

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
AUGUST 25, 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: Kirk Lally, Jody Sweeney, Marci McGill, Lisa Phelan, Ben Ferney, Harry Amend, Patrick Cabbage, Bill Fees, Tom Richardson, Steve Demus, Beau Davey, Jesica Robb and Erika Bronson.

FLAG SALUTE: Marci McGill led the audience in the flag salute.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Updated Personnel Report.

CONSENT AGENDA:

July 26, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes	
General Fund AP – 110283 - 110352	\$ 282,573.74
General Fund AP – Direct Deposits	\$ 7,883.82
ASB Fund AP – 110353 - 110358	\$ 5,527.32
Transportation Vehicle Fund AP – 110359 – 110360	\$ 195,307.83
Benefit Trust Fund AP – 10361 -110362	\$ 23,074.89
August Payroll – 110254 - 110282	\$ 590,050.08
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.

BOARD RECOGNITION: Dr. Russell shared we are fortunate to have members from the Department of Ecology here to share an update on the clean-up of the superfund site around the grain elevators. He introduced Patrick Cabbage, Erika Bronson and Bill Fess from the Department of Ecology. Mr. Cabbage reported Union Pacific and Cenex were ordered to do research on where the water contamination was coming from and how to go about cleaning up the issue. He shared 5 parts per billion is the maximum contaminate level allowable to be considered safe, and in 2012 the schools water tested above the maximum level, so the district installed a water treatment system at their own cost. Since then, the treated water has tested non-detect of any contaminates. In the recent months, Union Pacific and Cenex put together an acceptable remedial investigation plan to start testing water at the grain elevators and work outwards until they no longer detected carbon tetrachloride in the water sources. As part of this plan, multiple test wells were put in and the well closest to the grain handling facilities tested at over 500 parts per billion. As a result of these tests, the testing of local residential wells was expedited. Some of the local wells tested above acceptable levels and the residents have been provided alternative water sources until a permanent solution can be determined. Vapor intrusion assessment is the next step, and the testing began this week to ensure the air quality at the school has not been impacted. These air quality tests include multiple rounds of testing over the next few days including three 24 hour tests

in each location. After the testing is complete the results will be turned around within 3 days, so we will have results prior to school starting. If there are any issues with air quality, it will be up to Union Pacific and Cenex to mitigate the issue. As part of the ongoing remedial investigation and feasibility plan, solutions will be proposed based upon the findings as a final remediation to ensure the contamination is contained and cleaned up.

Mr. Cashmere asked if there are any other potential risks to the district, students and/or staff other than the water which is being treated, and the vapor intrusion which is being tested. Patrick shared the only risks are exposure and the two ways to be exposed is via water or vapors. The water is treated and thus not an issue at the school. No soil above 18 feet has been found to be contaminated, so the risk of soil contamination to students is extremely low. Patrick then shared the highest contamination level found has been on the grain handling facility at 500 parts per billion and through test wells the department has been able to paint a bigger picture of how the ground water moves.

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

- OSPI Letter regarding the special education audit
- Article including an interview of our own JJ Anderson, Elementary Custodian, about the recent fires
- Dr. Russell shared we are working with the community to help all the people affected by the fires and partnering with local groups to help coordinate assistance and ensure our students are able to start school with as much normalcy as possible
- Post season passes for each of the board members

REPORTS

BUILDING REPORTS:

Lisa Phelan, Elementary Principal, shared there is a lot happening as we prepare for school. Lisa recognized how special this community is and the people that have come together in the past few days to support the families affected by the fire. Lisa shared, some staffing changes are taking place at the elementary: Ann Romey will be teaching a 5-6 combo, Desiree Hendrickson will remain in 5th Grade and Stacey Coyner will be a substitute start as a 4th grade teacher. Aims Web testing will be online this year, rather than a paper and pencil test. Lisa has been working on her schedule to ensure each grade has common prep times throughout the week to allow for collaboration time. The scheduling is a work in progress and some creativity was used to get the additional section added while ensuring that Ann will get common prep time with both 5th and 6th grades. This year the professional development focus grades K-2 will be WA Kids and grades 3-5 will be Next Gen Science Standards with Mike Allen. The building looks great and they are ready for staff, she thanked the custodial staff for all of their work over the summer. Monday is the ice cream social as well as Kindergarten Orientation. The Scottie Dash fundraiser will kick off the school year and this year the PBIS award will be a t-shirt as a more meaningful award. Enrollment is up, and the elementary is growing.

Ben Ferney, Middle School Principal, thanked Marci for dinner. He shared there are a lot of exciting things happening as we start the year. Athletics will start the first day of school in the middle school and thanks to Raelyn, all of the sports paperwork is online for 7th and 8th grades which helps the process. Todd was able to update all of the computers in the middle school and also have 3 sets of computer carts on wheels for the teachers to use as needed. New curriculum for ELA is in place and the implementation of STAR will take place this year, which is the computer adaptive testing used for benchmarking. The custodial staff did a great job getting the building

ready for the school year. The Scottie Dash will be September 27th and the entire event is being re-branded from the Fund Run to the Scottie Dash. For next year the 5\6 combo will be in the elementary school: however, with creative scheduling the 6th grade students will still get interaction with their peers through lunch, math and Scottie break. The goal with the combo was to get the 6th graders in the combo class to get as much of the rotation experience as possible.

