

**FREMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Board Meeting via ZOOM
December 14, 2020
6:30 p.m.**

The Regular Board meeting of the Fremont Board of Education was called to order by President, Matt Hendrie, at 6:34 p.m.

Present: Matt Hendrie, Michael Campeau, Crystal Calkins, Kim Rasch, Rick St. Peter, Jen Scott and Pete Slovinski.

Absent: None

Approval of Agenda

6646 – Motion by Pete and seconded by Crystal to approve the agenda with the addition of two action items – approve the ECOL and Agreement for Collection of Summer Taxes.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Public Participation

- None

Recognitions/Presentations

None

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

6647 – Motion by Rick and seconded by Michael to approve:

- A. The minutes of the November 23, 2020 Board of Education meeting.
- B. The disbursements for the month of November in the amount of \$2,311,730.42.

Leadership Reports

Ken Haggart, Superintendent

- Ken discussed that finding substitutes is a difficult proposition. Legislature in the Lamé Duck session is trying to give us more opportunities to allow more people to substitute.

- Parents' struggle with virtual learning. We found that as time went on kids are struggling to put the correct amount of time into the class. Many of these kids are working from 30 minutes to 45 minutes a day. Some have taken jobs and are putting no time into their schooling. We are going to look at other opportunities for these kids to obtain credits.
- A Newaygo County student committed suicide over the weekend. There is evidence that being put out of school has had a huge effect on students.
- K-8 quarantine – When we left on Friday, we literally had 99% of teachers/students back K-8 from quarantine. Saturday we were informed we had an 8th grader who was sick. When we had to do contact tracing, we had to go back to Tuesday.
- Embezzlement trial continues this week on Thursday.
- Michael asked about students returning from virtual for the second semester.
- Crystal asked regarding exams for the high school and how that would look if we do not return to in-person. Scott is planning something to alleviate the stress on the students.
- Pete asked regarding virtual students flunking classes and how we might help them. Counselors are talking to the students. Tracy and Brandon are working with the parents on a regular basis. There was a lengthy discussion regarding virtual and how students are doing.

Bing Hanson, Director of Finance

- Bing discussed the Hazard Grant. There were 162 employees who applied for that.
- Consolidated app was finally approved, and Bing just called down our first \$200,000 some dollars this week.
- Most likely looking at a budget amendment in February.

Board Committee Reports

Finance/Facilities – Met December 14. Pete reported that they had started prioritizing needs. Did not pick through the audit findings at this point. Jen reported that Facilities just looked at some pre-strategic planning items. The question was broached about where the track falls in the budget. Almost all of the cost falls in this year per Ken, but he will confirm that with Ryan.

Policy/Personnel – Did not meet. Any meetings must be virtual.

Board Discussion

6648 - Motion by Michael and seconded by Crystal to go into closed session under MCL 15.268, Sec. 8(a) for the purpose of the Superintendent's evaluation.

Michael – yes; Rick – yes; Jen – yes; Pete – yes; Crystal – yes; Kim – yes; Matt – yes

6649 – Motion by Crystal and seconded by Kim to return to open session at 7:46 p.m.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0; Motion passed. to open session 7:46 p.m.

Jen asked about Form C of the superintendent's evaluation which requires teacher feedback. Barb will send the form out to teachers tomorrow and request their responses by Friday via e-mail to Jen.

Action Agenda

6650 – Motion by Pete and seconded by Kim to approve the Fremont Public Schools' Extended Continuity of Learning Plan for December which has been changed from the previous one to reflect the high school being in remote learning until December 31.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0; Motion passed.

6651 – Motion by Pete and seconded by Rick to approve the Agreement for Collection of Summer School Property Taxes for 2020-2021 school year.

Ayes 7; Nays – 0; Motion passed.

Board Communications/Discussion

Crystal would like to thank the community for the opportunity to serve on the Board of Education for the last six years. It has been a great honor.

Adjournment

6652 - Motion by Crystal and seconded by Pete to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0 Motion passed.

Richard L. St. Peter II, Secretary