

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
January 8, 2009

COMMUNITY FORUM: The Board held a community forum at 5:00 p.m. to review the design development phase of the construction project. ALSC Architect representatives Dave Huotari, Kris Jeske, and Troy Bishop reviewed the proposed design for Freeman High School. They reported the project is on schedule and within budget.

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 Chad Goldsmith. There was a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brent Fetsch, Chad Goldsmith, Randy Primmer, Vicki Sellers, Diane Woodman, Sergio Hernandez, and Jan Davis.

GUESTS: Dick McBournie, Linda Warnstadt, Kari Malone, Michael Malone, Rich McBournie, Teresa McBournie, Zach McBournie, Levi McBournie, Ellen Hawley, Dave Smith, Dan Gordon, Dax Logsdon, Dave Huotari, Kris Jeske, Olivia Casto, Kathy Dresback, Julie Huotari, John Zingg, Shirley Carlson, Kate Coomes, Sheri Goldsmith, Dwayne Gady, Everett Combs, Jim Straw, Matt Landoe and Lisa Phelan.

FLAG SALUTE: Olivia Casto led the audience in the flag salute.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes	December 19, 2008
General Fund Vouchers #1383-1490	\$ 75,170.36
General Fund Voucher #1491	\$ 16,314.13
General Fund Voucher #1492	\$ 1,000.00
December Payroll	\$593,800.80
ASB Fund Voucher #4042	\$ 150.00
ASB Fund Vouchers #4043-4047	\$ 820.00
ASB Fund Vouchers #4048-4070	\$ 14,361.44
CPF Vouchers #736-740	\$221,630.20

Mrs. Woodman moved the Board approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Primmer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

HONOR RETIREE: The Board recognized Dick McBournie who is retiring after 18 years as a bus driver. Mr. Goldsmith stated, "His kind manner, fairness, enthusiasm, skill and dedication has made Dick a real asset to the Freeman Transportation Department and the District."

ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES: Chair Goldsmith called for nominations for chair. Mrs. Woodman nominated Mr. Primmer. Mr. Fetsch seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Mr. Primmer assumed the role of chair.

Chair Primmer called for nominations for vice-chair. Mr. Goldsmith nominated Mrs. Woodman. Mrs. Sellers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Chair Primmer called for nominations for legislative representative. Mr. Fetsch asked if there was a conflict with Board policy which states the legislative representative is elected in June for a two-year term. Mr. Hernandez stated the policy could be amended to reflect actual practice. After discussion, Mr. Fetsch moved to elect a new legislative representative for the position vacated by Mr. Primmer and review Board policy. Mrs. Sellers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Mr. Goldsmith nominated Mrs. Sellers as legislative representative. Mr. Fetsch seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Mr. Hernandez added a potential transportation grant.

REPORTS

VISITORS' COMMENTS/CONCERNS: John Zingg stated he has enjoyed watching what this school board can accomplish and thanked Chad Goldsmith for his excellent work as chair. "It has been a pleasure to witness, and I've enjoyed being part of it," he said. Mrs. Woodman thanked Mr. Goldsmith for serving as chair. "It was a difficult journey handled with grace, integrity, a sense of humor and a calm demeanor."

BUILDING REPORTS: Elementary Principal Lisa Phelan reported the maintenance department has done a great job of clearing snow from the playground. The elementary gym floor has sustained water damage. A report on the new reading adoption will be made at an upcoming meeting.

Middle School Principal Jim Straw reported missed activities will be postponed to maximize class time. Five Future City teams are preparing to compete in Seattle on January 23, however, the trip will be cancelled if poor road and pass conditions continue.

High School Principal Dave Smith reported the focus is on preparing for finals week. Staff is planning for life in portable classrooms next year, which will have a huge effect on programs with labs. Students voted to hold graduation at the old University High School on June 6th due to construction. Mr. Smith reported football coach Jim Wood was awarded coach of the year. "We received many compliments on our capable, professional football coaching staff," he said. Music programs originally scheduled for December will be revised and held at some point in the spring.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: Dax Logsdon reported the district is on target to bid in mid-April, which looks to be a good bid environment as costs decline. He thanked ALSC Architects for their push to complete drawings and remain on schedule. Proposals for portable leases will be ready soon, and site work will begin over the next four to six weeks. “This is a great building coming together,” he stated, “and we are excited to build it.”

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Mr. Hernandez reported the Department of Ecology notified us at the last minute of the availability of a grant. If we can purchase a school bus by June 30 to replace a 1988 bus, the Department of Ecology will pay \$20,000 toward the purchase. The bus costs \$105,000, and there is only \$30,000 in transportation vehicle fund, which requires borrowing \$75,000 from June 30 to September 30, when state depreciation monies are received. There are two options for borrowing: either an internal interfund loan or securing a short-term loan from a bank. Because it takes so long to build a bus, a decision needs to be made quickly in order to meet the June 30 deadline. After discussion, Mr. Fetsch moved the Board authorize the superintendent to pursue the \$20,000 bus purchase grant from the Dept. of Ecology and report at the next meeting regarding financing. Mr. Goldsmith seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

APPROVE DESIGN DOCUMENTS: Mr. Primmer thanked ALSC Architects for the great presentation to patrons tonight. “This is going to be a very nice project when complete,” he stated. After discussion, Mrs. Woodman moved the Board approve design documents as presented. Mr. Fetsch seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

ENROLLMENT: Mr. Hernandez reported December enrollment was 871.39 with an annual average of 906.71. January enrollment has not been completed awaiting Running Start numbers. That data will be provided to the Board when available.

LEVY BROCHURE: Mr. Hernandez reported Kate Coomes and Melanie Rose have done an excellent job developing the levy brochure which will be mailed tomorrow. Lisa Paternoster has agreed to assume the advocacy role. Ballots will be mailed January 14. Mr. Zingg thanked the superintendent and Kate Coomes. “We are blessed to have talent like that in our district,” he said.

BUDGET: Mr. Hernandez reported the administrative team has met twice to list areas that might be tightened in view of the state’s budget crisis. Superintendents and professional organizations are calling for the elimination of cost-of-living adjustments first to keep people working and avoid eliminating positions.

WINTER WEATHER CHALLENGES: Mr. Hernandez reported there have been four snow days so far due to extreme snow, and the plan for making them up or securing a waiver is not known at this point. Structural engineers were brought in to review snow loads on roofs which were at the maximum of 30 pounds per square foot. School was then closed again so volunteers could remove snow from the high school and elementary school. An insurance claim has been filed for the flooded elementary gym

floor and for hiring equipment to remove ice dams from the roofs and snow from around buildings. The Board thanked the volunteers for their efforts.

NEW BUSINESS

OTHER INFORMATION: Mr. Fetsch stated he will share education articles from US News & World Report and Time Magazine with Board members.

PERSONNEL: Mr. Hernandez recommended the following personnel action:

Classified: Substitute Para Educator/Clerical – Sheila Juliano

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

NEXT MEETING: Mr. Hernandez reminded the Board the January 15th meeting was replaced by this meeting. The next meeting is January 29.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board went into executive session at 8:15 p.m. for the purpose set forth in RCW 42.30.100, specifically the following: to discuss a personnel matter, such session estimated to be approximately 20 minutes in length. No action is anticipated after executive session.

ADJOURNMENT: The Board returned to open session at 8:46 p.m. and adjourned with no further action taken.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair