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Fremont Joint School District No. 215  
Special School Board Meeting Minutes  
January 6, 2021  
Fremont School District Office  
Via Zoom/Livestream District Facebook  
Meeting Time 8:15 a.m.

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

Chairman Bonnie Moon called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m. A quorum was present.

Trustee Tia Cherry made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Jon Bailey. All "ayes", motion carried.

Superintendent Stutzman said I sent you a copy of the High School Athletic Plan for Governor's Orders on Gatherings and Spectators. It will need to be submitted to the State Board of Education, and they will enforce the Governor's order. There are some requirements to it and some limitations to it. Student athletes may have up to two spectators per participant for home and away teams. As soon as you take action on this then we'll get this posted online, so everyone can see what is there. It does have some consequences, but I do believe even if we don't adopt it, the consequences will still be there.

Chris Tucker said he was able to talk to Ty Jones, Director at IHSA, and I asked him specific questions. If we do something on our own, there will definitely be consequences if we don't follow the order. Because if you don't follow the order, you will have to go back to ten spectators or less. I had a meeting with Teton, Sugar and Firth, and everyone is adopting this in what they are doing. It's really helping with consistency as we go forward. When we go to home and away games, everyone is doing the same thing.

Principal Drex Hathaway said I really believe this is the best way for us to allow parents into our games and be in compliance. If our boys and girls and wrestlers qualify for state, they will be allowed to participate in a state event. After reading through this they don't give us a lot of choice, it clearly states that any school going with some other plan the consequences are pretty steep, and it hurts the kids. I want my kids participating.

Chris Tucker said things have been going very well. We've had some very good support and parents are understanding and have been very supportive.

Trustee Jon Bailey said it seemed like as I read through it, we are allowed to have some cheerleaders. If I read it correctly, the bands cannot participate, unfortunately, like we would like them to. Wrestling was a little bit tighter. If they had a big tournament, they were going to be tighter on who they were going to let come in.

Chris Tucker said we have a very big double dual wrestling tournament, and looking at the governor's order, what we are able to do is you get 15 maximums for the varsity wrestlers. We have a good plan in place, but when we do district tournament, we can't have any parents.

Chairman Bonnie Moon said she appreciated the schools get the information to the parents.

Trustee Tia Cherry also read that six cheerleaders get two spectators as well. I would like to challenge each of you here to please write the governor and tell him not to forget about our bands. I think it's important that each and every one of us should write our representatives. Even if it's just for senior night, you get the band for one game, because those seniors are important too. I really hate the tattletale system that we have come to as Americans, but for anyone listening, no one can just go and tattletale. If you feel so inclined to do so, it can only be specific people. If you have issues when you watch the video, talk to your administrator.

Chris Tucker said he wanted to address the band situation. I agree with you Tia; we've even had comments from officials that regularly come to our school, how much they miss the band. We are trying to have pep assemblies and give them the opportunities to participate and even involve our cheerleaders more when we're in school.

Chairman Bonnie Moon said what the board passed before the new year, our extra-curricular safety plan, which was a little bit different than the Governor's order we will have in place. If we pass this today it will supersede what we passed at our last meeting. There were a few differences, and I think Tia has brought up is a major one, that the band can't participate.

Superintendent Stutzman said if we do not follow this plan the chances of us not allowed to participate in districts and state goes up substantially. There will be consequences, the first being the State Board of Ed, second the loss of that game, and the third being the shutdown of that season.

Chairman Bonnie Moon said the order also asks everyone to wear a mask until they can sit down and social distance. This will be posted on our website and district Facebook page, if we pass this.

Trustee Tia Cherry made a motion to approve the High School Athletic Plan for Governor's Orders on Gathering and Spectators. The motion was seconded by Trustee Jon Bailey. All "ayes", motion carried.

Trustee Jon Bailey made a motion to adjourn at 8:31 a.m.