

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
JANUARY 7, 2016

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, Neil Fuchs, John Zingg, Ed Cashmere, Travis Campbell, Randy Russell and Jamie Weingart.

GUESTS: Debbie Morphy, Jim Straw, Ben Ferney, Lisa Phelan, Katelyn Tippet, Jim Tippet, Krystal Tippet and Peyton Smetana.

FLAG SALUTE: Ben Ferney led the audience in the flag salute.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: No additions.

CONSENT AGENDA:

December 10, 2015 Board Minutes	
General Fund AP – 109087-109168	\$ 135,127.41
General Fund AP – Direct Deposits	\$ 3,179.59
Capital Projects AP – 109169	\$ 1,513.40
ASB Fund AP – 109170-109189	\$ 20,346.99
Benefit Trust Fund AP – 19190-109191	\$ 20,346.99
December Payroll – 109192 - 109242	\$ 619,701.59
Treasurer's Statement/Budget Status	

Mr. Campbell moved the Board approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

BOARD RECOGNITION:

Dr. Russell shared January is Washington State School Board Appreciation Month, the elementary and middle school students made some awesome signs expressing their appreciation for each of our board members and the High School presented the board members with some Scottie swag to say thank you. Dr. Russell read the School Board Recognition Proclamation from the State of Washington signed by Governor Inslee and expressed his appreciation for all the hard work each of the board members does.

ASB REPORTS:

Mr. Ferney introduced seventh grader Katelyn Tippet, the Elementary\Middle School ASB Vice President. Katelyn gave a report about her positive experiences at Freeman participating in various activities that are available thanks to the ASB. Katelyn shared some of the items the ASB has been working on this year, including new scoreboards for the Middle School Gym, the second annual Fund run, guest speaker Jerry Ackerman, learning parliamentary procedure, and working on communication between the ASB representatives and the classrooms.

Peyton Smetana, Freeman High School Senior and ASB President shared the ASB is running really well. This year they have worked hard to have fundraiser applications filled out fully and timely to ensure all proper procedures are done. Peyton reported the ASB brought in a guest speaker Jerry Ackerman, to talk about social media with the students, and the ASB held the first student led dance, which was very successful.

CORRESPONDENCE: Dr. Russell presented the Board the following correspondence:

- Letter from Steven's Clay

REPORTS

BUILDING REPORTS:

Lisa Phelan, Elementary Principal, shared everyone is excited and refreshed after break. Three new students enrolled in the elementary and the school wide expectations were reviewed this week to ensure all students had a refresher of the expectations after having two weeks off. The surface pros are now up and running thanks to all of Todd's hard work and will be used in grades 3-5. The social studies curriculum for 2nd grade will be ordered soon, as the teachers have finished their reviews and decided to go with TCI. The elementary along with nutrition services is partnering with At the Core, a community organization to help provide meals for students and their families who could use some extra help over the weekends. Kindergarten roundup is February 19th to stay consistent with the area wide push to have kindergartners registered by March 1st and to help plan for next year.

Ben Ferney, Middle School Principal, shared all first round observations are complete and he is working on mid-year meetings with all certificated and classified staff. The latest Middle School staff meeting was around instruction aligned with assessment which may carry into the next late start professional development session. The ELA staff are working on reading novels to determine which books they would like to include as curriculum, they have also been piloting a grammar program No Red Ink and the kids have been enjoying the new tools. The winter dance/activity took place the last day of school before break which encouraged most students to keep all their grades above D so they could participate. Girls' basketball started on Monday and the leadership class is running the heart gram fundraiser to support Make A Wish.

Jim Straw, High School Principal, shared the ASB is doing a great job tightening up fundraisers this year. Renee Honn is now our full time Choir teacher K-12 as she received her teaching certificate over break. Kenny Davis's last day was December 18th and the leadership team did a great assembly to honor Kenny and his years of service to Freeman. John Bruno is now teaching social studies at the high school as a long term sub for Kenny and doing a great job. There are 10 days left in the first semester and therefore finals schedule will be run on the 21st and 22nd, periods 1-3 one day and 4-6 the next day. Jim reported, next week our drama class will be doing a student led play Monday and Wednesday night at 7pm. In an effort to communicate to students and parents more frequently and effectively, Laura Hamma, the high school counselor has set up a twitter account so she can broadcast information to the students about college application deadlines, scholarships, etc. In sports, basketball is in full swing and there are is a large discussion about the state basketball tournament and whether to return to a 16 team tournament. We are also in the middle of the reclassification cycle, however, we are a solid 1A school and it appears our league will have no changes for next year.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT:

Dr. Russell shared the president signed the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which gives the state more power to set how a teacher is qualified, licensed and evaluated. This is encouraging that the state is now more empowered.

Dr. Russell shared the next instructional materials committee meeting is next week. This is the committee that reviews and provides recommendations to the board for curriculum adoptions.

FISCAL AND LEGAL ACCOUNTABILITY:

Dr. Russell reviewed December's ending cash balance and January enrollment numbers.

VISITOR COMMENTS/CONCERNS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF 2016/2017 SCHOOL CALENDAR:

A discussion ensued about the cycle of the two year calendar and the questionnaire sent to the staff for input on setting the calendar.

Mr. Fuchs moved the Board approve the 2016/2017 School Calendar as presented. Mr. Cashmere seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF 2017/2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR:

Mr. Campbell moved the Board approve the 2017/2018 School Calendar as presented. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OTHER INFORMATION:

- Future Board Meeting Schedule

The next board meeting will be at the Valleyford Fire Station. A discussion ensued about the possibility of having a school board meeting at the high school during the school day allowing for inclusion of students and staff. Dr. Russell will coordinate with the high school on timing of this meeting.

PERSONNEL:

Certified: Dallas Marcus – Substitute Teacher

Classified: Steven Higgins – Resignation – Night Custodian

Extracurricular: Jessica McWilliams – Resignation – MS Head Track Coach

Mr. Fuchs moved the Board approve the personnel action as presented. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m. with no further action.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair