

BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358  
March 25, 2021

**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 Annie Keebler. There was a quorum present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Annie Keebler, Bill Morphy, Ed Cashmere, Neil Fuchs, Randy Russell and Brendon Myers were present. Jim Tippett was excused.

**GUESTS:** Lisa Phelan, Jim Straw, Renee Bailey, Kris Herda, Debbie Morphy, Jody Sweeney, Char Trejbal, Everett Combs, Todd Reed, Kirk Lally, Jeff Jurgensen, Todd Spear, Kathryn Curtis and Danielle Santman.

**FLAG SALUTE:** Kris Herda led us in the flag salute.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

February 25th, 2021 Board Minutes	
March Mid-Month AP - 117212-117217	\$ 39,111.75
March General Fund AP - 117218-117271	\$106,305.69
March ASB Fund AP - 117272-117284	\$ 7,055.46
March Accounts Payable Direct Deposits	\$ 11,426.21
March Payroll - 117285-117290	\$840,076.29
February's Treasurer's Statement/Budget Status	

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

**PACE CHARACTER TRAIT:**

*DILIGENCE – Persistence, dedication and hard work*

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Board & Administrator March 2021
- State of Washington Department of Health – Treatment System Approval

**BUILDING REPORTS**

**Lisa Phelan, Elementary Principal, reports:**

Overview

- The elementary team is wrapping up profile meetings and prepping for parent/teacher spring conferences.
- The 2021/2022 Kindergarten enrollment is currently at 50.

Areas of Focus

- FES continues to maintain the safety and social emotional well-being for all students and staff.
- The second round of observations are scheduled for after spring break.

Enrollment

K-38, 1-55, 2-50, 3-53, 4-57, 5-58 = 311 Total

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

Overview

- FMS is currently running a Hybrid schedule with students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade attending school four days per week (yeah) and students in grades 7-8 attending school two days per week in Tuesday/Thursday – Wednesday/Friday Cohorts with Monday a virtual day for everyone.
- There are 34 students accessing the school and network on Mondays to alleviate connectivity issues and we have six students opting to attend virtual only.

Areas of Focus

- Beginning to work on the FMS Master Schedule and registering next year's freshmen for FHS!
- FMS Athletic Season One is off to a great start! We have 20 athletes in XC, 46 in football and 32 in softball participating. It is great to see the kids working.
- Finishing up final observations for the year and working on Evaluations.

- A successful fire drill was completed on Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Enrollment

6-74 (-1), 7-79 (-1), 8-82 = 235 Total (-3)

**Renee Bailey, High School Principal, reports:**

Overview

- FHS is focusing on supporting students academically and social/emotionally as we near the halfway point of the semester.

Areas of Focus

- Bring students back
- Next year registration
- Second round of observations after Spring Break
- Reflection on feedback for CEE Survey

Enrollment

9-71 (-1), 10-77 (-1), 11-68, 12-87 (-1) = 303 Total (-3)

**Kris Herda, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, reports:**

Overview

- Two more weeks of Fall Sports (25 events still possible), Spring Sports start April 5<sup>th</sup>
- MS Season 1 (football, softball, & cross country) finishes next Wednesday. Season 2 (wrestling & girls' basketball) starts April 13<sup>th</sup>. GREAT TURN OUTS so far!!!
- Homecoming – dress up days, macho volleyball, powderpuff football, royalty, & drive in movie
- Kudos to Deputy Reno – it is great having him here

Areas of Focus

- Continuously monitoring facilities and conditions.
- “Post season” planning and scheduling for spring break.
- Changes to COVID Guidelines means we have a moving target and have to adjust a lot.
- Spring sports schedules being finalized.

Enrollment

- Numbers are average for spring sports and strong for middle school sports.
- Posted Positions- HS Assistant Baseball, MS Assistant Volleyball

Activities

- FFA- Trap Practice (Saturdays through May), Plant Sale April 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> (if needed) Jr. Show May 6 & 7, Virtual State Convention May 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>
- FBLA- State Competition April 1<sup>st</sup> – April 24<sup>th</sup> (11 kids), Adopt A Highway
- Conservation Club- Spring Hike (April), Adopt A Highway

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Char Trejbal, Transportation Supervisor, reports:**

- Still waiting to hear back yet the federal grant for bus replacement.
- Looking to be able to purchase two buses this coming year – one regular route bus and one special needs wheelchair bus. The awarding of the grant will determine which type of special needs bus we will be able to purchase.
  - Would like to purchase a special needs bus that will allow for 3 wheel chair stations
  - Prices range from \$89,000 to approximately \$125,000 depending on size (capacity) type of seats, gas or diesel engines and options.
- Still in a holding pattern concerning whether we need to add another route-dependending on the return of students.

**Kirk Lally, Grounds/Maintenance Director, reports:**

2. Grow Collaboration & Ownership

- Maintenance is prepping for spring break.
- HVAC filters on order
- Fertilizer is ready for spring break (weather permitting)
- Parking lots being swept during spring break – depending on weather – can't be raining
- Working with Kris Herda to prep ball fields for games as needed

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

- Custodial is staying flexible and the schedule seems to be mellowing out now
- Custodial is getting ready for Spring break

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

- Collaborating on profile meetings
- PK-5 students receiving specially designed instruction in-person every day
- PK students aged 4 and 5 are full day
- 6<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade students are full time
- Remaining students that receive special education services are already attending 3-4 days
- Special Ed team is ready to have all kids back full time. We are prepared to assist with any and all social/emotional need as the secondary students return

**Area of Focus**

- Wellness and Road to Recovery
- MTSS – Multi-Tiered Systems of Support is essentially an umbrella that encompasses everything we do for our students – all the puzzle pieces that make up the education of each individual student.
- Positive Behavior Interventions, core Curriculum, Intervention Curriculum, Safety/Risk Assessments, Screenings (Academic/Behavioral), Data Collection, Equity, Social/Emotional Learning, Wellness, Parent Collaboration/Education/Training, Trauma-Informed Practices, etc.

**Enrollment**

114 students in Special Education at this time with several in the middle of an evaluation.

**Todd Reed, Technology Director, reports:****Overview**

- Continually working with staff on finding new tools to engage and help with classroom/virtual learning.

**Areas of Focus**

- The 28-day competitive bidding process for E-rate is complete. This enables us to select the vendor; Fatbeam as our internet provider. Form 471 has been filed to request funds to cover our internet costs.
- Upgraded the switches and rewired the Elementary, Middle School and High School communication rooms. Switches are crucial to our district as they power phones, clocks, camera, speakers, hvac, wireless, doors, lights, etc...
- Ordered 30 more chrome books
- Working with Triumph Electric on getting the generator project underway

**Ellen Arguinchona, Nutrition Service Director, reports:****1. Learn successful change management strategies**

- Have successfully kept up with changing schedules and student groups

**5. Empathy, self-care and team building**

- Provided an omelet bar for classified appreciation week

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

- HS kitchen providing Homecoming breakfast event – first event of the year

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

- PEBT is a benefit to families in the US whose schools were closed because of COVID. Nutrition services uploads free and reduces data into computer system, and the DSHS gets EBT cards sent to them. First data upload was this month.

**Ellen's number 8: Make sure you're not costing the district a bunch of money**

- Revenue up quite a bit from this time last year due to increased reimbursement. (End of March last year approximately \$209,000 – end of March this year estimated \$249,000)

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- Congratulations, Ellen, on your upcoming nuptials!
- Jeff Jurgensen, OAC Services project manager, updated the board on the Middle School HVAC project. He talked about scope, sequence and projected budget. A sprinkler system will be part of the project. Architect candidates will need to be interviewed. A recommendation will be presented

to the board in April. We will be working on a grant to do the study. The master plan will include a long term plan for growth to include future additions.

Learn Successful Change Management Strategies:

- The goal is to get students back on campus by the end of the year.
- The Leadership Team met to discuss the next steps with the new CDC guidelines.
- The timeline for the 3 ft. distancing is effective immediately for the remainder of the year. The caveat to this recommendation is that adults still need to adhere to the 6 ft. rule and also students during lunches. Masks are still required.
- It is a recommendation to the board to bring kids back to school full time April 12<sup>th</sup>. The board agrees. The staff has done a good job taking each “Next Step”. This information will be communicated to the staff and families on Friday so they can start planning and preparing for students to come back full time in person. There has been a good safety net in place this year if we ever needed to return to virtual. We have made a slow and steady comeback.
- Principals will be working with families of students you have been full time virtual to get them back to school.
- The schedule will stay the same.

Grow Collaboration and Ownership:

- Enrollment has been steady over the last 12 months.
- The ending cash balance for the district is expected to be at 5.27% at the end of the year.

Re-imagine Equitable Learning Systems:

Communicate Well in Crisis:

- Thank you for the feedback to the letter sent out last week regarding how to support students and staff on the Road of Recovery. The board is working on a letter to be sent to Judge Price. We have work to do at the high school to support staff & students on their recovery. We will be relying on experts to help navigate this Road to Recovery. A group will be meeting with PJ DeBenedetti from Moses Lake to discuss The Road of Recovery for the district.

Empathy, Self-Care and Team Building:

Engage Students, Staff and Community:

Elevate Learning Opportunities and Success for All Students:

**BOARD COMMENTS:** No comments.

**VISITORS COMMENTS & CONCERNS:** The visitors had questions for the board regarding policy & procedure processes, choice and how that works with FTE dollars and bus replacement.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY NO. 4050– 2ND READING:**

Neil Fuchs moved the Board approve Board Policy No. 4050 – Data Sharing with Local Tribes, as presented. Bill Morphy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY NO. 6230 – 2ND READING:**

Ed Cashmere moved the Board approve Board Policy No. 6230 – Relations with Vendors, as presented. Neil Fuchs seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**APPROVAL OF HIGHLY CAPABLE STUDENTS PROGRAM 2020-2021 PLAN**

Neil Fuchs moved the Board approve the Highly Capable Students Program Plan for the 2020-2021 school year, as presented. Bill Morphy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY & PROCEDURE NO. 2409 – 1ST READING:**

Neil Fuchs moved the Board approve Board Policy & Procedure No. 2409 – World Language Mastery-Based Credit, as presented. Bill Morphy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY NO. 2413 – 1ST READING:**

Ed Cashmere moved the Board approve Board Policy No. 2413 – Equivalency Credit Opportunities, as presented. Bill Morphy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY & PROCEDURE NO. 3432 – 1ST READING:**

Neil Fuchs moved the Board approve Board Policy No. 3432 – Emergencies, as presented. Bill Morphy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**OTHER INFORMATION:**

The next board meetings are scheduled for Thursday, April 29, 2021, at 6:00 pm in the K-8 MPR and April 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the K-8 MPR.

**PERSONNEL ACTION:**

Certified: Kate Sanburn – Emergency Substitute Teacher - pending OSPI approval  
John Bruno – Teaching Out of Endorsement – MS PE  
Kelsie Herda – Substitute Teacher

Classified: Rob Cayce – CTE Para-Educator (NC)

Extracurricular: Dustin Reed – Resignation – MS Assistant Wrestling Coach  
Kerie DePell – Resignation – HS JV Girls Basketball Coach  
Peggy Wells – Resignation – MS Assistant Volleyball Coach  
Michael Coumont – Resignation – MS Assistant Volleyball Coach

Ed Cashmere moved the Board approve the personnel action as presented. Bill Morphy seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The board meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm with no further action.

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Recording Secretary

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Board Secretary

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Board Chair