MAY 2023

FREEMAN FOCUS

A Letter to Our Community…

It's hard to believe we are past the three-quarter mark of the 2022-23 school year in Freeman! It's been a great year to date and we're sprinting full speed ahead as the end of the school year is approaching quickly. Thank you to all of our staff for continuing to provide an inviting, welcoming and supportive learning environment for all of our students and families - our students are thriving and they are happy. We appreciate the support from and collaborative partnership with our parents and families. Here are a few important announcements/updates:

FMS HVAC Project

Our FMS HVAC Project is now wrapped up, as we had to wait for the delivery and installation of our chiller. It is nice to have air conditioning, especially for the warm weather. Thank you to all of our Freeman voters who approved the 2021 Capital Projects Levy, which paid for this $2 million project.

Freeman 2025 Strategic Plan

With the start of the 2022-23 school year, our school board, leadership team, staff and students began working on our Freeman 2025 Strategic Plan. We have used this entire school year to get feedback from students, staff, parents, and our community on our Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (known as a SWOT Analysis) to build off our previous Freeman 2022 Strategic Plan. Freeman SD is proud to partner with The Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE) on the Freeman 2025 Strategic Plan and Erich Bolz has been an excellent facilitator. We plan to finalize the Strategic Plan document in June.

Balanced School Calendar Research

The Freeman SD applied for, and received, a grant for approximately $40,000 to explore and research a balanced school calendar for Freeman SD. A team of 8 Freeman staff visited the Washoe County School District in Reno, NV and Churchill County School District in Fallon, NV for three days in March, 2023 to learn more and see if this is something that could benefit the students, staff and community of Freeman.

Another Freeman team is visiting schools in the San Diego area in May, 2023 to do further research and investigation. Regardless of the research and learning, there would be no change to the FSD 2023-24 school calendar – this is already set and approved by the school board. We will continue to listen, learn, and research to see about possible adjustments to the 2024-25 school calendar.

Long-Range Facilities Plan

The Freeman School Board voted unanimously (5-0) in their regularly scheduled school board meeting at the March 30, 2023 to proceed with a multi-use synthetic turf field to replace the current football field. The school board authorized using existing Capital Levy Project funds (passed in 2021) toward the field turf project (approximately $1.75 million). Other funds, including the issuance of a Limited General Obligation (LGO) Bond and Private-Public Partnership funds will be necessary to fund a stadium renovation project (approximately $2.75 million). If you're interested in learning more about the Private-Public Partnership Options, please reach out to:

FSD Board Member Bill Morphy bmorphy@freemansd.org
FSD Board Member Dave Teague dteague@freemansd.org
Freeman HS Athletic Director Chad Ripke cripke@freemansd.org

If you have any questions or would like information about what is happening in Freeman SD, please check out our website at www.freemansd.org, our Freeman Facebook page, our weekly flyers/bulletins, or contact us directly. The principals, directors, and myself are always available to address any concerns or answer any questions. Thank you for your continued support!

PRIDE, COMMITMENT, CARING—
WE ARE FREEMAN!

Sincerely,
Randy L. Russell, Ph.D., *Superintendent*

Freeman's drumline opening the ground-breaking ceremony for the stadium upgrade project.

FES, FMS & FHS students turn the first shovel for the beginning of the turf field upgrade. The turf field dedication is scheduled for September 1st at 6:00 pm between a soccer game at 4:00 pm and the football game at 7:00 pm.

Thank you to our Stadium Project Upgrade Team and our project partners (OAC, AM Landshaper, & Garco) on the project for their time and dedication .

PACE Character Traits

*May - **COURAGE** June - **INTEGRITY** July - **GENEROSITY** August - **GRATITUDE***

What's Happening at Freeman

5/30-6/1	FHS Drama Production - FHS MPR
6/2	Big Buddy Fieldtrip - Valleyford Park
6/2-6/3	FHS Band - Silver Mountain Trip
	Run the Palouse Fun Run
6/6	FHS Senior Awards - FHS MPR - 6:30 pm
6/7	FES Pace Assembly - 1:30/3rd-5th, 2:10/K-2nd
6/9	Pastries for Parents - K-8 MPR - 7:30 am
	FMS Academic Awards - FMS Gym - 8:30 am
6/10	High School Graduation - 1:00 pm - FHS
6/14	Rockets Launch Day - 6th Grade
6/14	FES Talent Show - K-8 MPR - 1:00 pm
	8th Grade Rollercoaster Presentations - FMS Gym
6/15	7th Grade Egg Drop Competition
	8th Grade Field Trip - Corbin Park
	8th Grade Promotion - 6:00 pm - FMS Gym
6/16	**Last Day of School** - 12:30 pm Release

Upcoming School Board Meeting Dates

All meetings begin at 6:00 pm and are held in the K-8 Multi-Purpose Room unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, 6/8

Thursday, 6/29

Monday, 7/24 - 5:00 pm - Budget Hearing

Monday, 7/24

Thursday, 8/24 - PRTC - 8:30 am

Freeman 2025 Strategic Plan

Our strategic plan has four components:

1) *Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment*
2) *School Safety, Culture and Environment*
3) *Partnering with Parents and School/Community*
4) *Fiscal and Legal Accountability*

We continue to review progress on our Freeman 2025 Strategic Plan through our daily work, meetings, reports, etc. to each one of the four components for accountability.

August 30th

First Day of School!

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Freeman School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Civil Rights, Title IX, and Section 504 Compliance Coordinator: Randy Russell, rrussell@freemansd.org, 509-291-3695, 15001 S Jackson Rd. Rockford, WA 99030