

Freeburg Elementary School  
Monday, October 23, 2023  
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 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria at Freeburg Elementary School.

### **Call to Order**

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

### **Roll Call**

In addition to Mrs. Foppe, board members Ed Scheibel, Jamie Smith (7:03), Jayson Baker (7:12), Amber Trout (8:28), David Stein, and Bill May were in attendance. Also in attendance were Dr. Melanie Brink, Superintendent and Mark Janssen, Financial Officer and Recording Secretary. Principals Lindsay Fark and Tiffany Zurliene were present. Heidi Eckert of Ford Harrison was also present.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Board and public stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Visitors**

Visitors to the meeting included district staff Jennifer Hopfinger, Emily Vasquez, Paula Mullins, Leah Beth Black, Rachael Stehl, Lauren Baker, and Michelle Freebairn. Also in attendance were Danita Duecker, Paul Vollmer, Amber Lonsdale, Jeanine Sheppard, and Leland Snyder.

Moved: David Stein

Seconded: Bill May

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

- MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING, THE SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING, AND THE OCTOBER 10, 2023 PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING
- INVESTMENT SUMMARY THROUGH OCTOBER 20, 2023
- BUDGET SUMMARY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 4-aye, 0-nay.

### **Approval of the Bills**

Moved: David Stein

Seconded: Ed Scheibel

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

AYES: Scheibel, Stein, May, Foppe

Motion Carried

### **Reports of Standing Committees**

The Behavioral Interventions Committee has scheduled a meeting for November 6 at 7 pm.

## **Reports of Special Committees**

### **Petitions/Communications**

There were three Freedom of Information Act requests. The first was from Brian Weinstock who sought any communications regarding employee discipline and communications among board members regarding an employee. The second was from Allium Data who sought property/casualty, worker's compensation, and medical insurance renewal information. The third was from Amber Lonsdale who sought documents pertaining to record preservation and disposal schedules and any communications regarding testing protocols and procedures since September 18. All three requests were filled within the five-day timeframe.

### **Public Participation**

The Board welcomed the public to the meeting.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Paul Vollmer of Scheffel Boyle was on hand to present the 2022-2023 audit report. For the 17<sup>th</sup> 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 reviewed financial highlights with the Board and thanked administrators for their help during the audit. The complete report can be found in the addenda.

Dr. Brink stated the November word of the month is Cooperation.

Teachers were invited to hear the speaker Damon West on October 5. He was hosted by Freeburg High School and it was put together by Dr. Ryan Wamser

On October 6, the District Leadership Team and Special Ed. Team collaborated. The Freeburg Fire Department also held a "Let It Bleed" training for staff that centered on applying tourniquets and managing trauma.

Various teachers were trained on curriculum mapping on October 19. A train the trainer session will follow where those teachers will work with those who were not in attendance.

The Freeburg Elementary Education Foundation hosted their Trunk or Treat on October 22.

Dr. Brink thanked the Freeburg Women's Club for purchasing pizza for the teachers for parent-teacher conferences on Tuesday.

Board Member Scheibel gave a summary of the latest news from the Illinois Association School Boards. He stated division meetings run through October 30. The annual conference will be held next month in Chicago, and there is still time to register. He reminded board members to share with him any opinions on any resolutions that will be voted on at the conference in Chicago.

Mr. Janssen stated the Illinois State Board of Education has opened another round of maintenance grants. This is a matching grant of up to \$50,000. He is recommending the district replace the six exterior doors in the 1996 addition, which is the Junior High and Cafeteria additions. These doors are deteriorating and rusting thereby causing occasional issues with the doors closing properly. This replacement was initially planned to be incorporated into the lighting and vestibule projects this summer, but the cost of those precluded that.

Mrs. Fark presented the Principal's Report for the Primary Center. On October 13 the first quarter ended. Report cards are now available. The week of October 10 – 13 was Fire Prevention Week. Many activities were planned with the Freeburg Fire Department. Mrs. Fark thanked Chief Mueller. Fall Fest was held on October 13. Mrs. Fark thanked the staff who put it together, along with the parents who donated and the volunteers. An earthquake drill was held on October 19. Red Ribbon Week is this week.

Mrs. Zurliene presented the Principal's Report for the Elementary School. The basketball and cheerleading seasons are underway. A pep rally was held last Wednesday to get the students and players ready for the season and to communicate expectations of behaviors while attending the games. On October 20, the third grade went to Skate City for a field trip. The Freeburg Police Department will have an assembly on Wednesday in conjunction with Red Ribbon Week. On November 9, a Veteran's Day breakfast will be held for veterans and first responders hosted by our eighth-grade students.

## **Old Business**

## **New Business**

Moved: Dave Stein

Seconded: Bill May

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE GOALS FOR SUPERINTENDENT DR. BRINK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER MARK JANSSEN, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).**

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

Motion: Dave Stein

Seconded: Jamie Smith

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE THE DECEMBER BOARD MEETING FROM DECEMBER 25 TO DECEMBER 18.**

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

Moved: Dave Stein

Seconded: Ed Scheibel

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:28 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);**

