

## **Board of Education Meeting Highlights**

*February 3, 2026 – Regular Meeting*

*This report provides highlights of the Board of Education meeting. It is not intended to serve as the official meeting minutes.*

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## **Board Actions & Updates**

**Student Board Members Report:** Quinn Krezmenski & Gustavo Commarela reported on various clubs and activities and the many important things happening in February at FHS; such as Black History Month, heart health and other focuses. Also former FHS football standout **Keondrae Jackson**, who now plays in the NFL for the Baltimore Ravens has been meeting individually with students and will speak at an all-school assembly this Friday.

Dr. Alvarado acknowledged February as Black History Month. **Celebrating 100 Years:** The 2026 Black History Month theme is "**A Century of Black History Commemorations.**" This landmark anniversary celebrates the vision of Dr. Carter G. Woodson and underscores the importance of preserving the stories that have defined our nation over the last century.

**Real-World Learning:** FHS Video Production students **Kamryn Bradbury (11th) and Steven Van (12th)** seized a unique opportunity to interview **Governor J.B. Pritzker** at the Lena Cheese Company. Accompanied by teacher **Jena Kleindl**, this experience stands as a prime example of the authentic professional opportunities provided by our Career Pathways program.

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## **Superintendent's Report**

**Attendance Report:** Overall attendance rate for FSD at the end of January is 89%, below our goal of staying over 90%.

### **Takeaways**

- The district has an overall chronic absenteeism rate of 26%, with significant variation across schools.
- Early Childhood Center has the highest rate at 47%, followed by Freeport High School at 30%.
- Lincoln Douglas Elementary performs best at 12%, while Jones Farrar IB World School maintains 18%.
- Most schools show slight increases in absenteeism over the last 30 days, with rates rising between 0-3 percentage points.

## Important Dates

- New Student for 26-27 opens March 2
- JF Interest forms are due February 28
- JF placement notifications 1st 2 weeks of March
- Transfer notifications will be sent in February, transfer requests for next year are due April 1
- Returning Student Registration for 26-27 opens May 18
- HAPP testing window for incoming 1st grade and 6th grade (Honors) : February 9-March 9

## Student Discipline Action Plan

- **Why:** Per Illinois School Code, the District must submit a plan to address our identification in the top 20% for exclusionary discipline and racial disproportionality.
  - **Process:** The updated plan incorporates feedback gathered from all school sites and the FEA Joint Student Discipline Committee.
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## Information Reports

School progress on the individual **School Improvement Plans** were presented by Principals Sarah Hasken (FHS) & Asst. Principal Rosemarie Brubaker, Don Rundall (FMS) and Stacey Kleindl (Blackhawk).

*The 2025 Finance Audit was removed from the agenda and will be provided at another board meeting.*

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## Approved Consent Agenda

- Bills for FSD 145 and CareerTEC
  - Personnel Report – February 03. 2026
  - Cooperative Purchase and Lease Proposal for the 2026 Dump Truck
  - 2026 Site Improvements / Parking Lot Project at FMS
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## Approved Board Action Items

- 2026-2027 School Year Calendar

## Committee Reports

C&I meeting, first with Susan Fumo. A number of initiatives are going on including Summer School 2026, upcoming District Institute on 2/13, science curriculum review, evaluating remote learning.

S.A.F.E. committee was reported by Member Moore-Howard. The focus of the meeting was to facilitate student listening sessions, chronic absenteeism, the CTGI Leadership summit and the discipline plan.

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## Next Meeting

The next **regular meeting (State of the District)** of the Freeport School District Board of Education will be held:

 **February 17, 2026**

 **6:00 PM**

 Administrative Office - 501 E South St

The public is always invited and encouraged to attend.