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray & Mrs. Shorter  
Nays: None

President Pro Tem, Jerome Kearns, declares himself as the elected President of the Fairfield Board of Education for 2011.

B. President presides from this point forward.

11-02 ELECTION OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FOR 2011 (ORC 3313.14)

A. Nominations

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
January 6, 2011

2

(If more than one person is nominated, the President Pro Tem shall publicly call the roll of the Board and ask the members to vote their choice. If only one person is nominated, a motion to close nominations, a second, and a vote by acclamation will elect the President.)

Dr. Morris nominated Dan Murray for Vice President.

MOTION – Moved by Dr. Morris to close the nominations.

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Ko

Public comments: None

Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Kearns, Mrs. Ko, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray & Mrs. Shorter  
Nays: None

President, Jerome Kearns, declares Dan Murray as the elected Vice President of the Fairfield Board of Education for 2011.

11-03 ESTABLISH 2011 MEETING DATES/ESTABLISH BOARD SERVICE FUND FOR 2011/ APPROVE THE RENEWAL AND/OR PURCHASE OF POSITION/PERFORMANCE BONDS FOR BOARD MEMBERS, SUPERINTENDENT, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT, BUSINESS DIRECTOR & TREASURER/APPROVE STANDING AUTHORIZATIONS FOR 2011/APPOINTMENTS TO OHIO SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION AND CITY COMMITTEES

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Murray to approve the following:

NEW BUSINESS/BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Establish 2011 meeting date, time and place (ORC 3313.15)

1. Date: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday – Work Session; 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – Regular Session

2. Time: 6:30 PM

3. Place: FHS Community Room

B. Consider establishment of a Board service fund for 2011 in the amount of \$13,808.00 (ORC 3315.15).

C. Recommend renewal and/or purchase of Position/Performance Bonds for Board Members, Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Business Director and Treasurer as required by Ohio Law in the amount of \$20,000.00 each.

D. Recommend approval of the following standing authorizations for 2011:

1. Authorize the Treasurer to secure advances from the Auditor when funds are available and payable to the district.
2. Authorize the Treasurer to invest inactive funds whenever funds are available.
3. Authorize the Treasurer to modify appropriations and advance money from fund to fund as needed. Modifications must then be presented to the Board for approval.
4. Authorize the Treasurer to pay all bills within the limits of the appropriation resolution as bills are received and when the merchandise has been received in good condition.
5. Authorize the Superintendent or Designee during periods when this Board is not in session, to make offers of employment directly to candidates for either teaching or non-teaching positions on behalf of this Board, and to acknowledge acceptance of such offers on behalf of this Board, subject to a subsequent vote of ratification by this Board; provided however, that upon ratification by this Board, the employment shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the employee's acceptance of the Superintendent's officer.

Nothing in this resolution shall require the Board of Education to employ or continue to employ an individual who has not provided a criminal records check satisfactory to the Board or who has not satisfied any other prerequisite to employment created by law or Board policy.

6. Authorize Superintendent or Designee to act as purchasing agent for the district to make purchases of supplies and/or services within the limits of the appropriation measure.
7. Authorize the Treasurer to borrow short-term funds as needed for cash flow purposes.
8. Authorize the Treasurer to utilize the legal firm of Peck, Shaffer, and Williams when fiscal legal opinions are required.
9. Authorize the Curriculum Director and Business Director to approve professional day requests for certificated and classified employees for state meetings, workshops, and events in an amount not to exceed the limits in the Annual Appropriation, Board Policy, and negotiated contracts.
10. Authorize members of the Board to attend workshops, seminars and meetings for Professional Development and to benefit the academic and financial status of district.
11. Authorize the Superintendent or Designee, on behalf of this Board, to accept resignations which have been submitted by employees during times when this Board is not in session, subject to ratification by this Board; provided however, that upon ratification by this Board, such resignations shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the Superintendent's acceptance.

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
January 6, 2011

12. Recommend that in accordance with Section 3313.26, ORC that the Board waive the reading of minutes from previous meetings.

E. Appointments to OSBA and City Committees

1. Legislative Liaison to OSBA/Federal Relations Network Balena Shorter
2. Parks and Recreation Board Richard Wood
3. Planning Commission Mark Morris
4. Student Liaison Sharon Ko

(Any of items "A" through "E" may be voted upon separately at the request of any Board member.)

