



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

**February 6, 2024** The meeting was held at Empire School.

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

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

### **Recognitions**

Supt. Alvarado acknowledged **Black History Month**: The Black History Month 2024 theme, "African Americans and the Arts," explores the key influence African Americans have had in the fields of "visual and performing arts, literature, fashion, folklore, language, film, music, architecture, culinary and other forms of cultural expression."

Congratulations to FSD on becoming a **PlayCore National Demonstration Site**. We received this award for the design and implementation of our new elementary playgrounds. While every elementary school has new playground equipment, Blackhawk School was designated by PlayCore as the demonstration site. The recognition signage is located at Blackhawk. The award recognizes our commitment to advancing play and recreation and activating meaningful experiences for our students.

### **Other Supt. Report Items**

#### **Attendance Year to Date:**

Blackhawk 92.25%  
Carl Sandburg 92.02%  
Center 93.05%  
Empire 91.48%  
FHS 87.15%  
FMS 90.62%  
Jones Farrar 94.24%  
Lincoln Douglas 91.87%  
**District 90.74%**

### **ISBE Exclusionary Discipline Metrics**

Dr. Alvarado, Asst. Supt. Dan Holder and Asst. Supt. Dr. Shalonda Randle discussed our Discipline Metrics. Section 2-3.162 of the School Code requires ISBE to determine the top 20% of school districts in the following metrics. Our district has been identified as being in the top

20% for one or more of the exclusionary discipline metrics below. Specific details were provided by each metric.

- a. Total number of out- of -school suspensions
- b. Total number of out- of- school expulsions
- c. Racial disproportionality defined as overrepresentation of students of color or white students in comparison to the total number of students of color or white students on Oct. 1 of the school year in which the data are collected. Calculations use the same method as the U.S. Dept. of Education's Office for Civil Rights

## **Exploring Alternative Programming Opportunities**

Presented by Asst. Supt, Daniel Holder. In light of increasing tuition costs statewide for therapeutic programs along with decreased capacity/seats in many programs within our region, the PPS department is beginning to explore opportunities to expand the continuum of services available within the district. We are taking initial steps to conduct a more comprehensive needs assessment to better identify programmatic support of evolving needs with the goal of presenting options for board review and feedback in the coming months. ***Please note this is in an exploratory, assessment phase.***

## **GoalBook**

Presented by Asst. Director, Dr. Sue Waughon. Goalbook is an IEP compliance and reinforcement tool that provides instructional tools along with professional development and technical support aligned to research based frameworks and state standards. Through use of Goalbook, special education teams are better equipped to identify learning barriers and apply effective strategies so that all students progress within their unique goal areas. We currently have a partnership with Goalbook to support special education teachers with designing learning goals and instructional plans that effectively translate to positive student outcomes on IEP goals

## **PLC Data Survey**

Presented by Dr. Alvarado and Asst. Supt. Dr. Julia Cloat. Strategy 3.2 of the FSD145 Strategic Plan calls for the District to "create, implement, and monitor a comprehensive professional learning plan that includes a responsive, data-based approach to professional learning design." A key action of this strategy is to monitor the implementation of professional learning communities through a series of surveys during the 2023-2024. The PLC Implementation Survey was given to the staff for the second time at the Winter Institute Day on January 24, 2024.

## **Information Reports**

**School Improvement Plan** reports were presented by Principal Ramon Viveros, Empire School; Principal Jennifer DeJong, Jones-Farrar, an IB World School; Principal, Dr. Beth Summers & AP Jennifer Heilman & staff, Carl Sandburg School.

## **Approved the Consent Agenda**

- A. Freeport School District and Career TEC Bills
- B. Personnel Report February 6, 2024

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

- A. Press Issue 113

## **Committee Reports**

Reports were provided by:

VP Martha Furst advised that the audit is done and that report will be coming soon.

Members Charlene Williams and Kacey Seal talked about the Institute Day and the sessions she was able to attend.

Members Charlene Williams & Audrey Moore Howard talked about the Equity trip to Washington DC.

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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 February 20, 2024, at 6:00 PM. Meetings are held at the FSD administrative office, located at 500 E. South St, and can be accessed virtually, (unless otherwise communicated). Information on joining the meetings can be found [here](#).