

## **Regular meeting of the Freeport School District Board of Education**

**April 15, 2025**

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

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### **The Board of Education:**

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

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#### **STUDENT & STAFF RECOGNITION**

Dr. Alvarado highlighted and congratulated the Jazz Band, Varsity Choir and staff/directors for another successful **Showtime** production. This year marks 45 years of Showtime.

**Students in the Engineering Architecture, Technical Design, and Intro Design Engineering Honors** courses participated in the 2025 Helm VDC Competition. Students competed for both cash awards and a paid summer intern position. Awards were presented to:

Evan Scudder - 1st Place, cash prize, and a paid Summer Internship

Asher Kittoe - 2nd Place, cash prize

Mitchell Schneiderman - 3rd Place, cash prize

Stacey Kleindl, Principal of Blackhawk Elementary in Freeport School District 145, was selected for a Spotlight Recognition at the 9th Annual Illinois Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (IALAS) Conference. Each year, IALAS honors outstanding educators through its Spotlight Leader feature. Mrs. Kleindl received this recognition for her exceptional leadership, commitment to inclusion, and remarkable academic progress at Blackhawk—particularly among multilingual learners.

Congratulations were extended to **Board President, Jack Sosnowski** on receiving the **IL Association of School Boards Board Leader Recognition Award**.

## OTHER SUPT REPORTS

Sara Latimer, Director of **Early Childhood**, provided the board with an update on the **Preschool Expansion project**. She discussed Community Partnerships Development, EC Transition Advisory Team Members, Mascot & Logo, Parent Survey, MTSS Development, FAQ for Parents and next steps.

Dr. Alvarado discussed **IDPH: Action Needed to Improve Measles Protection Rates and Outbreak Readiness Evaluation**. IDPH requires students to be vaccinated to protect themselves, classmates, and staff. Vaccination directly shields individuals and helps contain disease spread, especially for those who are ineligible for certain vaccines. To maintain community immunity, schools should aim for 96% coverage, with a minimum of 91% to achieve herd immunity. Our district has an immunization protection rate for measles of 97.4%

The **National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)**, also known as The Nation's Report Card, is the largest nationally representative assessment of student achievement in the U.S., providing consistent data across states and time. It serves as a valuable benchmark for contextualizing local assessment results, helping to reveal trends, disparities, and the relative rigor of state and district-level tests. The attached presentation compares NAEP data trends with FSD145 data. By comparing local data to NAEP, educators and policymakers can better understand student performance within a national framework.

## INFORMATION REPORTS

**7.1** - Presented by Dr. Jeremy Dotson, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Finance  
**Monthly Finance Report** for March 2025.

**7.2** - Presented by Tom Elzen, Director of **Technology**  
Tom provided the **Annual Update** to the board for his department and how it impacts the District's Strategic Plan

**7.3** - Presented by Dr. Julia Cloat, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction  
**The Cebrin Goodman Teen Institute: (CGTI)** is a youth leadership conference held at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois, each July. This program is sponsored by the Illinois Association for Behavioral Health (IABH) and promotes positive change, healthy decision-making, and leadership development among young people from across Illinois. It is proposed that, as part of the FSD145 Summer Programming offered in 2025, a team of approximately 14 students and 2 adult mentors to attend CGTI this July. Cost of this summer learning experience will be approximately \$7,750 and will be

funded through the After-School Programs Grant. Approval is requested at the May 6th meeting.

7.4 - Presented by Dr. Julia Cloat

**P.E. & Health Curriculum:** Since May of 2024, the K-8 and 9-12 Physical Education Departments, comprising physical education, health, and driver education teachers, have worked to develop a curriculum, based on the Illinois State Standards for their content areas, that establishes goals for students and efficiently utilizes Board-approved materials. The team came to a consensus about resources and materials to recommend to the FSD145 School Board of Education for the next adoption cycle that will lead to a comprehensive, vertically-aligned curriculum that will better assist in meeting the goal of empowering students to make healthy lifestyle choices from kindergarten through graduation and beyond. Approval is requested at the May 6th meeting.

7.5 - Presented by Dr. Julia Cloat

**Social Studies Curriculum Review:** Since January of 2024, the Social Studies Curriculum Review Committee and Social Studies Departments have worked to develop a curriculum that is based on the Illinois Social Science Standards, that establishes goals for students and efficiently utilizes Board approved materials. The Social Studies Curriculum Review committee has prepared a plan for integrated curriculum for grades K-4; curriculum maps for grades 6-12, and materials recommendations for the FHS Social Studies elective courses. Approval is requested at the May 6th meeting.

7.6 - Presented by Dr. Julia Cloat

**Elementary Report Card:** During the second year of the HMH ELA materials (phase 6 of the curriculum review cycle), a representative group of teachers piloted a curriculum map of prioritized standards. This process led to the refinement of the standards being prioritized and assessed, resulting in further refinement in the reported standards. The updated K-4 report cards are aligned with the Illinois Priority Standards, The HMH Assessments, and the newly developed ELA Curriculum Maps. This is presented for information only at this meeting.

**Approved the Consent Agenda:**

8.1 - Freeport School District and CareerTEC Bills

8.2 - Personnel Report - April 15, 2025

8.3 - Northwestern Illinois Association for purchased services

8.4 - Abatement bid to Hogan Environmental Cleaning for Summer 2025 Asbestos Abatement work at Blackhawk ES and Freeport Middle School

8.5 - Updated job descriptions for

1. Instructional Coach.
2. Early Childhood Pyramid Model Instructional Coach
3. Bilingual Instructional Coach
4. Grant Funded Instructional Coach
5. Bilingual MTSS Specialist

8.6 - 2025-2026 Van RFP Barkau Automotive

8.7 - 2025-2026 Fuel Bid Saunders Oi

**Took Action in Favor of the Following Previously Presented Items:**

9.1 - Permanent Storm Water Easement Agreement Between Freeport Sd 145 and The City of Freeport

**Board Member Committee Reports**

Members Charlene Williams & Kacey Seal for the Education Committee

Vice President Martha Furst for the Finance Committee and Language & Culture Steering Committee

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