

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
October 29, 2009

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Freeman School District Board of Directors was called to order at the Valleyford Fire Station at 6:00 p.m. by Vice-Chair Diane Woodman. There was a quorum present.

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

GUESTS: Ellen Hawley, Raeann Ducar, Dan Gordon, Everett Combs, Kirk Lally, John Zingg, and Darl Vander Linden.

FLAG SALUTE: Raeann Ducar led the audience in the flag salute.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes	September 24, 2009
General Fund Vouchers #2387-2503	\$ 165,478.24
September Payroll	\$ 589,111.48
ASB Vouchers #4217-4240	\$ 20,788.52
CPF Vouchers #844-853	\$1,215,730.64
TVF Vouchers #1040	\$ 95,700.71
Treasurer's Statement	

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

CORRESPONDENCE: Mr. Hernandez gave the Board correspondence on the state's Race to the Top federal program application.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Two personnel items were added.

REPORTS

WRITTEN BUILDING REPORTS: The Board was given written building reports.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Nutrition Services Supervisor Raeann Ducar reported on the "Vote for School Lunch" program. First place was Fred the Frankfurter. Second place was Chessy Chow Mein, a new vegetarian recipe developed with the help of a parent which is flavorful but with little salt. Mrs. Ducar also did a "Fear Factor" session with fourth grade students: "Don't let fear be a factor in trying new fruits and vegetables." There are 50 veterans signed up to date for the Veteran's Day breakfast.

Mrs. Ducar stated her department is trying to become more “green” as plans are made to transition into new facilities.

Assistant Transportation Supervisor reported the new bus should arrive in a couple of weeks. The ridership report is complete, however, it looks as if revenues might be as much as \$18,000 less than the previous year. The state is currently revising transportation funding methods.

Facilities Manager Kirk Lally reported sprinklers have been blown out and plows are ready to place on vehicles. Staff is reviewing battery backups and generators for the phone system and servers.

Mr. Hernandez reported Technology Director Todd Reed is working with Verizon this evening to cut over the phone system to the new PRI circuit, which will fully activate all the phone system features.

BUDGET UPDATE: Fiscal Director Jan Davis shared the district’s cashflow projection which looks good at this point. She stated “this year is like no other in terms of the federal stimulus dollars and how they will affect the district’s cash flow.” The budget is being monitored very closely, she stated, especially since actual enrollment is so close to the budgeted number.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: CSG Representative Dan Gordon reported the contractor is making good headway. Only two precast columns are left to put up, the water tank is being erected, and block is being installed. He reported the contractor has removed the old gym roofing, and hopes to re-roof before winter sets in. There have been rain and mud issues the last two weeks.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT REPORT: Dan Gordon reviewed the project budget which shows that 69.47 percent of contingency has been used. The Board asked whether that was a high figure at this point, and Mr. Gordon responded that he felt comfortable, considering that \$80,000 in soil contamination was not needed and can be put toward contingency.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Mr. Hernandez reported the 5000 series of Board policies will be sent to members by next week for review. He reported the transportation cooperative application was submitted this week. Funding is determined in July, so the project will move forward on two tracks: one if funded, and one if not.

WASL INFORMATION: Mr. Hernandez reviewed the history of education reform, and the ultimate effect on WASL testing. The No Child Left Behind Act requires both states and schools to meet certain standards over time. At this point, he stated, no state has met Academic Yearly Progress, and few districts have. Freeman and Liberty were two of the few area districts that did meet AYP this year. Because states vary in how they measure progress, he predicted a national standard would eventually be implemented.

Mr. Hernandez reviewed WASL scores, and stated this year a diagnostic computerized test will be utilized. Math is the primary curricular focus for Freeman this year. The State Board of Education is proposing “Core 24” in which students must have 24 credits to graduate. Students would be required to declare a path in ninth grade, whether toward a four-year degree or technical skills.

VISITORS’ COMMENTS AND CONCERNS: John Zingg asked about water on the high school gym floor. Mr. Gordon said it will be closely checked prior to acceptance of the project. Since it was the contractor’s decision to remove the roof at this time, they will be responsible for any damage.

NEW BUSINESS

ADOPT RESOLUTION 4-2009/2010: CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE BY SCHOOL DIRECTOR-ELECT: Mr. Hernandez stated auditors recommended the adoption of this policy which allows a newly elected Board member, not yet seated, to attend the November WSSDA conference. Mr. Fetsch moved the Board adopt the proposed policy. Mr. Goldsmith seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Mrs. Woodman noted that remaining Board members have declined to attend the WSSDA conference in view of the budget situation.

APPROVE MINIMUM BASIC EDUCATION REQUIREMENT COMPLIANCE: Mr. Hernandez requested approval of the form that certifies the district is in compliance with required standards. Mr. Fetsch moved the Board approve the compliance form as presented. Mr. Goldsmith seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OTHER INFORMATION: Mr. Hernandez reminded Board members the next meeting is Tuesday, November 24, prior to the Thanksgiving break. “We may be able to seat our new Board member if the election has been certified by that time,” he stated.

PERSONNEL: Mr. Hernandez recommended the following personnel action:

Classified: K-8 Memory Book Advisor – Kim Nelson
Substitute Para Educator – Lynn Owens
Bus Driver – Jack Weathers, LOA- Oct 12, 2009 – September 1, 2010
Bus Driver, Ron Kienbaum, one year only

Extracurricular: Resignation: Wayne Edgar, HS Asst Wrestling Coach
Resignation: Jim Phinney, MS Asst Boys Basketball

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

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. with no further action.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair