

Regular meeting of the Freeport School District Board of Education

April 01, 2025

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

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Dr. Alvarado congratulated the FHS students who were recently inducted into the National Honor Society.

The Board of Education:

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

PRE-K EXPANSION PLANNING

An update was provided by Justin Pasch, Director of Facilities & Services. He outlined the plans that are being made for the moves that will take place this summer to accommodate the entirety of the Preschool Expansion plan.

IAR TESTING WINDOW

Students in grades 3-8 have begun taking the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR). The testing window is April 1-17. Thank you to our teachers and school administrators for all the preparation to make sure our students are ready to take this high stakes test.

Other testing taking place includes: Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment (DLM): April 1- May 7 Pre ACT for 9th and 10th grades: April 11 ACT: April 10

FREEPORT CITY EASEMENT AGREEMENT TO ADDRESS THE STORM WATER ISSUE AND LARGE RUTS THROUGH THE SOFTBALL FIELD

On 10/9/24 Green Associates investigated concerns of large ruts in the softball field and

determined that there was water running down the slope causing the soil to sink because of the water path running down to the softball field at Carl Sandburg Middle School. This will be further detailed in the board meeting minutes. The district is working with the City of Freeport to resolve this.

5ESSENTIALS SURVEY RESULTS

Dr. Alvarado shared the survey result rates for staff, students and parents. Overall across the district we met the 20% response rate goal. Individual goals varied by school.

CIVIL RIGHTS DATA COLLECTION (CRDC) INFORMATION

The Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) is generally a biennial (i.e., every other school year) survey required by the U.S. Department of Education's (ED) Office for Civil Rights (OCR). Freeport SD has submitted its Civil Rights Data for Certification for the 2023-2024 school year.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

As required by law, the school board shall organize by electing its officers and fixing a time and place for the regular meetings within 40 days after the April 1, consolidated election. This meeting must be done by May 12, 2025. The Freeport School District Board of Education will organize at its regular meeting held on May 6, 2025.

INFORMATION REPORTS

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB PROPOSAL UPDATE

Mr. James Rhyne, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of Freeport and Stephenson County (BGCFSC) presented a proposal requesting funding from Freeport School District to offer programming during the school year and throughout the summer. for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program.

COLLEGE NOW UPDATE FOR SY 2025-2026

Over the last two years, there has been an increase in the number of students who have wanted to participate in, and subsequently qualify for, the CollegeNOW program. The Board agreed to cover the tuition for twenty students for SY24-25, of which fourteen of them were juniors. Tuition for each student was \$3100 per semester, or \$6200 per year. We are anticipating a tuition increase for SY25-26. There is the potential of 19-27 students, depending on whether all fourteen juniors continue in the program, as well as

five sophomores who are still trying to qualify. Potential funding resources were discussed.

Approved the Consent Agenda:

- 8.1 Freeport School District and CareerTEC Bills
- 8.2 Personnel Report April 1, 2025
- 8.3 Resolution authorizing the WC abatement to Capital Fund and reverse the interfund loan, February 28, 2025.
- 8.4 AIM Web Plus Renewal
- 8.5 IHSA Membership Renewal

Took Action in Favor of the Following Previously Presented Items:

- 9.1 Boys & Girls Club Community Grant
- 9.2 FHS Grading Procedures & Final Report Card
- 9.3 6th Grade SAVVAS ELA Proposal
- 9.4 Highland Community College Annual Road Service Fee for SY 2025-26

Board Member Committee Reports

Member Alan Greene from Buildings & Grounds

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 April 15, 2025, at 6:00 PM. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held at the FSD Administrative Office at 501 E South Street.