

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
OCTOBER 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: Annie Keebler, Neil Fuchs, John Zingg, Ed Cashmere, Travis Campbell, Randy Russell and Jamie Weingart.

GUESTS: Debbie Morphy, Lisa Phelan, Jody Sweeney, Marci McGill, Todd Reed, Kirk Lally, Paula Lally, Char Trejbal, Marci Dunavan, Sharron Aune-Ruland, Brad Ruland, and Jim McNeill.

FLAG SALUTE: Jody Sweeney led the audience in the flag salute.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: No additions.

CONSENT AGENDA:

October 8, 2015 Board Minutes

General Fund AP – #108728 - #108850	\$ 219,018.40
-------------------------------------	---------------

General Fund AP – Direct Deposits	\$ 6,624.20
-----------------------------------	-------------

ASB Fund AP – #108851 - #108871	\$ 22,270.39
---------------------------------	--------------

Benefit Trust Fund AP – #108872 - #108873	\$ 17,467.64
---	--------------

October Payroll - #108874 - #108893	\$ 632,165.28
-------------------------------------	---------------

Treasurer's Statement/Budget Status

Mr. Fuchs 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:

- Thank you note from the SE Spokane County Fair
- Picture of the FHS Cheerleaders supporting the participants of the Spokane Marathon
- Copy of the Thank You Note from the Freeman Foundation Fundraiser
- The Latest Copy of The Board and Administrator
- Newspaper article about our soccer team
- A copy of The Current News Paper
- Follow up letter from OSPI concerning a citizens complaint
- A packet of information about the parcels of land owned by the district in addition to the campus. These parcels include the Valleyford Park, a parcel in Rockford where the old bus garage was located, a strip of the old railroad grade, and part of the land the Fire District 8 sits on.

REPORTS

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Jody Sweeney, Special Education Director, thanked Annie Keebler for participating in the walk through process this year. Thus far special education walk throughs have been done at the middle school and the high school, both in the learning center as well as the classrooms to show the different instructional pieces that go into special education. Jody shared special education has

changed over the years and she finds that more time is spent on the adults and educating parents on accepting rather than students accepting each other. Jody wants to share the “faces of special education” so that the board can get to know special ed on a more personal level. She shared a story of a high school student who is 16, with the cognitive abilities of a preschool age child. At age 16 a transition plan must be in place for each special education student for what they will do after high school. The district must also help pursue help from all outside agencies for these students. Special education students are allowed to stay in public school up to age 21, however, often times a separate program is used after age 18 as part of the student’s transition plan. OSPI also requires that each student be tracked for at least two years after graduation to see how the transition plan worked for that student. Jody invited any of the board members who would like, to participate in a walk through so that they can see firsthand the individualized plans for each of these students.

Char Trejbal, Transportation Director, shared the year has been off to a good start. She has been able to hire two new sub drivers and both have been great additions and are enjoying their time driving. In November Char and Everett will begin pricing out a new bus and possibly two to purchase for next school year. Bus evacuations have been completed and a coloring contest and a poster contest are underway on the buses. Ridership reporting will be turned in soon and numbers appear to be about what they were last fall and usually increase in the spring.

Kirk Lally, Facilities Director, shared there have been some sewer issues at the Valleyford Park and it was determined there was a section of line that needs to be replaced. On the grounds his crew is preparing for fall/winter, fertilizing is done, sprinklers are blown out and plows are getting setup for winter. An additional 4-wheeler was purchased and Kirk is splitting the cost with baseball and softball so they can use it for their fields in the spring and he can use it to plow in the winter.

Todd Reed, Technology Director, shared google classroom. This is a product google released a few years ago and is now being used by Kathryn O’Connor at the high school. This product allows students to interact with each other online and let assignments be submitted electronically and let the teacher grade electronically. Todd demonstrated some of the capabilities and shared we have additional teachers who are starting to dabble with the use of this product which will help prepare our kids for what they will experience in college. Todd then shared he, Everett and Kirk were able to update all information in rapid responder, which is the first responder software the district uses. This was a large project and a nice one to have off of the list.

