

January 29, 2016

# PRETZEL NEWS



Freeport School District #145 Monthly e-Newsletter

## Board of Education Meeting Updates

During its meeting on January 19th, 2016, the Board of Education:

- Recognized the FHS Speech Program on its 75th year and recognized students nominated as Student Spotlights during the first half of the school year.
- Received a monthly update on the finances of the district. This update included:
  - \* December 2015 Revenues
  - \* December 2015 Expenses
  - \* December 2015 Board Investment Report
  - \* Status of State Funding
- Received an update on the district's technology goals and progress.
- Received information about districts that prioritize PBIS and how FSD can progress in this area.
- Approved a new credit recovery opportunity for high school freshman students.
- Reviewed the CollegeNOW agreement with Highland Community College for the 2016-2017 school year.
- Discussed a proposal for an alternative to suspensions program at the middle level.
- Reviewed revised job descriptions for the following positions:
  - \* Asst. Principal for Alternative Education
  - \* Secretary to the Director of Equity
- Received an update on a new program being implemented in the middle schools to provide further academic support to students falling in the "approaching expectations" category on the PARCC assessment.
- Rejected a proposed amendment to Administrative Regulation 709.1 Uniformity of Dress.
- Approved the Freeport School District and CareerTec Bills, the Personnel Report, and the 2017 Bus Bid from Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc. for purchase of one bus and lease of six buses.
- Adopted a motion regarding the a5 community branding proposal agreeing that it is important to promote Freeport in the area for the future, but that the school district cannot redirect any funds that are already slated for the education of our students for the foreseeable future.
- Approved the proposed 2016-2017 School Year Calendar.
- Approved proposed amendments to Board Policy 410.07 - Gifts, Donations and Bequeaths to the District.
- Approved an update to the job description for the Crossing Guard position.

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Board Updates
- Looking Ahead
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You can access the [packet of materials for the December 15 meeting by clicking here.](#)



Board President Billy Shroyer (left) and Superintendent Mike Schiffman (right) congratulate students for being recognized as Student Spotlights during the first half of the school year.

## Notes & Reminders

### February Community Forum

On Wednesday, February 17th, FSD administrators will host the district's second Community Forum of the 2015-2016 school year. The event will take place at the Stephenson Co. Farm Bureau (201 W. Spring Street, Freeport) in the Walsh Room at 6:00 to 7:30 PM. Asst. Supt. of Curriculum & Instruction Dr. Duane Meighan will discuss curriculum initiatives in the district and administrators will gather feedback from the community members in attendance. Refreshments will be provided and those who attend will be able to enter a draw to win a prize.

### Kindergarten Registration

FSD's Kindergarten Registration for the 2016-2017 school year takes place January 11<sup>th</sup> to March 25<sup>th</sup> at the FSD Enrollment & Transportation Center, located at 2037 W. Galena Avenue. Please note that children must be 5 years old before Sept. 1, 2016, to be eligible for Kindergarten.

When registering, parents should bring a copy of the child's certified birth certificate and proof of residency. For more information about the types of documents accepted as proof of residency, visit [www.fsd145.org](http://www.fsd145.org).

It is important that students are registered and enrolled for kindergarten as soon as possible so the district can ensure that staffing positions and curriculum resources are in place. For more information, contact Dallas Pieper, FSD#145 Director of Enrollment & Transportation, at 815-232-0580 or [dallas.pieper@fsd145.org](mailto:dallas.pieper@fsd145.org).

### Peachjar Eflyers

FSD has begun to distribute paper flyers through an electronic service called Peachjar. School-approved flyers are now sent directly by email and posted online for viewing. This initiative will save FSD schools tons of paper and reduce copy costs by thousands of dollars. On top of that, it will help us communicate with you in an efficient way.

## FSD In the News

### Superintendent's View Columns:

- \* [Kindergarten Lays Foundation for Success](#)
- \* [Preparing Students for College & Careers](#)



### Student Spotlights:

- \* [Kalel](#)
- \* [Ryley](#)
- \* [Kyitreon](#)
- \* [Carter](#)
- \* [Maddox](#)

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Feb. 1 - 8th Grade Parent Night

6 PM, Jeannette Lloyd Theatre

### Feb. 2 - Board of Education Meeting

7 PM, Administration Building

### Feb. 4 - The Buzz

7 PM, Freeport High School, Rm. 228

### Feb. 8 - FHS Jazz Band at Cannova's

7 PM, Cannova's, 1101 W. Empire St.

### Feb. 11 & 12 - Middle School Play:

*What Happened After "Once Upon a Time"*

7 PM, Jeannette Lloyd Theatre

### Feb. 15 - NO SCHOOL, President's Day

### Feb. 16 - Board of Education Meeting

7 PM, Administration Building

### Feb. 17 - FSD Community Forum

6 PM, Stephenson Co. Farm Bureau  
Walsh Room

### Feb. 17 - Cat's Pajamas Concert

7:30 PM, Jeannette Lloyd Theatre

### Feb. 18 - Parent Café

*Ways to Encourage a Struggling Child*

5:30 PM, King Community Center

### Feb. 25 - School Improvement Day

(3-hour day)

### Feb. 27 - Black History Theatre Production

7 PM, Jeannette Lloyd Theatre

### Articles:

- \* [Freeport High School Speech Team is largest in school history](#)
- \* [FSD145 seeks \\$10,000 less in property taxes](#)
- \* [Freeport area students speak on Martin Luther King Jr.'s messages](#)
- \* [Singing and rapping parts of speech help Freeport students learn](#)
- \* [FSD & other districts cut printing costs](#)
- \* [Freeport High hosts FAFSA event for students & parents](#)
- \* [FSD ready to test high-potential 1st through 6th graders](#)
- \* [Freeport High School's tradition of Formal Band Concert continues](#)

For more updates, visit our website at [www.fsd145.org](http://www.fsd145.org) or follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