Harry Amend, Acting High School Principal, shared he has been able to meet with all but four of the high school staff members so far and he will meet with the remaining staff soon to ensure he knows all the staff starting the year. The freshman class is big and creating scheduling issues, however, they are working out the details. The \$20 activities physicals offered on 8/15 had a great turn out and was a great service to offer to our families. Parent night was well attended and the communication started off well. Harry shared Brian Parisotto did a great job laying out expectations and lining out channels of communication. The booster club has new leadership this year and it looks strong. Brian is at the AD meeting with coaches tonight, but he wanted to share sports numbers for fall sports. Football has 50+, volleyball is at 28, soccer at 16, cross country is 20 and cheerleading has 14. Over the past week, air quality was monitored closely and only became an issue one day, and practice was moved indoors at that point. New cards were handed out at parent night, with information about sportsmanship and how to help your athletes, one of these cards was given to each board member as well.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Jody Sweeney, Special Education Director, shared she misses Jim, but is excited to have Harry on board and to learn from him. Jody reported she is very excited to have Courtney Setter join the preschool team, and we have hired two new para-professionals and still need to hire 3 additional paras. The special education team has been discussing and learning about both Aims Web and STAR as they will be using both tools for assessments. Approximately 25 staff in the district have received Right Response training this year, and we will offer additional training to ensure all staff that need to be are recertified. Deb Skalabrin provided training for the special education staff yesterday on autism and we had multiple other districts join in this training. We will be having an OSPI desk review this year. Our last review was in 2004, therefore, this will be a great learning experience and ensure that we are doing things correctly. This process will start on Monday and should wrap up in mid-February, 2017. The entire special education team will be attending the measurable goals training tomorrow. Jody shared the case managers have made contact with each of their families throughout this fire to ensure the families are okay and see if anything is needed to ensure the students are prepared to start school.

Marci McGill, Nutrition Services Director, shared she is excited to start the year. She thanked the principals for the work they have done on scheduling and she has enjoyed the collaboration throughout the process. Scottie Break at the high school is very exciting and we should have good participation. One of Marci's focuses this year will be on Kindergarten to ensure that families know school lunch is an option and how the program works. She will have Kindergarten day where each student can bring a special guest to lunch, and eat for free so that the student and the parents are comfortable with the process. On orientation night, Marci will have a booth setup for parents to get information and bring additional awareness to her program.

Kirk Lally, Facilities Director, shared they are in the busy time of year getting everything ready for school. The high school will be starting the year off without Joe Bowen, as his wife just had a baby and he will be taking a couple of weeks off. The tennis courts are wrapping up and the landscaping around them was done by Kirk and Adam.

SUPERINTEDENTS REPORT:CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT:

Dr. Russell shared the staff is excited to be back. He reminded the Board our welcome back breakfast is Monday and all are invited. Dr. Russell then shared a copy of the strategic plan with each board member and shared he is very proud of the principals and directors who are now doing their reports in line with our plan, without being prompted.

Dr. Russell shared he is very proud of the effort Ben, Lisa and Jody have put in to move towards online assessments and improved benchmarking software that allows teachers to get much faster feedback.

SCHOOL SAFETY, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT:

Dr. Russell shared, as always, we are very concerned about the safety of the students, and in the past week, we had many discussions about the safety of the school as well with the fires in the area. It is amazing how our community comes together and are supportive of the school and each other. We will continue to monitor air quality as we start the year with the smoke in the air from the remains of the fire.

PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITY:

Dr. Russell asked the Board to share their thoughts on how the school was able to partner with the community throughout the stress of the fires.

John Zingg, shared he was impressed with how well our families who suffered loss have handled it. We also need to be aware that many kids may have some lingering effects from losing their home, or seeing others homes burn.

Neil Fuchs, shared he met many people throughout the last week and found everyone was willing to help, and do whatever was necessary.

Annie Keebler, shared she has been contacted by churches who want to donate. The support is coming from all directions.

Travis Campbell shared he is very blessed to be a part of this community and is thankful to be a part of this family where everyone supports each other. The fire really brought the community together.

Ed Cashmere shared he agreed with the others, he was impressed by the extraordinary efforts by so many to help each other. Our community is so self-reliant, full of hard workers and everyone takes action upon themselves. It makes him realize that seeing those traits in our parents explains why we have such great students in our district.

Dr. Russell thanked the board for sharing and shared this was an emotional week. It is always important to put relationships first and we need to remember to not take things for granted and always rally around each other in hard times. It is nice to know that we are in a community that pulls together in hard times. As a result of these fires, we will have a table top exercise this year around fire preparedness and debrief this situation and things we need to think about.

Leslie Malloy – Leave of Absence – Para Ed

Extracurricular: Scott Carolan – FMS 7th Grade Softball Coach
Jeff Darcy – New Hire – MS Asst. Football Coach
Marci McGill – FHS Asst. Cheer Advisor

Mr. Fuchs moved the Board approval the personnel action as presented. Mr. Zingg seconded the motion, a discussion ensued about what an assessment coordinator does, and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m. with no further action.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair