

Freeburg Elementary School
Monday, November 27, 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, November 27, 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 Ed Scheibel, Jamie Smith, 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 Lea Havel, Kathleen Woods, Emily Vasquez, Jennifer Hummert, Michelle Rogers, Leah Beth Black, Carrie Green, Nicole Mueller, Jennifer Delashmit, Lauren Baker, Erin Kassly, Dustin Thompson, and Jennifer Hopfinger. Also in attendance were Jeanine Sheppard, Danita Duecker, Eric Vasquez, and Derrick Green. Hans Carpenter of the Freeburg Tribune was also present.

Moved: Bill May

Seconded: Ed Scheibel

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

- MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 23, 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND THE NOVEMBER 6, 2023 BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
- INVESTMENT SUMMARY THROUGH NOVEMBER 22, 2023
- BUDGET SUMMARY THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2023

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

Approval of the Bills

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: Ed Scheibel

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

Dr. Brink gave an update on the November 6 Behavior Interventions Committee meeting. She stated social emotional learning strategies were discussed to educate the whole child. Dr. Brink summarized how this intertwines with the MTSS model the district adopted. Mr. Baker stated monitoring expenditures is always a consideration, investing in SEL has proven to be money well spent.

Reports of Special Committees

Petitions/Communications

There were seven Freedom of Information Act requests. Those making requests and what was sought is as follows:

1. Amber Lonsdale sought records from a personnel issue;
2. Board Member Stein sought records of communications from an employee and her attorney;
3. Board Member Stein sought records of communications from an employee and another employee from another district;
4. Amber Lonsdale sought records from a personnel issue;
5. Katharine Casey from the Science of Reading sought records pertaining to our Reading curriculum for Kindergarten through 3rd grade;
6. SmartProcure sought all purchasing records dating back to August 18, 2023; and
7. The Illinois Change the Air Foundation requested records pertaining to any environmental testing we have performed.

All records were responded to within the five-day period.

Public Participation

The Board welcomed the public to the meeting. Eric Vasquez inquired to the Board about the lunch detention procedures. Dr. Brink responded by offering to call Mr. Vasquez tomorrow. He responded by stating email would be preferable.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Brink stated the Veteran's Day breakfast went very well. There were over 200 attendees and many veterans and first responders expressed their gratitude for the event.

Dr. Brink shared an email from teacher Mrs. Payne mentioning our students were complimented on their behavior during the band field trip on November 15.

Judge Hinz Rudolf will be here next week to speak to our fifth through eighth graders about the dangers of online bullying.

Dr. Brink informed the public the district will be dismissed at 2 pm on December 18 & 19 to align with Freeburg High School. There will be an 11:30 am dismissal on December 20.

The Triple I Conference was held the weekend of November 17 – 19. Board members Scheibel and Stein attended, along with Dr. Brink and Mr. Janssen. Mr. Stein mentioned he enjoyed the many conferences he attended, including one on strategic planning. He stated the district is on a solid path on our strategic plan. Mr. Scheibel attended the delegate assembly and voted on two noteworthy resolutions. The first was a resolution advocating for the funding of SROs in school and the other is increased investment in the Transportation categorical grant.

Mrs. Fark presented the Principal's Report for the Primary Center. Parent-teacher conferences were held on October 24 & 26 and were well attended. Kindergarten had a sock hop for the 50th day of school. Halloween parties were held on October 31. Santa's Kottage will be held this Friday. The holiday concert will be held at Freeburg High School on December 12, beginning at 7 pm.

Mrs. Zurliene presented the Principal's Report for the Elementary School. In honor of Red Ribbon Week, the K-9 unit came on October 25 for an assembly. McLimo was held on November 7 for seventh and eighth grade students who earned straight "A's" in the first quarter. The Veteran's Day breakfast was held on November 9. Mrs. Zurliene thanked the staff and students for making our veterans and first responders welcome. She also thanked Mrs. Vosse and her staff for the delicious breakfast. The band and chorus concert will be held on December 14.

Old Business

New Business

Moved: Bill May

Seconded: David Stein

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

AYES: Scheibel, Baker, Trout, Stein, May, Foppe

NAYS: Smith

Motion Carried

Motion: Ed Scheibel

Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF BOARD POLICY REVISIONS, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).

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

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: Ed Scheibel

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:25 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

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

Motion Carried

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: David Stein

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RE-ENTER REGULAR SESSION AT 8:18 PM.

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

Moved: Jayson Baker

Seconded: Amber Trout

A MOTION WAS MADE TO EMPLOY DONNA SMOKER AND DANIELLE STEVENS AS PARAPROFESSIONALS, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

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

Other Business

Adjournment

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: David Stein

There being no further business to come before this body, **A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:19 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