

Freeburg Elementary School
Monday, July 22, 2024
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 22, 2024, 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 President Michelle Foppe was absent. Also in attendance were Dr. Melanie Brink, Superintendent and Mark Janssen, Financial Officer and Recording Secretary. Also in attendance was Attorney Heidi Eckert of Blitz, Bardgett, and Deutsch.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board and public stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitors

Visitors to the meeting included district staff Cory Lawrence, Leah Beth Black, Jodi Goodnight, Ammie Hunt, Danielle Stevens, and Melynda Walters. Also in attendance were Mike Blaies, John Lawson, Kelly Lawson, Roger Skaer, and Jack Walters. Hans Carpenter of the Freeburg Tribune was also present.

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: Bill May

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

- MINUTES OF THE JUNE 24, 2024 REGULAR BOARD MEETING
- INVESTMENT SUMMARY THROUGH JULY 19, 2024
- BUDGET SUMMARY THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024

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

Approval of the Bills

Moved: David Stein

Seconded: Jamie Smith

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 first was from Creative Energy who sought names and email addresses of board members, teachers, and administrators. The second was from the Metro East Sun who sought all contracts over \$1000 for this coming school year and employment contracts for teachers and principals. Both requests were filled within the five-day timeframe.

Public Participation

The Board welcomed the public to the meeting.

Jack Walters informed the Board he has completed his Eagle Scout project. He thanked the Board for allowing him to complete it at the district and showed a binder with pictures of the work performed.

Teacher Cory Lawrence addressed the Board regarding eLearning. He advocated for renewing the eLearning plan as is.

Teacher Jodi Goodnight addressed the Board advocated for renewing the eLearning plan as is.

John Lawson informed the Board his VFW Post will be unveiling an essay contest for students and will be accepting nominations for "Teacher of the Year."

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Brink stated we have 69% of our parents registered for the upcoming school year. This includes 18 new students. Registration is in-person now and the office is open if any parents have any questions.

Dr. Brink reviewed the bullying policy with the Board. The policy can be found in the addenda. This policy is in the board policy manual and will be distributed to students and parents in the student handbook.

Dr. Brink gave an update on the full-time Student Resource Officer for next year. The Village proposed the district pay \$87,500 for a full-time officer next year. This equates to 2/3 of the cost of a full-time officer. This is higher than expected. The issue before the Board is whether to accept these terms or complete the current three-year contract with a part-time officer and revisit the issue in the spring. After discussion, the Board authorized Dr. Brink to communicate to the Village the district is interested in having a full-time SRO for this coming year for \$87,500.

Mr. Scheibel gave an update from the Illinois Association of School Boards. Registration for the Triple I Conference is ongoing. Mr. Scheibel asked if there any board members interested in attending to let Dr. Brink or Mr. Janssen know as soon as possible.

Mr. Janssen gave an update on the progress of the summer projects. The exterior door replacement is expected to start this week. It should take approximately ten days. The oil and chipping and carpet replacement is completed. The thorough cleaning of the building is ahead of schedule. He thanked the Maintenance staff and custodians for their hard work this summer.

Old Business

New Business

Motion: David Stein

Seconded: Jayson Baker

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ENTER INTO AN ELEARNING HEARING TO DISCUSS THE ELEARNING PLAN.

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

Board member May stated eLearning can be difficult for parents and suggested a compromise where the first or second day would be considered traditional snow days.

Board member Baker stated he is uneasy about the lack of direct instruction on the first day of an eLearning day.

John Lawson asked the Board to consider working parents when making their decision. He also expressed skepticism of the educational benefit of eLearning.

After discussion, the Board decided to table the issue pending further discussions with the teachers.

Motion: David Stein

Seconded: Bill May

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RE-ENTER REGULAR SESSION.

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

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE 2024-2025 STUDENT HANDBOOK, PENDING LEGAL REVISIONS.

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

Board member Trout requested the teacher and non-certified handbooks be revisited after executive session. The other board members agreed.

Moved: Jamie Smith

Seconded: Amber Trout

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: Jayson Baker

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:14 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 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); 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: Bill May

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RE-ENTER REGULAR SESSION AT 8:36 PM.

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

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: Bill May

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE 2024-2025 TEACHER HANDBOOK PENDING LEGAL REVISIONS.

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

Moved: Amber Trout

Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE 2024-2025 NON-CERTIFIED HANDBOOK PENDING LEGAL REVISIONS.

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

Moved: Jamie Smith

Seconded: Bill May

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM PRINCIPAL LINDSAY FARK, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 5-aye, 1-nay.

Moved: Jayson Baker

Seconded: David Stein

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE THREE-YEAR CONTRACT FOR PRINCIPAL STACEY SOMMERFIELD, PENDING ONE SMALL CHANGE (SEE ADDENDA).

AYES: Smith, Baker, Stein, May, Scheibel

NAYS: Trout

Motion Carried

Moved: Bill May

Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM PARAPROFESSIONAL TAMI HENNING, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

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

Moved: David Stein

Seconded: Bill May

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FROM PARAPROFESSIONAL DIANNE STOCK, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

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

Moved: Jayson Baker

Seconded: Amber Trout

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTEER COACHES:

BASEBALL – JASON MILLER, CHRIS SMITH, AND STEVE WOODWARD

SOFTBALL – BRYAN BLOMENKAMP, BRAD DAUBACH, COURTNEY MAISEL, AND JEFF KETTLER

CROSS COUNTRY – TRACY DIEFENBACH

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

Moved: Bill May

Seconded: Amber Trout

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RELEASE THE FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION MINUTES AS THE NEED FOR CONFIDENTIALITY NO LONGER EXISTS:

FEBRUARY 5, 2020

MAY 18, 2020

JUNE 22, 2020

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

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 8:47 P.M.**

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

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

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