



FSD 145

Freeport School District

For Immediate Release

April 5, 2017

April 4, 2017 Board of Education Meeting Highlights

At its regular meeting held Tuesday evening, the Freeport School District Board of Education:

- Discussed a proposal to provide additional support for students who test positive in the high school extra-curricular random drug testing program. Proposed program changes include requiring students who test positive to attend counseling sessions and to complete a course on drug and alcohol abuse, as well as providing education to parents and students about the dangers of drug and alcohol use. The financial impact of these changes would be \$162 for each student that tests positive. This item will return to the board for action at the Apr. 18th meeting.
(Additional contact: Dr. Beth Summers, Freeport High School Principal, 815-232-0405, beth.summers@fsd145.org)
- Discussed a proposal to waive the residency requirement for district staff wishing to enroll their children in FSD. Though the district would not receive property tax payments from these families, additional state funding to the district for the students through General State Aid would more than offset property tax funds. The district will hold a public hearing at the Apr. 18th meeting on this matter and the item will return to the board for action at that meeting.
(Additional contact: Dr. Patrick McDermott, Assistant Superintendent for Business, 815-232-0304, patrick.mcdermott@fsd145.org)
- Discussed a proposal to purchase “Bridges in Mathematics” as the new K-5 Math Curriculum for the district. Bridges in Mathematics is a comprehensive curriculum that equips teachers to fully implement the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics. It focuses on developing students’ deep understandings of mathematical concepts, proficiency with key skills, and ability to solve complex and novel problems. This item will return to the board for action at the Apr. 18th meeting.
(Additional contact: Dr. Duane Meighan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, 815-232-0311, duane.meighan@fsd145.org)
- Approved a property tax abatement request from Rose Ridge Housing Development. This abatement request is for three years, with a possible three year prorated extension, instead of the usual 23-year TIF tax abatement.
(Additional contact: Dr. Patrick McDermott, Assistant Superintendent for Business, 815-232-0304, patrick.mcdermott@fsd145.org)
- Approved an intergovernmental agreement between ISBE and FSD145 which will enable the district to recruit bilingual English Learner teachers from Spain through the State Exchange Visitor Program.
(Additional contact: Ms. Nita White, Director of Equity & Curriculum, 815-232-0321, nita.white@fsd145.org)
- Approved a contract extension through 2018-2019 for Superintendent Dr. Mike Schiffman.
(Additional contact: Dr. Mike Schiffman, Superintendent, 815-232-0308, mike.schiffman@fsd145.org)

The public is always invited and encouraged to attend Freeport School District Board of Education meetings. The next scheduled regular meeting will be held **Tuesday, April 18th** at **6:00 PM** at **Carl Sandburg Middle School** at 1717 Eby Street.

Contact: Jesse Johnson, FSD#145 Communications Specialist/Grant Writer
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