

**Fremont Community Schools
Board of Trustees
Meeting Summary
May 18, 2015
6:00 PM
Fremont Community Schools
Administration Office
1100 West Toledo Street
Fremont, Indiana**

Board Members Present: President Marty McNeal, Secretary Jill Cox, Liaison Officer Peggy Bailey, Gary Baker, Kim Bennett, Anna Creager

Administration Present: Superintendent Lori Vaughn, Corporation Business Manager Brandon Penrod, Head Start Director Susan Swager

Visitors in Attendance: Kim Quick, Sally Heller, Dan Cairl, Cheri Nofziger, Jenny Hoffbauer, Julie Brown, Barbara Wheeler, Jim Measel, Mark Sherbondy, Joni Thompson, Mary Sacquitne, Tricia Swager, Kathy Driver, Michelle Moss, Brandy Grimm, Shawn Caldwell, Ashley Miller, John Wysong, Cindy Callahan, Sharon Abriani, Teri Turner, Corey Verdin, Ken Fillmore, Mark Fowerbaugh, Mike Marturello, Drew Kuespert, Eric Verde, Melody Verde

Following the Pledge of Allegiance Board President Marty McNeal welcomed visitors in the audience to Regular Meeting #7.

CALL TO ORDER

1. Adopt Agenda

The agenda was adopted with the following additions:

- 1) Varsity Golf Team Road Trip
- 2) Athletic Event Concessions – revision to fundraiser list
- 3) Elementary Volunteers
- 4) Employment Recommendations – additional retirement

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Meeting #6 – Regular

Minutes approved as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND CLAIMS APPROVAL

Approved as presented

Corporation Business Manager Brandon Penrod noted that the newly passed state budget would begin in July, 2015.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

1. Donations to Elementary School

The following organizations were recognized for their generous donations to Fremont Elementary School:

- 1) Fourth Grade Foresters of Indiana and Town of Fremont – Arbor Day tree saplings
- 2) Tri Kappa, Zeta Upsilon Chapter - \$150 for Book Give Away Program

2. Consideration for Referendum

Board President Marty McNeal informed members of the audience that while nothing official has been initiated, the FCS Board is in the process of examining options for increased revenue for our schools. Superintendent Vaughn explained that it has become vitally important that we maintain our current level of staffing and programming – each of which impacts the other. Declining enrollment and negative repercussions from legislative decisions will continue to negatively impact our financial health, which ultimately and educationally affects what we are able to offer children in our community. In addition, Ms. Vaughn shared that teacher salaries have been frozen since the 2011-2012 school year and there is growing concern about retaining and recruiting the best possible employee candidates. President McNeal explained that the Board will receive informational training in the very near future on referendums and plans to proceed very carefully, keeping all interested persons as informed as possible.

UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS

1. Credit Card Fee Review

The 3.99% processing fee will remain in place as discussed and approved during last month's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Appoint Wage Hearing Committee Members

The Board approved appointing Mr. Penrod and Kim Quick to represent FCS should a wage hearing be necessary.

2. Employment Recommendations

Retirements: Regina Baker, EL and MS Keyboarding and Tech Education Teacher
Karel Ross, Bus Driver

Resignations: Arlene Adams, HS Canteen Manager
Greta Robinson, MS/HS Visual Arts Teacher and MS Intramural
Soccer Coach

Danica Stimmel, MS Cafeteria Cashier

Amy Vanderpool, MS Cafeteria Cook

Melody Verde, EL Teacher

Michelle Yohey, HS Cafeteria Cashier

Discharge: Cheryl Hamilton, MS 1st Shift Custodian

Hiring: Ashley Miller, Varsity Volleyball Coach

John Wysong, Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach

3. Out of State Field Trip

The Board approved the Kindergarten field trip to Binder Park Zoo in Battle Creek, Michigan. The trip takes place on May 26, 2015.

4. 2015-2016 Fundraisers

The Board approved the lists of fundraisers for Fremont Elementary, Middle and High School as well as the Middle and High School Athletic Departments. The High School Athletic Department will now be responsible for all athletic event concessions.

5. Elementary and Middle School Textbook Adoption
The Board approved the following recommendations by Mrs. Wheeler and Mr. Fowerbaugh:

Grades K and 4: My World Social Studies K-5 Indiana Edition, 2016, Pearson Publishing.

5th Grade: My World History – Building our Country, Pearson

6th Grade: My World Geography – Western Hemisphere, Pearson

7th Grade: National Geographic

8th Grade: American History (Beginnings through Reconstruction), Pearson

6. Handbooks
2015-2016 Student and Family Handbooks were approved. The Board chose to table the Staff Handbooks until the June meeting so as to have more time to review their contents.
7. Head Start Report
Director Susan Swager was pleased to report that Head Start achieved gains in their school readiness goals. They will continue to work on the under enrollment plan required by the Federal Head Start Office.
8. Varsity Golf Team Road Trip
The Board approved an overnight road trip for our varsity golf team. They will be playing in the Lafayette Jeff Golf Invitational on Saturday, May 30. Due to the length of the trip, Mr. Probst sought approval for the overnight stay.
9. Elementary Volunteers
An additional list of volunteers was presented and approved. All background checks were completed prior to the recommendation.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Visitor Shawn Caldwell stood and thanked Mrs. Verde for her service to her students over the years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Superintendent Vaughn shared that the Fremont High School Academic Team came home with a 2nd place plaque from the state competition held at Purdue University on Saturday, May 9. Congratulations to Fremont High School Juniors Joseph Feliciano and Mitchel Long and Sophomore Schuyler McNaughton!

The Academic Team is co-sponsored by Fremont High School Teachers, Mrs. Laura Taylor and Mrs. Angela Wirick. Congratulations to you both and thank you for your time and dedication to our students!