

Regular meeting of the Freeport School District Board of Education

March 5, 2024 - The meeting was held at Empire School.

*This report provides **highlights** of the board meeting and are not the official meeting minutes.*

The Board received Numerous Reports that will be further detailed in the Board Meeting Minutes:

Celebrations/Recognitions

Acknowledged Women’s History: March is Women’s History Month. During this month, we once again commemorate the unforgettable contributions and remarkable achievements of women throughout history. This year’s theme highlights women who have shattered barriers, defied expectations, and transformed the landscape of progress across the spectrum of society.

National Social & Emotional Learning Week: This year, the theme of National SEL Week is ***Today’s Students, Tomorrow’s Leaders***, showcasing how SEL helps students achieve academically and develop the skills they need to be the civic leaders of tomorrow. National Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Week, plus ***International SEL Day on March 8***, are celebrated to promote the benefits of Social and Emotional Learning.

Other Supt. Report Items

Enrollment Data

Current Student enrollment is 3687 in FSD seats.

Summer Learning 2024

Building Based Summer Learning Program: Every school will host their own summer learning in their building this year.

Summer Learning Timeline:

- March 5 - Enrollment starts
- March 29 - Enrollment numbers to HR to inform hiring
- April 1 - Hiring for Summer School Staff begins
- May 6 - Final enrollment numbers for summer learning to transportation
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Transportation Risk Score

Friday as a fleet our Transportation Department had a total Risk score of 98.1%. This means that less than 2% of the time, our bus drivers who were on the road on Friday were engaging in unsafe driving behaviors. Below is a snapshot of the report below that was shared with our drivers.

The report looks at 6 risky behaviors and gives each a "weight."

- Hard Acceleration-10%
- Harsh Braking-10%
- Harsh Cornering-10%
- Seat Belt Usage-20%
- Speeding-20%
- Excessive Speeding-30% (15 mph over)

Early Childhood Block Grant

The agreement on the Early Childhood Block Grant is made between ROE8 for Carroll, Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties. Our responsibility is to agree to provide services to children ages 3-5 per the ISBE guidelines for the Preschool for All (PFA) grant. As grantee, ROE 8 will reimburse our district for the services provided as follows:

Preschool for All 3-5 Funds = \$447,335 (Funds Four ½ day programs (at all schools) and one full day (Lincoln Douglas)

Preschool for All-Expansion Funds = \$312,936 (Funds two additional full day classrooms [Empire and Blackhawk] at a much higher per pupil rate for an additional 40 students)

Details and guidelines for the grant were provided to the board members.

February Attendance & Behavior Data

Average Discipline Referrals per month per day is currently 10.

Attendance is still trending in a positive direction compared to last year.

Information Reports

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Audit

The Auditor met with the Finance Committee and Drs. Alvarado & McDermott prior to this meeting for a greater dive into the audit. No significant deficiencies or instances of non-compliance that are required to be reported were found. Net position is trending in the right direction. FSD's Estimated Financial Profile Summary score was 3.5 out of 4.

Grant Specialties Contract

For Safety & Security purposes FSD is seeking assistance in developing a competitive application for the School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) Grant, made available through the U.S. Department of Justice. Through safety audits/assessments in consultation with school safety and security professionals along with a review of school safety research, we have identified a need for additional funds to support school safety initiatives.

MTSS Specialist Job Description

Revision of the MTSS Specialist Job Description. Based on studying the data during the first three years of implementing the Math and Reading Specialist positions, we are refining the job description of this position to emphasize the parts of the job that create the most student growth and teacher support.

Approved the Consent Agenda

- A. Freeport School District and Career TEC Bills
- B. Personnel Report March 05, 2024

Took Action in Favor of the Following Previously Presented Items

There were no action items for this portion of the meeting.

Committee Reports

Reports were provided by:

Vice President Furst indicated that the Finance Committee meeting centered around the audit.

Member Kacey Seal reported for the Education Committee

Asst. Supt Dan Holder reported for Safety & Security

The public is always invited and encouraged to attend Freeport School District Board of Education meetings. The next scheduled regular meeting will be held on March 19, 2024, at 6:00 PM. Meetings are held at the FSD administrative office, located at 500 E. South St, and can be accessed virtually, (unless otherwise communicated). Information on joining the meetings can be found [here](#).