

Freeburg Elementary School
Monday, July 24, 2023
6:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Education for Freeburg Community Consolidated School District No. 70 was held on Monday, July 24, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria at Freeburg Elementary School.

Call to Order

Mr. Scheibel called the meeting to order and asked for a roll call of the members.

Roll Call

In addition to Mr. Scheibel, board members Jamie Smith, Jayson Baker, Amber Trout, David Stein, and Bill May were in attendance. Board member Michelle Foppe was absent. Also in attendance were Dr. Melanie Brink, Superintendent and Mark Janssen, Financial Officer and Recording Secretary. Heidi Eckert of Ford Harrison 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, Cory Lawrence, Emily Vasquez, Anna Smith, Jodi Goodnight, Leah Beth Black, Gina Heiligenstein, and Lauren Baker. Also in attendance were Danita Duecker, Amber Lonsdale, Andrea Reynolds, Ryan Burton, Peggy Hubbard, Brandon Glander, and Jeanine Sheppard. Also in attendance was Hans Carpenter of the Freeburg Tribune.

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: Jayson Baker

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

- MINUTES OF THE JUNE 26, 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING
- INVESTMENT SUMMARY THROUGH JULY 21, 2023
- BUDGET SUMMARY THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023

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

Approval of the Bills

Moved: Jamie Smith

Seconded: David Stein

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

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

Reports of Standing Committees

Reports of Special Committees

Petitions/Communications

There were two Freedom of Information Act requests. The request was from Emily Vasquez who sought the closed session recording from the June 26, 2023 board meeting. The request was denied under 5 ILCS 140/7. The second was from Prairie State Wire, which sought all spending on substitute teachers over the past five years, including totals, number of days, names, and pay rates. This request was filled within the five-day timeframe.

Public Participation

The Board welcomed the public to the meeting. Brandon Glander stated he heard through hearsay his child was at the center of an employee corrective action. He inquired to the Board why no one contacted him.

Jennifer Beckett expressed concern over the new schedule for this coming year. Specifically, she is concerned her child will not receive enough minutes in P.E. each day.

Amber Lonsdale stated she received an anonymous letter regarding teachers not having to teach during eLearning days. She also inquired about the procedures for administering state tests.

Danita Duecker inquired about students receiving more non-athletic extra-curricular opportunities. She emphasized the importance of the arts and civics. She offered to lead an Art Club and a Service Group for no stipend.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Brink gave an update on the progress of student registration. Currently, over 80% of students have been registered. Secretaries have been working contacting those parents who have not registered.

Dr. Brink updated the Board on having permanent stop signs installed at Lincoln Court and S'mores Way. The stop signs are currently temporary. The Village has approved this request and will make the necessary ordinances to accommodate this request. She also met with the Village Administrator and Police Chief to discuss integrating the SRO into some of our academic programming.

Dr. Brink met with the Foundation Board, and they are planning a "Parent Prom" fundraiser on April 6, 2024. Teachers have also started making their grant requests for the upcoming school year.

Dr. Brink reviewed the established Board of Education goals. No changes were proposed to the goals. Rather, the changes are an effort to make them more succinct and concise. The new goals are:

1. **Facilities/Safety:** Enhance and maintain district facilities to support innovative teaching and high achievement while promoting community involvement.
2. **Curriculum and Instruction:** Develop curriculum maps by identifying gaps, aligning standards, and adopting appropriate curriculum.

3. **Fiscal Responsibility:** Practice responsible budgeting by maximizing use of financial resources, advocating for the district on state and local levels, while balancing student needs with the overall goal to ease the tax burden.
4. **Personnel and Community and Involvement:**
 - a. Increase social-emotional supports for all students through addition of programming and curriculum and further adding non-athletic extracurricular activities. (Suggestion: SPARK)
 - a. Encourage communication with individual parents to foster home-school connection.

Mr. Janssen gave a summary of the progress of the summer projects:

1. The installation of the new lights and vestibules is on track to be completed later next week.
2. The replacement of the asphalt at the Primary Center is completed.
3. The oiling and chipping of the east parking lot is complete.
4. The cleaning of hallways, classrooms, cafeterias, restrooms, and gyms is expected to be completed later next week. We have to finish cleaning the rooms where the lights were installed.

Old Business

New Business

Moved: David Stein

Seconded: Bill May

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE 2023-2024 STUDENT HANDBOOK PENDING ANY LEGAL CHANGES (SEE ADDENDA).

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

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE TEACHER HANDBOOK PENDING ANY LEGAL CHANGES (SEE ADDENDA).

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

Board Member Baker expressed concern over the drastic change in the schedule for the upcoming school year regarding the “special classes” i.e., Art, Technology, and PE. Specifically, he is concerned about possible long breaks for students who may have Art during the first quarter of one year and possibly not again until the fourth quarter the next year. Dr. Brink stated the current schedule was built with continuity in mind in that teachers would be able to establish a cohesive curriculum because they will see the students each day for a quarter. Last year, these teachers saw their students only three times per week. Dr. Brink also stated the number of times in the class works out to be approximately the same in either scenario. Dr. Brink and Mr. Baker agreed to meet in the coming weeks to further discuss.

Moved: Jayson Baker

Seconded: Jamie Smith

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

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

Moved: Bill May

Seconded: David Stein

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:40 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);

LITIGATION, WHEN AN ACTION AGAINST, AFFECTING OR ON BEHALF OF THE PARTICULAR DISTRICT HAS BEEN FILED AND IS PENDING BEFORE A COURT OR WHEN THE DISTRICT FINDS THAT AN ACTION IS PROBABLE OR IMMINENT. 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(11); AND

TO CONDUCT THE SEMI-ANNUAL REVIEW OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS LAWFULLY CLOSED TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY MAY BE RELEASED AS MANDATED BY SECTION 2.06 ILCS 120/2(C)(21)

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

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: Jayson Baker

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RE-ENTER REGULAR SESSION AT 7:47 PM.

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

Moved: Jayson Baker

Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO EMPLOY EMILY VASQUEZ FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR AS PRESENTED.

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

Moved: David Stein

Seconded: Jayson Baker

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE ADDENDUM "A" TO THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE FETA, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).

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

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: Bill May

A MOTION WAS MADE TO EMPLOY BEN HOWES AS ASSISTANT BASEBALL COACH.

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

Motion Carried

Moved: Jayson Baker

Seconded: Jamie Smith

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ASSISTANT VOLUNTEER COACHES:
SOFTBALL – Brad Daubach, Bryan Blomenkamp, Cory Lawrence, Sarah Gagen, Courtney
Maisel
BASEBALL – Jason Miller and Steve Woodward**

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

Moved: Bill May

Seconded: Jamie Smith

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION MINUTES AS THE
NEED FOR CONFIDENTIALITY NO LONGER EXISTS: May 19, 2019 and June 24, 2019.**

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

Other Business

Adjournment

Moved: Jamie Smith

Seconded: Amber Trout

There being no further business to come before this body, **A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN
THE MEETING AT 7:53 P.M.**

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

Ed Scheibel, Vice-President
Board of Education, Dist. #70

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