

FEBRUARY 5, 2015

The Freedom Area School Board held their Agenda Board Meeting on February 5, 2015, in the Middle School Library. President Barbara Heyman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, EST.

Board Members Present:

Alan Colorito
Harry Gilarno (Arrived 7:40 pm)
Dawn Greene
Barbara Heyman
Lori Pail
Mary Ann Petcovic
Lorraine Rocco
Jennifer Sayre
Dennis Sharpless

Board Members Absent:

School Staff Present:

Dr. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent
Noriene Plate, Business Manager
Misty Slavic, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
William Deal, Principal, High School
Frank Hernandez, Assistant Principal, High School
Dr. Darlene Corris, Principal, Middle School
Richard Edder, Principal, Elementary Schools
John Rosa, Faculty and Athletic Director
Gary Mortimer, Director of Buildings & Grounds
Scott Smith, Construction Representative/Clerk of Services

Guests: Public sign-in sheet attached to the minutes in the minute book.

Note: Freedom High School Students were in attendance to observe a governmental meeting.

EXTRA CURRICULAR:

John Rosa, Athletic Director, provided the following monthly report:

- 1) Winter Team Updates
 - Boys Basketball (3-17) continuing to show progress
 - Girls Basketball (10-10) will be playing in the WPIAL Playoffs
 - Wrestling (6-3) lost a very close match in playoffs 37-36
 - MS Boys Basketball (6-11) showed improvement as the season progressed
 - JH Wrestling (5-1) many doing very well in tournaments
 - MS Girls Volleyball season has just begun, 36 girls participating
- 2) Booster Groups meeting on February 11 to assure that all groups are following their own By-Laws and complying with district policies and philosophies.
- 3) Individual accomplishments – Our students have earned many individual honors
 - Kody Komara – MAC Wrestling Champion
 - Dean Ward – MAC Wrestling Runner Up
 - Michael Muron – MAC Wrestling Tournament 4th Place
 - Evan Sweesy – MAC Wrestling Tournament 4th Place
 - Randy Simmons – MAC Wrestling Tournament 4th Place
 - Jake Pail – South Side JH Wrestling Tournament Runner Up
 - Bryson Miller – South Side Wrestling Tournament Runner Up
 - Shyann Komara – South Side Wrestling Tournament 3rd Place
- 4) Homecoming Festival – Saturday Oct 10 vs. New Brighton. Game at 6 PM Festival and Parade during the day, bonfire and dance after game
- 5) Working on proposal for budgeting for independent sports that our athletes participate in
- 6) Coaching certification law – Athletic Director and Trainer to become certified to instruct the courses
- 7) Baseball Dugouts – Gary and his crew are ready to finish this project as soon as the weather breaks

Note Athletic Director Rosa left the meeting following his report.

PUBLIC/COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

- Carol-Lynn Dubovi, New Sewickley Township, asked if a technology needs assessment was being conducted at the High School. Dr. Fuller responded that one should be completed by this spring outlining options for the District to address.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Fuller, Superintendent, reported on the following:

- The Polar Plunge held Saturday, January 24, 2015 was a huge success. Team Freedom raised over \$5,200 and approximately \$84,000 was raised county-wide for the Beaver County Special Olympics. The Elementary Schools won the Team Freedom Traveling Trophy for the donations received from Freedom students and staff, bringing in over \$1,250.

LEGISLATION:

Dr. Fuller, Superintendent, gave the Legislative update saying the Legislature is back in session and the House Education Committee is pushing ahead very quickly on a number of issues. Some are very positive moves that we can hope make it through both houses quickly.

During the meeting in Harrisburg last week, we met with the new chairmen of both the House Education Committee (Rep. Stan Saylor, R-York) and the Senate Education Committee (Sen. Lloyd Smucker, R-Lancaster). Rep. Saylor has not served on the Education Committee previously. He has actually been moving the Committee pretty quickly, having reported out four bills last week and several more anticipated to be reported out in the next few days.

Bills – HB 127 and HB 139 – will likely be passed by the House today and moved on to the Senate for consideration.

- **HB 127** – amends the School Code to require a school entity to make available upon request to armed forces recruiters a list of 11th and 12th grade students and to notify all 10th and 11th graders and any 12th graders not yet 18
- **HB 139** – amends the Private Academic Schools Act to allow online schools to become licensed by the State Board of Private Academic Schools

Bills – HB 210, HB 168, and HB 177 – are very important. It is strongly suggested that all Board Members (and their friends!) contact your local representative and encourage their support of each of those bills.

- **HB 210** – amends the Public School Code to streamline and automate the PlanCon process, make changes to some of the current criteria, create a transparent website to determine project status, allow lump sum reimbursement with the approval of PDE and the school district and allow districts that engaged in construction projects during the moratorium to remain eligible for reimbursement. *NOTE: This bill is similar to legislation introduced last session. It basically streamlines and automates the program (i.e. decreasing the 11-step process to a 5-step process).*
- **HB 168** – amends the Public School Code to eliminate all Keystone Exam subjects except Algebra I, literature and biology and prohibits the exam from being used as a statewide graduation requirement
- **HB 177** – amends the Public School Code to create an Academic Standards Commission, made up of the Education Committee chairmen, public school teachers and administrators, higher education representatives and members of the business community, to review and make recommendations regarding the PA Core Standards and issue a report within 18 months of its first meeting.

EDUCATION:

Motion to approve the following Education items was made by Petcovic, seconded by Pail, and unanimously approved through consent agenda according to Act 48:

CA:1 Approve Released Time According to Act 48:

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

I. Special Education:

- a. Amber Thompson, Elementary Speech Therapist thru Soliant Health Inc., Transition

Meeting for Incoming Kindergarten Students, February 6, Lifesteps of Beaver County, Beaver, Cost Substitute

2. Other:

- a. Confirm: Transition to Kindergarten, January 26, BVIU, Cost Substitute Plus Mileage:
 i. Erica Davids, Big Knob Elementary Kindergarten Teacher
 ii. Lori Sacco, Conway Elementary Kindergarten Teacher

STUDENTS AND STAFF TRAVEL:

1. Special Education:

- a. Confirm: Jeff Griffith, High School Half-Time Learning Support Teacher, ARDEX Americas Job Shadowing, Aliquippa, February 2 (No Cost to District)

2. Other:

- a. Phipps Conservatory & Botanical Gardens and Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Sunday, February 22, Pittsburgh (No Cost to District):
 i. Natalie Miles, High School Science Club Sponsor
 ii. Aaron Fitzpatrick, High School English Teacher
 b. Craig Bohon, High School Spanish Club Sponsor, Ice Skating at PPG Place and Dinner, February 13 (After School), Pittsburgh (No cost to District)

- CA:2 The resignation of Dr. Darlene Corris, Middle School Principal, effective upon the selection of her replacement
 CA:3 The resignation of Heather Ross, Big Knob Elementary Title I Instructional Aide, effective January 30, 2015
 CA:4 FMLA (Intermittently), According to Policy, for Susan Suleski, Middle School Counselor, beginning January 19 thru approximately March 14, 2015

Roll Call Yea Votes – Sharpless, Greene, Rocco, Heyman, Gilarno, Colorito, Sayre, Petcovic,
 Vote and Pail. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

FINANCE:

Noriene Plate, Business Manager, provided an overview of the PDE-2028 Preliminary General Fund 2015-2016 Budget.

OPERATIONS:

Motion to approve the following Operations item was made by Petcovic, seconded by Pail, and unanimously approved through consent agenda:

- CA:1 Release Time, According to Policy, for Dawn Fronius, Food Service Director, to attend Smarter Lunchrooms Project Training, February 9, Penn State-State College (No Cost to District)

Roll Call Yea Votes – Sharpless, Greene, Rocco, Heyman, Gilarno, Colorito, Sayre, Petcovic,
 Vote and Pail. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

Gary Mortimer, Director of Buildings & Grounds, provided the following monthly report:

General Information:

Routine maintenance at all schools with the winter temperatures and snow removal.

High School:

The new HVAC control system has been installed and completed by Building Control System, Inc.

Collecting information on the request to tie the existing locker room boiler into the failed system for the pool locker rooms.

Conway:

Replacement of piping, bearing assembly and coupler on one of the domestic hot water pumps that serves the kitchen area.

Work continues with the pneumatic controls on the boiler heating system.

Middle School:

Ordered a new hot water pump motor for Pump Assembly 3 on hydronic heating system.

Big Knob:

Replaced motors on fan coil units.

Chlorine levels have been checked and adjusted per D.E.P. recommendation for water quality.

FACILITIES MASTER PLAN:

Scott Smith, Construction Representative/Clerk of Services, reported that the project was currently at 46% of the 48% projected completion status. Smith also reported on the work that has been completed in the last 30 days and requested approval for several change orders.

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Sayre, to approve the following change orders and unanimously approved through consent agenda:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Addition of (2) 2" copper ball valves for the isolation of restrooms K215 and K216 for future maintenance purposes | \$ 402.13 |
| Modify electrical distribution to accommodate new UPS's in MDF room L132. Price includes credit for unused portion of work already in project. | \$2,858.00 |
| Modify ductwork in Corridor L126 per sketches H-1032.1, H-203.1, & H-502.1, drawing by Tower Engineering and issued by VEBH Architect. (Credit for unused portion of previously approved Change order in December 2014. Actual amount of Charge is \$1,304.78.) | (\$1,495.22) |
| Total Change Order's | \$1,765.00 |

Roll Call Yea Votes – Sharpless, Greene, Rocco, Heyman, Gilarno, Colorito, Sayre, Petcovic,
Vote and Pail. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Note: Board Member Harry Gilarno left the meeting at 8:05 pm.

Motion by Sayre, seconded by Sharpless, for the Board to go into Executive Session at 8:05 pm, EST, for personnel and legal matters.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Greene, Rocco, Heyman, Gilarno, Colorito, Sayre, Petcovic, Pail and
Vote Sharpless. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

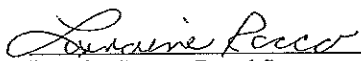
Motion by Sayre, seconded by Greene, for the Board to go out of Executive Session at 9:00 pm, EST.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Greene, Rocco, Heyman, Gilarno, Colorito, Sayre, Petcovic, Pail and
Vote Sharpless. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

Note: No action taken.

Adjourn Motion by Sayre, seconded by Colorito, to adjourn. All members voting Yea.
9 Yeas. Adjourned at 9:00 pm, EST.

Signed by:


Lorraine Rocco, Board Secretary