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Ko  
Public comments: None  
Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Kearns, Mrs. Ko, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray & Mrs. Shorter  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried: 5-0

11-04 RESIGNATION/ LEAVES OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Murray to approve the following:

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

A. Personnel -- Certificated

1. Resignations
  - a. Bridget Ossmann, Intermediate, Science  
(effective at the end of the day on March 4, 2011; for retirement purposes)
2. Leaves of Absence
  - a. Erika Klaber, Intermediate, Music  
(effective January 21, 2011 through March 22, 2011; for childrearing purposes)
  - b. Theresa Nevin, Intermediate, Counselor  
(effective .75 on December 9, 2010, through February 18, 2011; for personal medical reasons)
  - c. Amy Piatt, Middle, Science  
(effective February 10, 2011 through March 25, 2011; for childrearing purposes)

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
January 6, 2011

5

- d. Jennifer Powell, Kindergarten Center, Kindergarten Teacher  
(effective .25 on December 7, 2010, and full days on December 8 and December 17, 2010; for personal and family medical reasons)

3. Employment

- a. Paul Otten, District Office, Superintendent  
(Mr. Otten is recommended for a new three-year administrative contract effective August 1, 2011 through July 31, 2014, for 228 days, for a replacement position.)

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Ko  
Public comments: None

Board comments:

Dr. Morris stated that Mr. Otten is following big footsteps (of Cathy Milligan).

Mr. Murray wished Mr. Otten the best of luck.

Mrs. Ko congratulated Mr. Otten and stated that he has been mentored by a wonderful person.

Mrs. Shorter congratulated Mr. Otten and stated that she knows he will do a good job.

Mr. Kearns stated that Mr. Otten has worked with a great mentor and that he is excited to cast his vote.

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Kearns, Mrs. Ko, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray & Mrs. Shorter  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried: 5-0

BRIEF RECESS at 6:45pm – 6:49 pm

11-05 EMPLOYMENT

MOTION – Moved by Dr. Morris to approve the following:

- b. Substitute Teacher

Karen Gutzwiller

(All recommendations are for the 2010-2011 school year at a rate of \$80.00 per day.)

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Shorter  
Public comments: None  
Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Kearns, Mrs. Ko, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray & Mrs. Shorter  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried: 5-0

OTHER ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

11-06 APPROVAL OF WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY-MIAMI VALLEY COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR HOSTING WSU UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN CLINICAL PRACTICE EXPERIENCES EFFECTIVE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Murray to approve the following:

- A. Recommend approval of Wright State University-Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health Memorandum of Agreement for hosting WSU undergraduate students in clinical practice experiences, effective with the 2010-2011 school year as per agreement which was previously shared with the board.

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Ko  
Public comments: None  
Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Kearns, Mrs. Ko, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray & Mrs. Shorter  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried: 5-0

11-07 APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2012 TAX BUDGET

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Murray to approve the following:

- B. Recommend approval of the Fiscal Year 2012 Tax Budget that will be submitted to the Butler County Auditor's Office.

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Shorter  
Public comments: None  
Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Kearns, Mrs. Ko, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray & Mrs. Shorter  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried: 5-0

ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

- A. Update on "Race to the Top" – Paul Otten

A meeting is scheduled for January 20<sup>th</sup> and he stated that the organization "Battelle for Kids" will

help with the grant.

Mr. Otten stated that we may have a chance to participate in an “Advancing Student Achievement through Labor-Management Collaboration Conference” presented by the U.S. Department of Education in Denver, Colorado.

B. Financial Review Committee – update on assigned action steps – Chad Lewis

He stated that we have a new trash collection service that will provide a \$7600 savings the first year and a savings of approximately \$22,000 over the next 3 years. He stated that there is no price increase during the three year contract.

C. Proposed revisions in grades 9-12 Program of Studies – Bill Miller

Bill Miller thanked Matt Wissman, Billy Smith and David Helms for their help.

D. Proposed school fees, grades K-12, for 2011-12 school year – Bill Miller

No changes in fees for K-6.

No changes in Middle School fees, but the fees are more specific in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.  
For 9-12 only the changes in fees were presented to the board for review.

