

Freeburg Elementary School
Monday, March 11, 2024
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Education for Freeburg Community Consolidated School District No. 70 was held on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria at Freeburg Elementary School.

Call to Order

Mrs. Foppe called the meeting to order and asked for a roll call of the members.

Roll Call

In addition to Mrs. Foppe, board members Jamie Smith, Ed Scheibel (7:45), Jayson Baker, Amber Trout, David Stein, and Bill May were in attendance. Also in attendance were Dr. Melanie Brink, Superintendent and Mark Janssen, Financial Officer and Recording Secretary. Principals Lindsay Fark and Tiffany Zurliene were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board and public stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitors

Visitors to the meeting included district staff Carrie Green, Ashlyn Birch, Courtney Maisel, Amanda Braun, Scott Schulz, Renee Graul, Emily Vasquez, Jim Janssen, Melynda Walters, Megan Daumueller-Cook, and Cory Lawrence. Also in attendance were Derrick Green, Eric Vasquez, Jack Walters, Sheila Gale, and Roger Skaer. Hans Carpenter of the Freeburg Tribune was also present.

Moved: David Stein

Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).

- MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 26, 2024 REGULAR BOARD MEETING
- INVESTMENT SUMMARY THROUGH MARCH 8, 2024
- BUDGET SUMMARY THROUGH FEBRUARY 29, 2024

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 6-aye, 0-nay.

Approval of the Bills

Moved: David Stein

Seconded: Bill May

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE BILLS, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).

AYES: Smith, Baker, Trout, Stein, May, Foppe
Motion Carried

Reports of Standing Committees

Reports of Special Committees

Petitions/Communications

There were no Freedom of Information Act requests.

Public Participation

The Board welcomed the public to the meeting. Scott Schulz addressed the Board regarding eLearning. Jack Walters presented his Eagle Scout project to the Board.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Brink reported IAR testing this week. She congratulated the staff and students of Freeburg District #70 for being 2nd in the county among elementary districts in ELA, Math, and Science. She also noted teachers use test data to drive curriculum decisions.

Dr. Brink stated there is a Chromebook charging station available to students in the cafeteria. The idea is for students to bring their Chromebook if it needs a charge while they eat lunch.

Dr. Brink congratulated Scott Schulz on completing his 21st year of coaching Scholar Bowl. She noted Mr. Schulz started the program and has been its only coach since its inception.

Dr. Brink stated enrollment stands at 780, which is the same as last month.

There was no update from the Illinois Association of School Boards.

Mr. Janssen gave a preliminary list of summer projects to be planned. Those projects are:

1. Exterior Door Replacement approved last month.
2. Oil & Chip the driveway (between our property and the high school) from the gate to the blacktop. We'll also need to dig out some of the ditch to get water flowing better.
3. Oil and Chip the parking lot closest to the main entrance.
4. Replace carpet in approximately four classrooms.
5. Dig out under playground equipment to prevent mulch from washing out.
6. Thorough cleaning of all classrooms, gyms, cafeterias, bathrooms, and hallways.

Mrs. Fark presented the Principal's Report for the Primary Center. Upcoming Events/Dates:

- March 11 - Shout out to Mrs. Becker's 7th grade ELA classes
 - Book Float presentations to PC classes
 - Book Float parade
- March 13 -PC Family Reading Night 6-7:30pm
- March 20 & 22 - PreK Screenings, there will be no PreK classes on those days.
- Early Dismissal - Friday, March 22nd
- Spring Break March 25- April 1
- PC Spring Pictures are April 9th
- Kindergarten screenings are May 13 & 14

Mrs. Zurliene presented the Principal's Report for the Elementary School. Upcoming Events/Dates:

- Penny Carnival was a huge success! Thank you to our Communications Committee for organizing this fun filled event. Our students and staff had a wonderful time!
- Quarter 3 ended on Friday, March 8th.

- PC printed report cards will go home on the 14th and Elementary will be posted on TeacherEase on the 14th.
- The Middle School Trivia Night is Friday at 6pm in the cafeteria.
- IAR Testing will start this week Thursday and Friday. We will also be testing Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next week.
- The Freeburg High School band is coming to perform for our elementary students on Thursday, March 21st.
- Spring Pictures are April 4th
- The Talent Show is Friday, April 5th.

Old Business

New Business

The Board engaged in a discussion on employing a full-time Student Resource Officer (SRO), beginning next year. The discussion centered on balancing the need with the investment that would be required. Mr. Stein indicated he would be willing to proceed with the full-time position now. Ms. Foppe expressed reservations due to the cost of the newly created Director of Student Services position and a potential full-time SRO position. Ms. Trout stated this has been a topic of conversation since she has been on the Board. She also stated the Board needs to decide quickly so the Village has ample time to staff the position. Mr. Baker stated a risk assessment may be prudent to further enhance security. Mr. Janssen expressed concern receiving the result of a risk assessment before needing to decide whether to proceed with this hiring decision. After discussion, the Board decided to table the discussion pending a risk assessment, inquiring to the Village on when they need to know our decision, and revisiting the issue next month.

Moved: David Stein Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE MOVING TO A FULL-TIME STUDENT RESOURCE OFFICER FROM PART-TIME, EFFECTIVE WITH THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR.

AYES: Stein, May
 NAYS: Smith, Baker, Trout, Foppe
 Motion Carried

Moved: Jayson Baker Seconded: Amber Trout

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RENEW THE FIVE-YEAR TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT WITH FREEBURG HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #77, SMITHTON DISTRICT #130, AND ST. LIBORY DISTRICT #30, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).

AYES: Smith, Baker, Trout, Stein, May, Foppe
 Motion Carried

Moved: Amber Trout Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RENEW THE BUS LEASE WITH ST. LIBORY DISTRICT #30 FOR ONE YEAR, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 6-aye, 0-nay.

Moved: Bill May Seconded: Amber Trout

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE 2ND READING OF A BOARD POLICY REVISION, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 6-aye, 0-nay.

Moved: Bill May Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:42 PM TO CONSIDER:

THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES OF THE DISTRICT INCLUDING HEARING TESTIMONY ON A COMPLAINT LODGED AGAINST AN EMPLOYEE. 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(1); AND

LITIGATION, WHEN AN ACTION AGAINST, AFFECTING OR ON BEHALF OF THE PARTICULAR DISTRICT HAS BEEN FILED AND IS PENDING BEFORE A COURT OR ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL, OR WHEN THE DISTRICT FINDS THAT AN ACTION IS PROBABLE OR IMMINENT, IN WHICH CASE THE BASIS FOR THE FINDING SHALL BE RECORDED AND ENTERED INTO THE CLOSED MEETING MINUTES. 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(11)

AYES: Smith, Baker, Trout, Stein, May, Foppe
Motion Carried

Moved: Bill May Seconded: Ed Scheibel

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RE-ENTER REGULAR SESSION AT 8:31 PM.

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 7-aye, 0-nay.

Moved: Jayson Baker Seconded: Amber Trout

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE ONE-YEAR LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST FROM TEACHER JENNIFER DELASHMIT FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR.

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 7-aye, 0-nay.

Moved: Bill May Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST FROM CUSTODIAN SHERI SWITALA, BEGINNING ON MARCH 4, 2024, AS PRESENTED.

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 7-aye, 0-nay.

Other Business

Adjournment

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: Ed Scheibel

There being no further business to come before this body, **A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:35 P.M.**

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 7-aye, 0-nay.

Michelle Foppe, President
Board of Education, Dist. #70

Jamie Smith, Secretary
Board of Education, Dist. # 70