

**Fremont Community Schools
Board of School Trustees
December 15, 2014
Administration Office Board Room
1100 West Toledo Street
Fremont, Indiana**

**Special Meeting #21
5:45 PM
Public Hearing for Additional Appropriations**

**Special Meeting #22
5:45 PM
Project Hearing
Curt Pletcher
H.J. Umbaugh and Associates
Certified Public Accountants, LLP**

**Regular Meeting #23
6:00 PM
Meeting Summary**

Board Members Present: President Sheri Thomson, Vice-President Christine Seiler, Secretary Hope Korte, Liaison Officer Cindy Saltzman, Members Peggy Bailey, Laura McLatcher, Marty McNeal

Representing the Administration: Superintendent Lori Vaughn, Corporation Business Manager Brandon Penrod

Visitors in Attendance: Kim Bennett, Kim Quick, Chris Folland, Gary Baker, Amanda DeLong, Beth Burnau, Nancy Swager, Joni Thompson, Anna Creager, Dave Thomson, Jim Measel, Sally Heller, Barbara Wheeler, Susie Swager, Mark Fowerbaugh, Jill Cox, Mary Sacquitne, Mark Sherbondy

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

CALL TO ORDER

Regular Meeting #23 was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President Thomson.

The meeting agenda was unanimously adopted with the following additions presented by Superintendent Lori Vaughn:

- #8 Employment Recommendations – 2 additional recommendations for hiring
- #12 Donation

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the November 24, 2014, Special Meeting #20 were unanimously approved as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND CLAIMS APPROVAL

The Corporation Financial Report was presented by Corporation Business Manager Brandon Penrod. All claims submitted were unanimously approved by the Board.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Middle School Principal Mark Fowerbaugh, High School Principal Mark Sherbondy and Elementary Principal Barbara Wheeler presented positive overviews of their first semesters and plans for the 2nd semester which will begin on January 5, 2015. Principals highlighted student achievement, teacher performance, the new starting times that went into effect this school year, and the structured morning planning times built in to allow for more articulation, collaboration and planning for and between teachers and administrators. Board member Laura McLatcher followed by commenting on how pleased and impressed she has been during recent classroom visits. She especially enjoyed watching students and teachers interact while using Smart board technology.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Oath of Office – New Board Members

Newly elected school board members Gary Baker, Kim Bennett, Jill Cox, and Anna Creager took the Oath of Office and were sworn in by Notary Public and Head Start Director Susan Swager. Oaths were signed by both the new members and Notary Public Swager. Each member and Fremont Community Schools will retain documents for their records. The original documents will be forwarded to the Steuben County Clerk's Office for filing. Newly elected members will begin their terms January 1, 2015.

2. Set Date for Special Board Meeting in January, 2015

Board Organization Requirements: Every school board must elect a president, a vice president, and a secretary within fifteen days of the commencement date of the members' terms of office. The board must also appoint a treasurer. The FCS Board of School Trustees will hold a meeting on Monday, January 12, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the administration office board room to take care of all of the board organization requirements.

3. Set Date for Board of Finance 2015 Annual Meeting

The FCS Board of Finance Annual Meeting will take place on January 12, 2015, at 6:30 p.m., following the regular board meeting at 6:00 p.m. The board of finance meeting is open to the public. At this meeting, the board must elect a president and secretary and receive and review the investment report, which will be provided and presented by Business Manager Penrod.

4. Transfers to Rainy Day Fund Resolution

Business Manager Penrod requested and received unanimous approval for a Rainy Day Fund Resolution which allows us to transfer cash to the Rainy Day Fund from the Capital Projects and/or Transportation Funds.

5. Consideration to Adopt Additional Appropriation Resolution

This resolution allows for appropriations to be created giving the board the authority to spend the money created by the bond sale. The resolution was unanimously approved.

6. Consideration to Adopt Final Bond Resolution

This resolution contains language addressing our continuing disclosure obligations as well as a bid committee to receive bids. This is the final document to sign before the bond sale on December 17, 2014. The resolution was unanimously approved.

7. Consideration to Adopt Project Resolution

This resolution contains language stating that the board authorizes a project to take place with the proceeds from the bond sale. The resolution was unanimously approved.

8. Employment Recommendations

Resignation: Julie Senecal, 7th Grade Math Teacher

Hiring: Vicki Brandenburg, MS Math Teacher
Cindy Callahan, EL Technology Mentor
Amanda DeLong, MS Cafeteria Cook
Lorie Knisely, HS Technology Mentor
Sarah Koch, HS Earth Science Teacher
Chad Kuespert, MS Technology Mentor
Michelle Yohey, HS Cafeteria Cashier

9. Additional Elementary Volunteers

Additional elementary volunteers were submitted and approved.

10. High School Athletic Trip Request

The board approved an overnight trip for the high school wrestling team who will be competing in the Eastern High School Invitational in Greentown, Indiana, December 29-31st. The wrestling team has been competing in this invitational for several years. The coaching staff will be responsible for supervision. Transportation will be on the white school buses.

11. Head Start Report

Director Susan Swager asked the board for, and received approval of the following employee recommendations:

Resignation/Retirement/Termination: Vena Fischer, Bus Monitor – LaGrange
Raedene Steward, Bus Monitor – Angola

Hiring: Jessica Palmer, Bus Monitor – Angola
Linda Phillips, Bus Monitor – LaGrange

Director Swager reported that while enrollment is down, there are currently 176 children enrolled in our Head Start programs.

12. Donation

Elementary Principal Barbara Wheeler submitted a request for the board to approve a donation from Fremont business, Damiron Truck Center. This generous donation of MEIJER gift cards totally \$350 will be used to make several of our children’s holidays a little more merry and bright. THANK YOU DAMIRON TRUCK CENTER!!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Bus Route Change

Due to a shortage of bus drivers we have had to re-align two of our existing routes. Bus numbers 5 and 13 will be consolidated to form one route. Parents will be notified of changes in pick up and drop off times for their children. This change will take effect on Wednesday, December 17, and will continue after our Winter Holiday Break. Parents may contact Superintendent Vaughn at 495-5005 with questions and/or concerns.

2. Recognition of Board Members

Superintendent Vaughn recognized the following outgoing board members for their years of service and dedication to Fremont Community Schools.

Hope Korte – 1 term (4 years)

Cindy Saltzman – 2 terms (8 years)

Christine Seiler – 2 terms (8 years)

Sheri Thomson – 3 terms (12.5 years)

Each member received an engraved plaque and a life-time Fremont Community Schools Athletic Pass.

Thank you Hope, Cindy, Christine, and Sheri for your outstanding boardsmanship and service to our school and community!

Winter Holiday Break

December 23, 2014 – January 2, 2015

School resumes on Monday, January 5, 2015

The school and corporation offices will be closed during the Winter Holiday Break.