

FREEDOM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
7:15 p.m. Monday, September 18, 2017

At 7:15 p.m. on Monday evening, September 18, 2017 the Board of Education called to order their regular meeting in the District Board Room.

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - ROLL CALL/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Present: Mr. Tom Harke, Mr. Steve Garvey, Mr. Kevin Schuh, Mr. Al Tiedt, Mr. Gary Schumacher, Mr. Kevin VerVoort

Excused: Mr. George VanWychen

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: *Order of business may be altered and items may be added by a majority vote of the members.*

ADDENDUM: Additions under Action Items, Personnel, add Resignation of Jill VanEperen – JV Softball Coach  
Under New Business – 4. Middle School Music Discovery Students out of state trip to Chicago

Motion to approve the agenda with additions/changes was made by Mr. Schuh with a second by Mr. Schumacher. Motion carried.

III. OPEN FLOOR PERIOD: None

IV. RECOGNITION/MOMENTS OF MERIT: None

V. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Approval of Consent Agenda Items:

1. Meeting Minutes: August 21, Regular Board Meeting minutes  
September 7, Special Board Meeting Minutes

2. Personnel: Retirements: None

Resignations: 1. Lori Vandenberg – Freedom Elementary School Health Room Attendant  
2. Jill VanEperen – JV Softball Coach

Hirings: 1. Tom Basten – Girls Golf Coach

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items was made by Mr. VerVoort with a second by Mr. Garvey. Motion carried.

B. Financial:

Approval of monthly bills: Motion to approve the September 18, 2017 bill list in the amount of \$349,005.13 including checks 37046 through 37226 was made by Mr. Tiedt with a second by Mr. Schumacher. Motion carried.

C. Old Business: None

D. New Business:

1. Discuss/Approve Polling Place Resolution:

Mrs. Gagnon explained the handouts she presented. The first showed how many people voted in each ward the past seven years. The second handout gave information on the resolution wording and the places for voting for each ward along with the requirements. The third handout gave a cost estimate/expenses for operation of the City of Appleton's two polling places. We have the option of closing polling places with less than 10% of the people voting which would be the two in Appleton, the Osborn location and Kaukauna. We would then need to pick another polling place for those voters to go to vote. Mrs. Gagnon stated that if we closed two areas we could save the taxpayers over \$4,000. Discussion was held. Motion to close the two Appleton locations and have those people vote at the Town of Center along with closing Osborn with having those voters go to the Town of Freedom was made by Mr. Schumacher with a second by Mr. Schuh.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Tom Harke, yes; Mr. Steve Garvey, yes; Mr. Kevin Schuh, yes; Mr. Gary Schumacher, yes; Mr. Al Tiedt, yes; Mr. Kevin VerVoort, yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gagnon will work on all the necessary paperwork to allow this. She will also check on the legal regulations on absentee ballots/voting.

2. Approve Freedom Varsity Dance Team trip to Orlando, Florida from February 15-21, 2018:

Motion to approve the Freedom Varsity Dance Team trip to Orlando, Florida from February 15-21, 2018 to attend the 2018 Dance Team Union National competition was made by Mr. Schumacher with a second by Mr. Schuh. Motion carried.

3. Approve Freedom Auto Club trip to the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) Show in Las Vegas, Nevada from October 29 through November 4, 2017.

Mr. Kilstofte informed the Board that the Auto Club received donations to fix, paint and detail an old 1985 Toyota truck, taking it to the SEMA Show in Las Vegas. Transportation costs for the car to travel to Las Vegas has been donated. Then you will later auction/raffle it off with the money going back to the Freedom Auto Club. Mrs. Gagnon will check into the liability/insurance on the transportation of the truck to Las Vegas. Motion to approve the Freedom Auto Club trip to the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) Show in Las Vegas, Nevada from October 29 through November 4, 2017 was made by Mr. Schuh with a second by Mr. Schumacher. Motion carried.

4. Approve the Freedom Middle School Music Discovery students to visit VanderCook College in Chicago, Illinois, on November 1, 2017:

Mrs. Seibert explained to the Board the opportunity the Middle School Music Discovery students would have to visit VanderCook College in Chicago. The event is designed for classical, jazz, pop and acoustic guitarists of all levels. Motion to approve the Freedom Middle School Music Discovery students to visit VanderCook College in Chicago, Illinois on November 1, 2017 was made by Mr. Tiedt with a second by Mr. VerVoort. Motion carried.

5. Other Business: None

#### VI. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

A. Student Board Representative Report: None

B. CESA 6 Report-Mr. Harke: Lots of Policy changes. CESA 6 is offering some great educational opportunities such as the Elementary School Principal Peer Groups, Special Education Peer Networking.

C. WASB Report – Mr. Schumacher: None

D. Building and Grounds Committee Report – Mr. Tiedt: None

E. Staff Reports: Ms. Olson updated the Board on the new activities they have planned for Homecoming.

F. Communications:

1. WASB Region 7 Fall Regional Meeting – September 26, 2017, Bridgewood Resort, Neenah, WI:

Mrs. Moeller registered all seven Board members along with Mr. Kilstofte. Five of the Board Members will be attending the workshop before the meeting.

2. Reminder – Freedom Area School District Annual Meeting – Monday, September 25, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Freedom High School Lecture Hall

G. Informational Items:

1. 2016-2017 Freedom High School ACT Scores:

Included in the Board packet was a copy of the ACT results, the college readiness exam that all eleventh graders take. Freedom was on full point above the state average.

2. Update on staffing, student enrollment, and class sizes: Enrollment is close to last month's numbers. Third Friday count will give a more accurate number which will be used for State numbers.

3. Discussion with Hutchinson, Shockey, Erley & Co., representative regarding tax levy impact due to upcoming referendum: Mr. Kevin Mullen from Hutchinson, Shockey, Erley & Co. discussed the impact of the 2017-2018 School Budget if the referendum goes through. The 2016-2017 tax levy was \$8.46. At this time the tax levy for 2017-2018 is projected to be approximately \$7.39. Mr. Mullen suggested adjusting the 2017-2018 budget to equal 2016-2017 levy amount (pending referendum approval). This would maintain the tax rate and keep the tax rate from gyrating between 2016-2017 and 2019-2020. This would also give the district flexibility to borrow earlier at a low interest rate to start paying early bills that would come in. A School Board meeting will be scheduled for November 8, the day after the referendum vote (if successful) at 7:15 p.m. to discuss early borrowing. This would need to be certified by November 10, 2017.

VII. ANY OTHER BUSINESS NOT KNOWN OR REASONABLY ANTICIPATED: None

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN at 8:20 p.m. was made by Mr. Schumacher with a second by Mr. Schuh. Motion carried.

*This is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not considered a public community meeting. There is time for public participation at the meeting during "open floor period" as indicated in the agenda. Upon request to the District Administrator submitted 24 hours in advance, the district shall make reasonable accommodation including the provision of informational material in an alternative format for a disabled person to be able to attend this meeting.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Allan Tiedt, Clerk