

Freeburg Elementary School
Monday, January 22, 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, January 22, 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, Jayson Baker, Amber Trout, David Stein, and Bill May were in attendance. Board member Ed Scheibel was absent. Also in attendance were Dr. Melanie Brink, Superintendent and Mark Janssen, Financial Officer and Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board and public stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitors

Visitors to the meeting included district staff Jessie Janssen, Carrie Green, Theresa Goscinski, Jennifer Hopfinger, Rachael Stehl, and Allison Schanz. Derrick Green and Amber Lonsdale were also in attendance.

Moved: David Stein

Seconded: Jamie Smith

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

- MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 18, 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING
- INVESTMENT SUMMARY THROUGH JANUARY 19, 2024
- BUDGET SUMMARY THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2023

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

Approval of the Bills

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: Bill May

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

AYES: Smith, Trout, Stein, May, Foppe

PRESENT: Baker

Motion Carried

Reports of Standing Committees

The Personnel Committee has scheduled a meeting for January 25 at 4 pm.

Reports of Special Committees

Petitions/Communications

There were two Freedom of Information Act requests. The first request was from a group called "Concerned Citizens of Freeburg." They sought all Freedom of Information Act requests from Jayson Baker, Lauren Baker, Kayla Webster, Emily Vasquez, and Natasha Tucker. The request was filled within the five-day timeframe. The second request was from the Freeburg Elementary Teachers' Association who sought copies of any FOIA requests seeking information related to certified teachers' personnel files and certified teachers' district email accounts as well as the person(s) who made the request and the district's response. This request will be filled within the five-day timeframe.

Public Participation

The Board welcomed the public to the meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Brink reported current enrollment stands at 783 students.

Dr. Brink reported Graduation will be held on May 17, 2024, beginning at 7 pm in the gymnasium.

Dr. Brink presented a draft of the 2024-2025 district calendar. She met with the Superintendents at Smithton, St. Libory, and Freeburg High School to coordinate the calendars. The final copy will be presented to the board next month. A few tentative highlights are:

- August 14 – First Day of School
- December 23 – January 3 – Holiday Break
- May 20 – Last Day of School

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

- Dr. Brink presented the Principal's Report for the Primary Center. On Thursday, January 11, the Primary Center held a mini-boot camp for PreK-2nd graders to remind students of our three Rs: Respect, Responsibility, and Readiness. This boot camp focused primarily on conduct in the cafeteria, on the playground, and in the restrooms.
- SIP Day on January 12 consisted of grade level data review, disaggregation of IAR scores, etc. January 17th - American Heart Association Assemblies kicked off our annual fundraiser. Last year we were one of the top schools in collecting over \$18,000!! This year we are hoping to beat that amount.
- The seven entries for this year's Picture the Music Competition put on by the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra have been selected. The following seven students will have their artwork entered in the competition: K- Madison Heintzeman and Hadley Kreher, 1st grade- Adeline Ainsworth, 2nd grade- Bennett Hannah, 3rd grade- Lyla Frank, 4th grade Savannah Murphy and Anna Wittenauer. Congratulations to these students and ALL students who created a piece of artwork for this contest.

Upcoming Events:

- PTO Paint Party at PC January 25th and Elementary school Paint Party on January 26th

Dr. Brink presented the Principal's Report for the Elementary School.

- On Friday, January 5th, the 8th grade students toured the high school in two separate groups.
- The boys' basketball team had a successful season as they finished with an overall record of 17-6. They went undefeated in the regular conference season with a perfect 8-0 record.
- The Chess team began its season on January 8th under the direction of Mr. Tim Havel. This year's club, made up of twenty-one 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. The team will play four matches a week for four weeks. The Hornets are having a successful year with a record of 4 wins, 1 loss, and 1 tie which currently puts them in first place.
- The Scholar bowl team is currently 3-1. The team split with Red Bud and beat Marissa twice. Their next matches are tomorrow against New Athens and Thursday against Smithton.
- January 12th, the high school FFA students came to Freeburg Elementary to celebrate National Dairy day with the 4th grade classes. Each class got to enjoy homemade ice cream and got to experience milking a cow on the simulator machine.
- The Varsity volleyball team won the Smithton Tournament. They defeated Immaculate Conception School in Columbia in the championship game.

Upcoming Events:

- Pep Rally - tomorrow to introduce and celebrate the Chess Team, Scholar Bowl Team, and Volleyball Team. The Lady Hornets have their first home volleyball game tomorrow night. Go Hornets!
- McLimo will be rescheduled due to the inclement weather - Mrs. Zurliene is coordinating with McDonalds to reschedule.
- On Friday, Mrs. Ketchum is hosting a band festival. The concert will be in the main gym at 6:30. This concert is for select 7th and 8th-grade band students.

Old Business

New Business

Mr. Stein would like the Board to investigate easing the conditions for the staff at drop-off and pickup, especially in the cold, harsh conditions. A long-term idea he broached was constructing shelters or wind blocks, especially at the Primary Center. This would most likely be included in the feasibility study the Board is currently undertaking. Some short-term ideas would be for the district to purchase warm apparel for these staff and possibly rotate extra staff outside on those harsh days. Mrs. Foppe asked Mr. Janssen to examine these ideas further.

Moved: Bill May

Seconded: Amber Trout

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:17 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: Amber Trout Seconded: Bill May

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RE-ENTER REGULAR SESSION AT 7:31 PM.

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

Moved: Jayson Baker Seconded: Amber Trout

A MOTION WAS MADE TO EMPLOY MARC DERWORT AS CROSS COUNTRY COACH.

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

Moved: Jayson Baker Seconded: David Stein

A MOTION WAS MADE TO EMPLOY KAY NEFF AS CUSTODIAN, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 29, 2024 PENDING BACKGROUND CHECKS.

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

Other Business

Adjournment

Moved: Bill May Seconded: Jamie Smith

There being no further business to come before this body, **A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:35 P.M.**

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

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

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