

BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358  
February 24, 2022

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** The regularly scheduled meeting of the Freeman School District Board of Directors was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Bill Morphy. There was a quorum present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Annie Keebler, Bill Morphy, Neil Fuchs, Danielle Santman, Randy Russell and Alan Steinolfson were present. Ed Cashmere was excused.

**GUESTS:** Debbie Morphy, Lisa Phelan, Jim Straw, Jeff Smith, Chad Ripke, Jody Sweeney, Kirk Lally, Todd Reed, Kent Bevers, Everett Combs, Dave Teague, Linda Mega, Jessica Gilrein, Aimee Hoyt, Ryan Larkin, Desseray Ellis, Joseph Higby, Andrew Gibson and Tommy Tribbett.

**FLAG SALUTE:** Debbie Morphy led us in the flag salute.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

January 27, 2022 Board Minutes	
February General Fund Mid-Month AP - 118360-118361	\$ 14,094.93
February ASB Fund Mid-Month AP - 118362-118362	\$ 140.31
February General Fund AP - 118381-118433	\$124,347.35
February Capital Projects Fund AP - 118434-118437	\$ 82,700.22
February ASB Fund AP - 118363-118380	\$ 14,694.57
February Gen. Fund Accounts Payable Direct Deposits	\$ 8,965.73
February ASB Accounts Payable Direct Deposits	\$ 0.00
February Payroll - & Direct Deposit	\$843,367.94
Budget Status and Treasurer's Report	
Cash Flow	

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve the consent agenda as presented. Neil Fuchs seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**RECOGNITION:**

The board recognized Neil Fuchs for his many years of faithful service to the Freeman School District. Neil always put students first in all decisions as a board member. This will be Neil's last meeting. Thank you Neil. You will be greatly missed.

**PACE CHARACTER TRAIT:**

*HONESTY – Sincerity and reverence or love for the truth.*

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Washington State Board of Education – Basic Education compliance certification

**BUILDING REPORTS:**

**Lisa Phelan, Elementary Principal, and Stacey Rawson, K-8 Counselor, reports:**

Overview

- The FES staff is working together reviewing ELA curriculum to adopt and implement during the 22/23 school year.
- Enrollment continues to climb – Up 5 from last month
- Transitional Kindergarten/Kindergarten Round-Up scheduled for March 18th

Areas of Focus

- Second round of classroom observations – 2/22-3/17
- ELA adoption review of EL Open Up curriculum at March 2<sup>nd</sup> late start
- Certificated Professional Development during March 7<sup>th</sup> late start – AVID training with Rob Reavis
- Exploration of implementing Inclusive Transitional Kindergarten program. Awarded a \$40,000 grant to update portables.

Enrollment

K-61, 1-49, 2-52, 3-56, 4-62, 5-65 = 345 Total - Preschool-33

**Jim Straw, Middle School Principal, reports:**Overview

- Serving students at school, in class.
- Learning and implementing AVID School-wide strategies to support student engagement.
- Staff and students are participating in a daily Advisory that includes Social Emotional Curriculum, Digital Citizenship, College and Career Ready Content and organizational/study skills.
- Attendance continues to be a challenge.

Areas of Focus

- Student Led Conference preparations and practice for students – Scheduler opens on March 8<sup>th</sup>.
- WSU College of Medicine is returning Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Observations/Evaluations – currently doing mid-year meetings and 2<sup>nd</sup> round of observations.
- FMS Science Fair will be Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00-2:45 pm in the FMS gym.
- Working with FES and FHS on preparations for next year.

