Freeman School District

FSD BOARD WORK SESSION/PUBLIC HEARING

Published on August 22, 2025 at 9:29 AM PDT

Date and Time

Wednesday August 27, 2025 at 5:00 PM PDT

Location

PRTC - 14815 S Jackson Rd, Rockford, WA 99030

Vision Statement

Continuing Our Tradition of Excellence in Education

Mission Statement

The Freeman School District is the center of a unique, rural community. With pride, commitment and caring, we provide a safe environment for all students to experience meaningful, rigorous learning opportunities that allow them to dream and develop into capable, confident and ethical members of the 21st Century.

Agenda

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
I.	**Opening Items**			**5:00 PM**
A.	Record Attendance			1 m
B.	Call the Meeting to Order			

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
II.	**Section 1**			**5:01 PM**
	A. Freeman School District Solar Project			
III.	**Closing Items**			
	A. Adjourn Meeting	FYI		

Coversheet

Freeman School District Solar Project

Section: II. Section 1
Item: A. Freeman School District Solar Project
Purpose:
Submitted by:
Related Material: Solar Project Flyer.pdf

THE GIVING GRID
COMMUNITY SOLAR FOR GOOD

FREEMAN SCOTTIES



You might have heard about a solar project being installed at Freeman School District.

Here are all the details and answers to frequently asked questions!



WHAT IS THE GIVING GRID & HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. The Giving Grid uses solar to fund community programs for 10+ years.
2. The project is financed and managed by Zero Emissions Northwest. **Your School District incurs NO COST.**
3. For the first 10 years, the energy savings are directed towards low-income community programs.
4. After the first 10 years, the savings can be allocated to any need.

What's the catch?

IT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE. HOW DOES IT COST THE SCHOOL NOTHING?

We understand! The school had the same reaction at first, too! This program is managed by WSU Energy and funded through utility tax credits allowing for the project to be built at no cost to the district.

Zero Emissions Northwest (ZEN) and Partners for Rural Washington (PRWA) oversee The Giving Grid program and have been awarded more than $5M for Eastern WA school projects like this one!

WHAT KIND OF LOW-INCOME PROGRAMS?

The School District is interested in improving their current services with a focus on STEM Programming, Life-Skills, and Community Health. Be on the lookout in 2026-2027 as energy savings are created.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER 10 YEARS?

Three things could happen:

1. The project can be removed at no cost to the School District.
2. The School District can extend the contract to purchase energy from ZEN at lower prices than their utility.
3. The School District can purchase the system. ZEN / PRWA have developed a financing structure whereby the school can purchase the system for less than 10% of the initial cost without impacting their budget.

SO HOW DOES ZEN / PRWA MAKE MONEY?

ZEN / PRWA are administrators of The Giving Grid, so we take an administration fee from the state program, which is already built into financials.

ANYTHING ELSE I SHOULD KNOW?

If you know other school districts looking to make impactful change in their communities, spread the word about The Giving Grid!

ZERO EMISSIONS NORTHWEST

ZEN is a Spokane-based energy consulting firm, offering a range of services benefitting rural businesses including: Energy Audits, Renewable Energy Analysis, EV Pilot Programs, Fuel Efficiency Services and USDA Grant Technical Assistance.

Partners for Rural Washington

Partners for Rural Washington is a non-profit organization dedicated to partnering with rural communities – especially those with fewer than 1,000 residents – to tackle and complete some of their most challenging infrastructure and community development projects.

zeroemissionsnorthwest.com