

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
January 24, 2024

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Freeman School District Board of Directors was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Board Chair Dave Teague. There was a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Annie Keebler, Bill Morphy, Danielle Santman, Nate Talbott, Dave Teague, Randy Russell and Alan Steinolfson were present.

GUESTS: Lisa Phelan, Jim Straw, Jeff Smith, Chad Ripke, Mike Allen, Jody Sweeney, Todd Reed, Kirk Lally, Debbie Morphy, Everett Combs, Kellie Miner, John Hays, Lane Mathews, Kelsey Hollen, Jade Talbott, Audrey Shaw, Emmett Wilkinson, Lily Lagreid, and Sean Gilbert.

FLAG SALUTE: Lane Mathews led us in the flag salute.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Midmonth General Fund Payments	\$ 5,945.50
Midmonth General Fund ACH Payments	\$ 4,541.84
December General Fund Payments	\$143,958.65
December General Fund Extra Payments	\$ 300.00
December General Fund ACH Payments	\$ 6,793.65
December ASB Fund ACH Payments	\$ 315.31
December ASB Fund Payments	\$ 10,070.05
December Capital Projects Fund Payments	\$ 13,910.56
December Capital Projects Fund Red Gym Payments	\$134,651.91
December Payroll	\$966,202.54
December Transportation Vehicle Fund AP	\$264,524.42

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve the December, 2023, consent agenda as presented. Danielle Santman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

December 13th, 2023 Work Session Board Minutes

December 13th, 2023 Board Minutes

Credit Card (BMO) Payment General Fund	\$ 9,546.40
Credit Card (BMO) Payment ASB Fund	\$ 726.01
2023 Q3 Sales & Use (Comp Tax) Tax	\$ 149.29
January General Fund Payments	\$ 96,770.48
January General Fund ACH Payments	\$ 4,259.04
January Capital Projects Fund Payments	\$ 14,814.70
January ASB Fund Payments	\$ 13,599.61
January Payroll	\$996,967.97
February Credit Card Payments, not to exceed	\$ 30,000.00
<u>December County Treasurer Report</u>	
<u>December Budget Status Report</u>	

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve the January, 2024, consent agenda as presented. Danielle Santman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

AP BIOLOGY PRESENTATION

- John Hays – Field Trip Proposal 2024
The board approved giving \$1000.00 towards the expenses of the AP Biology Field Trip.

BOARD RECOGNITION:

- ASB Mid-Year Reports
 - High School – Lane Mathews
 - Overview
 - ❖ Good First Semester
 - ❖ Students not seeming to be extremely burnt out

Areas of Focus

- ❖ Golden Garment victory
- ❖ Martin Luther King assembly
- ❖ Semester 1 drawing competitions
- ❖ No Tardy December – On time to class-No tardies

Looking Ahead

- ❖ Upcoming guest speaker – Kevin Atlas
- ❖ Finals Chill Room – A place for students to rest, relax before their next test-Snacks provided
- ❖ Blackout volleyball
- ❖ State winter sports

- Middle School – Kelsey Hollen

Overview

- ❖ As an ASB we are continuing to strive for the “Best Year Ever!”

Areas of Focus

- ❖ Scottie Dash on Sep. 29. Three student photographers and several parent volunteers helped put on a great event. We really appreciate all of the support from our community!
- ❖ We have had several discussions about a new water fountain for the FMS gym w/ bottle filler and a proposal for an upgrade to the playground swing set.
- ❖ Food Drive in November- FMS donated to “Fill the Gap.” In total we donated 963 items and 5 turkeys. 6th grade won the grade level award with 586 items. Mrs. Hamilton's class won the pizza reward with 219 items.
- ❖ Freeman hosted our second Robotics Regional competition and two of our three teams qualified for the State this Saturday @ Eastern Washington University. Noah Trucking and Holicow will be competing in Cheney this weekend.
- ❖ We've had 2 dances so far: Halloween and Christmas. Mr. Cochran has been our DJ and students have participated in a variety of activities.
- ❖ We've had 2 lunch time tournaments - volleyball and basketball. We split each grade into pools for fairer play where the pool winners played each other. Volleyball was won by the Munchkins and Basketball by the Benchwarmers; both 8th grade teams.
- ❖ Meeting presentations.
- ❖ Financial/budgeting conversations with Mr. Allen at meetings to help everyone understand spending.
- ❖ Mr. Bevers visited us and taught us about the state lunch requirements for lunch and brought samples, asked for opinions.
- ❖ Mr. Russell came and gave a facilities update.

Enrollment

Cross Country – 22, Football – 39, Softball – 29, Robotics – 21, Volleyball – 37, Wrestling – 21, Boys Basketball – 35

Girls Basketball begins February 15, Baseball/Track begins April 10

Dr. Russell commended the ASB's for their collaboration and hard work. There are a wide variety of opinions. There are not a lot of good role models at our state level. Your commitment is commendable. You are phenomenal role models for our students. Do what is right even when it's hard.

- School Board Recognition Month – Building the Future of Public Education
Dr. Russell is honored to recognize our board and appreciate the time they volunteer and also commended the new members to the board. Principals thanked the board for their support and dedication to this volunteer job. Questions and inquisitiveness are always appreciated. The board is always welcome to come on walk throughs in the classrooms. On behalf of the staff, your trust in the staff to do what is right for kids is appreciated.

Positive, Supportive, Caring – Thank you School Board Members

PACE CHARACTER TRAIT:

FAIRNESS – Treating people and ideas with justice and impartiality

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Governor Inslee Proclamation – School Board Recognition Month
- *The Current News Magazine* – Students of the Month – Barrett Poulsen and Ava Semprimoznik

BUILDING REPORTS:**Lisa Phelan, Elementary Principal, reports:**Overview

- The Freeman elementary is committed to a great year. The staff and students will focus on implementing the new student growth goal language (SGG), collaboration, and communication with our parents.

Areas of Focus

- aimswebPlus screener K-5
- Granny Awards Musical – March 15th – Alisha Thompson and volunteers working with 48 3-5 grade students twice a week.
- Presidents Wax Museum – February 16th
- STEAM Fair – March 26th

Enrollment

TK-30, K-53, 1-52, 2-64, 3-54, 4-54, 5-69 = 376 Total

Jim Straw, Middle School Principal, reports:Overview

- During the 2023/2024 school year, FMS staff and students are working toward our “Best Year Ever”.
- Focuses will be on the execution of the 2025 Strategic Plan, enhancing the use of Advisory time and professional development on the new student growth goal language (SGG) to support growth.

Areas of Focus

- Wrapping up 1st semester and organizing 2nd semester. Double checking, making sure we are meeting the requirements of new law regarding Arts instruction for all students.
- FMS has almost completed our winter aimsweb Benchmarking. Staff spent time evaluating and discussing the process and results during the January 12th Professional Development Day.
- The “Dawg for a Day” FHS Transition program w/ Megan McGowan and Kaela Holm has gotten off to a great start with very positive feedback from 8th grade students.
- Working w/ FHS FBLA students Emma Hollen, Brooke Berglund and Avery Boswell on the American Enterprise Project. Providing Financial Education for 8th grade students.
- Robotics State Competition @ EWU on Saturday.

Enrollment

6-62(-1), 7-67(+1), 8-69 = 198 Total

Jeff Smith, High School Principal, reports:Overview

- FHS is assessing and working to improve! Specifically, we will continue to improve our collaborative work as a team while focusing on building mission, vision, values, and assessment in an effort to implement the 2025 Strategic Plan and Washington State’s new student growth goal language to support student and teacher growth.

Areas of Focus

- Dawg for a Day
- SkillsUSA - 2 State Qualifiers in Construction
- FBLA - 33 of 36 participants qualify for State competition
- Knowledge Bowl - 4th
- Golden Garment
- Preparing registration for next year - potential new courses: Foods; Careers in Ed
- End of 1st Semester
- Spokane Scholar Nominees: Dallin Cotton - Math; Sarah Jensen - WL; Ian Watson - Science; Mari Hirayama - Fine Arts; Barrett Poulsen - ELA; Kate Schneider - SS.

Enrollment

9-81, 10-76, 11-82, 12-65 = 304 Total

Chad Ripke, Dean of Students/HS Athletic Director, reported by Jeff Smith:Overview

- Winter Sports are winding down.
 - Wrestling has their last league dual tonight in Colville. Post season district tournament will be next Saturday at Medical Lake HS

- Basketball teams each have 3 remaining league games before the post season tournament starts. Senior night is January 30th vs Medical Lake – neither team has a senior on the varsity rosters.

Areas of Focus

- Dinner/Athletic Auction – February 3rd at the CDA Casino – Hope to see you there for a fun evening
- WIAA reclassification process is complete
- 2BNE scheduling
- League alignments – North and South division

Enrollment

Boys Basketball-24, Girls Basketball-22, Wrestling-13, Cheer-13

Mike Allen, K-8 TOSA/MS Athletic Director's reports:

Overview

- Work to improve programs and support our student athletes.
- Participate in partnership with the Greater Spokane County League.

Area of Focus

- Boys' basketball first games are tonight. Rescheduled last weeks games due to lack of officials.
- Working with GSCL AD's to determine possible new sports season to address the ongoing and increasing struggle to find officials for middle school sports. Rearranging our seasons to separate basketball and volleyball from the high school sports season may be a viable option. Officials' associations are supportive and we have started conversations as a league for changes to next year's season. More to come.

Enrollment

Basketball: 35; 7th-12, 8th-23

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Jody Sweeney, SpEd Director/School Psych, reported:

Overview

- School Psychologist:
 - Initial evaluations and reevaluations within FSD – academic, cognitive, social/emotional, developmental, health, and adaptive assessments within a legal timeline.
- Special Ed Director:
 - Focused on Special Education processes, legal and team expectations.
 - Communication and collaboration with Admin/Leadership Team and Special Ed Team.
 - ELL and Highly Capable work within the district.

Areas of Focus

- 2024 New Year Focus
 - aimsweb screenings and date
 - ELL – WIDA testing
 - Dyslexia Screener K-3
 - Highly Capable Screener – 2nd & 4th grade
 - Reevaluations and evaluations
 - Levy focus

Enrollment

112

Everett Combs, Transportation Supervisor, reported:

Areas of Focus

- Glad for the warmer temperatures
- Still waiting on the Washington State Patrol to show up for their mid-winter surprise inspection.
- Finished the winter ridership report for OSPI
 - Head count of 835 for one day. This is a combined count from a morning and afternoon route. The combination of last Spring's count, this Fall's count and this Winter's count will determine our allocation for this year.

Kirk Lally, Director of Maintenance and Grounds, reported:

Areas of Focus

- Waiting on a new compressor for the K-8 MPR heat.
- Exploring a few weak heat spots discovered during our recent cold snap.

- Custodial subs still needed.

Safety

- Nothing to report at this time.

Todd Reed, Technology Director, reported:

Areas of Focus

- Configured “Meshify Protect” for Clear Risk Solutions. Includes 8 temperature sensors and 8 water leak sensors for the middle school HVAC room. Hartford steam boilers will install sensors in HVAC equipment for proactive monitoring.
- Currently working on the electronic forms for E-rate 2024, filing opened on January 17th. Provides post e-rate discount of 60% for data transmission services.
- Currently investigating a district website (built 2016) update to reflect the recent acquisition of Blackboard by Finalsity. Due to the acquisition and retiring of the older CMS of Blackboard, Finalsity is offering a free, one-time new district website.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Thank you, Annie, for going on walkthroughs today at the elementary. Annie shared it was great to see the organized classes and kids working. The board is invited to any and all walkthroughs. Any WIAA follow up questions? Dave Teague shared he is happy with what will come outside of athletics in the B League. What do league and non-league games look like? There will probably be some crossover non-league games.

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment:

School Safety, Culture, and Environment:

The Table Top Exercise is scheduled for later this spring. There is a security issue of some kind each day. 95% of the issues occur away from school. Most of the issues around safety and security are not starting here. There is a daily occurrence around this issue. There are legislative concerns around student discipline restraint laws.

Partnering with Parents and School/Community:

2024 Levies – FSD has conducted 7 community meetings with a total of 15 people attending. There has been overwhelming support at the meetings and a lot of good questions. The meetings have been well received. More informational levy videos will be coming out. We are doing the best we can to get the information out to everyone.

Fiscal and Legal Accountability:

Our “brand new” high school and elementary are now 14 and 13 years old. We are fortunate that not too much has gone wrong. We are starting to see things that possibly will need to be repaired/replaced which would come out of Capitol Projects.

Ending Cash Balance – We will have some tightening of our belts to do.

Enrollment – Holding steady.

BOARD COMMENTS: None

VISITORS COMMENTS & CONCERNS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY & PROCEDURE NO. 3207 – 2ND READING

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy & Procedure No. 3207 – Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying of Students, as presented. Bill Morphy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY & PROCEDURE NO. 3241 – 2ND READING

Bill Morphy moved the Board approve Board Policy No. 3241 – Student Discipline, as presented. Annie Keebler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY NO. 5310 – 2ND READING

Bill Morphy moved the Board approve Board Policy No. 5310 – Compensation, as presented. Nate Talbott seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY & PROCEDURE NO. 6605 – 2ND READING

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy No. 6605 – Student Safety Walking, Biking and Riding Buses, as presented. Nate Talbott seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY & PROCEDURE NO. 2121 – 1ST READING

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy & Procedure No. 2121 – Substance Abuse Program, as presented. Nate Talbott seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY & PROCEDURE NO. 6217 – 1ST READING

Bill Morphy moved the Board approve Board Policy No. 6217 – Electronic Funds Transfer (NEW), as presented. Annie Keebler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY & PROCEDURE NO. 6959 – 1ST READING

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy No. 6959 – Acceptance of Completed Project, as presented. Danielle Santman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OTHER INFORMATION:

- The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be Wednesday, February 28th at 6:00 pm in the K-8 MPR.

PERSONNEL ACTION:

Certified: Alissa Williams – Substitute Teacher
Jim Wood – Retirement – Teacher

Classified: Tyler Olson – Resignation – Para Educator

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve the personnel action as presented. Nate Talbott seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The board went into Executive Session at 12:48 pm for the purpose set forth in RCW 42.30.110. specifically, the following: to evaluate a public employee. Such session is estimated to be approximately one hour in length. Action is expected upon return. The Board returned to open session at 1:48 pm, announced an extension of the Executive Session for an additional 30 minutes. The board returned to open session at 2:17 pm. Annie Keebler moved the Board extend the Superintendent contract from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027. Nate Talbott seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: The board meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m. with no further action.

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Board Chair