Marci McGill, Nutrition Services Director, shared the three year audit is coming up which will include a review of nutrient analysis, allergies, professional standards and how funding is spent. The review will start on November 9th and is expected to last three days. Marci thanked Annie and Randy for coming to lunch and invited all the Board members to come for lunch anytime.

Dr. Russell reported on behalf of Everett Combs. The First safety committee meeting of the year is complete and a big part of it was debriefing the lockdown. As part of the lockdown we learned the response time is not always as quick as we thought it would be and we have to be prepared to be patient. Another topic that was discussed is the issue of cell phones in our student’s hands during a lockdown and the communication they have with family and friends outside the school. During a crisis our first priority is the safety of the students and staff and not to respond to phone calls from parents and community members. Today Jim Straw and Ron Nye spoke with all the high school kids about proper communication during a lock down. It is important to continually talk about safety and keep it on the forefront.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT:

Dr. Russell thanked Tom and the Hangman Golf Course for hosting us tonight. It is the goal of the board to get out into the community multiple times throughout the year.

Dr. Russell shared later tonight we will be asking for approval of new curriculum purchases and Elementary Principal, Lisa Phelan is here in case there are questions.

SCHOOL SAFETY, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT:

Dr. Russell gave a facilities update on the options for the tennis courts. He shared a map of the lower end of campus and reported the property line on the south end is actually further south than we originally thought. This is beneficial as it gives us additional options when we review what we would like to do with the tennis courts. The second benefit Dr. Russell shared, is we can asphalt within ten feet around the well house, which is much closer than we were originally told at 100ft. The major goals to keep in mind are to gain additional parking, three tennis courts, improve access to the lower fields and keep cars from parking on Jackson Rd for all sporting events. Travis Campbell brought up the need to gain handicap access to the lower field that needs to be addressed during the reconfiguration of the lower end of campus.

Dr. Russell shared the second portion of the facilities conversation is what our financing options are since we do not currently have the funds needed to take on this project in full. Dr. Russell introduced Jim McNeill who is here tonight to talk about some of our options. Mr. McNeill shared one of the options available is a LGO bond, which would mean issuing non voted debt, so that we would get the money upfront and repay at a low interest rate over three years. Another option is to run a capital projects levy which could be used for both facilities as well as technology.

PARTNERING WITH PARENTS AND SCHOOL/COMMUNITY:

Dr. Russell shared the updated Board Superintendent Operating Principals and asked for any additional feedback. They will be brought to the November meeting for approval.

FISCAL AND LEGAL ACCOUNTABILITY:

Dr. Russell reviewed the ending cash balances.

VISITOR COMMENTS/CONCERNS: John Zingg shared he and Randy attended the Senate Listening tour in Spokane visit and he is concerned that we are not hearing back from this group about what they heard across the state. John shared his concern at his latest legislative committee meeting and plans to continue to share this concern.

NEW BUSINESSAPPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2-2015/2016:

Mr. Fuchs moved the Board approve Resolution 2-2015/2016 – Transfer from General Fund to Debt Service Fund, as presented. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 3-2015/2016:

Mr. Fuchs moved the Board approve Resolution 3-2015/2016 – Section 125 Plan, as presented. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

Dr. Russell shared the recommendation of the instructional materials committee to approve the adoption of elementary grades 2 and 5 social studies curriculum and algebra II curriculum at the high school.

Mr. Campbell motioned to approve the purchase grades 2 and 5 social studies curriculum and algebra II curriculum. Mr. Cashmere seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OTHER INFORMATION:

- Future Board Meeting Schedule.

PERSONNEL: Dr. Russell recommended the following personnel action:

Extracurricular: Doug Pace – HS “C” Boys Basketball Coach
Peggy Wells – MS Assistant Volleyball Coach

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board went into executive session at 7:40 p.m. for the purpose set forth in RCW 42.30.110, specifically the following: to consider the selection of a site for the acquisition of real estate by purchase. Such session estimated to be approximately 30 minutes in length. Mrs. Keebler stated there is no action anticipated after the session.

The Board returned to open session at 8:50 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m. with no further action.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair