

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
JANUARY 29, 2015

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

GUESTS: Debbie Morphy, Jody Sweeney, Marci McGill, Kim Metcalf, Kathy Zinkgraf, Paula Watkins, Kirk Lally, Everett Combs, Todd Reed, Char Trjebal, Jenny Bryant, Paul Fricke and Kevin Fricke.

FLAG SALUTE: Kim Metcalf led the audience in the flag salute.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Dr. Russell requested to move the personnel action to immediately follow the consent agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA:

January 8, 2015 Board Minutes

General Fund AP – #107336 - #107399 \$ 141,593.16

ASB Fund AP – #107400 - #107419 \$ 16,950.45

Benefit Trust Fund AP – #107420 - #107421 \$ 11,071.13

January Payroll – #107422 - #107468 \$ 568,733.65

Treasurer's Statement/Budget Status

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

PERSONNEL: Dr. Russell recommended the following personnel action:

Certified: Kathy Zinkgraf – Retirement
Kim Metcalf – Retirement
Ashley Keogh – Substitute Teacher
Judy Bickler – 2 hours\day Supplemental Teaching Contract

Classified: William Bickler – Substitute Bus Driver

Dr. Russell recognized and thanked Kathy Zinkgraf and Kim Metcalf for their many years of service to the Freeman School District.

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

BOARD RECOGNITION:

Dr. Russell read a letter written by Governor Jay Inslee sharing his appreciation for all that school board members do and proclaiming January as School Board Appreciation Month. Dr. Russell presented the board with signs that students made and a few tokens of the districts appreciation for all that they do. The PTSG, represented by Jenny Bryant, then presented the board with homemade cupcakes and cards to say thank for all of the Board's hard work.

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

- Two articles from the Spokesman Review, the first recognizing Freeman High School Student Jamie Pratt as part of the lilac princesses and the second article that she had made it into the royal court
- The latest copy of the Board and Administrator

REPORTS

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Jody Sweeney, School Physiologist, shared the updated Freeman School District special education referral process. This is a tool that will help with interventions district wide and improve the transitions of students between schools. Due to the increased number of referrals in a year Jody found it was time to ensure that we had a more formalized process to use when referring a student, ensuring all students have the same interventions and a consistent standard elementary through high school. She shared this document provides a flow chart and check list for each teacher to use. On February 11 this process will be presented to the entire district at the late start professional development.

Marci McGill, Nutrition Services Director, shared the latest productivity report with figures through December. This report shows the labor cost per meal, food cost per meal and other factors related to the nutrition services program. She then fielded some questions about how we compare to other schools with our participation rate. Marci then shared March 2nd – 6th is National Breakfast Week and her goal is to really promote this week and encourage additional participation in breakfast to grow this program at Freeman.

Char Trejbal, Transportation Director, reported that Transportation is running smoothly and we were able to purchase some additional fuel in December since prices have dropped so dramatically. She then shared ridership counts, which drive funding, were up over 1,000 for the winter count. Spring always presents some challenges for ridership since we have 7 spring sports and a multitude of other activities which takes students off the afternoon buses.

Everett Combs, Assistant Transportation Director, shared the new heaters on the buses are working great and they have greatly reduced idling time.

Todd Reed, Technology Director, shared he has been working on a facilities tour project for our website. As part of this work he has setup information about each of our facilities where people can take a virtual tour, get directions, see parking and seating maps etc. He then reported that it is time for the E-Rate application. After sharing some history on how e-rate was funded in the past, he shared the new formula levels the playing field and we are now eligible for some additional funding even though our free and reduced rate is low. Todd then reported the new smarter balance testing was released just before winter break and many teachers have begun to use it.

Kirk Lally, Facilities Director shared things are running smoothly around campus. He then shared he was able to make some equipment purchases with the money that was previously set aside for equipment upgrades. The purchases include a walk behind mower with a bagging kit, two weed eaters and a backpack blower to take care of the sidewalks.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESMENT:

Dr. Russell shared in order to improve instruction and address some of the issues we have run into with high enrollment in first grade we have hired a .2 teacher to help with reading and math instruction.

FISCAL AND LEGAL ACCOUNTABILITY:

Dr. Russell thanked the Board for completing the financial information checklist.

Dr. Russell shared some highlights from his Olympia trip about what the hot topics were with the legislators. Without a doubt both parties (Republican and Democrat) have agreed that education is the top priority and that additional money needs to be put into education in the next biennium.

Dr. Russell reviewed the ending cash balances.

VISITOR COMMENTS/CONCERNS: Paul Fricke and Kevin Fricke introduced themselves and shared Paul is at our meeting tonight to take notes as part of his work on his eagle badge.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY AND PROCEDURE 2161:

Mr. Campbell moved the Board approve the Board Policy and Procedure 2161 – Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students, as presented. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 4210:

Mr. Fuchs moved the Board approve the Board Policy 4210 – Regulation of Dangerous Weapons on School Premises, as presented. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROAL OF ESEA REAUTHORIZATION RESOLUTION 4-2014/2015:

Mr. Fuchs moved the Board approve ESA Reauthorization Resolution 4-2014/2015, as presented. Mr. Cashmere seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

REFINANCING 2009 SCHOOL BONDS DISCUSSION:

Dr. Russell reviewed the two portions of the bond issued during construction, the 2008 bonds and 2009 bonds. The School District has the option with each issuance to refinance those bonds which allows the district to save the tax payers money on paying back the bonds by

obtaining a lower interest rate. Last spring the 2008 bonds were refinanced and it may be good timing to look into refinancing the 2009 as the bonds rates remain low.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 2020 – 1st READING:

Mr. Cashmere moved the Board accept the first reading of Board Policy 2020 – Curriculum Development and Adoption of Instructional Materials. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OTHER INFORMATION:

- Future Board Meeting Schedule

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board went into executive session at 7:40 p.m. for the purpose set forth in RCW 42.30.110, specially the following: to evaluate a public employee (superintendent's mid-year evaluation), such session estimated to be approximately 45 minutes in length. Mrs. Keebler stated there will be action taken after the session. The Board returned to open session at 8:27 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT RENEWAL: Motion was made by Mr. Fuchs to extend the superintendent's contract from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018. Mr. Zingg seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m. with no further action.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair