

**Fremont Community School
Board of Trustees
Meeting #7 (Regular) Summary
July 15, 2013
6:00 PM**

**Fremont Community Schools Board Room
1100 West Toledo Street
Fremont, Indiana**

Board Members Present: Tim Knoblauch, Hope Korte, Christine Seiler, Sheri Thomson

Representing Administration: Superintendent Lori Vaughn, Business Manager Dick Wirtz

Visitors: Jennifer Decker, Kathy Driver, Mark Fowerbaugh, Jim Measel, Kim Quick, Greta Robinson, Mark Sherbondy, Nancy Swager, Susan Swager

Board President Sheri Thomson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed the visitors in the audience.

President Thomson called the meeting to order. Superintendent Lori Vaughn requested one (1) additional item be added to the agenda, stating that Roger Probst would like to publically recognize Glen McClain for playing in the North and South All-Star Game. The agenda was approved with the additional item.

Business Manager Dick Wirtz requested the monthly Financial Report be accepted and placed on file and that the Payrolls and Claims be approved as submitted. Payrolls and Claims totaled \$1,993,333.70. Mr. Wirtz explained that the amount was larger than normal due to Debt Service payments being made. The board approved both the Financial Report and the Payrolls and Claims.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

1. Fremont Public Library Parking Lot

Superintendent Vaughn shared that she had just received an EASEMENT AGREEMENT from Hope Wilson, Director of the Fremont Public Library, prepared by Tom Wilson, Attorney at Law, for the Fremont Public Library. This was a task left undone by both parties when the library was built, but both felt it necessary to avoid any future disparities. Ms. Vaughn has forwarded a copy to Corporation Attorney Walter Helmke for review and recommendations, if any.

Mrs. Wilson was unable to attend the school board meeting, but asked that the board openly discuss two proposed parking lot options. Mrs. Wilson also shared that regardless of what is decided about the parking, the drainage problem at the end of their drive will still need to be addressed.

Superintendent Vaughn reported that Mrs. Wilson has asked her board to slow down and consider if 13 parking spots were really worth destroying 4 mature trees. Mrs. Wilson has asked if the school board might consider one of two other options.

Option I: Use the front area by Vistula Sign and add speed bumps to slow the traffic on that curve. This area might new 20-24 parking spaces and requires no real disturbance to nature. This option would also not infringe on youth league practice areas.

Option II: Move the entry drive to the west. This would provide more parking in front of the library. Mrs. Wilson realizes that permits from INDOT and surveys would need to be completed prior to construction. She is also concerned about the expense, but would be willing to investigate should the school board consider this option.

Board members expressed concern over Option I as patrons would be crossing the drive and they see this as potentially unsafe. Board Member Tim Knoblauch suggested that Mrs. Wilson check with representatives from the Fremont Youth League to see how much area they actually use for practice fields prior to her contacting INDOT or the surveyor.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Employment Recommendations:

Resignations: Alyssa Forrester, MS Cheerleading Coach
Bobbie Hiner, HS Cafeteria Dishwasher
Al Sherburne, Varsity Softball Coach
Eric Wirick, MS Golf Coach

Hiring: Rob Beatty, MS Assistant Football Coach
Erick Wirick, Varsity Girls' Golf Coach

Volunteers: Derek, HS Cross Country
Al Sherburne, Varsity Softball

2. Permission to Publish Annual Financial Report

Business Manager Wirtz explained that the state requires the secretary of each School Corporation to publish an Annual Financial Report. The report must be published one time annually, not earlier than August 1, or later than August 15, of each year. In addition, each School Corporation shall submit a copy of the Annual Financial Report to the Indiana Department of Education on or before August 31.

Mr. Wirtz added that propose report is for calendar year 2012, and is compiled from a number of reports previously submitted to the state.

Mr. Wirtz recommended that the board authorize the publication of an Annual Financial Report for Calendar 2012. The board approved the recommendation and Board Secretary Hope Korte signed the document.

3. Approve the Biannual Financial Report (Form 9)

Every six (6) months the state requires a detailed listing of Account Balances, Line Item Budgets, Cash Balances, Outstanding Indebtedness, Encumbrances, Investments Held, Revenues, and Expenditures be submitted to them electronically. Our computerized accounting system generates this report and a signed certification must accompany it. This report is known as Form 9. This year's report is due on or before July 31, 2013.

Mr. Wirtz recommended that Superintendent Vaughn, Board President Thomson, and Corporation Treasurer Shayne Tresenriter be authorized to sign the Biannual Financial Report (Form 9) and that it be placed on file. The board approved the recommendation. All signatures will be procured.

4. 2014 Budget Schedule

In preparation of the Fremont Community Schools Budget the Department of Local Government and Finance requires a number of review sessions, public notices, public hearings, and finally adoption. Mr. Wirtz has submitted a listing of those dates and events. All meetings have been scheduled on the nights of our regular School Board Meetings.

5. Work Session on 2014 Budget

On August 12, 2013, (tentatively) in a Special Session/Workshop Mr. Wirtz will present the first of three working sessions on the proposed budget that the board will be voting to advertise at the August 19, 2013, meeting.

At the August meeting a vote will be held to advertise the Public Hearing on the proposed budget. During the September Meeting a Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget will be held.

The final vote to adopt the 2014 Budget will take place in the October meeting after Public Hearing.

6. Authorization to proceed on General Obligation Bonds with Curt Pletcher of Umbaugh & Associates

The final payment on the construction of our Middle School was made on January 5, 2013. The annual payments have been \$1,400,000.00. Our Debt Service Tax Levies will reduce by that amount. It is desirable to maintain a level amount of Debt Service to fund future construction projects.

While we do not anticipate any new construction, our buildings are in need of maintenance, renovation and modernization. These major renovations can be funded by the Capital Projects Fund, Energy Savings Contracts or General Obligation Bond issues. The Capital Projects Fund is inadequate to fund such large projects.

Our recommendation to the board is to budget the issuance of a G.O. Bond through Umbaugh & Associates. The board approved the recommendation.

7. Adopt Updated Textbook Rental Fees
2013-2014 Textbook Rental Fees were submitted by School Principals for review and approval by the board.

8. Accept School Treasurer's Extra-Curricular Financial Reports
School Building Treasurers Robin Byler, Susan Forte and Ellen Sattison prepared and submitted their Annual Extra-Curricular Financial Reports for Board approval.

9. Student Transfers

Superintendent Vaughn reported that school districts that are accepting out-of-district students must now report to the Indiana Department of Education the number of transfer students the school corporation has the capacity to accept in each grade level; and the date by which requests to transfer into the school corporation must be received by the governing body.

Ms. Vaughn recommended that the board set the number of students per grade level to 30 per class. Grade level numbers will vary depending on actual number of teachers per grade level and subject sections taught. The date for acceptance of requests to transfer will be set at August 9, 2013. However, Ms. Vaughn stated that we would continue accepting students after this date on a case-by-case basis and according to our capacity.

10. Proposed Changes to Athletic Policy Handbook

High School Athletic Director Roger Probst highlighted the proposed changes to the Athletic Policy Handbook changes. They are as follows:

- The penalty basic training rules may start in one season and end in another.
- Sportsmanship policy which includes:
Any Fremont patron, who is displaying unsportsmanlike behavior at an athletic event, regardless of who or what the behavior is directed towards, may be removed from that event.
- What an athlete must do before the first competition
- Mandatory Random Drug Testing Program
- Positive Test Results
- Home School Student Participation

11. HS Cross Country Teams' Great Lakes Conditioning Camp in Grand Junction, Michigan

Mr. Probst asked the board's permission for the cross country teams to attend the 10th annual Great Lakes Conditioning Camp at Warner Camp in Grand Junction, Michigan from August 11-15, 2013. The athletes will be transported to the camp on a FCS white bus. The camp coaches are Steve Long, Jim Bilsborrow and Moses Castillo. The board voted to approve this trip.

12. Head Start Report

Head Start Director Susan Swager reported that the remaining balance of her funding grant actually came through on Monday, July 15, 2013, in the amount of \$174,615.00.

Mrs. Swager also shared that due to budget shortfalls she had to reduce her enrollment by 20 students which leads to one (1) less classroom in the Angola Head Start Center. She has also reduced her staff by four (4) employees and two (2) vacancies are not being re-filled. Mrs. Swager was happy to report that all programs for next school year are almost full. Interviews for placement are occurring presently.

In other business, Mrs. Swager provided budget information to the board for her Basic Funding Grant and asked for their approval as the grant application is due August 1, 2013. The board approved her application.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Probst shared with the group that Glen McClain, 2013 Fremont High School Graduate received the honor of playing in the North/South All-Star Baseball Tournament last weekend at Wabash College. This is the first time a baseball player from Fremont has ever received this honor and only the third time in the school's history for any sport. We are all extremely proud of Glen and wish him only the best as he will be attending college at Xavier and playing baseball for them.