

The mission of the Frazee-Vergas Public School District, a leader in quality education is to provide and promote a secure and respectful educational environment which encourages the development of individual potential for life-long learning in a diversified society.

**Frazee-Vergas Public Schools, ISD 23
Frazee, Minnesota 56544
School Board Working Session
High School Conference Room
Wednesday, September 26, 2012
5:30 PM**

1. Call to Order by the School Board Chairperson
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Review the Minutes and Work Accomplished at the April 12, 2012 Work Session 2
5. Board Chair/Superintendent Opening Comments
6. Working Session - **NO ACTION ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED**
 - A. Step Two in Goal/Objective Development
7. Report on Referendum Committee Planning
8. Meetings/Workshops
 - A. Regular School Board Meeting, **Monday, October 8, 2012, 6:00 p.m., Vergas Community/Event Center**
with a Town Hall Referendum Forum beginning at 7:00 p.m.
9. Adjournment of Meeting

*The agenda is tentative until approved by the school board. The agenda is subject to change without notice.

**The public may address the School Board in accordance with Policy 206 Public Participation in School Board Meetings/Complaints about Persons at School Board Meetings and Data Privacy Considerations

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SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES/WORKING SESSION
April 12, 2012
BOARD OF EDUCATION
FRAZEE-VERGAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS ISD #23

The Working Session of the Board of Education of Frazee-Vergas Independent School District #23 was called to order by Chair Bauer on Thursday, April 12, 2012, 5:30 p.m. in the High School Conference Room. Members in attendance were Dana Laine, Keith Janu, Rich Ziegler, Matt Bauer, James Nelson and Ken Fett. Steve Jepson was absent.

Present were Administrators: Superintendent Charles Cheney, K-12 Principal Rob Nudell, Dean of Students Troy Haugen, Community Education Director Lori Thorpe.

Chair Matt Bauer opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance, approving the agenda, and commenting on the meeting topics.

ITEM 1 Topic: Review Recommended Administrative Staffing Level for 2012-13

Superintendent Cheney reviewed his Administrative Staffing Memorandum to the School Board. The memorandum recommended that for the 2012-13 school term the positions of K-12 Principal, Elementary Dean of Students, Athletic Director/Secondary Dean of Students, .50 Special Education Director and Community Education Director all continue at the 2011-12 staffing level.

As the 2012-13 school term begins the Board will have made a decision to respond to the pending end of the current operating levy (June 30, 2013). If a referendum is scheduled for November 2012, and when the 2013-14 revenue stream is clarified, the board will be in a position to make all staffing decisions based on current information.

The Recommended Action Principles and Maximizing Leadership/Administration Deliverables presented at February 1, 2012 were reviewed.

The Board members discussed the recommendation to adopt the intent to employ a licensed elementary principal beginning on July 1, 2013. Considerable conversation was held and varied opinions on the pros and cons of implementing the licensed position one year earlier than recommended were expressed. The chairperson determined, based on group consensus, that the item should be placed on the school board agenda on Monday, April 16.

Discussion was also held that focused on the length (260 days) of the independent contract held by the Community Education Director. Following considerable discussion the chairperson suggested that any thoughts of contract length consideration be evaluated for possible inclusion on the May School Board Agenda.

ITEM 2 Topic: District Goals and Objectives

Superintendent Cheney reviewed handouts consisting of:

- Current Frazee-Vergas Mission Statement and Goals
- Summary of 2009-10 District Goals
- Goal setting meeting summary dated April 18, 2008
- What will students need to be well-educated for the 21st Century?...and Workplace Know-How items
- School Systems for the 21st Century

The Board and Administration present identified District strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities. After listing individual suggestions under each category... participants were given dot stickers to place by the items most relevant/important to them. Each person identified four (4) items under each category. The results by level of support were:

Strengths

1. District Size Advantage / Dedicated and Highly Competent Staff - 9 votes each
2. Class Sizes – 6 votes
3. High Quality Facilities – 5 votes
4. Extra Curricular – 4 votes
5. Supportive and Involved Parents – 3 votes
6. School Learning Environment – 2 votes
7. Student Achievement / Strong Instructional Program – 1 vote each
8. Child Centered Schools / Supportive Community / Test Scores / Teaching 21st Century Skills - 0 votes each

Weaknesses

1. Fiscal Challenges – 7 votes
2. Fractured Trust / Strategic Vision & Plan – 5 votes each
3. Compete with Neighbors-Curriculum / Educate Whole Child Balanced with Educate for High Test Scores - 4 votes each
4. Keeping up with Technology / Communicating with Some Groups - 3 votes each
5. Promoting Innovations in Learning / Lack of Unified Parent Group Structure (PTA) Booster Clubs – 2 votes each
6. State of the Art Curriculum – Curriculum Updates - 1 vote

Threats

1. Referendum Money Loss / Loss of Student-Open Enrollment / Money-Finances – 9 votes each
2. Negative Perception (earned or unearned?) - 4 votes
3. Mandates (State and Federal) - 2 votes
4. State and National Economy - 1 vote

Opportunities

1. Marketing Schools - 9 votes
2. Expand on 21st Century Skills (particularly with technology) / Attract or Re-Attract Open Enrolled Students - 7 votes
3. Growth (Community & Business) - 6 votes
4. Customer Service - 1 vote

Participants were asked to identify some possible goals after viewing the data above. Again, after several were listed each person selected their four (4) highest priorities. The results were:

Possible Goals

1. Pass Levy - 8 votes
2. Build Trust and Strengthen Relationships - 7 votes
3. Improve Board Relationships and Leadership / Improve Student Achievement for All - 5 votes each
4. Retain Students in School - 4 votes
5. Implement Strategic Plan and Vision / Assure Student Well-Being - 3 votes each
6. Focus on 21st Century Curriculum / Integrate Technology with Instruction / Maintain and Improve Quality of Facilities - 1 vote each
7. Maintain Small Class Sizes - 0 votes

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The final task was to list immediate actions or tasks that should be taken on now and throughout 2012-13. The results were:

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

- Referendum Decision/Plan/Execute
- Anti-Bullying Continued Progress – Monitor/Track/Mature
- Technology-Tablets BYOD (Bring Your Own Device)
- Marketing District
- 7th -9th Grade Reading and Math Intervention – Continue and Grow (Basic Skills Intervention)
- Gifted and Talented Expansion at Elementary

Adjournment

Hearing no objections, meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Clerk:

Kenneth Feet