

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
JUNE 9, 2016

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, Travis Campbell, Ed Cashmere, Randy Russell and Jamie Weingart.

GUESTS: Debbie Morphy, Ben Ferney, Brian Parisotto, Lisa Phelan, Jim Straw, Ken Spiering, Kenny Davis, Nancy Davis and Linda Mega.

FLAG SALUTE: Linda Mega led the audience in the flag salute.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: No additions.

CONSENT AGENDA:

May 25, 2016 Board Minutes

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

BOARD REGONGINATION:

Board Chair Annie Keebler recognized Kenny Davis, who is retiring this year after 31 years at Freeman. This incredible retiree has 36 years of teaching experience. Kenny Davis has taught Freeman High School Social Studies and History for 31 years. In addition to teaching, during his time in Freeman Kenny coached golf and volleyball for multiple years and even served as the district technology/computer technician. Kenny's principals have commented:

"The responsiveness and positive attitude of his class reflects the concern and respect Ken Davis has for his students", "Ken Davis always takes his turn willingly, regardless of the duty. These duties are always performed promptly and efficiently", "Ken Davis is always willing to go the extra mile, and help out. I appreciate his willingness to be a team player", "Kenny continues to look for ways to keep the students interest in history and this shows by the number of students wanting to take his classes" and "I appreciate all Kenny does for our students".

Dr. Russell presented Mr. Davis with a token of the District's appreciation for his years of services and congratulated him on his retirement.

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

- The latest edition of the Current, with an article about Freeman High School's graduations, this Saturday at 1pm
- Announcement of the WSSDA conference in Spokane this fall

REPORTS

BUILDING REPORTS:

Lisa Phelan, Elementary Principal, shared a summary of her end of year report. This year the Elementary was able to adopt social studies curriculum, surface pro laptops were purchased through a generous donation, SBAC scores and having the teachers really learn the tests were goals for the year, which resulted in this year's SBAC scores being higher than the state averages. Next year we will be implementing full day kindergarten so the preschool and kindergarten teachers will be attending training this summer and AIMS web will be moving to an online application with 3 screenings per year. Mrs. Phelan shared this year the number of office referrals continued to decrease through the use of PBIS and through PACE the Elementary was able to recognize 360 students at quarterly assemblies. The elementary continues to partner with PTSG and the community for multiple events, including the Hoe Down, Box tops, Art & Soul and the instructional materials committee. Mrs. Phelan then shared the elementary projected enrollment for next year is 328 students K-5 and 349 students P-5.

Ben Ferney, Middle School Principal, shared his reflection back on the year. During the 15-16 school year the ELA adoption was completed and STAR was purchased to be implemented in fall of next year. Mr. Ferney discussed the evaluation process as it looks throughout the year, it is more than the pre meeting and the final evaluation. During the year walk thru's are done on a regular basis, notes are taken, data is gathered and goals continue to grow. The staff is doing a great job in this process. Mr. Ferney shared the sixth grade schedule and rotations were implemented successfully, including Scottie Break for the sixth graders. In addition, athletics were very successful this year. PBIS continues to be beneficial, the consistency in study table helped keep students on track; the advisory field trips brought students together; dance and activities have gone very well and a chess club was added this year. Mr. Ferney reported the Middle School continues to partner with parents and the community through conference week, career day, band and choir concerts and special guest speakers, Ron Kahle – Rock Talk and Jerry Ackerman about social media. Mr. Ferney concluded with the Middle School's projected enrollment for the fall is 197 students.

