

Freeburg Elementary School
Monday, December 18, 2023
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Education for Freeburg Community Consolidated School District No. 70 was held on Monday, December 18, 2023, 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, 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. Heidi Eckert of FordHarrison was also present.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board and public stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitors

Visitors to the meeting included district staff Theresa Goscinski, Scott Schulz, Emily Vasquez, and Rachael Stehl. Also in attendance were Amber Lonsdale, Danita Duecker, Eric Vasquez, Amanda Glander, Bill Sheppard, and Jeanine Sheppard.

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: Ed Scheibel

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

- MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 27, 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND THE NOVEMBER 27, 2023 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
- INVESTMENT SUMMARY THROUGH DECEMBER 15, 2023
- BUDGET SUMMARY THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2023

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

Approval of the Bills

Moved: Bill May

Seconded: Jamie Smith

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

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

Reports of Standing Committees

Reports of Special Committees

Petitions/Communications

There was one Freedom of Information Act request. The request was from a group called "Concerned Citizens of Freeburg." They sought all litigation costs associated with Board Member Baker since being elected to the school board and litigation costs pertaining to an employee since being hired. Mr. Janssen is still compiling the records and has utilized the five extra days to comply. He will have an answer prior to the ten-day timeline.

Public Participation

The Board welcomed the public to the meeting.

Amanda Glander addressed the Board expressing her opinion the Board seek a Certified School Nurse.

Eric Vasquez addressed the Board regarding lunch detentions.

Amber Lonsdale spoke to the Board regarding a discrepancy in the board minutes from July.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Brink reported current enrollment stands at 775 students.

Dr. Brink spoke to the Board about the importance of student attendance. She distributed a handout summarizing the relationship between good attendance and good grades. To that end, the district has implemented measures to identify possible truants and employ strategies to combat this and encourage good attendance. The district will formulate teams comprised of staff and stakeholders to address this challenge.

Board Member Scheibel gave an update from the Illinois Association of School Boards. The IASB is soliciting ideas for sessions at next year's conference. The IASB also recently elected officers.

Mrs. Fark presented the Principal's Report for the Primary Center. Santa's Kottage was held on December 1. Mrs. Fark thanked the Freeburg Women's Club for putting that on for the students. The Lighted Parade was held on December 3. Mrs. Fark thanked Mr. Pierce, Ryan and Renee Wittenauer, Mrs. Goscinski, and Mr. Havel. The annual program at Freeburg High School was held on December 12. The students did a great job. Mrs. Fark thanked Mrs. Ketchum and the staff. Last Friday, the district had a reward day.

Mrs. Zurliene presented the Principal's Report for the Elementary School. Mrs. Zurliene reported the eighth-grade girls' basketball concluded their season with a 14-4 record. They won the regular season conference championship and placed 2nd in the tournament. On December 4, Judge Hinz Rudolf spoke to the fifth-eighth grades regarding online bullying and the worries of the world wide web. The eighth-grade boys' basketball season will conclude with the Freeburg and Conference Tournaments in January. The fourth-eighth grade band and chorus concert was held on December 14. It was a great performance, and she thanked Mrs. Ketchum and the students for a job well done.

Old Business

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

Moved: Ed Scheibel Seconded: Amber Trout

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RE-ENTER REGULAR SESSION AT 8:51 PM.

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

Moved: Amber Trout Seconded: Bill May

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE TEACHER ALLISON SCHANZ AS ASSISTANT VOLUNTEER VOLLEYBALL COACH, AS PRESENTED.

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

Moved: Amber Trout Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE NON-RELEASE OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES AS THE NEED FOR CONFIDENTIALITY STILL EXISTS.

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

Other Business

Adjournment

Moved: Bill May Seconded: Ed Scheibel

There being no further business to come before this body, **A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:55 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