Enrollment

6-62, 7-83, 8-79 = 224 Total

**Jeff Smith, High School Principal, reports:**Overview

- A busy start to second semester plus planning is underway for 2022-2023

Areas of Focus

- First semester academics
- Registration process is starting
- 9-12 staffing is underway
- Spokane Scholars nominated by teachers: Eli Mounts, Fine Arts; Sydney McLean, Social Studies; Jenna Sharp, ELA; Drew Lochmiller, Math; Abby Bryant, Science; Abbie Amend, World Language.
- FBLA sending 24 members to State
- Knowledge Bowl is 2<sup>nd</sup> in the league
- Many athletic successes

Enrollment

9-86, 10-66, 11-72, 12-71 = 295 Total

**Chad Ripke, Dean of Students/Athletic Director, reports:**Overview

- Winter sports at the HS are wrapping up.
  - Wrestling concluded their season with 2 qualifying wrestlers for the state tournament. Owen Orndorff - 3<sup>rd</sup>; Hunter Hawk - 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - Girls Basketball – Co-League Champs and District Champs heading to the state tournament
  - Boys Basketball – League and District Champs. On to state tournament.
  - Cheer Team – Have done a great job through the winter season.

Areas of Focus

- Coaches meeting coming up on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March to discuss budgeting processes for 2022-2023 school year.
- Uniforms – inventory and storage
- Golf fundraiser August 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Winter sport athletes program feedback survey will be distributed after winter sports have concluded.

Enrollment

Spring Sports sign-ups were last week:

- Softball - 24
- Baseball - 18
- Tennis – 17
- Golf - 17
- Track - 41

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:****Kent Bevers, Nutrition Services Director, reports:****2. Grow collaboration and ownership -**

- Wellness team has met a few times now. We are in the process of assessing where the district currently sits in regards to wellness policy requirements.
- Currently the team consists of: Myself, Jody Sweeney, Stacey Rawson, Mike Allen, Annie Keebler and Ann Powers.

**6. Engage students, staff and community**

- Joe Higby has joined us as a dietary intern and will be with us through around the end of March.
- He's completed a few of his projects:
  - Equipment purchase project
  - Quality Management: recipe development, testing and sampling with FHS students (Pork Street Taco)
  - Food safety inspection at FHS
- Currently working on waste reduction project
- Last project is preparing a themed meal (St. Patrick's Day themed meal)

**Jody Sweeney, SpEd Director/School Psych, reports:**Overview

- School Psychologist: Focused on Special Education student evaluations and eligibility – academic, cognitive, social/emotional, developmental, health, adaptive assessments within a legal timeline. Meetings with multi-disciplinary teams.
- Special Ed Director: Focused on staffing assessment and needs, collaboration with Admin & Directors, team/individual training, mentorship and communication with district-wide teams.

Areas of Focus

- School Psychologist:
  - Conducting comprehensive assessment, scheduling/facilitating multi-disciplinary meeting, communication with parents/students, report writing – new evaluations and reevaluations.
  - Profile meetings planning
  - Mental Health meetings with students and collaboration with counseling group
- Special Ed Director:
  - Staffing meetings with Admin
  - Budget planning
  - Grant writing, research & planning
  - SpEd secretary training
  - Team/individual training, assessment and mentorship
  - Cross-departmental collaboration (i.e. transportation and nutrition services)
  - Training coordination with Paraprofessional group across the district

Enrollment

118 - 123

**Todd Reed, Technology Director, reports:**Areas of Focus

- 2022 – 2025 Technology Plan
  - Shared charts on the last three technology plans; what was bought in the past and what we need to buy now.
  - Shared proposed Tech Plan with description of items needing replaced in classrooms and across the district, infrastructure, labor and supplies.

**Everett Combs, Assistant Transportation Supervisor/Mechanic, reports:**

- 8,500 gallons of diesel delivered at \$3.40/gallon
- Submitting approval for hire for new substitute bus driver pending successful completion of testing
- Still waiting for new buses to be inspected and delivered
- Winter ridership count is 842
- Allocation dollars should be released soon

**Kirk Lally, Maintenance/Custodial Director, reports:****1. Grow collaboration & ownership**

- Preparing for the spring and summer seasons.
- Met with AM Landshaper to evaluate fields
- Completed our 3-year re-inspection for SHRD.

**7. Elevate learning opportunities and success for all students**

- Custodial continues to stay busy with normal daily duties.
- Purchased a new scrubber for the Elementary and Middle School

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

- Thank you, Neil. We started here together. There have been some difficult challenges; Neil was always there. We are happy for you and Terri.
- School Security Specialist – Jeff Sevigney, after retiring from the WSP, has been here substitute school bus driving. He would like to continue to serve the Freeman School District as a volunteer and we would like him to serve as a school security specialist. There is a state provision for retired officers to carry a concealed weapon when on campus and driving bus if the school district approves and has final approval from the school board. Under this provision he is also covered by district insurance.
  - Annie Keebler moved that the board approve Jeff Sevigney as a Volunteer School Security Specialist for the Freeman School District. Danielle Santman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Learn Successful Change Management Strategies:**

- Staffing and Personnel 2022-2023
  - We will be posting a .5 School Psych position
  - We will continue with a Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA): Mike Allen
  - CTE Leadership – grow people in our own system
  - Working on a job description for a District Office Support Specialist (DOSS) to be posted in a couple of weeks.

**Grow Collaboration and Ownership:**

- Enrollment – Head count is at 847 (116 SpEd) and growing.
- Ending Cash Balance – The budget will be taking a big lift for the reading adoption and Health curriculum. We are projected to be at 7% fund balance at the end of the fiscal year.

**Re-imagine Equitable Learning Systems:**

- Admin met with Jim McNeil and Cory Plager and spent time discussing a 10 year facilities plan. What could be coming up and the costs involved. We also discussed what the district is currently working on with Capitol Projects money. Also, there was a discussion around the next Capitol Projects Levy and Cash Flow.

**Communicate Well in Crisis:****Empathy, Self-Care and Team Building:**

- There has been an outpouring of support during the delivery of impact statements. It is helpful to have this coming to an end. The judge is following the process and is going through 200+ statements.

**Engage Students, Staff and Community:****Elevate Learning Opportunities and Success for All Students:****BOARD COMMENTS:** No comments.**VISITORS COMMENTS & CONCERNS:** No comments.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**APPROVAL OF 2022-2025 TECHNOLOGY PLAN PROPOSAL:**

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve the 2022-2025 Technology Plan Proposal, as presented. Neil Fuchs seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY:**

Neil Fuchs moved the Board approve the surplus of 2007 GMC/Thomas school bus with lift, as presented. Danielle Santman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY AND PROCEDURE NO. 3122 – 1ST READING:**

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy and Procedure No. 3122– Excused and Unexcused Absences, as presented. Danielle Santman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY AND PROCEDURE NO. 3231 – 1ST READING:**

Neil Fuchs moved the Board approve Board Policy and Procedure No. 3231– Student Records, as presented. Annie Keebler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY AND PROCEDURE NO. 3520 – 1ST READING:**

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy and Procedure No. 3520– Student Fees, Fines, Charges, as presented. Neil Fuchs seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY AND PROCEDURE NO. 5011 – 1ST READING:**

Neil Fuchs moved the Board approve Board Policy and Procedure No. 5011– Sexual Harassment of District Staff Prohibited, as presented. Annie Keebler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**OTHER INFORMATION:**

- The next regular board meeting is scheduled for March 29<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 pm in the K-8 MPR.
- The July 14<sup>th</sup> board meeting has been rescheduled to July 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be a budget adoption at this meeting. A budget hearing will precede the regular board meeting. Consider a board work session that day.
- The vacated school board position will be posted February 25<sup>th</sup> for 4 weeks and will close March 25<sup>th</sup>. Interviews will be during the March 29<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

**PERSONNEL ACTION:**

Certified: Mary Paxton – Emergency Substitute Teacher - Pending OSPI Approval  
 Julie Mitchell – Substitute Teacher - Pending OSPI Approval  
 Katie Janzen – Emergency Substitute Teacher (Student Teacher) - Pending OSPI Approval

Classified: DeeAnna Rothrock – Substitute-Nutrition Services  
 Joe Pass – Substitute Bus Driver – Pending passing of CDL Skills Test

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve the personnel action as presented. Neil Fuchs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**Acceptance of Resignation Letter of School Board Member, Neil Fuchs.**

Annie Keebler moved the Board accept the resignation as presented. Danielle Santman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The board meeting adjourned at 7:25pm with no further action.

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Recording Secretary

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Board Secretary

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Board Chair