

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
May 28, 2008

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Freeman School District Board of Directors was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Chad Goldsmith. There was a quorum present.

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

GUESTS: John Zingg, Ellen Hawley, Dave Smith, Lisa Phelan, Darl Vander Linden, Shirley Carlson, Pia Longinotti, Jim Straw, Megan Primmer, Rachel Kettenburg, Dave Huotari, Gretchen Paukert, and Kate Coomes.

FLAG SALUTE: Pia Longinotti led the audience in the flag salute. Mr. Goldsmith commented on the passage of the bond issue: "It's a great time for our community," he stated.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes	May 14, 2008
General Fund Vouchers #4818-4940	\$159,358.61
May Payroll	\$577,067.91
ASB Vouchers #3908-3941	\$ 31,737.70
Treasurer's Statement	

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

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: There were additions to the agenda: reading adoption and soccer proposal.

VISITORS' COMMENTS/CONCERNS: None.

REPORTS

BUILDING REPORTS: High School Principal Dave Smith reported today is the last day for seniors, and graduation arrangements are underway. Middle School Principal Jim Straw reported 61 students were honored at awards night. He reported math offerings have been increased.

Elementary Principal Lisa Phelan reported students are taking field trips to Franz Farms, playday plans are underway, and some students are donating their hair to Locks of Love.

BOND UPDATE: Mr. Hernandez reported the bond election will be certified on June 4th. He expressed heartfelt appreciation to the bond committee co-chairs John Zingg and Kate Coomes, and committee members Lisa Paternoster, Gretchen Paukert, and Melanie Rose. “They put in an untold number of hours of hard work on this bond issue.”

Bond Co-Chair John Zingg reported few bond issues passed statewide, and Freeman’s \$19.5 million bond passage rate was the highest at 65.7754%. There are still a few uncounted ballots, he stated, which will be counted and certified by June 4. Mr. Hernandez stated, “It is important to keep this momentum going with our community through a strong communication plan.” The Board discussed ways to thank the community for their strong support. Gretchen Paukert invited community members to a “community appreciation party” on June 12, which is being sponsored by the Freeman Citizens for Education, for a free BBQ and live entertainment.

WASHINGTON DC TRIP 2010: High School Teacher Pia Longinotti requested approval for a student trip to Washington DC in 2010. Approval is sought early, she said, to lock in prices before travel increases and allow parents to pay for the trip over a longer period of time. Mr. Fetsch moved the Board approve the trip as presented. Mrs. Sellers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: ALSC Architect Dave Huotari explained the SPI “D” form process which secures state matching funds of over \$10 million for construction. He reported that the Freeman state matching ratio has increased 4-1/2 percent in 2008, generating additional state dollars for the project. The next step is to develop educational specifications and schematic designs for the high school. Input will be sought from staff, students and community members. Bond rates are very favorable right now, he reported, but construction costs will not be known until bids are opened. The hiring of a construction manager is required for the high school project, and should be in place by late summer.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVE WIAA SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP: Mr. Fetsch moved the Board approve continued participation in WIAA. Mr. Primmer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

SOCCKER PROPOSAL: Mr. Hernandez recommended approval of the soccer proposal as a pilot program for 2008-2009. Parents will be responsible for transportation to practice fields away from the school. ASB will commit \$4,000 for uniforms and equipment, and general fund will pay approximately \$5,000 for a coach and travel. Students will fundraise for additional items needed such as warm-ups and bags.

Sixteen girls have committed to play. Mr. Primmer moved the Board approve the soccer proposal as presented as a pilot for 2008-2009. Mrs. Sellers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

READING ADOPTION: Mr. Hernandez recommended approval of the McMillan McGraw Hill reading adoption for grades P-6 at a cost of approximately \$80,000. Funding comes from savings in staffing, building budgets, special education and preschool dollars. Payment will also be made over two fiscal years. The elementary staff spent many hours reviewing different reading series prior to this recommendation. Mr. Fetsch moved the Board approve the adoption as presented. Mrs. Sellers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION INSTRUMENT: The Board was given a new form to use while conducting the superintendent’s evaluation. Mr. Primmer moved the Board accept the document. Mr. Fetsch seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

BOARD MEETING DATES: Due to conflicts, the first meeting in June was changed to the morning of June 12, Thursday, at 7:00 a.m. Bond financial consultant Jon Gores will be present to discuss the sale of bonds.

The August meeting was changed to August 27, the night of the back-to-school BBQ.

PERSONNEL: Mr. Hernandez recommended the following personnel action:

Certified: Substitute Teacher – Bill Bland
Extracurricular: MS Overflow Track – Dan Waite

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

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m. with no further action.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair