

BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
January 28, 2010

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 Diane Woodman. There was a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brent Fetsch, Randy Primmer, Diane Woodman, John Zingg, Sergio Hernandez, and Jan Davis. Excused absence: Chad Goldsmith.

GUESTS: Ellen Hawley, Dan Gordon, Kirk Lally, Char Trejbal, Raeann Ducar, Dave Smith, Everett Combs, Andy Coumont, Todd Reed, Jim Straw, John Hays, Lisa Phelan, Josh Grandinetti, Casey Strothman, Katie Bauer, Tyler Hjaltalin, Chase Watson, and Darl Vander Linden.

FLAG SALUTE: Charlotte Trejbal led the audience in the flag salute.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes	January 14, 2010
General Fund Vouchers #2706-2791	\$ 112,059.18
January Payroll	\$ 555,262.68
ASB Vouchers #4277-4295	\$ 15,033.59
CPF Vouchers #869-874	\$1,123,248.51
Treasurer's Statement	

Mr. Fetsch pointed out the \$1400 paid for football helmet reconditioning and the priority of student safety. He also questioned the payment of \$5528 to the Washington School Directors Association. Mr. Hernandez stated district membership dues are required by law. Mr. Primmer moved the Board approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Fetsch seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Mr. Hernandez stated students created posters as a token of appreciation of what school board members do for the district. Board members were presented with certificates of appreciation.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Bus purchase.

REPORTS

WRITTEN BUILDING REPORTS: Board members were given written building reports.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Transportation Supervisor Charlotte Trejbal requested approval to purchase a 2009 International bus for \$123,000. The \$10,000 balance in

transportation vehicle fund plus approximately \$170,000 in depreciation will more than cover the purchase price. The goal is to replace one bus per year, keeping all buses on the depreciation schedule. After discussion Mr. Fetsch moved the Board approve the bus purchase as presented. Mr. Zingg seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Facilities Manager Kirk Lally reported staff has been enjoying the easy winter weather, as opposed to last year. A problem with the freezer was detected, which has been repaired. A freezer alarm is now connected to Sonitrol.

Assistant Transportation Supervisor and Safety Coordinator Everett Combs reported the safety and health self-inspection was completed over Christmas break. Staff is keeping up with required drills, safety meetings, lockdowns, and mapping. He is waiting for the surprise State Patrol bus inspection.

Nutrition Services Supervisor Raeann Ducar reported the elementary kitchen design is coming together. "We learned a lot from the high school design," she stated. The biggest challenge is to design a serving area for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Taste Washington Day is in September, and both Mrs. Ducar and staff member Patricia Klumb are involved in planning for the Washington Nutrition Association.

Technology Director Todd Reed reported a new typing learning-on-line application has been deployed, which students can even access at home. The district website has been re-designed and is nearly ready to release.

STUDENT GUESTS – AP BIOLOGY TRIP: AP Biology teacher John Hays reported the AP Biology class began in 1991 and the field trip started in 1993. The cost is approximately \$2000. Students study several bio-zones during a three-day field trip to the Olympic Peninsula. Students Josh Grandinetti, Casey Strothman, Katie Bauer, Tyler Hjaltalin and Chase Watson spoke about their class and the upcoming trip. Mr. Fetsch moved the Board approve the trip on the condition the students return with a presentation. Mr. Primmer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

BUDGET UPDATE: Director of Fiscal Services Jan Davis reported bond interest earnings to date are \$455,437, even at the current low rate of 1.49%. OSPI adjusts budgeted numbers to actual in January, so next month's reports will be monitored closely.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: CSG Representative Dan Gordon reported work on the classroom wing is progressing, exterior wall framing is being placed, and the roof decking is 98 percent complete on the new gym. The Board inquired about the schedule which is still anticipated to be complete by August 19. Mr. Primmer reminded the Board the start of school was delayed to September 7 which leaves 2-1/2 weeks of extra time if needed.

RACE TO THE TOP: Mr. Hernandez reported on the state's application for federal Race to the Top funds. The money comes with requirements, including a new

evaluation system for principals and teachers. There is a “school turnaround” component for low performing schools which could require replacement of the principal and 50 percent of the staff.

LEA/LEVY LID: Mr. Hernandez reported the current levy lid is 24%. In view of state funding shortfalls, legislation is being proposed to increase the lid to 28% or even as high as 36%. Freeman’s 2010 levy is \$1,358,757, or approximately \$150,000 under the 24% lid. The current cost of the levy is \$2.59 per thousand dollars assessed valuation. The bond cost is \$2.35/1000 for a total tax of \$4.94/1000 in 2010. An additional 29 cents per thousand would be required to reach the 24% maximum.

The state currently funds levy equalization dollars for those property-poor districts to help level the playing field. Freeman receives \$398,809 in 2010 in levy equalization dollars.

BID ALTERNATES: Mr. Hernandez reported the construction committee was looking at two bid alternates in the elementary project: the south staff parking lot/tennis courts and the alternative outdoor teaching/play area. He recommended delaying payment of the design fees (\$31,000 for the first, \$7,000 - \$24,000 for the second) until bids are final. After discussion, Mr. Fetsch moved the Board defer the design phase for the south staff parking lot and alternate outdoor teaching/play area. Mr. Primmer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

VISITORS’ COMMENTS AND CONCERNS: Darl Vander Linden asked about the damage to the existing gym floor. Mr. Hernandez reported two hardwood floor companies are reviewing the potential damage, however, any damage is the responsibility of Levernier Construction. Mr. Vander Linden stated K-12 has been protected in the budget cuts to date, which higher education has not. He also stated “we are lucky to live in a region where education is valued. I think there is a need for national standards to aspire to.”

Andy Coumont reported he learned that cable trays are not being implemented in the new high school due to cost. He and other FBLA students will tour the Spokane Arena and will report back on their technology wiring.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SECOND READING OF BOARD POLICY 5000 SERIES: Mrs. Woodman read the first and last sentences of the 5000 series of Board policies on personnel. Mr. Primmer moved the Board approve the series for final adoption. Mr. Zingg seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

OTHER INFORMATION: Mr. Fetsch stated his concern for WSSDA membership dues of over \$5000 during budget challenges. He suggested the Freeman School Board send a letter or resolution that WSSDA fees be reduced in proportion to the reduction of state funding. Mr. Primmer stated two years ago a WSSDA request for a three percent increase was voted down by the members. Mr. Hernandez reminded the Board the WSSDA conference is in Spokane this year, and the Board can speak to it then.

PERSONNEL: Mr. Hernandez recommended the following personnel action:

Certified:           Substitute Teacher: Jacob Dowell

Classified:           Substitute Bus Driver: Jeanette Hansen

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

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m. with no further action.

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Recording Secretary

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Board Secretary

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Board Chair