

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
OCTOBER 8, 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 Vice-Chair Neil Fuchs. There was a quorum present.

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

GUESTS: Debbie Morphy, Lisa Phelan, Ben Ferney, Brian Parisotto, Matt Smith, Angie Smith, and Jennifer Jensen.

FLAG SALUTE: Matt Smith led the audience in the flag salute.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: No additions.

CONSENT AGENDA:
September 24, 2015 Board Minutes

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

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

- OSPI Letter regarding a special education citizens complaint
- Department of Ecology letter regarding the grain handling facility cleanup project

John Zingg asked about EPA's plan to work with CHS and the Railroad on the cleanup project. The results from EPA's initial investigation found that the contamination was centered around the grain handling facility, thus the continued investigation into the site. The goal of the EPA is to clean up the contamination which will in turn save the district money in reduced testing and treatment of our water supply.

REPORTS

BUILDING REPORTS:

Lisa Phelan, Elementary Principal, shared yesterday the Admin team discussed curriculum and put together a priority list outlining the highest needs in the district. Their suggestions and priorities will be taken to the curriculum committee later this month in hopes to move forward with the adoptions where needed and to add additional copies of current curriculum in other areas. The committee will be made up of principals, parents and staff members to ensure all viewpoints are represented. The proposal the principals put together will expend the full \$25,000 committed by the Board for curriculum in the 15-16 school year. Lisa then shared, the Elementary it is participating fire prevention week and the fire department was onsite with Smokey and Sparky to present to some of the students. The final para has been hired, so all pieces are now in place and the final scheduling issues surrounding supervision should be resolved. The new staff have all been great additions to the team.

Ben Ferney, Middle School Principal, shared goal meetings are complete and he has completed a few observations, with many more to come. Walkthroughs have been going great and he is

impressed by all that is going on in the classrooms. The smarter balance assessment is beginning and the teachers are working on hand scoring some of the pieces to gain a better understanding of the goal of the testing. Advisory field trips have gone great and the Great Washington ShakeOut is next week, so everyone will practice a shelter in place. On the day of the Fundrun, a moose and calf showed up, so the course had to be altered. The fifth – eighth graders who brought in more than \$75 went to the garland theater to watch the Princess Bride. In total the Fundrun brought in \$9,500, however, the goal was \$15,000. The enrollment in the Middle School is 236, as a result of an additional 7th grader and two 8th enrolling after school started.

Brian Parisotto, High School Assistant Principal, shared homecoming week was very successful and the kids did a great job participating in all events. Fall sports have been doing extremely well and a nice article was published in the valley voice on our soccer team and field. Rather than having a formal homecoming dance this year the kids voted to have a mixer after the football game Friday night to avoid conflict with the SE County Fair. As part of the Rockford Fair, the band had their first outing and the participation in band has increased under the direction of James Jydstrup. The PSAT will be administered on the 14th which is a late start day, usually the test is done on a Saturday, however, this year the date was mandated so we are making adjustments to be able to comply. Brian then shared, the baseball backstop is rotting out so options for replacement are being reviewed. At the football game tomorrow night the mini cheer camp participants will perform.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT:

Dr. Russell shared a reminder with the Board, part of their role according to board policy 2020, is to take the recommendation of curriculum committee under consideration in the approval of all new textbooks and curriculum in the district. The recommendations from the curriculum committee will be brought to the next board meeting. The full process for many curriculum recommendations takes a full year to research and review prior to it coming to the board. Some of the teachers in attendance shared that in our district they are able to participate in the curriculum review process and have more input that they might have at a larger district.

SCHOOL SAFETY, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT:

Dr. Russell reported he has been doing research on the tennis courts as directed at by the board at the last meeting. He met with Arrow Concrete and walked the tennis courts and reviewed what our options are. The most favorable option is to move the courts further south and put a parking lot between the tennis courts and the middle school. The financing options include money from capital projects, the possibility of a fundraiser, a small amount of money from the general fund and non-voted debt via LGO Bonds. The LGO bonds allow the money to be received up front, and then are paid back over three years at a low interest rate. The cost of the project could be as much as \$150,000 to get three brand new courts. A discussion ensued as to what other properties the district owns, what the status of each of the parcels is and what our options are for each of these pieces. Dr. Russell will look into the properties owned by the district further.

PARTNERING WITH PARENTS AND SCHOOL/COMMUNITY:

Dr. Russell asked the Board for any feedback on the Board Superintendent Operating Principals. The Board will submit all comments to Dr. Russell and he will make any necessary changes.

Dr. Russell asked the Board if Todd Reed could lend some of his time to the North Palouse Chamber of Commerce for help on their website and technology issues from time to time. The Board agreed that it was appropriate to continue to let Freeman staff with expertise help our community organizations.

FISCAL AND LEGAL ACCOUNTABILITY:

Dr. Russell reviewed October enrollment.

VISITOR COMMENTS/CONCERNS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1-2015/2016:

Mr. Campbell moved the Board approve Resolution 1-2015/2016 – Requesting State Officials to Promptly and Fully Comply with the Supreme Court’s Order in the McCleary Case, as presented. Mr. Zingg seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A discussion ensued surrounding the Senate Education Listening Tour and the six questions being asked for groups to respond to. With this resolution the Board is joining forces with other school districts across the state in asking the legislation to do their job and comply with McCleary.

OTHER INFORMATION:

- Future Board Meeting Schedule.

PERSONNEL: Dr. Russell recommended the following personnel action:

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| Certified: | Catherine Kelly – Substitute Teacher
Shirley Bond – Substitute Teacher |
| Classified: | Caroline Garner – Substitute Para Ed, Secretarial, Volunteer
Marc Taylor – New Hire – Special Education Para 3.5 hr\day |
| Extracurricular: | Taylor Vold – Resignation – MS Assistant Boys Basketball Coach
HS “C” Boys Basketball Coach |

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

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m. with no further action.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair