

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
APRIL 28, 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, Kirk Lally, Todd Reed, Jim Straw, Ben Ferney, Brian Parisotto, Randy Primmer, Clint Stevenson, Vivian Plank, Paula Watkins, Micki Harnios, Melanie Belshe, Devanta Black, Mikaela Hutchinson and Riley Wiggins.

FLAG SALUTE: Randy Primmer led the audience in the flag salute.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: No additions.

CONSENT AGENDA:

March 26, 2015 Board Minutes

April Payroll - #107812 - #107870	\$ 575,766.84
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General Fund AP – #107871 - #107975	\$ 168,315.29
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General Fund AP – Direct Deposits	\$ 3,689.06
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Capital Projects AP - #107967-#107977	\$ 5,686.88
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ASB Fund AP – #107978 - #108009	\$ 23,673.42
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Benefit Trust Fund AP – #108010 - #108011	\$ 19,461.70
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Treasurer's Statement/Budget Status

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

LITTLE COTTONWOOD CREEK STUDY PRESENTATION:

Melanie Belshe, Devanta Black, Mikaela Hutchinson and Riley Wiggins, our team of Gonzaga Engineering students, presented the findings from their research project on discharging into Little Cottonwood Creek. The group shared the six alternatives their research had produced, including the estimated costs associated with each. After discussing the pros and cons of each alternative they shared an evaluation tool which was used to compare each of the options and helped make the determination that a change in operation, to begin using the western wetlands was the best alternative. For this scenario they projected inflows and outflows in a worst case scenario model and in theory, this solution would eliminate the need to discharge into Little Cottonwood Creek during the critical months.

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

- MathCon Press Release – Freeman 7th Grader Chris Barron
- The latest copy of Board and Administrator
- Letter from Pia Longinotti thanking the Admin team for their leadership through TPEP process

REPORTS

BUILDING REPORTS:

Jim Straw, High School Principal, reported in the past couple weeks he has been able to attend the Hagen Foundation Luncheon, Spokane Scholars and the Washington Achievement Awards where Freeman High School was recognized with a Washington Academic Achievement award for overall excellence and reading growth. He shared Freeman has a National Merit competitor for the 5th straight year. Prom was this past weekend at Center Place and it went extremely well, however, Jim is in the process of looking at the possibilities of Liberty and Freeman having a joint prom next year. The driver behind the change is costs, since the junior store is now required to sell healthy snacks during the school day rather than candy; the sales revenue brought in is decreasing. Jim then recognized Denise Conrad for all the preparation she has put into the Smarter Balance testing and thanked Todd Reed for keeping all of the technology running smoothly throughout the testing process. The High School is working on scheduling and should have all the student course requests in by the end of the week, which will determine if the master schedule they put together for next year will work. One exciting change for next year is Spanish III will be offered at the High School.

Ben Ferney, Middle School Principal, shared the Middle School in full swing of testing season which has made them extremely happy that they ran ASB elections prior to spring break. As part of the election, each student received an actual ballot from the county, so they were able to see firsthand what voting looks like. Ben reported testing is running smoothly, although, it is hard to schedule other activities since you do not want any interruptions the first two hours of each day. He also reported teacher evaluations are due by May 15th so he and his staff have been busy preparing for evaluations as well as working on scheduling for next year.

Lisa Phelan, Elementary School Principal, shared she has hired a new elementary secretary who will be starting on May 4th and will be coming to meet the staff on the 30th. We have 27 applications for the primary teacher positions so teachers will begin screening between testing and she hopes to start calling references next week. Lisa reported she is working on evaluations and wrapping up her own professional certification. The preschool playground is ordered and so the project continues to move forward and will be installed in June with the final pieces being completed in early July. Kindergarten roundup was held on April 17th and we had 36 participants and was a very successful process.

Brian Parisotto, Athletic Director, shared baseball will be hosting the regional tournament this year, however, the decision has been made not to hold the regional track meet this year due to our bleacher situation and the large number of spectators that usually attend this meet. Brian has been attending regional athletic directors meetings this week and an issue has come up surrounding finding coaches, the sad trend is that fewer people want to coach due to parent issues. Brian reported the upper two tennis courts are going to be repaired now that the weather is nice and in the meantime we have been able to rent courts at the Spokane Racquet Club for our home matches.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Kirk Lally, Facilities Director, shared he has wrapped up his work with the research team from Gonzaga and he is now looking at the feasibility of implementing some of the recommendations they came up with. As the team presented, some of their recommendations can be implemented with very little cost and could potentially eliminate the discharging issues all together.

Todd Reed, Technology Director, reported Smarter Balance testing has been going great from the technology side. Todd then shared the new E-Rate formula, E-Rate 2.0. With this new formula Freeman will get funding for wireless and network services that we previously did not qualify for. Todd then reported our network filter is up for renewal this summer so he has been reviewing multiple options for our replacement. The best option he has found is iboss which has some more advanced features than other products. Some of these enhancements include reporting options and key word triggers. He has also been able to negotiate some discounts with the company to help with the cost of a new filter and is working on the final details.

