

Freeburg Elementary School  
Monday, August 24, 2020  
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Education for Freeburg Community Consolidated School District No. 70 was held on Monday, August 24, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.. The meeting was broadcast on Zoom.

### **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 (via telephone), and Michelle Foppe were also in attendance. Also in attendance were Tomi Diefenbach, Superintendent, Mark Janssen, Assistant Superintendent and Recording Secretary, and Justin Imm, Principal.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Board and public stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Visitors**

There were no visitors.

Moved: Andy Bittle

Seconded: Jamie Smith

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

- MINUTES OF THE JULY 27, 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND AUGUST 10, 2020 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
- TRIAL BALANCE AND STATEMENT THROUGH AUGUST 21, 2020 AND THE BUDGET SUMMARY THROUGH JULY 31, 2020

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

### **Approval of the Bills**

Moved: Ed Scheibel

Seconded: Michelle Foppe

### **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**

There was one Freedom of Information Act request. Steve Duplain from Culver City, CA requested names, job titles, district email address, and salary information for all teachers and administrators. The request was filled within the five-day period.

### **Public Participation**

Public participation was moved to after the Superintendent's Report.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mrs. Diefenbach gave an update on the reopening of school. The reopening of school has gone very well for the students. They all seem happy to be back. However, there have been staffing challenges. The Illinois Department of Health released new guidelines over the weekend. In short, if anyone has any COVID-19 symptoms, there are three avenues of action for the family:

1. That student or staff member must get a COVID test;
2. That person must get a doctor's note attributing the symptom(s) to some other affliction;  
or
3. That person must stay home for 10 days.

There have been many challenges with staff members needing to be gone for various reasons, including having symptoms where the district was unable to secure a substitute. Many people are being pulled from their primary responsibilities. Mrs. Diefenbach expressed concern if the present trend continues, it will be difficult to keep the school going. The Board discussed the possibility of certain grade levels may need to go full remote so the rest of the school could continue. The problem with that is it could present timing problems for families because it is often unknown with advance notice of a shortage. After discussion, board members asked Mrs. Diefenbach to keep them updated on these issues so a decision could be made quickly for families to make childcare arrangements.

Mr. Imm presented the Principal's Report for the Primary Center. He said staff has done an outstanding job adjusting to the new way of having school. The in-person Open House was held on August 13 & 14 with many positive reviews. The Response to Intervention sweeps will be scheduled in the near future.

Mr. Wittenauer presented the Principal's Report for the Elementary School. Mr. Wittenauer echoed the same sentiment the staff have done a great job. The students all seem to be happy to be back at school and with their friends. He also complimented everyone on stepping up and making this possible for the students on relatively short notice.

## **Old Business**

## **New Business**

Moved: Ed Scheibel

Seconded: Jamie Smith

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE TENTATIVE BUDGET, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).**

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

Motion: Jamie Smith

Seconded: Andy Bittle

**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)**

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

Moved: Ron Humphries

Seconded: Michelle Morgan

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO RE-ENTER REGULAR SESSION AT 7:50 PM.**

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

Moved: Michelle Morgan

Seconded: Andy Bittle

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE LETTER OF RETIREMENT FROM SECRETARY TRACY KESSLER, EFFECTIVE JULY 31, 2020.**

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

Moved: Andy Bittle

Seconded: Jamie Smith

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO EMPLOY SHAUNA BLAIR AS TEACHER FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR.**

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

Moved: Michelle Morgan

Seconded: Michelle Foppe

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO EMPLOY ANNA SMITH AS SECRETARY, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.**

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

ABSTAIN: Smith  
Motion Carried

Motion: Ron Humphries                      Seconded: Michelle Foppe

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST FOR TEACHER JENNIFER DELASHMIT FOR NINE WEEKS.**

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

Motion: Andy Bittle                              Seconded: Jamie Smith

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE LETTERS OF RESIGNATION FROM NON-CERTIFIED PERSONNEL KAREN EICHENLAUB, HEATHER HUMPHRIES AND COURTNEY SCHWABLE, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.**

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

**Other Business**

**Adjournment**

Moved: Andy Bittle                              Seconded: Jamie Smith

There being no further business to come before this body, **A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:53 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