Jim Straw, High School Principal, thanked the Admin team, especially Brian for helping him these past few months. Mr. Straw then shared the highlights for the year included hiring Mr. Bruno (History) and Ms. Honn (Choir) as continuing teachers and Doug Pace as a para at the high school, each of these staff additions have been great. Summer trainings will take place this summer in Agriculture and AP US History to ensure we can continue growing these programs. Our School Achievement Index was a 9.17 this year, which is higher than the year we were identified as the number one high school in the state: however, we were not recognized for state awards due to the number of students who opted out of the state tests. Mr. Straw shared the results of the Smarter Balance testing and how we compare to the state. In other highlights Mr. Straw mentioned the monthly safety drills, spirit weeks, dances, the Jerry Ackerman Assembly on social media, the leadership class and pep assemblies. When it comes to partnering with the community, the High School has the Veterans assembly, blood drives, and Burgers with a Heart. The Freeman team won the state trap shooting championship and we will have the addition of the Key Club for the 16-17 school year. The projected enrollment for next year is 322 students prior to running start numbers being pulled out.

Brian Parisotto, Assistant High School Principal/Athletic Director, shared we came in third place in the Scholastic Cup, which compares all schools across the state. This includes scores of how individual sports finished during the year as well as the scholastic achievements of the teams and activities. This recognition speaks very highly of the hard work our students put in, both on

the court and in the classroom. A new girls' basketball coach was hired and the girls JV coach is on the agenda for approval tonight. Brian thanked the board for approving the refinishing of the tennis courts, which only leaves baseball backstop to be fixed. Graduation is this Saturday and the High School is ready.

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT:

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT:

Dr. Russell shared a clarification on the new health and PE education standards - HIV, CPR and the defibrillator are required trainings. The other items are recommended by the state, but are up to local control.

Dr. Russell shared the professional development we have been able to do this year has been great, from Right Response training, to special education training and the late start professional development sessions throughout the year. The focus will continue to be on criterion 2 and beginning to look at student growth more closely for the 2016-2017 school year.

SCHOOL SAFETY, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT:

Dr. Russell reminded the board of our process of the safety drills we run and the relationships we have formed with the county and the sheriff. Dr. Russell then shared the issue of social media continues to be a problem for our district as it does for all districts and we will continue to monitor situations that come to us, even though they usually take place outside of the district.

PARTNERING WITH PARENTS AND SCHOOL/COMMUNITY:

Dr. Russell posed the question to the Board to think about, how do we continue to work to communicate with the community and how do we engage parents and community members, when 60% of our community do not have kids at the school?

FISCAL AND LEGAL ACCOUNTABILITY:

Dr. Russell shared this year we were able refinance the remainder of our bonds, saving tax payers over \$1 million in total, our estimated ending fund balance is at 4.95% and with our conservative budget estimates we were able to take care of some new curriculum as well as weather some rainy day items throughout the school year.

Mr. Zingg suggested we send a thank you letter to the sheriff's department, thanking Deputy Nye for all of his work. Dr. Russell will work on getting this put together for signature by the board.

Dr. Russell reviewed June enrollment.

VISITOR COMMENTS/CONCERNS: Linda Mega shared one of the teacher's goals is to get to know the board better, which is part of why they have had teacher representation at each of the meetings. If there are other ways that the teachers can get to know the board, they would welcome it. Ken Spiering shared it is great to see the board in action and appreciates their efforts. He then shared he is seeing the effects of the number of students participating in running start and worries about the effect running start will have on the programs we are able to offer. He is thankful to see the community involvement in the Art and Soul. He would also like to ask the Board for approval of a \$5 increase in art fee's for next year to help cover the increasing costs of arts supplies.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF 2016/2017 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE:

Mr. Fuchs moved the Board approve the 2016/2017 Board Meeting Schedule, as presented. Mr. Cashmere seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF SURPLUS ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS BOOKS:

Mr. Campbell moved the Board approve the surplus of English Language Arts books, as presented. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OTHER INFORMATION:

- Future Board Meeting Schedule

PERSONNEL:

Certified: Kim Hamilton – Substitute Teacher

Extracurricular: Tracy Phelps – HS JV Girls Basketball Coach
Bram Schweiger – Resignation – MS Assistant Football Coach

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

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m. with no further action.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair