



Freeman School District

Minutes

FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

Date and Time

Monday June 22, 2026 at 6:00 PM

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.

Directors Present

A. Keebler, B. Morphy, D. Santman, D. Teague, N. Talbott

Directors Absent

None

Guests Present

A. Steinolfson, Brad Ruland, Isaac Swillie, J. De Peralta, Joanne Moyer, Joe Schweiger, Kirsten Schweiger, L. Phelan, Linda Mega, R. Russell, Ryan Russell, Rylee Russell, Sharron Aune-Ruland, Shawna Russell, T. Reed

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

A. Keebler called a meeting of the board of directors of Freeman School District to order on Monday Jun 22, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

C. Additions to the Agenda

Updated personnel report.

D. Pledge of Allegiance

Ryan Russell led us in the flag salute.

E. Establish Quorum

There was a quorum present.

II. Consent Agenda

A. June 2026 Consent Agenda Items

Dave Teague moved the Board approve the May 2026 consent agenda, as presented. Bill Morphy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

III. Board Recognition

A. Freeman 2025 and 2026 Retirees

The board recognized 2025 and 2026 retirees: Sharron Aune-Ruland, Linda Mega, Kirsten Schweiger, Joanne Moyer, and Dr. Randy Russell (not in attendance - Tina Freter and Denise Briggs). They were presented with a bell to commemorate their time at Freeman.

B. State Champions

Isaac Swillie attended to represent the 2026 Boys State Track Champions.

IV. Pace Character Trait

A. INTEGRITY

Living a set of values which includes honesty, respect for others & personal responsibility.

V. Guest Presentations

A. Freeman ConnectEd Update - Heidi Youseph and Matt Smith

Heidi Youseph gave an end-of-year Freeman Connect Education update.

B. Freeman Music Program Update - James Jydstrup

James Jydstrup was unable to make the meeting at the last minute.

VI. Building Reports

A. Lisa Phelan, Elementary School Principal-Assistant Superintendent

Overview

For the 2025-26 school year, Freeman Elementary School will continue to strengthen our Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) across academic, behavioral, and social-emotional domains. Our focus will be on refining practices within all three tiers to ensure that each student receives the support they need to thrive. Equally important, we are committed to fostering a strong sense of belonging for all students, staff, and community members.

Areas of Focus

- Staffing and scheduling continue to be the focus during June.
- aimswebPlus/SBAC testing grades were completed during the first week of June
- The students ended the year with many fun events: Talent Show, field trips, assembly, and a play day.

Projected 26-27 Enrollment: TK =20 and P3 = 15 K = 55 1st = 63 2nd = 49, 3rd = 64 4th = 52 5th = 74=392

B. Jim Straw, Middle School Principal

Overview

For the 2025-26 school year, Freeman Middle School will continue to strengthen our Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) across academic, behavioral, and social-emotional domains. Our focus will be on refining practices within all three tiers to ensure that each student receives the support they need to thrive. Equally important, we are committed to fostering a strong sense of belonging for all students, staff, and community members.

Areas of Focus

>FMS Academic Awards- Friday, May 29th

Recognized 123 students

>6th Grade Rocket Launch- Thursday, June 4th

- >FMS Science Fair- Monday, June 8th
Air Quality Projects
- >8th Grade Promotion- Tuesday, June 9th
- >Closing and Preparing to Reopen

Enrollment

6th- 57 7th- 72 8th- 64 Total- 193

C. Jeff Smith, High School Principal

Overview

For the 2025-26 school year, Freeman High School will continue to strengthen our Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) across academic, behavioral, and social-emotional domains. Our focus will be on refining practices within all three tiers to ensure that each student receives the support they need to thrive. Equally important, we are committed to fostering a strong sense of belonging for all students, staff, and community members.

Areas of Focus

- Senior Awards Night - 47 students recognized
- School BBQ and Yearbook Distribution
- Graduation: 74 graduates earned FHS diplomas
- New Staff : Rachel Shauger, Ag-Sci/FFA, and Bo Nielsen, Metals and Construction, pending Board approval. School counselor interviews are scheduled for June 24.

Enrollment

9th = 67, 10th = 54, 11th = 72, 12th = 77 Total: 270

D. Chad Ripke, High School Assistant Principal-Athletic Director

Overview

2025-26 Sports Wrap Up

[2025-26 HS SPORTS WRAP UP.docx](#)

Scholastic Cup Champions for 2nd year in a row.

<https://www.wiaa.com/scholasticcup/>

Areas of Focus

- On June 16th the softball team was invited to the Spokane Court House for the Spokane County Commissioners Proclamation for the softball team winning a state championship.
- Spokane Regional Sports Commission was held on Tuesday June 9th at the fox theatre. We had 4 nominees for either team or coach/athlete of the year. Although none of our nominees won it was great evening and honor to be nominated and to have Freeman represented so well at the event.

- Hired a C volleyball coach
- Need to hire a head girls soccer coach, girls wrestling coach.

Here is where we finished academically with our sports teams that earned us 480 points in the scholastic cup, which we won by 470 points.

Volleyball Academic State Champs

XC Boys 4th

XC Girls 2nd

Soccer 7th

Cheer Winter 7th

Baseball 3rd

Boys Golf 8th

Girls Golf 2nd

Girls Tennis 8th

Girls Track and Field 3rd

E. Mike Allen, K-8 Principal Assistant-Athletic Director

Overview

Work to improve programs and support our student athletes.

Participate in partnership with the Greater Spokane County League (GSCL).

Areas of Focus

Fall Sports Seasons – coaching staffs

Continuing to work on the transition to the 26-27 school year

Continuing to work on the new MS league configuration

Enrollment

Fall numbers will be out in August after Final Forms rolls over the school year

VII. Department Reports

A. Kent Bevers, Nutrition Services Director

Areas of Focus

- Met with K8 ASB on June 2:
 - Ideas for startup next year
 - Suggestions for improvement
- USDA Foods/Commodities
 - 2026-27 Entitlement: \$22,375.35
 - Diverted \$10K once again to fresh produce
- Health-e Pro
 - Transition to new menu software & website over the summer
 - 4-Week lunch cycle for all grades have been completed

- Will be building breakfast menu between now and mid-August
- One of the benefits of the package we have with Health-e pro is it shows the price per meal for any given menu.

B. Everett Combs, Transportation Director

Overview

- "The students of Freeman are the heart of our community and the reason we serve. The Freeman School District Transportation Department is dedicated to providing safe, reliable, and respectful transportation for all TK–12 students. We are committed to connecting home, school, and community, ensuring every student arrives ready to learn and thrive."

Areas of Focus

- We just sold our bus #23 on the GovDeals.com Online auction website. This is the last bus that is not currently on our depreciation schedule from OSPI. The next one will be off this schedule in two years.
- The WSP inspected all the bus fleet plus the van and suburbans on June 18th.
- We ended the school year with:

11 Regular Ed Routes

1 SPED Route

1T/K /SPED Route

1 McKinney-Vento Route

C. Kirk Lally, Maintenance-Grounds Director

Areas of Focus:

1. Top dress and seed the lower football field for MS.
2. Cleaning up after sewage leak in the MS
3. Tree trimming and bush removal.
4. Normal summer cleaning

Safety:

1. Nothing to report!

D. Stacey Rawson, Interim Director of Student Services

Overview

For the 2025-26 school year, Freeman Student Services Department will strengthen our Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) across academic, behavioral, and social-emotional domains. Our focus will be on refining practices within all three tiers to ensure that each student receives the support they need to thrive. Equally important, we are

committed to fostering a strong sense of belonging for all students, staff, and community members.

Areas of Focus and Enrollment

Special Education

- Working toward completion of all SPED end-of-year reports with OSPI. 3/5 completed as of 6/15. All due 6/30.
- Hiring for 3 open positions: SLP, OT and Elementary SPED Teacher
- Updating our record keeping from paper files to digital files for more streamlined record auditing and tracking
- Right Response Training completed for SPED case managers and FSD administrators.
- SPED IDEA funding pre-application completed for 26-27
- 120 Students

Multilingual Learners (MLL)

- WIDA Score Reports received and sent home to families
- TBIP Reporting completed for end-of-year and pre-application for next year.
- 3 students

McKinney Vento/ Foster Youth

- End of Year Letters sent.
- Using McKinney Vento grant to cover cost of fines and fees for eligible students
- Preparing staff training for McKinney Vento for the fall- new hire orientation
- 19 students/ 1 student

Title 1/ Learning Assistance Program (LAP)

- Summer Intervention for Title/ LAP students entering 1st-6th grade- 25 students enrolled
- Consolidated grant pre-application will be done by July 1 to ensure funds are received for next year.
- Working on completing End of Year LAP reports.
- 72 students (K-8)

Highly Capable

- End of Year reporting completed so that allocation will arrive on time in the fall
- 113 students

E. Todd Reed, Technology Director

Overview

- Provide the highest quality technology-based services, in the most cost-effective manner, to help facilitate the FSD mission

Areas of Focus

- High school graduation went smoothly, with all audio-visual equipment performing flawlessly. The setup was designed to provide a seamless experience for graduates, families, and guests.
- We successfully concluded the Chromebook check-in process. Next, we'll begin cleaning, assessing device condition, updating inventory, and issuing invoices for any damages identified.
- Begin Summer Projects - surplus old chromebooks, classroom maintenance/prep, server upgrades, network switch replacements, get new chromebooks ready for next school year.

F. Alan Steinolfson, Finance Director

Alan reviewed Enrollment, Cash Flow and the Capital Projects Fund with the board.

VIII. Superintendent's Report

A. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Dr. Russell gave a thank you speech to the incredible Leadership team for their focus and dedication to the kids.

There was an update regarding the proposed 2027-2028 School Calendar, Kindergarten Readiness, and opportunities for HS Students.

Danielle Santman voiced "You will be missed, Dr. Russell"!

B. School Safety, Culture and Environment

C. Partnering with Parents and School/Community

D. Fiscal & Legal Accountability

IX. Unfinished Business

A. Approval of Board Policy and Procedure No. 5401 - 2nd Reading

Dave Teague moved the Board approve Board Policy and Procedure No. 5401, - 2nd Reading - Sick Leave, as presented. Bill Morphy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

B. Approval of Board Policy and Procedure 6920 - 2nd Reading

Bill Morphy moved the Board approve Board Policy and Procedure No. 6920 - 2nd Reading - Construction Design, as presented. Nate Talbott seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

C. Approval of Board Policy No. 6955 - 2nd Reading

Bill Morphy moved the Board approve Board Policy No. 6955, - 2nd Reading - Maintenance of Facilities Records, as presented. Dave Teague seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

X. New Business

A. Approval of FSD 2027-2028 School Calendar

D. Teague made a motion to approve the FSD 2027-2028 School Calendar, as presented.

B. Morphy seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Approval of 2026-2027 School Board Meeting Schedule

B. Morphy made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 School Board Meeting Schedule, as presented.

D. Teague seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Approval of changes for all FSD accounts with Banner Bank - remove Randy Russell and add Lisa Phelan

D. Teague made a motion to approve changes for all FSD Accounts with Banner Bank - remove Randy Russell and add Lisa Phelan, as presented.

B. Morphy seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Approval of Superintendent Emeritus

B. Morphy made a motion to approve Dr. Russell as Superintendent Emeritus, as presented.

D. Teague seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Approval of Surplus of Countertop Warmers

B. Morphy made a motion to approve the Surplus of Countertop Warmers, as presented.

D. Teague seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Approval of Board Policy No. 5403 - 1st Reading

D. Teague made a motion to approve Board Policy No. 5403 - 1st Reading, as presented.

B. Morphy seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

G. Approval of Board Policy No. 5404 - 1st Reading

D. Teague made a motion to approve Board Policy No. 5404 - 1st Reading, as presented.

D. Santman seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

XI. Other Information

A. Future Board Meetings

The next board meeting will be on Wednesday, July 1, 2026 (Budget Hearing at 5:00 PM and Board Meeting at 6:00 PM). Danielle will not be in attendance.

The following meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, August 26, 2026 (Advance Work Session at 2:00 PM and Board Meeting at 6:00 PM), and Monday, September 21, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

XII. Personnel

A. Personnel Action

D. Teague made a motion to approve the Personnel Action - addendum, as presented.

B. Morphy seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Classified Director:

- **Stacey Rawson** – Director of Student Services – 1.0 FTE Continuing

Certified:

- **Kaela Holm** – Resignation – HS Counselor (effective end of 2025-2026 school year)
- **Olivia Counts** – Resignation – Special Education Teacher (effective end of 2025-2026 school year)
- **Bo Nielsen** – CTE Metals and Construction Teacher/SkillsUSA Advisor – 1.0 FTE Continuing, pending OSPI approval
- **Rachel Shrauger** – CTE Agricultural-Science Education Teacher/FFA Advisor – 1.0 FTE Continuing – pending OSPI approval
- **Cricket Spitze** - Transitional Kindergarten Teacher – 1.0 FTE One-Year Contract for 2026-2027

- **Sierra McGarity** - MS Athletic Coordinator – 0.29 FTE One-Year Contract for 2026-2027
- **Sierra McGarity** - Health & Fitness Teacher – 0.35 FTE One-Year Contract for 2026-2027
- **Lauren Burrows** - Speech Language Pathologist – 1.0 FTE Continuing

Contract:

- **Emma Dobney** – Resignation – Occupational Therapist (effective end of 2025-2026 school year)

Extracurricular:

- **Daniel Schwartz** – Resignation – MS 7th Grade Assistant Football Coach
- **Braedon Orrino** – Resignation – MS Head Wrestling Coach
- **Braedon Orrino** – Resignation – HS Assistant Wrestling Coach – Girls' Position
- **Braedon Orrino** – HS Assistant Wrestling Coach
- **Katherine Talbott** - HS C Girls Volleyball Coach

XIII. Executive Session

A. Superintendent End-of-Year Evaluation

The board moved into Executive Session at 7:07 PM for the purpose set forth in RCW 42.30.110, specifically the following: to evaluate a public employee or review of the performance of employees, including the Superintendent End-of-Year Evaluation. Such session is estimated to be approximately 45 minutes in length. No action is expected. The Board returned to open session at 7:47 PM.

XIV. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

L. Phelan

Recording Secretary _____

Board Secretary _____

Board Chair _____

Freeman School District 15001 South Jackson Road Rockford, WA 99030 Pride |
Commitment | Caring