

**FREMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
July 17, 2023  
6:00 P.M.**

The regular board meeting of the Fremont Board of Education was called to order by President, Jennifer Scott, at 5:59 p.m.

Present: Justin Visser, Carrie Crosley, Pete Slovinski, Jennifer Scott, Jared Hanna, Steve Paulsen

Absent: Kim Rasch

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Jennifer Scott

**Approval of Agenda**

**# 6906-** Motion by Pete and seconded by Carrie to approve the agenda.

Ayes-6 - Nays 0 - Motion passed

**Recognitions/Presentations**

A. Dan Bauer the potential interim superintendent introduced himself and spoke to his qualifications and interest in helping out in the district during the transition between superintendents. He was recently the interim middle school principal at Newaygo Middle School. He is willing to overlap and be available as soon as needed.

B. TowerPinkster: Tom Kaywood and Matthew Slagle along with Rob Golliver from AOK were present to discuss the overages in the budget on the Middle School/Pathfinder project. They sent a letter to the board outlining their costs and the reasons for the additional cost. They admit to making a mistake but feel they have been good stewards with the school's money. They are asking for the board to approve a payment of \$67,678.75 to the contingency. They hope to meet the deadline of middle August to complete the project and promised to stay on and finish the job. The board asked several questions of them concerning processes and decisions that were made at the time of the work being done that caused the overage. The board also wanted to know why they are not tapping Error and Omissions to cover their mistakes. Once they were done presenting they left and the board tabled the rest of the discussion until item #9 Board Communications/Discussions.

**Approval of Consent Agenda Items**

**# 6907- Motion by Pete and seconded by Justin to approve the consent agenda items:**

- A. Approve minutes of June 19, 2023 Special and Regular Board of Education meetings
- B. Approve minutes of June 20, 2023 Special Board of Education meeting
- C. Approve minutes of June 27, 2023 Special Board of Education meeting
- D. Approve the minutes of June 29, 2023 Special Board of Education meeting
- E. Approve the disbursements for the month of June in the amount of \$ 1, 688,364.61
- F. Approve the Resolution for Annual Loan/Repayment Activity

Ayes-6; Nays-0 Motion Passed

## Leadership Reports

Brad Jacobs, Superintendent

- Brad stated that 3 contracts have been worked on and settled this year: Transportation, Food Service and Support Staff (Support Staff need to be finalized after their vote)
- Brad and Brad Reyburn have been in contact working on the transition. Brad R has been coming in on Mondays to meet.
- Staff Opening is the district: 2 teaching positions at Daisy Brook and 1 secretary position at Pathfinder.
- All coaching positions have been filled.
- Julie Reams and Wendy Ingersoll have taken their positions and are making them their own.
- Brad will work with Dan Bauer to get him established as out interim superintendent.
- Brad's official last day in the district is July 31, 2023. Dan will fill in from July 31 to August 30, 2023.

Julie Reams, Director of Finance

- Julie shared the financial report for the month of June. She noted that that all numbers are not final yet as she is working her way through the end of the fiscal year process. All number will be finalized by the audit
- Our audit will be Mid-September. The auditors will be in house for an entire week. At that time.
- She also shared how the monies we received from a grant by the Michigan Department of Education for mental health & wellness will be spent the upcoming school year. That grant will be used for a Resilience Coach and a part-time Behavioral Interventionist at the High School.
- The other grant from the Michigan Department of Education to improve safety and security will be used this upcoming school year for playground fencing at Pathfinder and ½ the wages and benefits for the School Resource Officer.

## Board Committee Reports

Finance/Personnel – Nothing to report at this time

Policy/Facilities – Met on June 29, 2023

Pete Slovinski from the committee reported on the following items:

- Middle School big Gym door hardware is being replaced.
- The pavilion at Daisy Brook will be taken down by the end of the summer.
- Privacy strips for bathrooms in High School are \$1,100 not \$11,000. Installed prior to school starting.
- Working on replacing/updating door locks for single use bathrooms in HS.
- Shrubs are being removed at the main entrance of the HS building. The idea is to have a memorial rock garden replace the shrub area as it does not look very appealing right now. This will be completed prior to the start of school.
- Pathfinder ADA playground equipment has been received and will be installed by the end of July. Mulch will also be addressed at that time.

Pete also shared items of need:

- Handicap door opening equipment is needed for the playground doors at Pathfinder. The costs for updating these doors with the handicap openers are \$5,000 per door.
- Also needed are additional access control door equipment costing approximately \$3,000.
- Daisy Brook will need ADA playground equipment within the next 2 years to meet the needs of incoming students.

Completed Items are:

- Pathfinder Chiller is now running.
- Home Ec Room grant was received.
- Water Boilers have been completed in Daisy Brook.
- Pathfinder sign and lettering is completed.

## Action Items

### # 6908- Motion by Steve and seconded by Pete to approve the action items:

Approval of Pathfinder and Daisy Brook's student handbooks.

## Board Communications/Discussion

Bathroom committee gave an update on their meeting with Scott Sherman. The high school is using the following steps:

- A student who is transitioning must be under doctor's care and have a medical note verifying that the student is going through change process. Then the student and parents have a meeting with Scott to review procedures and so he can share where the unisex bathrooms are located if the student would like to use those.
- Also, the privacy strips are going in each bathroom stall.
- The keyed bathrooms will be changed over to locking doors and the committee would like to see this done before the start of the school year. Harry is going to follow up on the order for the new hardware and get the change over done as soon as possible.
- As for sports and the use of the locker rooms athletics will be following the MHASSA rules and guidelines. Multiple locker rooms will be made available.

Superintendent contract communication: Brad Reyburn's official start date is August 31, 2023. Julie prorated his salary since he will not be starting with us on August 1. Martin Luther Day was added to his list of holidays so he was the same as the rest of the administration. The board also agreed to give Brad a rolling three-year contract as long as he maintains an effective or highly effective rating.

TowerPinkster: The board held a discussion concerning TowerPinkster and the request for payment on going over budget. At this time the board does not want to pay the \$68,000. Brad talked to our lawyers and based on all the information that Brad forward to him his advice is not to pay. Jared brought up that there is no break down in the paperwork and they feel we have already paid for several other mistakes during this project. Harry is going to get a breakdown of the \$243,000 to share with the board. The board also would like to know what the actual responsibilities were for each party and why they are not using their insurance to cover this charge. The charge is actually owed to subcontractor.

Harry also mentioned that Ryan never gave the go ahead for these change overs to be made and that he never signed the contract. The company proceeded with out Ryan's signature. The board is waiting on more information as Harry receives it before proceeding.

## Public Participation

NONE

## Adjournment

### # 6909 Motioned made by Jared and seconded by Pete to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Ayes 7; Nays 0 Motioned passed

---

Kim Rasch, Secretary