

LEARN BUILD LEAD

Fremont Joint School District No. 215
Regular School Board Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2021

Held at Fremont School District Office
Via Zoom/Livestream District Facebook
Meeting Time 5:00 P.M.

Attending: Jon Bailey-Board Chair
 Tia Cherry-Vice Chair
 Bonnie Moon-Trustee
 Julianne Hill-Trustee
 JayLee Packer-Trustee
 Byron Stutzman-Superintendent
 Hali Mackert-Clerk/Treasurer

Trustee Tia Cherry offered a prayer.

Chairman Jon Bailey called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

Trustee JayLee Packer made a motion to approve the board agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Julianne Hill. All "ayes", motion carried.

Trustee Bonnie Moon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Patron Input: Bryan Hatton patron from Ashton voiced concerns that North Fremont Pep Band was told because of the limited number of tickets, that they wouldn't be able to attend Thursday or Friday's games in Boise but would be allowed to participate at the Saturday game. He felt since this was a school event and not a community one, all the student participants should have been on the list first. In the future students who don't have vocal advocates like I am today, there needs to be a policy or something that ensures what happened last week to those students doesn't ever happen again.

Chairman Jon Bailey said he got off the phone right before this meeting with a colleague of his and they talked about how they can improve as a company and move the needle and I read a quote this morning by John Rockefeller if you want to succeed you have to fail faster. I'm not advocating that we fail, but we will, and we learn and thank you for your comments.

Learn Build Lead: Trustee Julianne Hill said I didn't know how many on the board listened to the virtual Day on the Hill by Idaho State School Board Association, but it was excellent. There was a workshop that was put on by two of the Legislators from Boise who came and addressed school board members. They said It's very important that we contact the people that are representing us in Boise, especially if it's something urgent, because they would love to hear from us. With that I contacted each of our representatives and ask them how they like to be contacted, because certain ones like it different ways. I've made a chart with their contact information and which committees they serve on.

Do all of you know that EIPH has changed the format for the COVID policy? It is now referred to as minimal risk. We used to talk about the hospitalizations, and we wanted it to be less than 15 per 10,000 and that has now changed, and it will be less than 20. So, as you watch those numbers, there's no guarantee that things aren't going to change in the future, but certainly we're headed in the right direction.

Trustee Bonnie Moon moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. All "ayes", motion carried.

Action Items:

Transfer of Green Timber School to Green Timber Historical Society:

Superintendent Stutzman said we've been working towards this, and I had attorney's Parsons, Behle and Latimer put together the agreement. It is a special warranty deed containing possibility of reverter. It turns ownership to Green Timber Historical Society with a caveat that if they ever decide they no longer want it or not working through their guidelines in their incorporation that it comes back to the district as our facility. I think that's important that it doesn't get sold to a private entity and it always stays in the public realm. It's a great little piece of history, and I wish them all the luck as they move forward. It's my recommendation that we transfer the Green Timber School with a special warranty deed to them.

Trustee Julianne Hill moved to transfer the Green Timber School to the Green Timber Historical Society. The motion was seconded by Trustee JayLee Packer. All "ayes", motion carried.

Chairman Jon Bailey asked if they had seen the agreement?

Superintendent Stutzman said they have not seen it; he was waiting for approval from the board, and I will forward it to them. If they have any issues with it, they can get back with us and we'll bring it to the next board meeting. I don't think there will be any issues.

Snow Closure Days:

Superintendent Stutzman said we've had a number of snow closures that the board needs to approve. If the board doesn't approve them, they become days that count as attendance. We need to have the best attendance that we can and making sure these days aren't on our rolls. By approval, it keeps us from having really poor attendance on those days.

Trustee Tia Cherry made a motion to approve the snow closure as stated as action item #2 The motion was seconded by Trustee Julianne Hill. All "ayes", motion carried.

Trustee Bonnie Moon asked how are we doing with our hours?

Superintendent Stutzman said we are doing okay and meeting the requirements. Teton is the tightest because of their shorter day, but we've made adjustments with their schedule so they will have the number of hours that they should. We have a couple of days at the other buildings, and we can go over that by 11 hours. We can then petition the State Department of Ed for those hours.

Spring Sports Schedules:

Superintendent Stutzman said we had always asked for approval for the sports schedules from the board, so it's my recommendation that we approve the spring sports schedules.

Trustee JayLee Packer made a motion to approve the spring sports schedules. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. All "ayes", motion carried.

SFHS Entry Replacements:

Superintendent Stutzman said the next four items I have a question to the board. Two of them are capital expenditures and two of them are repairs. Previously I've never brought expensive repairs to you for approval, I'm wondering if you want me to continue to do that? I've tried to let the board know when we have those kinds of expenditures for repair, and I'm asking you to approve these, but board policy states that anything over \$15,000 on capital expenditures, I ask for approval from the board. These are over \$15,000, but they are repairs. How do you want me to continue, and would you like to give you a heads up on repairs, or do you want me to bring it to you for approval? If it's an emergency, like the Teton boiler was a couple of years ago, I let the board know at that time that this was an emergency and I moved forward to get the repair done, and it took the replacement of that boiler. I would like to know what the board would like me to do as we move forward.

The first one is the entryways to South Fremont High School the quote from High Country Glass to replace one set of Northwest entry doors that are below the \$15,000 limit. These are bigger doors and it's going to take more money. To replace the front door, it's \$32,520, and the back doors \$27,060.

Trustee Julianne Hill moved to approve the replacements to SFHS entry. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. All "ayes", motion carried.

Trustee Julianne Hill asked did they get damaged or are they just wore out?

Superintendent Stutzman said they are worn out, and Jason has been repairing them and repairing them. He's put a lot of repairs into them and there's one door that he can't do anything to anymore, and we have difficulty getting it to lock. They've been opened and closed since 1996.

SFHS Generator:

Superintendent Stutzman said as we move forward on this, Jason and I have decided it's best to retain the services of a professional electrical engineer. This project is much more involved than we first imagined. Mat Bradley of Musgrove Engineering has helped us in the past. He was the electrical engineer that helped with the architectural study on South Fremont Jr. High. We're asking him to help us put the bid together and as we move forward, he will be there as the checks and balances to make sure we get what we have gone out to bid. It appears it will be a little over \$100,000, before it's all said and done. The generator will be able to help run that school when the power is completely out to keep it from freezing and water damage. Along with the servers not being shut down so that the tech department won't have to spend a day and a half to rebuild them every time that happens.

Trustee Bonnie Moon moved to approve the SFHS generator. The motion was seconded by Trustee Julianne Hill.

Trustee Tia Cherry asked if we got multiple bids?

Superintendent Stutzman said we hadn't gone out to bid yet. This is just to have the electrical engineer put the bid specs together for us. When the bids come in, at that point in time, we will be able to say yes or no on whether or not we want to continue to spend that money. I think it's well worthwhile.

Chairman Jon Bailey said so what you are wanting us to approve is to hire an electrical engineer to consult us, help us, and coach us through this process?

Superintendent Stutzman stated that you will see this on the agenda again once we get through those bid specs and receive bids.

Trustee Julianne Hill said if I could say one thing, when I worked in the hospital in the lab, needless to say we had tons of instruments and computers and nothing caused us more problems than a power outage. We would lose instruments that we had tests running on, and it became critical. Sometimes we would be down for hours and sometimes for days, so I definitely can testify that a good generator makes all the difference in the world, especially to tech stuff.

Chairman Jon Bailey asked where we were out with other locations, do they have things in place already?

Superintendent Stutzman said no other school has a generator, but the main server bank is at South Fremont High School. It's the one that when the power goes out, we have problems with the pipes freezing because they are in the ceiling.

Trustee Bonnie Moon asked how much for all of this, and will the money come out of M.O?

Superintendent Stutzman said that it would come out of M.O. student occupied fees and the cost according to the quote design and construction fee \$4,500, construction administration \$6,500 and additional costs on top of that. I would guess somewhere near \$15,000 by the time it's all said and done.

Trustee Bonnie Moon asked the Clerk Hali Mackert what the motion was and said we need to revise that because that's not the motion. Trustee Bonnie Moon amended her motion as follows:

Trustee Bonnie Moon said she'd like to amend the motion instead of approving this generator, I'd like to move that we go ahead with the plan to hire this electrical engineer to help us navigate the buying of the generator. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. All "ayes", motion carried.

NFHS Replace Camera System:

Superintendent Stutzman stated that this is a repair, also and we are asking you to approve the total cost is \$24,250. It's almost a complete rebuild. The cameras are old, and some of them don't work. The recorder doesn't have the capacity to add additional cameras to cover the blind spots, and so we had Omni Security Systems, who was the original installer, to come back and give us an update. This is their update. We're trying to update all that we can, and utilize the money that we have to make sure we are getting the best bang for our buck. I know it's much easier to enforce discipline, when you can say, "look at this", and show exactly what happened. I think this is a valuable upgrade, and I think we should move forward with the security system from Omni.

Trustee Tia Cherry moved to approve the North Fremont High School replace camera system. The motion was seconded by Trustee JayLee Packer. All "ayes", motion carried.

Trustee Julianne Hill said you mentioned it was an upgrade, did you look at getting a whole new system?

Superintendent Stutzman said they would use some of the wires that are there, but it's a replacement of almost every camera. The older cameras do not have the definition or ability to do what we really would like them to do. Also, the very first thing on that list is the processor to replace the old one.

Chairman Jon Bailey asked if we needed to get other bids from anyone else? That's the thing I wondered about.

Superintendent Stutzman said up to \$25,000 you can pick one vendor and between \$25,000 and \$50,000 you can get three quotes and you don't have to go out for a bid. As you reach the \$100,000 mark, that is where you need to go out for a formal bid.

Chairman Jon Bailey said he knows Omni well and trust they would do a good job at being competitive in their rates.

HFE Storage Shed:

Superintendent Stutzman said Henry's Fork Elementary really doesn't have much storage in the building itself. This is just not a fix for Henry's Fork Elementary, but it's large enough we can utilize it district wide. They will only use about half of it, but Jason said let's get it big enough that I can utilize it, also. Since we don't own Lincoln Elementary anymore, we don't have a place to dump stuff. What Jason and I talked about is we need to do housekeeping every summer, and anything that we no longer will use, we'll put on a silent auction. Anyone who wants it can come bid on it can then buy our surplus items. Cost of this building is \$48,580 and is 30x60x14 feet.

Trustee Julianne Hill moved to approve the Henry's Fork Elementary storage shed purchase. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. All "ayes", motion carried.

Trustee Julianne Hill asked where we are going to place this?

Superintendent Stutzman said there is a playground Jason would really like to take out. It's still nice playground equipment, and we'll repurpose it out to Parker. They can utilize it. We've been written up by the safety inspector for the old stuff they have out at Parker. Jason did get two other quotes, and this is the one that fits our needs best. At the next board meeting, I'll probably bring a quote for a cement pad and footers and all the flat work for that shed.

N.F. Education Foundation Board of Directors Approval:

Superintendent Stutzman said the North Fremont Education Foundation works under our umbrella; it has been customary every year you approve the board of directors. The difference between them and South Fremont Education Foundation is South has its own 501C3 and North Fremont is under our public entity umbrella, and so each year we are asked to approve their board of directors. It's my recommendation that we approve the North Fremont Education Foundation Board of Directors.

Trustee Tia Cherry made a motion to approve the North Fremont Education Foundation Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bonnie Moon. All "ayes", motion carried.

Discussion Items:

ISBA Training:

Superintendent Stutzman said Hali set that up, and I have sent out an invite for March 22 at 1:00 p.m. At our last meeting with Research Business and Development Center, I talked with them about presenting at this meeting.

It was determined to have RBDC present at 1:00 p.m. on March 22 followed by ISBA training at 2:00 p.m.

Upcoming Levies/Parent Advisory Committee:

Superintendent Stutzman said tomorrow is the big day and thanks to everyone and especially Julianne for heading up the parent advisory committee and Tia for jumping in and helping too. Just a reminder to everyone who lives in the district to go vote.

Trustee Julianne Hill said I wanted you to know who the members were Susan Richardson, Kristen Lenz, Annie Marsden, Jeremy Scollick, Bobbie Tews, Nathan Gunnell, Tara Yancey, Ali Pike and Andrea Morton, and of course Tia and Byron were there. Tracy Smith was a great help. This is a campaign like I have never been involved in before because everything was done pretty much through social media. I hope you all have had a chance to go to the website and looked at the community meeting that was done on the website. I appreciate the principals and getting it on the marquees. The social media was a lot from this committee, and they would just share the information and get it out. I would have to ask what the report was, and there hasn't been a great big controversial thing out there so we're hoping for the best. It was a much easier way and was a lot less work for everybody involved. There was a newspaper article and letters to the editor. I called the T.V. and asked them to do a story, but they said they would put it on their community board.

Trustee Tia Cherry said she was the St. Anthony News and Opinion guru. She said there is a lot of confusion on how it works especially taxes not going up but levying the \$300,000 instead of the \$700,000.

Trustee Bonnie Moon asked if we could address the Plant Facility quickly as a board, because I'm getting that question too. The \$300,000 vs the \$700,000.

Superintendent Stutzman said the current plant facility is \$828,253. That is currently on the books, but it expires this year. We have only been requesting \$300,000 of that levy for the past two years and it was a little lower than that two years before. The goal is to continue to levy \$300,000 and then if we do not pass a bond or do anything bond wise, the bond will come off in 2023. If we were to increase the plant facility levy at that time to the full \$700,000 it would still be a reduction in taxes with the bond going off a \$93 reduction to what we currently impose tax wise per \$100,000.

There was discussion that the patrons are putting the trust in the board and holding them responsible to keep the plant facility levy at \$300,000. If a bond doesn't pass in 2023, then the board would have the option to levy the total \$700,000. There is some misconception that if it's voted then the total amount is imposed. There would be an increase of \$20.62, if we imposed the full amount. The plant facility is for 10 years and the supplemental levy for two years. They both happened to come due in the same year.

Superintendent's Report:

- Board of Education to administer the early childhood grant received by Idaho did not pass. The previous grant are the funds which we used to work with our Early Childhood Collaborative, and the money which we used to purchase the onesies being given to each Fremont County newborn at Madison Memorial.
- As you can see from the list of things, I have asked for approval. We are making strides to repair and update the facilities. I will continue to keep you all in the loop as we work to keep our buildings the best we can. Do you want me to bring repairs to you for approval, or do you want me to let you know what we're doing and what account they are coming out of?

Chair Jon Bailey said we're going to have to figure that out, we will need to have discussions and then make it an action item. My personal opinion is that I want to continue to increase trust with our public. I think that we continue to hold you accountable is good, but I want to make sure that you have a little bit of freedom when there are emergencies and those are communicated with us, that we cannot be held up.

Superintendent Stutzman said that's actually listed in the capital expenditures through policy. There's just nothing in repairs that holds me to a limit. Obviously, I don't go making repairs on anything or everything without this gang making recommendations what they want to do for their buildings, and then if we have the funding for it, then we look at the priorities and the needs and move forward on those. Either way, it does not matter to me. I can let you know and then we can have action at the next board meeting, but sometimes I'll need to be moving forward a little more quickly so we can get things done. Tyler Cude and Jason Calhoun are great at doing their jobs and having their ducks in a row, and what is needed in the buildings. They will continue to bring things to me that they see.

- I have started a draft for a Request for Qualifications for a Construction Manager. It is my belief we need to get someone on board to help us move forward in our continued assessment and our development of facility's needs. I will have that document completed for the April Board meeting, and then we can go through the selection process for a construction manager. Construction managers help with the project from initial creation to completion of construction, giving us their expertise and advocating for our district.
- I plan on talking with Ashton City Council this Wednesday about their softball diamond, what we could do to help, and what it needs as far as repairs to bring it up to speed in comparison to a quality softball diamond. Also, as we talk facilities and the need for more gym space district wide, I think we should explore the possibilities of field houses at both north and south high schools. Some of my reasoning is our inherit lingering snow and the inability for our spring sports to practice in a real setting. While I don't expect us to build anything like Madison School District, I do believe we could afford something which would help all extracurricular activities be better prepared.
- COVID Protocol-Also I have started working on the COVID Protocol and making some changes to it. As of January 1, the requirements have all changed according to the CARES Act and so we are not required to give people sick leave if they contracted COVID, however we've been doing that. Now that everyone has had the chance to be vaccinated, I think we need to take a serious look and I'll be bringing that protocol to you, so we can make the necessary changes to fit what we're currently doing.

Future Agenda Items:

Action Item-Board approval for repair expenditures

Action Item-CMGC RFQ

Action Item-COVID Protocol

Action Item-ISBA Policies

Discussion Item-Next Year's NFHS Baseball Softball issue

There was further discussion on what to do with NFHS Baseball and Softball issue with removing snow off the field, and where we stand with the City of Ashton softball diamond.

Trustee Tia Cherry made a motion to go into executive for the Superintendent's Evaluation per I.C. 74-206(1) (b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public-school student. The motion was seconded by Trustee JayLee Packer. Roll call vote, Bonnie Moon, "aye", Jon Bailey, "aye", Tia Cherry, "aye", Julianne Hill, "aye", JayLee Packer, "aye". All "ayes", motion carried.

Went into executive session at 6:12 p.m.

Came out of executive session at 6:51 p.m.

Trustee Tia Cherry made a motion to adjourn at 6:53 p.m.