

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 358
November 29, 2023

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Freeman School District Board of Directors was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board Chair Bill Morphy. There was a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Morphy, Danielle Santman, Annie Keebler, 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, Kent Bevers, Debbie Morphy, Tawnya Becker, Jim McNeill, Lesley Lochmiller, Gretchen Brebner, Brooke Hames, Justin Keebler, Greg Romey, Allen Crist, Lisa Frazier, Brad Boswell, Barbara Berg, James Reynolds, Robotics: Team Cookies; Team Holy Cows; Team Noah's Trucking, Morgan Eberle, Matt Grover, Jordan Grover, Sean Gilbert, Trudy Gilbert, Kelly Hicks, Jill Morphy, Wyatt Morphy, William Morphy, Justin Gregor, Sarah Schultz, Logan Schultz, Cody Cayce, Elisa Cayce, DeeDee Kopp, Karly Kopp, Paul Knight, Crystal Kidd, Sage Gilbert, Greta Van Gemert, Tuil Van Gemert, Bryon Talley, Sara Talley, Rylan Talley, Michelle Oty, Brent Oty, Kris Johnson, Rachal Schwartz, Ashleigh Fuller, Tyce Gilbert, Jaydan Oty, Mallory McDonald, Kellie Miner, Lane Ramsey, Jarod King, Brian Bazar, Tristan Hansen, Gina Baker, Noah Baker, Kanoa Rogan, Dailyn Poston, Maren McIntire.

FLAG SALUTE: Bill Morphy led us in the flag salute.

CONSENT AGENDA:

October 25th, 2023 Board Minutes

ASB Extra AP - (State athlete per diem)	\$ 2,800.00
Credit Card (BMO) Payment General Fund	\$ 14,400.97
Credit Card (BMO) Payment ASB Fund	\$ 428.01
Credit Card (BMO) Payment Cap Projects Fund	\$ 2,893.70
November General Fund AP	\$ 95,247.81
November Capital Projects Fund Payments	\$ 19,217.22
November General Fund ACH Payments	\$ 6,238.48
November ASB Fund ACH Payments	\$ 357.14
November ASB Fund AP	\$ 50,134.07
November Payroll	\$953,642.89
December Credit Card Payments, not to exceed	\$ 30,000.00
December CPF mid-month payments, not to exceed	\$190,000.00

October County Treasurer Report

October Budget Status Report

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

BOARD RECOGNITION:

- Robotics Presentation – Barbara Berg introduced the Robotics teams: Team Cookies, Team Holy Cows, and Team Noah's Trucking. Each team presented their project that they will present at their upcoming competition. In their presentation to the judges, they must IDENTIFY a clearly defined problem, DESIGN and develop an idea, CREATE a model/drawing to represent their solution, ITERATE improvements to their project, and COMMUNICATE their solution and impacts on their users. Each team shared their projects.

PACE CHARACTER TRAIT:

CITIZENSHIP – Positively contributing to society & community and dutifully respecting authority & the law

CORRESPONDENCE: None

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

- Building PD – Today's PD provided a draft tool to help guide this work with the cognitive and emotional additions to the SGG language that will be required next school year.
- PTSG Craft Night is next Friday, December 8th.

Enrollment

TK-30, K-53, 1-51, 2-65, 3-53, 4-54, 5-68 = 374 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

- Thank you to Scott Moore, the FHS ASB and Leadership students for organizing and outstanding Veterans' Day program on November 9th.
- FMS students and their families contributed 593 food items and 5 turkeys to the "Fill the Gap" program through our Food Drive. "Fill the Gap" is run by the Valleyford Church and helps Freeman families fill the weekend food gap by sending nutritious food home.
- The middle and high school staffs continued their PLC work this morning during the Late Start.
- Upcoming activities- Freeman Night @ Red Robin - 11/30, FSD Book Fair @ Barnes & Noble - 12/2 (Choir performs 1:00-1:20 pm), PTSG Craft Night - 12/8 4:30-6:30 pm, First Lego League Robotics Challenge - 12/9 & 10 (Freeman teams compete on 12/10), FSD Band & Choir Concert - 12/13 7:00 pm

Enrollment

6-63, 7-66, 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

- Veterans Day Assembly
- Food Drive - 1,672 items, which equates to 1,848 lbs. donated to the North Palouse Food Bank
- Blood Drive - 22 donors in ½ day
- Conferences - approx. 40 in-person conferences
- Formal Classroom Observations complete
- FHS AP Tests: 102 ordered this year (41 last year)
- SkillsUSA Welding Competition - FHS took 1st place with two other top 5 finishers
- Knowledge Bowl - currently in 4th place overall

Enrollment

9-82 (+1), 10-75, 11-83, 12-65 (+1) = 305 (+1) Total

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

Overview

- Fall sports – post season is here.
 - Volleyball – League and District champs, 2nd in State (20 years since last state championship game appearance)
 - Soccer - 2nd in League, District champs, top 16 in State; lost 1st round of State bracket
 - XC – 4 runners advanced to State; Barret Poulsen-7th, Eli Cotton-47th, Ella Jones-44th, Ava Mounts-67th
 - Football – 2nd in League, top 8 in State
 - Cheer - great job supporting sports teams; present at volleyball, soccer and football games

Areas of Focus

- Dinner/Athletic Auction – February 3rd at the CDA Casino – flyers are out, tickets & tables being sold
- Fall coaching evaluations
- Hired: boys JV basketball coach; head softball coach
- Attended the 2B and District 7 AD meeting
- WIAA reclassification process

Enrollment

Boys Basketball-25, 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

- Volleyball – coaches have been impressed with the foundational skills the girls are developing this season to have continued success in volleyball. The season will wrap up starting 11/30, 12/5 and 12/7
- Wrestling – Successful season with tons of growth. Season will wrap up starting 11/30, 12/4 and All-League 12/7 at Cheney.
- Boys basketball pre-season coaches meeting 12/13

Enrollment

Volleyball - 36

Wrestling - 22

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

- Comparing disability categories within Freeman from 2021 and currently in 2023
- Initial evaluations – 13
- Reevaluations – 8
- Move out and homeschool ~7
- Transfer in with IEP - 5

Kent Bevers, Nutrition Services Director, reported:Areas of Focus

- Fiscal:
 - We were not awarded the Farm to School grant we applied for
 - Submitted a survey to receive another round of Supply Chain Assistance Funds
 - 7 Caterings are on the books between now and Jan. 30
 - 3 of these are for the upcoming FHS Girls Basketball Dinners
 - Total of \$1,643.00 in revenue
- Dec 15 Themed Meal
 - Star shaped nuggets
 - Themed giveaway for students who purchase the star shaped nuggets
- Student ASB
 - Meeting with FES/FMS Student Body Fri., Dec 8
 - ❖ Discuss menu
 - ❖ Sampling events
 - ❖ Answer questions

Todd Reed, Technology Director, reported:Areas of Focus

- Upgraded some security cameras at the middle school by replacing outdated cameras. The new cameras provide improved resolution, wider coverage, and enhanced features.
- Collaborated closely with Mr. More and Mr. Smith on technology needs for the Veterans Program.
- Worked with Tawnya and Everett on new Gatekeeper Wi-Fi bus surveillance systems. New features allow buses to offload video footage once the buses return back to campus and connect to our Wi-Fi rather than retrieving a SD card off each bus.

Everett Combs, Transportation Supervisor, reported:Areas of Focus

- FSD's two new buses are at RWC and we should receive them any day now. As of now, we expect both buses will be assigned to the Hangman routes.
- We have been working closely with Gatekeeper on updating our bus camera systems, camera placement, and the ability to download videos via Wi-Fi.
- The Washington State Patrol should be showing up for their surprise inspection any day now!
- A new 9ft Christmas was donated to the Transportation department. We are working on getting the conference room ready for the district's annual staff gathering.
- The Transportation Team Holiday Breakfast will be held in the Rock Creek Room at the Harvest Moon on Thursday, December 14th.
- We are working on a special surprise for students over the next few weeks and tying it in with school bus education. The Freeman Transportation Team has adopted a new Scottie; we are pleased to introduce Clark. His debut will be shared on the Freeman School District Facebook page on December 1st at 8:00am. Clark will be giving lessons to students on school bus rules; staying seated, no food on the bus, listening to the driver, bus safety, etc. Students will have the opportunity to earn "Clark" bucks for Good Bus Behavior that can be used at the Outstanding You Store.
- September Mileage:
 - To/From – 16,039 miles
 - Athletics – 2,163 miles
 - Field Trips – 74 miles
 - Activity Routes – 1,587 miles
 - Total – 19,863 miles

Kirk Lally, Director of Maintenance and Grounds, reported:Areas of Focus

- Working with contractors to complete the Red Gym repairs.
- Getting ready for Christmas break projects.
- New controls have been ordered for the well pump.

Safety

- Nothing to report at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

We have had a great first quarter. Great things are happening coming into December: Tree of Sharing, PTSG Craft Night, Band/Choir concert. Reminder that the district will have the week of Thanksgiving off next year.

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment:School Safety, Culture, and Environment:

- Facilities Update
 - Thanks to Kirk, Mike, Chad, Lisa & Alan on their work on the red gym floor repairs. The gym will be opening Monday, Dec. 4th. A big thank you to Lydig Construction; they under promised and over delivered. We received an Emergency Closer Grant that covered all the costs of the repairs.
 - The stadium upgrade project has already paid dividends we didn't know were out there. It has been a benefit to other districts at a good price: 2 soccer playoffs and 1 football playoff game.

Partnering with Parents and School/Community:

- February 2024 Levy Discussion
 - Jim McNeill, Foster Garvey, has been working with Freeman for 25 years, helping with our levies and bonds
 - The Resolutions are up for approval later in the meeting. The resolutions need to be adopted before they go to the voters.
 - These are replacement levies at the same \$1.50 per thousand rate.
 - \$350,000 have been lost through Levy Equalization Authority (LEA), insurance premiums are up, expenses are up 20.7 % and revenue only at 7%.
 - Capital Project Levies help maintain roofs, parking lots, fields, safety, security, and campus improvements.
 - The board appointed three members to the For Levy Committee to write a statement for the Voter's Pamphlet
 - No one came forward for the Against Levy Committee after the notice was advertised.
 - Resolutions and cover sheets need to be submitted to the county by Dec. 15.

Fiscal and Legal Accountability:

- November enrollment graphs were shared with the board.
- One last payout due, each, on the fence and HVAC projects.

BOARD COMMENTS: No board comments.

VISITORS COMMENTS & CONCERNS:

Three visitors shared comments: disappointed in a recent personnel decision by the school district, looking for answers regarding a personnel decision, district robbed of a great coach and good role model.

UNFINISHED BUSINESSAPPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY & PROCEDURE NO. 2190 – 2ND READING

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy & Procedure No. 2190 – Highly Capable Programs, as presented. Danielle Santman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY NO. 2230 – 2ND READING

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy No. 2230 – Transition to Kindergarten Program (NEW), as presented. Dave Teague seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY NO. 3225 – 2ND READING

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy No. 3225 – School-Based Threat Assessment, as presented. Dave Teague seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY NO. 6530 – 2ND READING

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy No. 6530 – Insurance, as presented. Dave Teague seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESSAPPROVAL OF SCHOOL BOARD RESOLUTION 3-2023/2024

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Resolution No. 3-2023-2024 - Proposition No. 1- Replacement Educational Programs and Operation Levy, as presented. Nate Talbott seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BOARD RESOLUTION 4-2023/2024

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Resolution No. 4-2023-2024 - Proposition No. 2- Replacement Capital Levy for Safety, Security, Technology and Infrastructure Improvements, as presented. Nate Talbott seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY NO. 3122 – 1ST READING

Annie Keebler moved the Board approve Board Policy & Procedure No. 3122 – Excused and Unexcused Absences, as presented. Nate Talbott seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

