

**JOINT MEETING  
SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD  
FREMONT SCHOOL BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES**

**December 1, 2016**

A Joint meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board and Fremont School Board was held on Thursday, December 1st, 2016. Chairperson Corey Masson called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. The following were recorded as present:

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:** Corey Masson, Chairperson  
Nancy Ross, Vice Chair  
Jan Bennett  
Dr. Pamela Brown  
Peter Broderick  
Sheila Pierce  
Tammy Gluck  
Michael Giordano-Student Council Representative

**EXCUSED:** None

**FREMONT BOARD MEMBERS:** Greg Fraize, Chairperson  
Jennifer Brown, Vice Chair  
Brittany Thompson  
Angela O'Connell

**ADMINISTRATORS:** Dr. Brian Blake, Superintendent of Schools  
Carol Coppola, Business Administrator  
Dr. Betsey Cox-Buteau, Superintendent

The meeting began with a Salute to the Flag.

**Welcome and Roll Call**

Chairperson Masson welcomed SAU 83, Fremont School Board to the meeting and asked for a Roll Call.

## **Review Agenda**

Mr. Masson reviewed the agenda:

- a. Billing Format and Process
- b. Effect of Sanborn Budget Cuts on High School Athletics

He added that there will be a School Board Comment and Public Comment.

### **a. Tuition Agreement**

Mr. Fraize began the discussion with the fourth quarter tuition bill, asking if they could possibly pay half of the bill by the due date and then pay the other half later, giving them time to normalize. Ms. Coppola responded that three-quarters of the invoice would be best, as anything less makes the cash flow difficult for the School District because of debt payments due. Fremont Member Ms. O'Connell mentioned that it would help their Business Administrator expedite the request if the invoice could be sent electronically and also if it could be alphabetized by students' last names.

Dr. Cox mentioned that the June 15<sup>th</sup> date is a bit difficult as students are not out of school yet so it is hard to validate attendance. Also, with a two-person business office, the end-of-year is extremely busy with payroll checks being issues, and much easier to validate the invoice after school is out.

Mr. Fraize commented that the three quarters seemed manageable and Dr. Cox also agreed, saying that the variance this year was about \$150,000 and ended up being \$30,000. She added that with each bill being about a million, it is manageable to say three-fourths of the payment at due date. Mr. Masson closed the discussion by saying that the SRSD Board would review and discuss the proposal and present a formal response to them.

### **b. Effects of Sanborn Budget Cuts on High School Athletics**

Mr. Fraize asked for clarification on what he heard when he attended the Budget Presentation related to students leaving athletics. Dr. Blake responded that during the public comment, a gentleman had stated that 70 athletes had left the District. Dr. Blake analyzed a report of the students who had left the SRSD, including 8<sup>th</sup> Graders who did not choose to attend the Sanborn Regional High School. Of all of those students, there were 16 students who left in total. Of those students, 4 are in Charter Schools and can still compete with Sanborn, 4 are in Catholic Schools, 5 have moved out of the area and 2 are fifth year seniors attending other schools.

Mr. Fraize asked if the Warrant Articles don't pass for Swasey Gym and the Chase Field, how that will affect their students. Fremont's Ms. Thompson commented that it would affect the Fremont students as they play on Sanborn teams. Dr. Blake recapped the CIP plan that contained many improvements including Swasey Gymnasium and Chase Field House and how he decided for FY 2017-2018 to pull them all out (1.2 million) to allow the Board and Budget Committee to decide on what they want they want to propose. This addresses the public outcry for Warrant Articles adding that as we are in the budget process, they may be put back in.

Ms. Gluck asked how Fremont handles their CIP. Mr. Fraize responded that their CIPs are built into the budget. Ms. O'Connell added that they have a CIP plan but have had to pull back on renovations to Ellis due to community input.

Mr. Masson reviewed where SRSD is in the Budget process, explaining that the Envision Kingston presentation at our next School Board meeting which will help with decisions to be made on the Seminary. He announced the Road to the Deliberative Event on December 12<sup>th</sup>, at the High School from 5PM-&Pm will elicit questions from our community on the programs that drive our budget. Mr. Masson invited them to come. Mr. Fraize added that they would put something on their website.

Fremont's Ms. Brown updated the SRSD on their budget process saying they are still a few weeks away from completion. With the tuition bill being one of the hardest to anticipate, they have created a Tuition Trust Fund to make sure there are never short. It was created by a Warrant Article (they also have one for Buildings & Grounds) and both have passed every year.

The group compared notes on how they work with their respective Budget Committees and on their budgets in general.

Fremont Member Ms. Brown asked about the staffing levels and recruitment efforts. Dr. Blake explained that we had 26 new hires this year, along with some retirements, other teachers who left due to contract issues and several who moved out of the area. He added that we advertise for who we need, budgeting for a Masters 6 and try to put the best person in front of the students. With the proposed Budget, he has unfortunately had to make some cuts at the Middle and Elementary levels.

Dr. Cox shared that Fremont's enrollment is steady with only a slight decline this year. Also, Fremont still has buildable space in the town.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Collyer (as Chair of the Budget Committee) invited the Fremont Board to join the Budget Committee meeting this evening at 7:30. They are meeting with Elementary teachers and next week would be with the High School Administrators.

As a citizen she asked about the CIP and the ADA compliance issue saying that if it turns out to be a legal requirement, (feasibility study currently in process) her recommendation would be to put all ADA requests into a separate Warrant Article.

### **SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT**

Mr. Fraize thanked the Board for the invitation. Ms. O'Connell asked about the purpose of their attending the meetings in regard to the budget and would it help. Out Board agreed that it would definitely help in sharing information and educating each other.

It was decided by the group that the next meeting date with Fremont will be January 18<sup>th</sup> at 6PM here at the SRHS Library followed by the SB meeting at 7PM.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Sanborn Regional School Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 7PM in the School Board Room (Room 137) at the Sanborn Regional High School, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.

The next Budget Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 8, 2016 at 7:30 pm in the School Board Room (Room 137), at the Sanborn Regional High School, 17 Danville Road, Kingston. Meetings will follow weekly. The public is welcome to attend.

The Sanborn Regional School Board will host "Road to the Deliberative Event" a public forum to be held on Monday, December 12, 2016 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the Cafeteria of the Sanborn Regional High School. The forum will focus on how best to communicate the information in the FY 2017-2018 Budget to our communities.

**ADJOURNMENT**- Mr. Masson made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM, moved by Ms. Ross and seconded by Ms. Bennett. Vote: All in favor.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Phyllis Kennedy  
Recording Secretary

*Minutes of the School Board meetings are unofficial until approved at a subsequent meeting of the School Board.*