

BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
February 12, 2009

WORK STUDY SESSION: The Board began a work study session at 5:30 p.m. to review potential budget cuts for 2009-2010 in view of the state's expected \$8 billion shortfall for the biennium. Mr. Hernandez is meeting with the Freeman Education Association and the Freeman Public School Employees to discuss potential budget cuts. High School Principal Dave Smith reported the high school is discussing the move to a six-period day schedule.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Freeman School District Board of Directors was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Chair Randy Primmer. There was a quorum present.

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

GUESTS: Stanley Primmer, Beverly Primmer, Todd Reed, Ellen Hawley, Jim Straw, Dave Smith, Char Trejbal, Everett Combs, John Zingg, Lisa Hjaltalin, Mark Dresback, Kathy Dresback, Tom Maine, Darl Vander Linden, Kris Jeske, Shawn Barrong, Lisa Phelan, Hal Ophus, Shane Miller, Don McKinney, Dave Huotari, Dan Gordon, Randy Emtman, Kevin Miller, and Eric Jensen.

FLAG SALUTE: John Zingg led the audience in the flag salute.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes

February 12, 2009

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

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

REPORTS

BUILDING REPORTS: High School Principal Dave Smith reported the building is packing up and preparing to move into portable classrooms. Staff is working with sophomores to prepare for the upcoming WASL test. He reported wrestling and basketball teams qualified for regionals and districts.

Elementary Principal Lisa Phelan reported on the second grade's President's Wax Museum, an EWU presentation on stress bands, Jump Rope for Heart activities, and an upcoming assembly in collecting signatures. Mrs. Phelan invited Board members to participate in Read Across America activities on March 3.

Middle School Principal Jim Straw invited the community to attend the signature series assembly. He stated the middle school is catching up on advisory programs, students are preparing portfolios for student-led conferences, and eighth grade is preparing for freshman registration. The Math is Cool team finished second and qualified for state competition in May.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: CSG representative Dan Gordon reported Pacific Mobile Structures won the bid for the 24-month lease of six "like new" portables. The first bids were rejected and re-bid as new or like new. In the original bid, bidders were bidding two different ways in the same package which required the rejection. At the last Board meeting, the Board approved bids not to exceed \$211,236.05. Leases will be presented to the Board when prepared.

Mr. Gordon reported ALSC has prepared electrical drawings for the portables, which Spokane County is reviewing. He continues to work on developing the small works roster, and now has five electrical contractors, five civil contractors plus two general contractors on the list. Mr. Gordon reported there were no comments on the SEPA (State Environmental Policy Act) review for the portable site, and they are placing ads for the SEPA review for the high school this week.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – M&O LEVY: Superintendent Sergio Hernandez thanked the community for their tremendous support of the maintenance and operations levy on February 3, 2009. There were 996 yes votes, and 573 no votes for an approval rate of 63.48 percent. Mr. Hernandez recognized committee chairs Kate Coomes, Melanie Rose, John Zingg and Lisa Paternoster for their hard work. "This truly is very meaningful in these difficult economic times," he stated.

ENROLLMENT: Mr. Hernandez reported February 2 enrollment was 920.36 FTE with an annual average of 910.34 FTE.

LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE: Mrs. Sellers reported she enjoyed the political process of her first legislative conference. Mr. Hernandez reported legislators are optimistic about saving levy equalization in the first round, however, I-728 could receive a hit. It remains to be seen how much of the federal stimulus will backfill the state's shortfall. He reported the learning improvement days could be cut, and some legislators are promoting a four-day week. Some are talking a 175-day school calendar or a modified 178-day calendar plus two LID days. Another bill the district is watching closely, he said, is one which requires all school district employees to purchase health coverage through the Public Employees Benefits Board.