E. Report of Grading Committee – Roger Martin & Tracy Ruberg

Mr. Martin recognized and thanked the committee for their hard work.

Mr. Murray asked about the students at the lower end of the grading scale.

Mrs. Shorter stated that she liked the ten point scale and that she would be happy with either of the recommendations.

Dr. Morris investigated 15 universities and 14 of them use a 10 point grade scale with a +/- included in the GPA. He wanted to know the logic in making the scale retroactive.

Mrs. Ko stated that we need to look at the students in the “middle” of the scale.

Mr. Kearns agrees with moving away from what we currently have.

Mrs. Shorter is comfortable with starting the new scale for this school year.

11-08 AMEND AGENDA TO APPROVE GRADING SCALE

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Kearns to amend the agenda to approve grading scale.

SECOND – Seconded by Dr. Morris

Public comments: None

Board comments: None

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
January 6, 2011

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Kearns, Mrs. Ko, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray & Mrs. Shorter  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried: 5-0

11-09 APPROVAL OF THE ALTERNATE RECOMMENDATION WITH +/- FOR  
2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Ko to approve the Alternative Recommendation with +/- for  
2010- 2011 school year.

SECOND – Seconded by Dr. Morris  
Public comments: None  
Board comments:

Mr. Kearns

He stated that he can support the alternate recommendation.  
He would like to move the bottom number to 62 for a failing grade.  
He asked if the D- was eliminated in this recommendation.

Mrs. Shorter

She asked if the grading scale could be reviewed at the board retreat.

Mr. Murray

He stated that the motion addresses 3 of the 4 concerns that he has.

Dr. Morris

He stated that a student must still pass the ACT and the OGT tests.

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mrs. Ko, Dr. Morris  
Nays: Mr. Kearns, Mr. Murray & Mrs. Shorter  
Motion Failed: 2-3

11-10 APPROVAL OF THE FIRST RECOMMENDATION OF THE 10 POINT GRADE SCALE  
RETROACTIVE TO THE BEGINNING OF THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Shorter to approve the 10 Point Scale retroactive to the beginning of the  
2010-2011 school year.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Murray  
Public comments:  
Mr. Sanders addressed the issue regarding the low end of the grading scale.

Board comments: None



FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
January 6, 2011

9

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mrs. Ko & Mrs. Shorter  
Nays: Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris & Mr. Murray  
Motion Failed: 2-3

11-11 APPROVAL OF THE ANDERSON SCALE FOR THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR WITH CHANGES: 4.3 FOR 98-100, 4.0 FOR 93-97, 1.0 FOR 64-66, AND FAILING GRADE OF 0-63

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Kearns to approve the Anderson Scale retroactive to the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year with the following changes:

4.3 - 98-100  
4.0 - 93-97  
1.0 - 64-66  
Failing Grade - 0-63

SECOND – Seconded by Dr. Morris

Public comments:

Mrs. Bowers does not understand why a committee was formed. A student still has to pass the OGT. A common element was a 10 point scale with 60 as the bottom.

Board comments:

Dr. Morris wants to revisit the impact on the AP classes.

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris & Mr. Murray  
Nays: Mrs. Ko & Mrs. Shorter  
Motion Passed: 3-2

F. New items for discussion

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 13, 2011 – Board Retreat, 6:00 PM, South Elementary Media Center  
January 17, 2011 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (No School)

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Ko

She thanked the grading committee for their hard work.

Dr. Morris

He thanked the grading committee for their work.

Mr. Kearns

He thanked the grading committee for their work.  
He congratulated Mr. Otten on his appointment.

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
January 6, 2011

10

Board comments (cont.)

Mr. Murray

He congratulated Mr. Otten.

He also thanked the grading committee. He stated that the new scale is a compromise and asked the committee not to be discouraged as their work is valued.

Mrs. Shorter

She thanked the grading committee for their work.

11-12 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Dr. Morris to recess to Executive Session at 8:41 pm to discuss the following:

The appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of public employees 121.22 (G) (1)

Court Action 121.22 (G) (3) – Pending or Imminent Litigation

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Murray

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Kearns, Mrs. Ko, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

The Board resumed the meeting at 10:31 pm.

11-13 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Murray to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND – Seconded by Dr. Morris

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mrs. Ko, Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 pm by the President, Mr. Kearns.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer