

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
August 24, 2023

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Freeman School District Board of Directors was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Board Chair Bill Morphy. There was a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Morphy, Danielle Santman, Annie Keebler, Dave Teague, Randy Russell and Alan Steinolfson were present. Nate Talbott was excused.

GUESTS: Lisa Phelan, Jim Straw, Jeff Smith, Chad Ripke, Mike Allen, Jody Sweeney, Todd Reed, Kirk Lally, Everett Combs, Kent Bevers, Barbara Berg, Rick Berg and Debbie Morphy.

FLAG SALUTE: Jim Straw led us in the flag salute.

CONSENT AGENDA:

July 24th, 2023 Board Minutes	
Quarter 2 Comp Tax (Sales & Use)	\$ 1,259.91
Credit Card (BMO) Payment General Fund	\$ 12,238.68
Credit Card (BMO) Payment ASB Fund	\$ 1,396.56
August General Fund AP	\$ 219,269.49
August Capital Projects Fund Payments	\$1,116,470.50
August General Fund ACH Payments	\$ 3,217.40
August Capital Projects Fund ACH Payments	\$ 469.36
August ASB Fund AP	\$ 4,464.79
August Payroll	\$ 914,122.25
September GF Mid-Month Payments, not to exceed	\$ 36,000.00
September CPF mid-month payments, not to exceed	\$ 250,000.00
July County Treasurer Report	
July Budget Status Report	

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve the consent agenda as presented. Dave Teague seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

BOARD RECOGNITION:

- Above and Beyond Awards – Barbara Berg and Mike Allen

PACE CHARACTER TRAIT:

GRATITUDE – Feeling and expressing thankful appreciation for benefits received

CORRESPONDENCE: None

BUILDING REPORTS:

Lisa Phelan, Elementary Principal, reports:

Overview

- The Freeman elementary is committed to a great year. The staff and students will focus on implementing the new student growth goal language (SGG), collaboration, and communication with our parents.

Areas of Focus

- Aligned professional development for the 23-24 school year
- New student growth goal language practice for students and staff

Enrollment

TK-24, K-49, 1-51, 2-63, 3-57, 4-55, 5-69 = 368 Total

Jim Straw, Middle School Principal, reports:

Overview

- During the 2023/2024 school year, FMS staff and students are working toward our best year.

- Focuses will be on the execution of the 2025 Strategic Plan, enhancing the use of Advisory time and professional development on the new student growth goal language (SGG) to support growth.
- Our custodial staff has done a great job preparing the building.

Areas of Focus

- Preparations for the school year are ongoing. Staff members have begun to work in their classrooms and participate in New Employee Orientation, Special Education Training and CPR/First Aid classes.
- ASB officers met on Tuesday, August 15th, to plan for the 2023-2024 school year and organize a tour for FMS students new to the Freeman School District. Seven families were on campus last night to pick up their schedules and go through an orientation.
- The FMS Advisory committee met twice during the summer to re-organize our Advisory time to include Scottie Break, MS breakfast time. Content covered during Advisory will include organizational skills, goal setting, Social Emotional Learning through The Core Project, Digital Citizenship through Common Sense Media and grade level specific College and Career Readiness lessons.

Enrollment

- 6-66, 7-70, 8-68 = 204 Total

Jeff Smith, High School Principal, reports:

Overview

- Preparing the 2023-24 school year:
- FHS is assessing and working to improve! Specifically, we will continue to improve our collaborative work as a team while focusing on building mission, vision, values, and assessment in an effort to implement the 2025 Strategic Plan and Washington State's new student growth goal language to support student and teacher growth.

Areas of Focus

- We welcome 1 new teacher: Jennifer Griffith (long term sub for Brooke Forkner)
- We welcome Chris Marks who is working with FSD in partnership with Spokane County and NEWESD 101 to provide optional counseling services for students
- We added Scottie Break back into the daily bell schedule
- We are continuing to work with the MS in Professional Learning Communities
- ASB is welcoming new 9th graders today; busy planning All-District assembly on Friday, Sept. 1.

Enrollment

- 9-82 10-74, 11-80 12-66 = 290 Total

Chad Ripke, Dean of Students/HS Athletic Director, reports:

Overview

- Hiring Coaches
- Kicking off fall sport practices
- Air Quality Index (AQI)
- Heat Index
- Athletic Golf Tournament
- Coaches meeting

Areas of Focus

- Fall sports – Games starting up: Football Jamboree at FHS on Saturday and Volleyball Jamboree at FHS next Thursday

Enrollment

Football-60, Cross Country-21, Soccer-24, Volleyball-33, Cheer-16

Mike Allen, K-8 TOSA/MS Athletic Director's reports:

Overview

- Continue to provide quality athletic programs to support increased involvement in our middle school student athletes.
- Provide support for the connection/collaboration between our middle school and high school programs to increase the consistency and strength of our athletic systems district wide.

Area of Focus

- 2023-2024 coaching staff positions
- Finalize the ASB/Athletics budget for the 2023-2024 school year

- Support the professional growth of the middle school coaching staff

Enrollment

Football – 25; 8th-17, 7th-8

Softball – 19; 8th-13, 7th-6

Cross Country – 21; 8th-4, 7th-8, 6th-9

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Todd Reed, Technology Director, reported:

Areas of Focus

- Performed annual summer maintenance including repaired, cleaned, updated and inventoried chrome books in preparation for the upcoming school year to ensure our students have access to reliable and functional devices.
- Successfully installed and configured security cameras at both the concessions area and the press box of the stadium upgrade project.
- Successful installation and configuration of 25 new laptops dedicated to our FHS Yearbook and Journalism classes. These devices have been set up with the latest graphics design, desktop publishing software, and tools to facilitate seamless content creation.
- Conducted comprehensive maintenance on technology in each classroom to ensure optimal functionality for the upcoming academic year. This maintenance included software updates, hardware inspections, and leaning to guarantee a smooth teaching and learning experience.

Kirk Lally, Director of Maintenance and Grounds, reported:

Areas of Focus

- Soccer field phrase mowed and re-seeded
- Parking lots repaired and crack sealed
- Turf project is near completion
- Normal daily mowing and weeding of the campus
- The Custodians are finishing up inside buildings
- A big thank you to Jorja, Maddie, Jace, Logan, and Ethan for helping get the campus in shape this summer.

Everett Combs, Transportation Supervisor, reported:

Overview

- Tawnya is settling into her new position as the Transportation Coordinator; purging and reorganizing the office.

Areas of Focus

- Timing and updating routes as students move in or students no longer need transportation.
- Getting ready for the bus driver in-service and Open House on Monday.
- Gathering information about the possibility of a maintenance agreement and/or contract with Mead School District for repairs that we would normally send to the bus dealership.
 - Mead currently has this agreement with a few other districts.
 - This agreement would be more economical.
 - Mead uses the money to buy equipment for their shop that they would normally not be able to purchase.
- Ridership – The daily average at the end of last year was 800-820 combining am & pm routes; to and from routes only.
- 2022/2023 Bus Mileage Summary
 - To/From-139,557 miles, Field Trips-882 miles, Misc.-138 miles, Sports/Extra Curricular-26,510, Activity Routes-6,746 miles = Total Miles – 173,833

Kent Bevers, Nutrition Services Director, reported:

Areas of Focus

- A WSU dietetic intern will be joining FSD Sept. 18- Oct. 26: Natalie Stark
- Brenda's Helping Hand balance: \$3,693.30
- Negative lunch account balances still owing equals \$3,815.37
- Our Annual Sponsor Application has been approved by OSPI

Jody Sweeney, SpEd Director/School Psych, reported:

Overview

- School Psychologist:
 - Expert in: Interventions, Student Assistance Team (SAT), collaboration with teachers and students, accommodations/modifications and student advocate
 - Manager of: Student referrals for Special Education evaluations/reevaluations and eligibility (ages 3-21). Academic cognitive, social/emotional, developmental, health, adaptive assessments within a legal timeline.
- Special Ed Director:
 - Focused on Special Education processes, legal and team expectations. Communication and collaboration with Admin/Leadership Team and Special Ed Team.

Areas of Focus

- Two full days of Special Education and Paraeducator training completed.
 - Developed norms for our team, discussed expectations and roles, reviewed caseloads and timelines, learned about several new accommodation programs available for all students.
 - Training ended with a BBQ hosted by Sue Yandt. Thanks, Sue.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

- It’s great to have the whole team here today.
- There is a lot of excitement around campus; Looking to be the best year ever!
- We are very fortunate that we did not have to lay off any employees.
- Welcome – Regina Simon; bringing new perspective and ideas to the fiscal department.

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment:

- Jeff Utecht presented a workshop to staff on Chat GPT. It is the hope that we will embrace this new technological tool rather than fight it.
- Dr. Gene Sharratt met with our Admin team coaching leadership and balanced school calendar.

School Safety, Culture, and Environment:

- We are at the end of our time lines for the HVAC and Stadium Upgrade projects.
- Kudos, Kirk, for all your help with summer projects. The campus looks phenomenal!

Partnering with Parents and School/Community:

Fiscal and Legal Accountability:

- The budget will end our fiscal year with a 6% reserve.

BOARD COMMENTS: No comments.

VISITORS COMMENTS & CONCERNS: No visitor comments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY & PROCEDURE NO. 5254 (NEW) – 2ND READING

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy & Procedure No. 5254 – Staff Expression, as presented. Dave Teague seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY & PROCEDURE NO. 6815 (NEW) – 2ND READING

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy & Procedure No. 6815 – Advertising on District Property, as presented. Dave Teague seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY & PROCEDURE NO. 3230 - 1ST READING

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy & Procedure No. 3230 – Searches of Students and Student Privacy, as presented. Danielle Santman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF 2024/2025 BUS PURCHASE

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve the bus purchase proposal for a 2024/2025 delivery, as presented. Danielle Santman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OTHER INFORMATION:

- The next regularly scheduled board meeting for the new school year will be September 27th at 6:00 pm in the K-8 MPR. New staff will be recognized.

PERSONNEL ACTION:

Certified: Cynthia Bull – Substitute Teacher
 Todd Gilkey – Substitute Teacher – Pending OSPI Approval
 Tanner Schultes – Substitute Teacher
 Max Coggeshell – Substitute Teacher
 Patrick Bennett – Substitute Teacher

Classified: Claire Hulse – Resignation – Para Educator
 Marge Jessee – Substitute Nutrition Services
 Kaylynn Mendenhall – Substitute Para Educator/Secretary
 Sydney Sather – Resignation – Para Educator
 Lori Hills – Resignation – Para Educator

Extracurricular: Jessica Thoens – HS Head JV Girls Basketball Coach
 Kristi O’Rourke – HS JV Girls Volleyball Coach
 Josie Marro – HS “C” Girls Volleyball Coach
 Tyler Dickerhoof – MS 8th Grade Head Football Coach – Pending OSPI Approval

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve the personnel action as presented. Dave Teague seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: The board meeting adjourned at 8:46 a.m. with no further action.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair