

**FREMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Board Meeting In Person/Via Zoom
March 8, 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

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

Approval of Agenda

6670 – Motion by Pete and seconded by Carrie to approve the agenda.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Public Participation

- None

Recognitions/Presentations

- None

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

6671 – Motion by Carrie and seconded by Rick to approve:

- A. The minutes of the February 3, 2021 Special Board of Education meeting.
- B. The ECOL for the month of March
- C. The disbursements for the month of February in the amount of \$1,743,248.83

Ayes – 7; Nays -0 Motion passed.

Leadership Reports

Ken Haggart, Superintendent

- Ken reported on how the students who returned from virtual are doing. He presented the elementary data, as the middle and high schools are still collecting the information. 86% of our kids who have returned from virtual are doing better. 12% are maintaining where they were doing in virtual. One child is not doing as well as they were in virtual, and we are working closely with that child.
- The Labor Day waiver was submitted to the State for starting school prior to Labor Day.
- There is money coming from the State which comes on the heels of the funds released by the Federal Government.
- MICIP training has been going on for the Administrative team. The team spent the whole day last Friday doing the MICIP school improvement process. We are heading in the right direction.
- There are a lot of folks in West Michigan waiting on the Board's response on whether we will be staying in the CSAA or moving to WMC.

Bing Hanson, Director of Finance

- Bing will allow Pete to give the update in his finance report.

Board Committee Reports

Finance/Personnel – Met tonight prior to the Board meeting. Pete advised that there were a lot of things discussed. Pathfinder sinking fund expenditures – a boiler needed to be replaced. There is still one more that may need to be replaced. The Pathfinder doors need to be replaced. Ryan advised that it is difficult right now to get companies to bid on these things since they are already pretty busy, but two companies did bid on the project. This is on the action agenda below. Covid relief funds were discussed. Summer learning program was discussed. The budget outlook was discussed, and the budget amendment will be discussed at the next meeting. We do have to be careful not to use the Cares money in programs that we cannot sustain.

Personnel – Scott was invited to come in and talk about the Assistant Principal position at the high school. Part of our goal is to look for someone who will be the next principal in the succession plan. Positions that are currently available were discussed. Merit pay was also discussed and how it is calculated.

Facilities/Policy – Jen advised that they met two weeks ago. Rick Webb presented an overview of the sinking fund expenditures of technology. This current year is to be the high school technology upgrade year. As a committee they will start to tour each school to find out what the needs are.

Policy – Michael discussed travel reimbursements which will be continued as the federal guidelines allow. 504 policy update which will be discussed later in the agenda. Title IX update has been changed to the effect that the accused person has more rights now. The policy manual was reviewed and will continue to be reviewed over the next month. Ultimately, we follow federal guidelines in federally mandated policies.

Action Agenda

6672 – Motion by Pete seconded by Jen to accept Belding Area Schools as a participating member of the Central States Activity Association.

Michael asked regarding the calls that Ken has been receiving regarding the West Michigan Conference which cannot make a full change until Fremont decides. We have until the end of March to make a decision.

Ayes - 7 Nays - 0 Motion Passed.

6673 – Motion by Pete seconded by Michael to approve the bid for Pathfinder Door Replacement from White Lake Glass in the amount of \$115,435 plus an \$8,000 owner approved contingency totaling \$123,435

Ayes - 7 Nays - 0 Motion Passed.

6674 – Motion by Pete seconded by Kim to approve Administrative Merit Pay for the superintendent of 2.4%.

Ayes - 7 Nays - 0 Motion Passed.

Board Communications/Discussion

- 504 Manual was discussed. This is a set of accommodations set up for students to help them be successful. This culminates in our procedural manual which will be linked in our policy manual on the website to this 504 manual.
- Recycling – we have had someone recycling paper products in the district for a long time at a cost of \$2,000 to \$3,000 a year. They no longer want to do this. We have another local company who would like to do this for us. We can choose to go with the company which will cost approximately \$4,000 a year or we can discontinue recycling. Jen asked if the company would come to all buildings to pick up and recycle. Pete asked if the garbage cost would go up. There was discussion on how the confidential recycling is done. It would be difficult to keep our green school status if we were not recycling. The Board feels that we need to continue with the local company for recycling.
- Computer Science Continuum at Career Tech – the Career Tech is offering an AP Computer Science class. It is an approved curriculum. NCRESA has not done this before,

and when they start a new curriculum, each Board must vote on it. Michael asked if there was a lot of interest at the high school. Ken believes there is, since we have not had a technology instructor at the high school for quite some time. There was discussion on whether this would take away from our technology classes once we get a tech teacher.

- High School Assistant Principal – Ken discussed how we have had several assistant principals at our high school in the past few years. Kim discussed whether we are just looking for an assistant principal, or will this be the next principal if and when Scott is no longer principal. It is felt that we are possibly looking for the next principal and having a succession plan for the next three to five years. We want someone who is coming to Fremont to follow the “Packer” way and care about the community and students. We will start the interview process this month and continue into April depending on how the first interview goes.

Michael asked what Scott’s plans are. Matt advised that he is looking at the succession plan and how things fall. Matt tasked the Personnel Committee to discuss with the administration what each of their professional goals are. Michael cautioned that we need make sure we are not shutting out outside views and candidates. Michael asked if there was a good pool of candidates available. Ken believes there will be 10-12 high quality candidates for the assistant principal position.

- Invitation to join West Michigan Conference – Ken said that Kim approached him with this, and he felt it would be an easy task, but Dave advised of the complexity of the process. Depending on the sport, it rotates on which sports are better in either of these conferences. The level of competition over the long haul is a little better in the West Michigan Conference. We are disappointed with the middle school level of competition with our current conference.
- March is reading month. Daisy Brook has Daisy Brook Reads Program where the entire building reads a novel. Almost Super is the chosen novel, and the Board will be reading the novel as well. We will have some Daisy Brook students come in to discuss the book.
- Michael asked about the track and what temperatures we are looking for to get it rolling. The contractor is looking at mid to late May. He is insisting that the night time temperatures cannot drop below 50 for the glue to set properly. We are hoping to be able to host one track meet this spring.

Adjournment

6675 - Motion by Pete and seconded by Jen to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

- Ayes – 7; Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Michael Campeau, Secretary