Freeman Public Schools

BOARD MEETING RECAP

SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

#freemanfalcons

Following each Board of Education meeting, the Superintendent's office will recap the meeting.

Agenda and minutes for all board meetings (including attachments) can be found at:

https://meeting.sparqdata.com/Public/Organization/197

Budget/Levy Hearings

The Freeman Board of Education held the following hearings:

6:30
2026-27 Budget Hearing

6:50
2026-27 Levy Hearing

#freemanfalcons Spotlight

Each month, we highlight the amazing things that are happening at Freeman Public Schools.

Sandy Renken is dual endorsed in Social Studies and Physical Education. She has taught Fitness & Strengths at Freeman for the past few years. This summer, Sandy Renken completed several certifications relating to strength and conditioning. These are not required to teach at the high school level, but they are required in the fitness industry. The certifications she completed included:

- Specialist in Strength and Conditioning
- Speed, Agility, and Strength Training
- CPR and AED
- Progressive Overload
- Velocity-Based Training

This year, we have 10 seniors who are part of Freeman's Work-Based Learning program. They have all completed a plan for employment and work for an area business. Here to talk about their experience is senior Tim McCord.

Board of Education Discussion Items

- Future Facility Planning
  - Bob Moran and Heather Hippen from Edward Jones spoke to the BOE about the possibility of selling tax-free bonds locally if the bond issue passes
  - Reviewed a potential drawing of the expanded kitchen
  - Reviewed the presentation for Community Bond meetings
  - Discussed the potential of holding small group meetings in October

Bond Information

The Freeman Public Schools Board of Education has called a school bond not to exceed $13,995,000 for the November 3rd General Election.

Learn more at www.freemanforward.com

Community Bond Informational Meeting
Wednesday, September 30th, 7:00 PM
Freeman Library
We hope to see you there!

Board of Education Action Items

- Approved the proposed budget for 2026-27
- Approved the proposed levy for 2026-27
- Approved the purchase of a 65-passenger Freightliner bus
- Approved Freeman's updated Emergency Operations Plan
- Approved the review of policies 5052, 6011, 6012, 6013, 6014, 6015, 6016, 6017, 6018, 6020
  - All Freeman Public School policies can be found HERE.

2026-2027 Budget/Levy

Notes:

- 26-27 total tax request increased by $132,032
- Tax Request increase equal to the Allowable Growth Percentage (2% + Real Growth)
  - ***Freeman will NOT need to attend the Gage County Joint Public Hearing***
- 5.3% increase in property valuations
- 5% change in Total Operating Budget
- Bond Fund tax request equals 26-27 Bond principal/interest payment total
- $1,665 UNDER the state's Certified Property Tax Request Authority/Cap
- Overall, **2.4% increase** in total tax request **($0.019 levy decrease)**

	2025-26	2026-27	Change
VALUATION	**$856,120,988**	**$901,927,290**	**5.4%**
PROPERTY TAX REQUEST			
General Fund	$4,517,339	$4,785,481	$268,142
Special Building	$505,051	$379,042	($126,009)
Bond	$575,758	$565,657	($10,101)
Total	**$5,598,148**	**$5,730,180**	**$132,032**
OPERATING BUDGET			
General Fund	$8,696,906	$9,131,751	5%
Special Building	$1,822,205	$1,921,587	5%
Bond	$769,267	$792,386	3%
Total	**$11,288,378**	**$11,845,724**	**5%**
PROPERTY TAX LEVY			
General Fund	$0.5277	$0.5306	$0.0029
Special Building	$0.0590	$0.0420	($0.017)
Bond	$0.0673	$0.0627	($0.0046)
Total	$0.6539	$0.6353	($0.0186)

Reports

Dr. Havelka reported on the following:

- Submission of the budget
- Fuel Purchasing
- Audio Recording of BOE Meetings
- Facilities Update

Mrs. Sieh and Mr. Wallinger shared their principal's report

Reports

Elementary Principal Report:

- DIBELS Reading Assessment
- Grandparents Day – September 18th
- Substitute Teachers during maternity/medical leaves

Secondary Principal Report:

- Popcorn Tuesday incentive
- Homecoming Voting/Pep Rally
- Student QPR Training
- September Staff Professional Development plan

Upcoming Freeman Public Schools Board of Education Meetings:

Monday, October 12th
7:00 PM