

Board of Education Meeting Highlights

April 21, 2026 – Regular Meeting

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

Student Board Member Report

SBM Gustavo shared feedback from FHS students following last week's tornado warning and shelter-in-place. While students were understandably concerned, they felt staff handled the situation well and ensured their safety. Students expressed appreciation for the care and procedures implemented.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Alvarado recognized several student achievements, including members of the FMS/JF Boys & Girls Bowling teams, 10 FHS journalism students advancing to the state competition this weekend, and three FHS art students honored at the Highland Community College Regional Art Show.

Three *Those Who Excel* recipients who attended last Saturday's recognition banquet were acknowledged: Vache Fleming, Jennifer Viveros, and Christine Withington. Additional honorees this year include Jon Adams, Desiree Keys, and Carmen Madigan.

Last Friday's tornado warning created challenges for PreK–5 dismissal. The District continues to keep the Lena community in its thoughts. FMS counselor Lynn Dunn will provide support to the Lena School District as schools reopen. A follow-up message was shared with families on April 20 regarding the District's response to the severe weather event.

Dr. Alvarado was also selected by the Illinois State Board of Education to serve on the Professional Learning Subcommittee of the Teacher Performance Assessment Advisory Committee.

At the May 4 meeting, the Board will be asked to consider moving the May 22 SIP Day to June 1 to help maintain student attendance above 90%. If approved with the final 2025–2026 school calendar, the last day of student attendance will be Friday, May 29.

Information Reports

- AVID Director, Dr. Beth Summers gave the annual **AVID Update**, reminding the board of the mission of AVID and the various AVID programs. 15-20% of the student population participate in AVID.

- Asst. Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Dotson presented the **financial report for the month of March.**
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Approved Consent Agenda

- Bills for FSD 145 and CareerTEC
 - Personnel Report & Addendum – April 21, 2026
 - Northwest IL Association Support Agreement
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Approved Board Action Items

- EC DHH Classroom Partnership Agreement
- Engagement of Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. to serve as underwriter/placement in pursuant of General Obligation Bond, Debt Certificates and Tax Application Warrants

Committee Reports

Member Charlene Williams reported on behalf of the C&I Education Team:


She highlighted ongoing teaching and learning cycles at FHS across Math, Social Studies, Science, Fine Arts, and World Languages, along with continued coaching and professional learning for staff.


Summer learning planning is underway, with programming scheduled at JFIB for grades K–5 and at FHS for grades 6–12. The Summer Learning at Home program has been paused.

Classroom visits will continue, and Assistant Superintendent Fumo will conduct listening sessions in classrooms through the remainder of the school year. Member Williams also shared that she is participating in strategic planning for the 2026–2029 school years

Next Meeting

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

 **May 5, 2026**

 **6:00 PM**

 **Administrative Office - 501 E. South St.**

The public is always invited and encouraged to attend.