

**FREMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Board Meeting via ZOOM
January 25, 2021
7:00 p.m.**

The Regular Board meeting of the Fremont Board of Education was called to order by President, Matt Hendrie, at 7:05 p.m.

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

Absent: None

Approval of Agenda

6661 – Motion by Jen and seconded by Rick to approve the agenda.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Public Participation

- None

Recognitions/Presentations

- None

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

6662 – Motion by Pete and seconded by Carrie to approve:

- A. The minutes of the January 11, 2021 Board of Education meeting.
- B. The ECOL for the month of January

Ken explained that the ECOL reverted back to its original form of November. February will have a mid-year data point entered into it. We will also have an end-of-year data point.

Ayes – 7; Nays -0 Motion passed.

Leadership Reports

Ken Haggart, Superintendent

- Internet gaming began in the state of Michigan last Friday. Will that affect lottery earnings as they are attached to K-12 dollars. The State has raised the taxes involved with internet gambling which looks like the extra money will go to education.
- Scott VanSingel did not get the education appropriations committee Chair.
- The Federal Government announced that the CARES funds were coming, and the State would determine where 10% of that would go. Governor Whitmer said that the State will take 10% of that money and give it to schools with a greater special education population. Fremont will benefit from this. The government is supposed to get that money to the States within 30 days of the passing of this bill which is January 27.
- Contact sports have been pushed back to February 21. There has been a letter written to the State asking to see the data from which they are making those decisions. The Director of the MDHHS resigned his position on Friday. There is a big rally in Lansing on Saturday to “Let Them Play”.
- Wednesday, January 27 is the State of the State address. The governor should express where she would like to see the budget be this next year. We are hoping that with Governor Whitmer there will be a pendulum swinging back towards education.

Bing Hanson, Director of Finance

- Bing talked about how difficult it is to go anywhere on the budget. As soon as we hear something, we will be able to move money around. We cannot amend the budget in February since we don't know about this new money. Jen asked regarding snow and plowing – do we pay per plow? We are set to pay per plow, so we are saving money on that.

Board Committee Reports

Facilities/Policy Committee – Met tonight at 6:00 p.m. via ZOOM. Ryan took the time to go through the Sinking Fund spreadsheet, what projects were completed, the costs of those, etc. Track has been a big thing for us in the past year. Our budget was 1.3 million. Currently as we sit right now, other than a few things that need to be finished, we are sitting around 1 million. Ryan is estimating that we will be 50,000 to 60,000 under budget. The ten-year plan of the sinking fund budget was reviewed. For this new year, outside double doors are planned for Pathfinder. Other projects coming up in the next year or two are roof at Pathfinder which needs to be updated, mechanical issues such as boilers at PF, DB and the Middle School. Middle School roof needs to be completed. Matt asked about the single outside doors coming into the pods that are starting to rust out on the bottom. Jen will make note of that for the

next meeting to ask Ryan. Matt mentioned some lights at the high school were flickering on and off. Ken will check with Ryan on that. Discussed a steel roof at PF rather than shingles.

Michael discussed Policy. The Policy Manual has been reduced by the attorney to a much more manageable manual. Changes are made by the attorney. Some of the most notable changes in this last update were to the conflict of interest policy, curriculum policy, attendance policy, student appearance which has been changed to “cannot disrupt the classroom environment”, cardiac response plan which requires coordination with EMS and other organizations. There is some language for parents to opt out of some screenings. About half of the policies were gone through, and the next time we will go through the remainder of the manual. We will discuss the Title IX and 504 policies the next meeting as well.

Pete inquired about the curriculum policy change. Michael explained to him that currently Edgenuity is developing the curriculum for the on-line students. Matt asked about FCS students getting credit at our high school and a policy on that. Ken explained that was in the Administrative Regulations.

Pete asked about the student appearance policy and will that create ambiguity. Ken explained that there was a time when the policy manual listed everything in detail which is why it became so cumbersome. It does become teacher discretion to some degree at this time.

Miller Johnson (used to be Lusk Albertson) takes care of making these changes to the manuals and on line.

Next meeting will be some time in February.

Finance/Personnel – will meet tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. on ZOOM.

Action Agenda

- None

Board Communications/Discussion

- Michael asked about the return of more of the virtual students and how the second semester is going. Ken just received some of the MAP testing results from Daisy Brook from the virtual students first semester. We will have some data together for the next meeting. Daisy Brook had 22 students return to in person. There is a lot of gain in math from last fall. Matt asked regarding students leaving in person to virtual and those that returned to in-person from virtual in the midst of the first semester. Ken will look into it and have a report for the Board for the next meeting.
- Matt asked regarding exams in the high school. Overall exams went well at the high school.

- Matt asked about how contact tracing is going. We currently have a handful out on quarantine at this time at the middle and high schools.
- There was a question regarding the vaccination process.
- Ken did bring up Beaver Island. All our trips through the course of the year have been postponed. Ken asked that the Board think about it for the future when the opportunity arises.
- Matt asked regarding replacements for retirements. Wes is doing interviews for the 8th grade Language Arts position this week. We are actively seeking replacements for the elementary at this time. Michael asked about the number of graduates there will be in the educational field. Carrie asked how many vacancies we will have. We probably will have upwards of three PE positions, a technology spot at the high school, a technology position at the middle school, a special education position at the middle school, a math interventionist position at DB. We are waiting for potential retirements, and those decisions to be made.

Adjournment

6663 - Motion by Pete and seconded by Jen to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

- Ayes – 7; Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Michael Campeau, Secretary