SURPLUS: Mr. Hernandez reported there have been requests from individuals for surplus items during the demolition and modernization. CSG recommends that all such

requests be handled through the general contractor and demolition contractor. It is a liability to allow someone to go in and remove items, Dan Gordon stated. Also, the demolition contractor may bid less if they can resell salvageable items. Mr. Gordon stated all surplus requests can be funneled through him which he will relay to the contractors. After discussion, Mr. Fetsch moved the Board direct Mr. Hernandez, Mr. Gordon and Mr. Logsdon to develop a protocol through the contractor regarding salvage during construction. Mr. Goldsmith seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

BASKETBALL FLOOR: Mr. Hernandez stated two weeks ago a group of community members requested an opportunity to raise funds to increase the new high school gymnasium floor from 84 feet to 94 feet. ALSC architect Kris Jeske reviewed Option C which expands the footprint of the building six feet eight inches to the north. The remainder of the 10 additional feet comes from restriping the gym floor but still maintaining a six foot run-out at the ends. After review by all the engineers and an independent estimator, the cost to expand the gym was estimated to be \$81,417.

Mark Dresback reported that the group of Freeman supporters have been able to raise cash donations of over \$31,000 to date. The difference of approximately \$50,000 has been pledged by community members and will be put in a trust with the District's attorney under sole control of the District. This will allow the group to continue fundraising for the balance of the project. "We want to make this a celebration of our community," Mr. Dresback stated.

Mr. Fetsch moved the Board direct the administration and ALSC Architects to update design specifications and construction plans for the high school gymnasium consistent with Option C, which accommodates a 94 foot basketball court without impact to academic space. This authorization is subject to receipt of the final commitment of members of the community by 5:00 p.m. on February 17, 2009, to raise \$81,417 in combination of cash donations and deposits to a trust fund account held for the benefit of the district, per the terms of the Letter of Agreement. Mr. Hernandez reported he and Mr. Dresback reviewed the Letter of Agreement to which all parties agree. Mrs. Sellers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

VISITORS' COMMENTS/CONCERNS: John Zingg commended the school board, district, and community members on solving the basketball floor issue. "This is how a democratic process works," he stated.

## NEW BUSINESS

APPROVE 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF AED POLICY #3420 AND PROCEDURE #3420P: Mr. Hernandez reported Resource Officer Ron Nye secured the donation of two automated external defibrillators (AEDs) for the district which will be placed near gymnasiums. Storage cabinets will be purchased and district personnel will be trained in how to use the AEDs. A Board policy is required for their use. Mr. Primmer read the first and last sentences of Policy 3420 and Procedure 3420P. Mr. Goldsmith moved the Board

approve the policy and procedure for first reading. Mrs. Woodman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously

APPROVE INTERFUND LOAN RESOLUTION 4-2008/2009: Mr. Hernandez requested approval of a resolution to loan not more than \$76,000 from capital projects fund to transportation vehicle fund from June to the end of September in order to secure a \$20,000 grant from Dept. of Ecology. Appropriate interest will be paid to the loaning fund. Mr. Fetsch moved the Board adopt Resolution 4-2008/2009 as presented. Mrs. Sellers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

APPROVE PHONE SYSTEM: Mr. Hernandez recommended approval of the purchase of a new Voice Over IP telephone system as part of the modernization of the high school. Our current system is antiquated, and the new system will address the portable needs with clocks, bells, fire alarms, paging and telephones. Technology Director Todd Reed recommended the bid from Ednetics through Washington Learning Source at a cost of \$167,630.24. Mr. Reed also recommended the addition of an emergency responder which identifies exactly where 911 calls are coming from and notifies others in the district of the call. That piece costs an additional \$10,000 and could come from the technology levy, he said. Mr. Fetsch stated he would like to protect the integrity of the technology levy funds as much as possible, and pay for the emergency responder costs from bond funds. After discussion, Mrs. Woodman moved the Board accept the telephone system proposal from Ednetics, including the emergency responder at \$10,000 from bond funds. Mr. Goldsmith seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OTHER INFORMATION: Mr. Primmer reviewed upcoming Board meetings, including the mid-year evaluation of the superintendent on February 23. The next Board meeting is February 26.

PERSONNEL: Mr. Hernandez recommended the following personnel action:

Certified:           Substitute Teacher – Sandra Pylant

Classified:         Substitute Nutrition Services/Clerical – Barbara Tuvey  
                          Substitute Para Educator – Eric Olson

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

John Zingg commended Kate Coomes, Melanie Rose and Lisa Paternoster for their efforts on the levy. “They were crucial in passing the levy and did an amazing amount of work,” he stated.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m. with no further action.

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Recording Secretary

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Board Secretary

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Board Chair