

**FREMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Board Meeting In Person/Via Zoom
April 26, 2021
6:00 p.m.**

The Regular Board meeting of the Fremont Board of Education was called to order by President, Matt Hendrie, at 6:03 p.m.

Present: Matt Hendrie, Michael Campeau, Carrie Crosley, Kim Rasch, Rick St. Peter, Jen Scott and Pete Slovinski.

Absent: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President, Matt Hendrie.

Approval of Agenda

6683 – Motion by Pete and seconded by Carrie to approve the agenda.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Public Participation

- None
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Recognitions/Presentations

- None

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

6684 – Motion by Rick and seconded by Pete to approve the consent agenda items:

- a. Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting held March 22, 2021.
- b. Disbursements for the month of March in the amount of \$3,694,537.14.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Leadership Reports

Ken Haggart, Superintendent

- Ken advised there is a deadline on when the State has to approve the ESSER 3 monies available to Fremont Public Schools. The governor and the chair of the

Senate are not on speaking terms. Anything that is going to get done will have to go through the House of Representatives.

- The nurse who works with the school has been ill. She is working from home.
- Assistant Principal interviews are this Thursday, April 29, at 5:30, 6:30, 7:30 and 8:30.
- The battle for teachers is in full swing across the State. There are many districts who are offering significant signing bonuses. We are looking at what we can offer our current teachers who have been going through this challenging time.
- Summer school only needs four things: kids, teachers, bus drivers and food service. We are currently struggling to find all of these. Teachers can either choose their own curriculum or use one provided by NCRESA. This is a 6-week, 3 day a week, program. We are continuing to plan for it, but just don't know what it looks like. Michael asked whether students would be forced to attend – the answer is no. We are looking at students who are on the cusp (just a little behind). If they come, they will be able to participate in the afternoon programs available, or they may go home, after a lunch. We will send out invitations to the students that fall in this category.
- Matt asked regarding the NCRESA Board member availability. Ken will call tomorrow to check.

Bing Hanson, Director of Finance

- Bing advised that the 43% that we had to write for in the consolidated app for ESSER 2 monies will be determined in the near future. It is hard to budget when you don't know what you are getting.
- 2020 savings from the Electric Savings program was approximately \$98,000.

Board Committee Reports

Finance/Personnel – Met on April 12 at 6:00 p.m. Pete presented that we have about \$615,000 in ESSER 2 funds. Sanitizations supplies, Educational Technology, Learning Loss, Literacy Coach and Administrative Leadership. Personnel – started doing assistant principal interviews. First interview was completed, and now there are four more scheduled for Thursday. Talked about summer programs. Prom and graduation are scheduled. Ken's contract was discussed.

Facilities/Policy – Is meeting after the Board meeting tonight, April 26, 2021.

6685 -Motion to go into closed session in order to discuss the superintendent's contract by Jen and seconded by Pete at 6:20 p.m.

Rick – yes; Kim – yes; Michael – yes; Carrie – yes; Jen – yes; Pete – yes; Matt - yes

6686 – Motion by Mike and seconded by Carrie to return to open session.

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Action Agenda

6687 – Motion by Pete and seconded by Kim to approve the Superintendent’s contract.

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Board Communications/Discussion

- Graduation is set for May 23 at the football field.
- Board retreat will be held this summer in June, July or August. This will be the beginning of strategic planning. The principals will come in for the day and present data. We will talk about where the district wants to go for the next 3 years. Jen asked if what they had created prior to Covid is now null and void. Ken advised that the groups that everyone was on, the Admin would like to keep the same groups. It will be about 8-10 hours of solid work with the teams and then back to the large group, but the end result should be good for the district.
- Matt asked regarding Quest graduation. Tracy is working on getting that scheduled.
- The track will be started on May 24 for completion. There was considerable discussion on graduation and how this will occur as far as number of guests, outside, temperature checks, etc.
- All the Newaygo County schools are having graduation. But if you happen to antigen test, and there is a positive test, that person does not get to participate. Other schools in the county are looking at allowing their seniors to leave 14 days early prior to graduation so they do not have to antigen test. This year virtual learners will be included in high school graduation. There is discussion on whether next year those virtual learners will receive a Fremont High School diploma. Matt asked about being stuck on Sunday graduation because it has been tradition. There was discussion on whether in the future it would be different.
- Currently we offer new teachers \$1000 for signing, and then if the teacher is still here two years later, they get another \$1000. Finance/Personnel will look at what we can possibly offer with ESSER 3 monies, and over what period of time. We really need to “grow our own” teachers. We have hired two new teachers who are currently student teachers in our district.
- Carrie asked what the start date in the fall is – NCRESA has been approved for the waiver, and our start date is August 30 for students.

Adjournment

6688 - Motion by Pete and seconded by Jen to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Michael Campeau, Secretary