

Board of Education Meeting Highlights

May 05, 2026 – Regular Meeting

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

Superintendent's Report

- **Staff Recognition:**

In recognition of national observances—National Teacher Appreciation Week (May 4–8), National Teacher Appreciation Day (May 5), National School Nurse Day (May 6), and School Communicators Day (May 8)—Dr. Alvarado expressed appreciation and gratitude to all staff for their continued dedication and service to students and the district.

- **Student Achievements:**

Congratulations to Xavier Blakney and Tyler Rademaker on being named recipients of the Freeport Noon Rotary Top Scholarship Award. Each student received a \$1,500 scholarship to support their continued education at Northern Illinois University and Highland Community College, respectively.

The Freeport Noon Rotary Club also hosted its annual luncheon recognizing Freeport High School seniors who achieved a GPA of 3.75 or higher. A total of 42 students were honored at this event. The District extends its appreciation to the Rotary Club for celebrating the accomplishments of these outstanding students.

- **Enrollment Update:**

Current district enrollment stands at 3,676 students, with 3,563 students attending Freeport School District 145 schools. The slight decrease from March to April is primarily attributed to families moving out of the district.

- **Attendance**

School	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26
All	95%	93%	92%	92%	90%	89%	90%	88%	90%
BLACKHAWK ELEMENTARY	94%	93%	92%	92%	90%	86%	91%	91%	91%
CENTER ELEMENTARY	97%	94%	94%	93%	93%	89%	94%	94%	92%
EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER	93%	91%	88%	89%	86%	83%	87%	83%	88%
EMPIRE ELEMENTARY	94%	92%	91%	91%	90%	89%	91%	88%	92%
FREEPORT HIGH SCHOOL	95%	93%	91%	90%	87%	89%	88%	86%	88%
FREEPORT MIDDLE SCHOOL	94%	93%	92%	92%	90%	89%	90%	86%	88%
JONES FARRAR IB WORLD SCHOOL	97%	95%	94%	93%	94%	92%	93%	91%	92%
LINCOLN DOUGLAS ELEMENTARY	97%	95%	95%	95%	94%	93%	94%	94%	93%

- **Letter from the DOJ**

Notes from the IASA Supt. Meeting:

- a. 35 out of the 36 recipient school districts are public schools. One is a charter school
- b. The 35 schools received the School Violence Prevention Grant
- c. At this time, we wait to hear from the agent from the DOJ that will be assigned to our district.
- d. The letter stated that this is a compliance review of Title IX. At this time, we have not been provided a particular directive as to what documents our district needed to submit for purposes of review. We are committed to preserving all records.
- e. We will work closely with our legal counsel and since this is a pending legal issue, we will direct all inquiries to our counsel.

- **SPRING MAP(Measures of Academic Progress) testing** begins May 7th and runs through May 20th
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Adoption of Board Meeting Schedule

The board approved the schedule as presented with changes. As we cannot hold a public meeting on election days, the meeting scheduled for November 3, 2026 will be moved to Wednesday, November 4. The meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, 2027 will be moved to Wednesday April 7th. The meeting schedule will be posted on the website once it is revised.

Information Reports

- **Strategic Plan 2027–2029:** Representatives Kim and Lynn from Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates provided an overview to launch the Action Plan phase of the District’s strategic planning process. Members from each of the four work groups presented proposed action steps and identified measurable outcomes. Timelines have been established, along with designated administrative leads responsible for implementation.
- **Student Educational Travel Opportunity:** Staff members Matthew Lindley and LeDarius Stewart are seeking Board approval to lead a student overseas educational trip to Italy and Germany in June 2027. The experience will be coordinated through EF Educational Tours and will be open to middle school students in grades 6–8.
- **Professional Development – IB Programme:** Freeport School District 145 is requesting Board approval to contract with CASIE Consulting to provide International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP) leadership professional development at Jones-Farrar Elementary School. The total cost of \$30,000 will be fully funded through available Jones-Farrar IB grant funds in FY26.
- **Technology Infrastructure Update:** The District’s virtualization infrastructure is nearing end of life and currently supports critical systems, including Skyward Student, Skyward ERP, VersaTrans Suite, Follett, and backup services. Continuing to operate on unsupported infrastructure presents increased risks related to system reliability, security, and potential disruptions to both instructional and business operations.
- **Student Leadership Development Initiative:** A new after-school program at Freeport High School is being proposed to strengthen students’ leadership capacity by fostering positive relationships with peers, families, staff, and the broader community. The program is designed to create meaningful opportunities for connection, engagement, and student growth.

Approved Consent Agenda

- Freeport School District and CareerTEC Bills
 - Personnel Report (includes addendum) - May 5, 2026
 - Professional Services Agreement with Boone-Winnebago Regional Office of Education #4 (ROE 4) for Wellness and Belonging Programming Support at Freeport Middle School
 - Statement of Work (SOW) agreement between Sikich CPA LLC and Freeport School District 145 for audit year FY26
 - Final School Year Calendar 2025-2026
 - IASB Membership Renewal
 - Approval of the Diesel and Gas Fuel Bid for 2026-2027.
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Approved Board Action Items

- Virtualization Infrastructure Replacement
- CEO Facilitator 1099 Contract
- Dual Credit Contract with the University of Illinois - UC
- CASIE Consulting-IB Leadership Professional Development
- USW Retirement Incentive Memorandum of Understanding


Committee Reports


Building & Grounds projects on target. City of Freeport led testing, we had 2 faucets that tested at an accelerated level. Not drinking fountains, not generally used but will be replaced.

Safety & Security - talked through updates to the emergency response plan, and discussed training the trainer for ALICE training.

Next Meeting

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

 **May 19, 2026**

 **6:00 PM**

 **Freeport High School - 701 W. Mosley St**

The public is always invited and encouraged to attend.