

Freeburg Elementary School
Monday, October 26, 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, October 26, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Freeburg Elementary School Cafeteria. The meeting was also 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 (via telephone), 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, Ryan Wittenauer and Justin Imm, Principals.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board and public stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitors

Visitors to the meeting included district staff Ben Junge, Lauren Baker, and Paula Mullins. Also in attendance were Leah Black, Alexa Vollmer, and Paul Vollmer.

Moved: Michelle Morgan Seconded: Michelle Foppe

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

- MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 24, 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND OCTOBER 20, 2020 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
- TRIAL BALANCE AND STATEMENT THROUGH SEPTEMBER 25, 2020 AND THE BUDGET SUMMARY THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2020

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

Approval of the Bills

Moved: Andy Bittle Seconded: Jamie Smith

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 were three Freedom of Information Act requests. The first was from a Special Education advocacy group. They sought various special education data from the past five years. The second was from Smart Procure. They sought purchasing and vendor information since July. The third sought all guest speaker contracts from the past year. All were filled within the five-day time period.

Public Participation

The Board welcomed the public to the meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Paul Vollmer of Scheffel Boyle was on hand to present the 2019-2020 audit report. For the 13th consecutive year, the district attained "Recognition" status, which is the highest rating given. This rating is derived from five financial indicators including fund balance to revenue ratio, expenditure to revenue ratio, days cash on hand, percent of short-term borrowing remaining, and percent of long-term debt margin remaining. Mr. Vollmer praised the district for continuing to monitor expenditures and thanked administrators for their help during the audit.

Mrs. Diefenbach gave an enrollment update. Currently, there are 764 students compared to 763 last month and 788 last year.

Mrs. Diefenbach gave an update on the reopening of school. Kindergarten and 1st grade students have returned four days per week, beginning last Monday. Everything has gone well and parents have seemed appreciative to have their kids back. It is planned for 2nd grade to return this Thursday for four days per week, as well. Wednesdays will remain as a district-wide remote learning day. Mrs. Diefenbach stated the goal is to have all grades return to school as much as possible. The plan going forward is to have 3rd and 4th grade parents complete a survey about returning to gauge numbers on having those students come back four days per week. Mrs. Diefenbach asked board members for guidance on moving forward. After a short discussion, board members agreed to gradually allow all students back culminating with the 7th and 8th graders in December.

Mrs. Diefenbach asked board members to begin thinking about guidelines on the upcoming basketball and cheerleading. As it stands now, the IHSA and IDPH is to release guidance in the coming days. Basketball tryouts are scheduled for November 16. Scholar Bowl tryouts are scheduled for November 9 while Cheerleading tryouts are yet to be scheduled. After discussion, it was decided the board will wait until after the IHSA releases guidance to determine how and if basketball and cheerleading seasons will proceed. Scholar Bowl tryouts are scheduled for November 9 and that season will take place without spectators and limited participants.

Transportation Director Fritz Holcomb was present to give the Board an update on the Transportation Department. He stated everything is going well with the students gradually

returning to school. He complimented all of the drivers on how they have done under the circumstances. Each bus is disinfected after every route and thoroughly disinfected with an electrostatic sprayer twice per week. He also mentioned Patty Carril and Bob Burns, district mechanic, are doing a great job. He stated the district has several old vehicles from the late 1990s and early 2000s. These vehicles are running but finding parts has become an increasing challenge.

Mr. Imm presented the Principal's Report for the Primary Center. Kindergarten and 1st grade have returned to school four days per week. Second grade is set to return on Thursday. Mr. Imm complimented the teachers and parents for their support as the students transition back to school. On October 19 and 20, the students had fire safety with the Freeburg Fire Department. Picture day was held on October 22 and 23 for the in-person and remote students.

Mr. Wittenauer presented the Principal's Report for the Elementary School. On October 9th, we held a teachers' institute. Teachers completed trainings on Response to Intervention, Google Calendar to effectively roll out sign-ups for parent-teacher conferences, and mandated trainings. On October 16, report cards were made available exclusively online on TeacherEase. Today, we held an intruder drill at both buildings. This week is Red Ribbon Week with a different theme each day to promote being drug free and making good choices. Mr. Wittenauer congratulated Angelina Smith for being the Optimist Student of the Month.

Old Business

New Business

Moved: Michelle Morgan Seconded: Andy Bittle

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE REVISION TO THE DISTRICT RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY, AS PRESENTED.

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

Motion: Andy Bittle Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE THE DECEMBER BOARD MEETING FROM DECEMBER 28 TO DECEMBER 14.

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

Moved: Jamie Smith Seconded: Michelle Foppe

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:39 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: Andy Bittle Seconded: Jamie Smith

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RE-ENTER REGULAR SESSION AT 8:16 PM.

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

Moved: Andy Bittle Seconded: Jamie Smith

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM
PARAPROFESSIONAL EMMA KRUEGER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.**

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

Other Business

Adjournment

Moved: Michelle Morgan Seconded: Michelle Foppe

There being no further business to come before this body, **A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN
THE MEETING AT 8:19 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