

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
October 13, 2011

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 Brent Fetsch. There was a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brent Fetsch, Neil Fuchs, Chad Goldsmith, Randy Primmer, John Zingg, Randy Russell, and Jan Davis.

GUESTS: Ellen Hawley, Annie Keebler, Jim Straw, Lisa Phelan, and Dave Smith. Arriving later were Justin Payne, Dan Gordon, Dax Logsdon, Dave Huotari, Dolly Ramminger, and Chris Comstock.

FLAG SALUTE: Annie Keebler led the audience in the flag salute.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:
Approval of Minutes

September 29, 2011

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

CORRESPONDENCE: Mr. Russell shared aerial photos of the campus taken by Stan Seehorn. He gave the Board a letter from Strata Geotechnical Engineer Chris Comstock to consider as part of tonight's construction discussion.

REPORTS

BUILDING REPORTS: High School Principal Dave Smith reported on the highly successful Homecoming Week. "The kids did a great job, and a lot more students are participating," he stated. The Kent Smith Field entrance dedication turned out extremely well. The cheerleaders will cheer at half-time in Seattle at the next University of Washington game. Mr. Smith stated staff is receiving professional boundaries training at the next late start, and students will receive bullying/harassment training. Leadership students will then work with elementary students in bullying/harassment. Mr. Smith was recently in Wenatchee reviewing one of the new teacher evaluation models considered by OSPI.

Elementary Principal Lisa Phelan reported profile meetings are underway. Teachers review class lists looking at interventions, scores, social/emotional needs, and placement for math and reading to develop data driven instruction. The recent fundraiser was very successful. Teachers are planning for conferences and field trips.

Staff members are working with ELL (English Language Learner) students new to the district utilizing Rosetta Stone.

Middle School Principal Jim Straw reported seventh and eighth grade students are going on retreats. The seventh grade went to the Whitman County ropes course and worked on team building and personal responsibility. The eighth grade students go to an Eastern Washington University ropes course, tour the campus, and work on “a willingness to push yourself as well as supporting others.” Seventh and eighth grade conferences this fall will focus on new students. Fall activities are under way, and competition is up with Cheney School District in the league.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – ENROLLMENT: Mr. Russell reported October enrollment has increased to 906.38 FTE.

ELECTRONIC BOARD PACKETS: Mr. Russell asked if the Board was open to a test pilot of electronic board packets to communicate and be as efficient as possible. The Board was interested, and three members indicated they will need devices. Mr. Russell stated he would move forward.

FOCUS ON EDUCATION MONTH: Mr. Russell stated November is Focus on Education Month for Freeman School District. Events include parent /teacher conferences, Veterans Assembly, winter activities, the new website, and information provided to parents and community members. The community will be invited into our schools, he stated.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: CSG Representative Dan Gordon reported a settlement has been reached on the elementary project that takes care of the 114 days of delay through the month of September at an additional cost of \$44,628. After discussion, Mr. Fuchs moved the Board approve the settlement as presented. Mr. Goldsmith seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

CSG Representative Dax Logsdon stated the District is at a strategic point in the parking lot project. “The geotechnical engineer and the team feel if we don’t take action now, it will not be paved before winter.” The geotechnical engineer, Strata’s Chris Comstock, has proposed incorporating a cement mixture into the soil to establish a solid base for extended years of asphalt life on the bus driveway and around the transportation cooperative. It would take three to five days to add the cement, a couple of days to cure, and then the areas could be paved. To cement the total area is estimated at \$90,000, however, it would cost one-third less without the center parking lot which experts feel is stable with rock and fabric. After extensive discussion, the Board went into executive session at 7:41 p.m. to review performance on a publicly bid project. Chair Fetsch estimated their return in ten minutes.

The Board returned to open session at 7:55 p.m. Mr. Fetsch stated the Board “is willing to agree to \$80,000 including tax and mark-up subject to three conditions: (1) the Strata geotechnical representative will be on site during this period, (2) Freeman’s construction manager Dan Gordon will be on site during this period to allow the

contractor to make immediate decisions, and (3) everything gets paved and completed.” The contractor stated “I can’t force the asphalt plant to be open, but everything I have control over will be done.” The Strata representative stated the cement mixture into clay with moisture is strong enough that if unable to pave, rock could be added over which the buses could travel without damaging the surface. Mr. Goldsmith moved the Board approve the \$80,000 subject to those conditions. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

ALSC Architect Dave Huotari stated he will be on the high school roof tomorrow along with the contractor and subcontractors checking the roof leaks which will be fixed.

VISITORS’ COMMENTS AND CONCERNS: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPROVE SECOND READING OF BOARD POLICY #3207 – PROHIBITION OF HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING: Mr. Fetsch read the first and last sentences of Policy 3207. Mr. Goldsmith moved the Board adopt the policy for final reading. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OTHER INFORMATION: Mr. Zingg reported he has joined the PTSA. The Lower Elwha Tribe has offered an educational program on the biology of dam removal, he stated.

PERSONNEL: Mr. Russell recommended the following personnel action:

Certified: Substitute Teacher: Joan Bates

Classified: Hire: Barb Lang, Bus Driver

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

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. with no further action.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair