

**FREMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Board Meeting
April 24, 2023
7:00 p.m.**

The Regular Board meeting of the Fremont Board of Education was called to order by President, Jennifer Scott, at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Kim Rasch, Carrie Crosley, Michael Campeau, Pete Slovinski, Jen Scott, Justin Visser and Steve Paulsen

Absent: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jennifer Scott, President.

Approval of Agenda

6864 – Motion by Pete and seconded by Carrie to approve the agenda.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Public Participation

- Keith Huntoon spoke regarding the Federal Law and bathroom safety and his fears.
- NinaJo Wallace spoke regarding grandchildren wanting their own bathrooms.
- Robin Jahr spoke as an old school employee about human trafficking.
- Melody Vandermolen has worked for the school....spoken to several children regarding boys thinking it is funny to use girls' bathrooms....hiring bathroom monitors.
- Julie Gardenour spoke as a retired teacher about waking up and the battle between good and evil.
- Bill Eureka spoke regarding bullying of transgender students and invited the public to do research into gender dysphoria.
- Rev. Kaminski spoke as representative of the LGBTQ+ youth.
- Shannon Barstow spoke as a parent of a transgender child.
- Jackson Barstow spoke as a transgender youth at the high school and personal experiences.
- Mr. Fowler spoke regarding using the correct bathroom.
- David Westin spoke representing the straight kids.
- Joe Dubois spoke regarding two genders from birth.
- Denise McDonnell spoke regarding her children struggling through Covid and their emotional problems now with fear of using the bathroom
- Ryan Whetzel spoke with his two daughters in attendance.

- Lisa VanHauten spoke as a former teacher at Fremont that no one has a right to see their “private parts” who now works with the American Decency Association.
- Amber Muma spoke as a taxpayer in the Fremont School District.
- Star Tyler spoke as a parent of a middle schooler who doesn’t feel comfortable in the gym class and the lack of main bathroom doors.
- Candace Slozewski spoke regarding her daughter feeling uncomfortable in the bathroom. Thanked the Board for doing the best they could.
- Theresa Howe spoke as a mom of young children and that our bathrooms are outdated.
- Kathy Fletcher asked how are we protecting all the children in the bathrooms, and especially the vulnerable kids who are in the general education population.
- Danielle Hendrie spoke as a parent and grandmother on keeping all our students safe.

Recognitions/Presentations

- None

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

6865 – Motion by Carrie and seconded by Kim to approve the consent agenda items:

- A. Approve the minutes of the March 13, 2023 Board of Education meeting.
- B. Approve the disbursements for the month of March in the amount of \$2,409,694.53

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Leadership Reports

Brad Jacobs, Superintendent

- No report.

Julie Reams, Director of Finance –

- Julie reported that she had handed out the updated financial report and explained how she recategorized the numbers.
- She explained to the Board about the audit bids and how that was determined.

Board Committee Reports

- Finance/Personnel – Met March 30.....Michael reported regarding the loss of grant funding for 2024-2025 and having to dip into the general fund when the Esser III funding is gone. Kim reported regarding the Resiliency Coach interviews coming up and any open positions for next year.

- Facilities/Policy – Met March 27 – Carrie reported that Facilities committee did go through their to do list and did cross out what had been completed.

Action Agenda

6866 - Motion by Pete and seconded by Michel to approve Baird, Cotter & Bishop a Fremont Public Schools' new auditing firm for the 2022-2023 school year.

Julie explained that she sent out requests for proposals to different companies. H&S, our current auditors, refused to bid. Baird, Cotter & Bishop was the company who was well versed and actual do on-site audits.

Ayes – 7; Nays -0; Motion passed.

6867 – Motion by Michael and seconded by Pete to reopen public comments

Ayes – 7; Nays -0; Motion passed.

- DJ Davis spoke as a parent regarding sexually assaulted children
- Greg Taylor spoke that boys are boys and girls are girls and representing the moral decay of society.
- Crystal Crawford spoke as a parent who has a son attending Fremont Middle School and her son's feelings not mattering.
- Kendal Moulder asked regarding the options that the Board has.
- Tina McClain spoke regarding how much trust she has in the Board, but she was concerned that a child was threatened in a Pathfinder bathroom and her grandson who is being bullied.
- Brian Jahr spoke as a parent concerned with safety of our children.
- Nicole Hall spoke regarding homeschooling her three young girls and how the schools have gone down since taking God out of the schools.
- Cecelia Smith spoke regarding homeschooling because parents are upset and will pull their students out of Fremont Public Schools.
- Melissa spoke regarding the safety of staff and coaches.
- Current student spoke regarding a friend who said she was having a panic attack and would be willing to give up a bathroom.
- Nikki Long who has a daughter at FMS – lack of communication from the schools.
- Brian James thanked Brad for the e-mail communication. He asked regarding handicapped students' safety.
- Keri Pickett who has a daughter at FMS. She is disappointed with the way the meeting was held tonight.
- Appreciation was expressed for the Board sitting and listening to everyone.
- Skylynn Tyler who is a student at FMS was concerned about not having bathroom doors.

- Tim Weiding spoke that he doesn't envy any of the Board tonight. She said his daughter feels uncomfortable going to the bathroom at school.
- A teacher spoke that kids should come through the door wanting to learn not being afraid
- Angelica Vasquez spoke regarding children not being mature and mental health issues.
- Kristen Worcester, a SOC parent from Hesperia, thanked the Board and school for doing such a good job.

Board Communications/Discussion

- A. Teacher Appreciation – May 8-12 – Lunch Pail boxed lunches
- B. Board meeting date changed to May 15 –
- C. Upcoming Tax Renewal Vote –
- D. Clarification of Federal Law on Bathrooms – Jen read a statement on behalf of the Board. She then went on to explain the Title IX Federal Law and transgender use of bathrooms of their sexual orientation. Kim explained that she spoke with Matt regarding making all individual stalls. Michael asked about having no doors on the bathroom and looking into that situation. Jen expressed that bathroom monitors are a good idea, and that at the high school we already have staff in and out. Steve asked regarding having a boys, girls and unisex bathroom – is there room size wise to make a third bathroom? That would be a question for Ryan regarding OSHA and code. Justin asked about single use stalls (like lockers) and the use of cameras at the door of the bathroom. If a student is not feeling safe using the bathroom, Justin would like to give these students some sort of leniency for tardies for the next month and a half. Brad will follow up with Wes and Carrie regarding the middle school bathrooms and use for individual students. Scott was questioned regarding the mental health program now available at the high school.
- E. Closed session for Superintendent Evaluation

6868 – Motion by Pete and seconded by Michael to go into closed session for the purposes of Superintendent's evaluation at 10:07 p.m.

Roll call vote: Carrie – aye; Justin – aye; Kim – aye; Pete -aye; Michael – aye; Steve – aye; Jenn – aye

Ayes – 7; Nays - 0 Motion Passed.

6869 – Motion by Pete and seconded by Justin to return to open session.

Roll call vote: Carrie – aye; Justin – aye; Kim – aye; Pete – aye; Michael – aye; Steve – aye; Jenn – aye

Ayes – 7; Nays - 0 Motion Passed.

Adjournment

6870 - Motion by Pete and seconded by Justin to adjourn the meeting at 11:11 p.m.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Kim Rasch, Secretary