

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
May 12, 2011

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Freeman School District Board of Directors was called to order by Chair Brent Fetsch. There was a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brent Fetsch, Chad Goldsmith, Randy Primmer, Diane Woodman, John Zingg, Sergio Hernandez and Jan Davis.

GUESTS: Dan Gordon, Lisa Phelan, Ellen Hawley, Jim Straw, Dena Olson, and Bitz Willard.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Mr. Hernandez added the approval of staffing for the 2011-2012 school year.

CONSENT AGENDA:
Approval of Minutes

April 28, 2011

Mr. Zingg moved the Board approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Goldsmith seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

REPORTS

BUILDING REPORTS: Elementary School Principal Lisa Phelan reported students are completing Measurement of Student Progress testing this week. Staff is working on next year's scheduling, class meetings, and teacher evaluations. Construction meetings are going well, she reported, and staff members are getting excited about the new elementary school. Para-educators are preparing a common playground book for next year which will cover all aspects of the playground including every game and every play area. Staff members will have a short timeline to vacate the portables which are scheduled to be moved shortly after school is out.

Middle School Principal Jim Straw reported middle school students are also completing MSP testing. Students are participating in Math is Cool masters in Moses Lake; Pizza, Pop, and Power Tools which exposes 8th grade girls to construction careers; and the Spokane Youth Environmental Conference. Upcoming events include academic awards nights, a drama performance and many sports activities.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: CSG Representative Dan Gordon reported Levernier has offered a \$5500 credit which will take care of the high school concrete floor refinishing.

Because of costs for additional unsuitable soil conditions at the elementary, “we are looking at deleting possible alternates in order to boost contingency funds.” The first recommended deletion is a complicated \$58,000 sound system in the elementary gym. That gym is not used much for performances, and a portable system could be used. At the same time, conduit and wiring will be in place for a future addition of a system. The Board concurred.

The Board discussed whether to eliminate the skylights in the elementary gym which has natural lighting from adjacent windows. Mr. Primmer stated skylights with such a low sloping roof might cause problems, and that he preferred money be spent to keep seating in the courtyard. Mr. Gordon stated there are three automatic gates in the Transportation Cooperative plans which could be reduced to two, for a savings of \$12,000. The Board also discussed a chain link fence vs. a CMU wall around the Transportation Cooperative. Some supplies have been purchased for the wall but the chain link fence, which would eventually be covered by landscaping, could save additional funds toward contingency. Mr. Gordon and Mr. Hernandez will continue discussions with the contractor.

NURSE DENA: School Nurses Dena Olson and Bitz Willard reviewed recent head lice cases found in preschool and kindergarten. As a result procedures for lice instances and communications with parents have been reviewed. Freeman School District has a “no nit” policy, however, students should not miss more than one day of school, Nurse Dena stated.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT - ENROLLMENT: Mr. Hernandez reported May enrollment was 894.24 with an annual average of 887.28 FTE.

AUDIT: Mr. Primmer reviewed the recent exit conference with the State Auditor. Auditors completed a single federal audit of the 2009-2010 year at an estimated cost of \$13,041. The only issue was how one transportation route was reported based on advice from an OSPI employee. Mr. Primmer reported the auditors stated the District has had clean audits for at least the last 15 years.

BUDGET: Mr. Hernandez reviewed potential budget cuts. Although the Legislature still has to make final decisions, the worst case scenario being the Senate budget which impacts Freeman \$137,000. In addition, the District will lose \$102,000 in federal stimulus funds, for a total of \$239,000 in cuts. Projected staff cuts could save \$146,000, however, there are additional needs for math, special education, and middle school electives. Additional enrollment and an increase in the M&O levy collection in 2012 could help cover the difference. Mr. Hernandez stated he may also request some use of cash reserves to balance the budget in 2011-2012.

SMALL REPAIR GRANT: Mr. Hernandez stated this issue was covered in the Friday update.

VISITORS’ COMMENTS AND CONCERNS: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SECOND READING OF BOARD POLICY #2021: LIBRARY MEDIA CENTERS: Mr. Fetsch read the first and last sentences of Policy 2021 for final reading. Mr. Primmer moved the Board adopt the policy as read. Mr. Goldsmith seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

FIRST READING OF BOARD POLICY #6212: CHARGE CARDS: Mr. Fetsch read the first and last sentences of Policy 6212 for first reading. Mr. Zingg moved the Board approve the policy for first reading. Mr. Goldsmith seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

WIAA SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT: Mr. Primmer moved the Board approve continued participation in WIAA with Mr. Goldsmith as representative. Mr. Zingg seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

APPROVE HIRING OF STAFF: Mr. Goldsmith approved the hiring of staff for 2011-2012 as presented. Mr. Primmer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OTHER INFORMATION: Mr. Fetsch reminded members of the change for the next meeting which is Wednesday, May 25.

BOARD RESIGNATION: Mr. Fetsch read a letter from Board member Diane Woodman resigning from her position effective May 12 due to a medical condition. “I have enjoyed serving the Freeman community, parents, staff, and most important, the students.” Mr. Fetsch thanked her for her service. Mr. Primmer moved the Board accept her resignation with regret. Mr. Goldsmith seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Mr. Hernandez stated he would inform the community that interested parties may apply to fill Mrs. Woodman’s position until the November election. Interested parties must meet the June filing window if they intend to run in the November election.

PERSONNEL: Mr. Hernandez recommended the following personnel action:

Certified: HS Math Teacher – Gary More

Classified: Substitute Nutrition Services – Holly Humes

Mr. Goldsmith moved the Board approve personnel action as presented. Mr. Primmer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m. with no further action.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair