

Meeting Held Via Teleconference
Monday, May 18, 2020
7:00 p.m.

A meeting of the Board of Education for Freeburg Community Consolidated School District No. 70 was held on Monday, May 18, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via teleconference.

Call to Order

Mrs. Bauman called the meeting to order and asked for a roll call of the members.

Roll Call

In addition to Mrs. Bauman, board members Andy Bittle, Michelle Morgan, Jamie Smith, Ed Scheibel, Ron Humphries (7:01), and Michelle Foppe were present. Also in attendance were Tomi Diefenbach, Superintendent and Mark Janssen, Assistant Superintendent and Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

The board stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Visitors

Visitors to the meeting included district teachers Justin Imm and Scott Schulz.

Moved: Jamie Smith

Seconded: Michelle Foppe

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).

- MINUTES OF THE APRIL 27, 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING
- TRIAL BALANCE AND STATEMENT THROUGH MAY 15, 2020 AND THE BUDGET SUMMARY THROUGH APRIL 30, 2020

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 6-aye, 0-nay.

Approval of the Bills

Moved: Michelle Morgan

Seconded: Andy Bittle

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE BILLS, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).

AYES: Bittle, Morgan, Smith, Scheibel, Humphries, Foppe, Bauman

Motion Carried

Reports of Standing Committees

Reports of Special Committees

Petitions/Communications

None

Public Participation

The Board welcomed the public to the meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Diefenbach gave an update on remote learning. The last day assignments will be pushed out is this Wednesday, May 20. As remote learning comes to an end, Mrs. Diefenbach stated preparations for the fall are underway. As the months have gone by, it has become apparent when school returns, it will look drastically different. For example, the district will ideally need to purchase about 150 more Chromebooks. This would make it possible for every student in Junior High to have his/her own device. This would eliminate contamination by multiple students using one device. In addition, Mrs. Diefenbach brought up the challenge of frequent cleaning and disinfecting during the school day. It is likely teachers and possibly students will need to wipe surfaces. To that end, it was discussed if the district needs to remove any object in classrooms that cannot be thoroughly and easily disinfected. After discussion, the Board agreed these objects need to be removed for the time being. Examples of these types of items include soft chairs, couches, any cloth chairs, stools, etc. that students use.

Mrs. Diefenbach gave an update on Graduation. This past Sunday, graduates were scheduled to come to the school in their gowns to take a picture in the Outdoor Classroom. However, the weather did not cooperate so it was postponed. The plan now is to await word when the diplomas and awards will be in and schedule the pictures around this date. This way, parents and students can come to the school for the picture and to pick up his/her diploma and award in one trip. Mrs. Diefenbach will also explore ways to take the pictures inside to avoid weather challenges while also maintaining required cleaning and disinfecting standards.

Mr. Diefenbach updated the Board on the progress of disbursing student belongings. The process began today and will continue this week. We had a very good turnout with close to 85% of belongings being picked up. Pickup continues tomorrow for sixth and seventh grade.

Mr. Janssen gave an update on the Chromebook loan program. The district is in process of having those returned. A total of 47 were loaned to students. So far, about one third have been returned.

Mr. Janssen updated the board on the meal distribution program. The last day for meals will be this Wednesday. He thanked the kitchen staff for their tireless work in getting meals out to our students. The employees who handled this were Abby Vosse, Christina Byman, Amanda Embry, Dawn Reuter, Tracy Gardiner, Fran Lange, and Connie Bethard.

Mr. Janssen gave an update on the summer projects expected to be completed. Custodians and Maintenance staff returned to work today. Guidelines for social distancing and mask use were communicated and will be followed throughout the summer.

1. Restoration of the Primary Center roof and HVAC replacement of the Kindergarten section. This project has begun with expected completion in June.
2. The driveway and entrance to the gated area at the bus garage is in need of repair. The road is beginning to break apart. An oil and chip is needed along with that area near the gate, as well a need to be reinforced. More information on this will be communicated later in the meeting.
3. Refinishing of the gym floor

4. Installation of fencing around the north playground at the Primary Center
5. Cleaning of both buildings

Old Business

New Business

Moved: Jamie Smith

Seconded: Andy Bittle

A MOTION WAS MADE TO KEEP ALL STUDENT FEES STABLE FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR.

AYES: Bittle, Morgan, Smith, Scheibel, Humphries, Foppe, Bauman

Motion Carried

Moved: Andy Bittle

Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE ROAD MAINTENANCE QUOTE AT THE BUS GARAGE FROM DALE RECKER FOR \$18,695, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).

AYES: Bittle, Morgan, Smith, Scheibel, Humphries, Foppe, Bauman

Motion Carried

Moved: Jamie Smith

Seconded: Ed Scheibel

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE OIL AND CHIP QUOTE AT THE BUS GARAGE FROM DALE RECKER FOR \$19,293.43, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).

AYES: Bittle, Morgan, Smith, Scheibel, Humphries, Foppe, Bauman

Motion Carried

Moved: Ron Humphries

Seconded: Andy Bittle

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RENEW THE EARLY CHILDHOOD LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SMITHTON DISTRICT #130 FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 7-aye, 0-nay.

Motion: Michelle Morgan

Seconded: Michelle Foppe

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:32 PM TO CONSIDER:

THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES OF THE DISTRICT INCLUDING HEARING TESTIMONY ON A COMPLAINT LODGED AGAINST AN EMPLOYEE. 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(1); AND

AYES: Bittle, Morgan, Smith, Scheibel, Humphries, Foppe, Bauman
Motion Carried

Moved: Andy Bittle Seconded: Michelle Morgan

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RE-ENTER REGULAR SESSION AT 8:18.

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 7-aye, 0-nay.

Moved: Jamie Smith Seconded: Andy Bittle

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM INTERVENTIONIST RACHEL HUDDLESTON, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 7-aye, 0-nay.

Moved: Andy Bittle Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO EMPLOY JENNIFER SCHEUCHNER AS INTERVENTIONIST FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR.

AYES: Bittle, Morgan, Smith, Scheibel, Humphries, Foppe, Bauman
Motion Carried

Other Business

Adjournment

Moved: Andy Bittle Seconded: Ron Humphries

There being no further business to come before this body, **A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:20 P.M.**

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 7-aye, 0-nay.

Barbara Bauman, President
Board of Education, Dist. #70

Jamie Smith, Secretary
Board of Education, Dist. # 70