

**FREEDOM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
Monday, March 18, 2019 at 7:15 p.m.**

At 7:15 p.m. on Monday, March 18, 2019, the Board of Education began their Board Meeting with the Moments of Merit Awards in the High School Lecture Hall. After the awards were presented, the Board Meeting then moved to the District Board Room and continued.

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

Present: Mr. Garvey, Mr. Schumacher, Mr. Schuh, Mr. VerVoort, Mr. Tiedt, Mr. VanWychen  
Excused: Mr. Harke, Student Representative

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Move Open Floor Period to after Moments of Merit, move the Information Item #1 up to after Old Business. Motion to approve agenda with this change was made by Mr. Schuh with a second by Mr. Garvey. Motion carried.

**III. OPEN FLOOR PERIOD:** None

**IV. RECOGNITION – MOMENTS OF MERIT:** As per Agenda

**V. ACTION ITEMS:**

**A. Approval of Consent Agenda Items:**

1. Meeting Minutes: 1. February 18, 2019 Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
2. March 5, 2019 Special Board Meeting Minutes  
3. March 13, 2019 Special Board Meeting Minutes

**2. Personnel: Retirements:** None

**Resignations:**

1. Jamie Albers – ES Special Ed Aide
2. Noelle Barajas - ES Kitchen Helper
3. Sue Mannebach – MS Special Education Aide
4. Lynsie Verhagen – MS Dance Coach
5. Holly Seefeldt – MS Dance Coach
6. Briana Schweitzer – ES Dance Coach
7. Garrett Vander Loop – Asst. Girls Softball Coach
8. Bri Garvey – Asst. Girls Softball Coach
9. Bryce Woldt – Assist. Girls & Boys Soccer Coach

**Hirings:**

1. Julie Hintz – Kitchen Helper
2. Tim Dietzen – Asst. Girls Softball Coach
3. Brad McArtney – Asst. Girls Softball Coach
4. Jessica Pritzl – Head JV1 Girls Softball Coach
5. Martin Valenzuela – Asst. Girls Soccer Coach
6. Sue Gonnering – ES Special Education Aide

Motion to approve all consent agenda items was made by Mr. VanWychen with a second by Mr. Garvey. Motion carried.

**B. Financial Report:**

1. Motion to approve the March 18, 2019 bill list in the amount of \$509,414.90 including check numbers 39891 through 40040 was made by Mr. Tiedt with a second by Mr. Garvey. Motion carried.
2. Review/Discuss any other financial documents as necessary: No discussion

**C. Old Business:** None

**G Informational Items:** (moved up per approval of agenda)

1. Presentation regarding proposed therapy dog program (Tammy Lipsey, Nikki Hauser): Mrs. Lipsey and Ms. Hauser, Elementary School Counselor, did a presentation on the therapy dog named Justice, that is visiting the elementary school. The goal of a therapy dog is to assist students with anti-social conduct along with victims of being bullied to help reduce stress and anxiety. Students also learn how to approach a dog and ease those that are afraid of dogs. There is strict continual training

these dogs have to go through to become a therapy dog. Justice will be retiring next year and the elementary school is hopeful we can get a new dog to work with.

Ms. Hauser brought her dog, Gus, to the Board meeting explaining how she is working with Gus on becoming a therapy dog. Gus was a rescue from the Arkansas flood, is two years old, and is doing continuous training to certify as a therapy dog.

Allot of steps and work go into bringing a therapy dog on school property. Permission slips are sent out to parents, allergies are taken into consideration, and students are taught how to approach a dog.

Liability insurance is very inexpensive and the dog's maintenance, shots are up to date. Each therapy dog has to recertify every year. The elementary school is hoping to get a therapy dog for next year to come in maybe one to two days per week. Mrs. Lipsey states that it is an excellent program that many other schools in the area are using also.

D. New Business:

1. Review/discuss/approve the use of Wednesday evenings (if necessary due to inclement weather) after May 3, 2019, to hold make-up athletic events, activities, and other events should the need arise:

Ms. Olson stated we did not have to use any Wednesday evenings the past few years but would like to be ready in case it was necessary. Motion to approve the use of Wednesday evenings (if necessary due to inclement weather) after May 3, 2019, to host make-up athletic events, activities, and other events should the need arise was made by Mr. VanWychen with as second by Mr. Schuh. Motion carried.

2. Naming of Valedictorians and Salutatorian for the Class of 2019:

Discussion was held on why we have more than one Valedictorian in a class. For the Class of 2019, we have thirteen Valedictorians and one Salutatorian. Mr. Erickson stated that with the AP classes we offer and weighted point system, we have more than one person with a 4.0 grade point average or above. Mr. Erickson stated that with block scheduling starting, that with this year's freshman, Class of 2022, we will be taking the top two students with the highest grade point average with the highest ranked student as Valedictorian and the second ranked student as the Salutatorian. Motion to approve the naming of Valedictorians and Salutatorian for the Class of 2019 as presented was made by Mr. Schuh with a second by Mr. VanWychen. Motion carried.

3. Other Business: None

**VI. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:**

A. Student Board Representative Report: None

B. CESA 6 Report – Mr. Harke: None.

C. Building and Grounds Committee Report - Mr. Tiedt: None

D. WASB Report – Mr. Schumacher: None

E. Staff Reports: Mr. Voight, Mr. Weis, Mr. Erickson, Mr. Fisher, Mrs. Lipsey, Ms. Olson, Mrs. Schmeltzer, Mrs. Mussett, Mrs. Gagnon, Mr. Kilstofte all submitted written reports.

Mrs. Lipsey explained to the Board the new money maker for the Freedom Area School District. The gas station across from the school will have one pump designated for the school district in which three cents per gallon pumped goes to our school district. This will start in April.

F. Communications:

1. Need to set a date for a Compensation Committee Meeting (proposed dates: March 27 or March 28): Mrs. Gagnon is diligently working on bring Support Staff positions up-to-date to bring to the Compensation Committee meeting. We will check with Mr. Harke and confirm a time everyone can make it and go from there.

2. Wisconsin Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week (April 8-12, 2019): Mr. Kilstofte reminded the Board of the Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week coming up April 8-12, 2019. The Weather Service will issue a statewide mock tornado warning and this drill is an ideal opportunity for school staff and students to practice their safety procedures for severe weather. We will run our yearly Tornado and Severe Weather Drill during this week.

G. 2. 2019-2020 WIAA Football-Only Realignment Proposal:

Ms. Olson explained the proposed WFCA/WIAA Football-Only realignment proposal, planning to become effective in the 2020-2021 school year. They are working out some of the kinks yet hopefully to be ready. This was brought forward by the football coaches. The North East Conference is the conference the Freedom Irish will belong to along with Luxemburg-Casco, Marinette, Little Chute, Wrightstown, Denmark and Menomonie, WI. Again, Ms. Olson stated, this is only for Football.

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

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN at 8:15 p.m. was made by Mr. VanWychen with a second by Mr. VerVoort. 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Al Tiedt".

Al Tiedt, Clerk  
Freedom Board of Education