Marci McGill, Nutrition Services Director, shared a packet with each board member highlighting the meal prices from our region. The good news is we will not have to increase our prices for next year, as we are currently meeting the minimum price required. She then shared the current negative balance is over \$800, these are the meals that have been charged and payment has not been received. Due to this balance she is working to minimize the number of meals charged for the remainder of the year and to reduce the overall number of negative balances.

Jody Sweeney, Special Education Director, reported that our enrollment continues to be consistent. She shared during this time of the year, when things get a bit hectic in all the buildings, she reminds her staff that they must keep a sense of humor as they help students and teachers get through the testing and special accommodations needed. Jody then shared Katie Hawley, the middle school special education teacher will not be returning next year, in order to stay home to raise her family.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESMENT:

Dr. Russell thanked the Gonzaga students for all of their hard work on the research they did with the Little Cottonwood Creek.

Dr. Russell recognized Vivian Plank, the president of the Rockford Lions Club, and thanked the Lions Club for the generous donation to our bleacher project. The Lions Club has been very supportive of the school over the years and we greatly appreciate the relationship we have with them.

Dr. Russell then shared that we have been having staffing conversations to address what the student needs are for the next year. This is challenging since we do not know what our budget will be from the state since they will be going into a second session and still have a large gap to close between their budget proposals.

Dr. Russell reported we currently have 8 late start days for collaboration time, thanks to the support of this time from the Board. However, the consistent want from the teachers\staff is to have additional collaboration time together. Due to this request the admin team met with FEA and teacher representatives from each building to talk about the 2015-2016 Professional Development Calendar. Based upon this Discussion the recommendation was to move from 8 to 12 late start collaboration days for the 2015-2016 school year. Dr. Russell shared that we are still gathering input from staff and the community on what this might look like for next year and want to address any concerns before moving forward.

SCHOOL SAFETY, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT:

Dr. Russell shared that we are right in the middle of working on the bleacher and tennis court projects and we have received multiple commitments from some of the businesses we work with to help support the projects. In addition, both ASB's have agreed to partner with the district and show their support for both of these projects. Dr. Russell shared a breakdown of the estimated costs for each of the projects, which total \$145,000 for the bleachers and \$100,000 for the tennis courts. These are estimated costs and we are hopeful that some costs savings can be found on both projects.

FISCAL AND LEGAL ACCOUNTABILITY:

Dr. Russell shared that we are moving forward with a bond refinancing for the remaining bonds and as part of this process a minimum savings goal must be set. The previous goal of the board was 5.25%.

Mr. Campbell moved the Board set 5% as the minimum savings goal for the bond refinancing. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dr. Russell shared that legislators have adjourned and will be going into a second session.

Dr. Russell reviewed the ending cash balances and April enrollment.

VISITOR COMMENTS/CONCERNS: Micki Harnois thanked the Board for coming to Rockford for a meeting. She appreciates the effort by the school to be out in the community.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 2030 – 2nd READING:

Mr. Fuchs moved the Board approve the Board Policy 2030 – Service Animals in Schools, as presented. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 2140 – 2nd READING:

Mr. Campbell moved the Board approve the Board Policy 2140 – Guidance and Counseling, as presented. Mr. Cashmere seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 3417 – 2nd READING:

Mr. Fuchs moved the Board approve the Board Policy 3417 – Catheterization, as presented. Mr. Zingg seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK:

Mr. Campbell moved the Board approve Teacher Appreciation Week, May 4th-8th, 2015. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF 2015/2016 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE:

Mr. Fuchs moved the Board approve the 2015/2016 Board Meeting Schedule, as presented. Mr. Cashmere seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 5010 – 1st READING:

Mr. Fuchs moved the Board accept the first reading of Board Policy 5010 – Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OTHER INFORMATION:

- Future Board Meeting Schedule

PERSONNEL: Dr. Russell recommended the following personnel action:

Certified:	Katherine Hawley – Resignation – 6-8 Special Education Teacher Angela Frye – New Hire – Secondary Science Teacher Julie Watts – Substitute Teacher Mitch Jensen – Substitute Teacher
Classified:	Ann Jurcevich – New Hire – Elementary Secretary Sheila Mato – Resignation – Nutritionist II Victoria Bergland– Substitute – Food Service, Janitorial, Secretary Lisa Perez-Vargas – Resignation – Nutritionist III Lisa Perez-Vargas – New Position – Nutritionist II
Extracurricular:	Kristi Hatch – FMS Assistant Track Coach Caleb Casto – FMS Overflow Track Coach

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

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m. with no further action.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair