

FREEMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT

“Preparing our students of today for their lives tomorrow.”

Board of Education

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Erin Sieh, PK-6 Principal
Jeremy Schroeder, 7-12 Principal/AD

Vision Statement

Freeman Public Schools will be a progressive district, promoting excellence in educational programs while providing an environment that fosters life-long learning.

Mission Statement

Freeman Public Schools will collaboratively engage a community of learners so that students will become productive, respectful, and responsible citizens.

Belief Statements

1. All Freeman students can learn. Through identification of individual strengths, Freeman students are stimulated and challenged every day to work to their maximum potential.
2. A variety of learning activities are used to accommodate the learning styles of Freeman students.
3. Community, parents, administrators, teachers, and students of Freeman all share the responsibility for student learning.
4. The Freeman community is responsible and respectful to themselves and others, including the beliefs, cultures, and properties of all.
5. Freeman students develop strong leadership skills through effective decisions-making, problem-solving, and communication.

District Goals

1. All students will improve their reading comprehension and vocabulary skills across the curriculum.
2. All students will increase their respect for other students, adults, and property.
3. All students and staff will utilize technology to improve learning and introduction across the curriculum.

FREEMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS PATRONS, PARENTS, STAFF:

Preparing our students of today for their lives tomorrow.

This report is submitted to the patrons, parents, and staff of Freeman Public Schools annually in accordance with accreditation rules of the Nebraska Department of Education. The intent of this annual report is to provide the Freeman Public School community with information on student achievement, school system performance, and district resource allocation and expenditures. We are extremely proud of the accomplishments and achievements of our students and staff. Freeman has received an EXCELLENT district classification for the past two school years, the top classification earned by the Nebraska Department of Education. This could not have been accomplished without the hard work done each day by our students and staff and the amazing support by the Freeman community.

In 2014, Freeman developed three goals that staff and students have worked towards accomplishing. These district goals are:

- 1. All students will improve their reading comprehension and vocabulary skills across the curriculum.**
- 2. All students will increase their respect for other students, adults, and property.**
- 3. All students and staff will utilize technology to improve learning and introduction across the curriculum.**

Following Freeman's external visit in 2018, Freeman has been tasked with analyzing these goals and determining if changes are needed. This process is continuing throughout the 2019-20 school year with the help of our staff and community, and a new set of goals will be made public by the end of the year.

Freeman Public Schools is an amazing place to learn and grow for our students and a great place to work for our staff. This annual report attempts to provide a variety of information about Freeman Public Schools. While this report has been prepared as a comprehensive picture, we realize that the total picture cannot be fully represented in this report. I encourage you to read the report and contact the superintendent's office if you have any questions. On behalf of the Freeman staff and Board of Education, we will proudly serve the students of this district and help prepare them today for their lives tomorrow.

Andrew Havelka
Superintendent of Schools

DISTRICT DESCRIPTION

Freeman Public Schools is a rural PreK-12 district created by the consolidation of Adams and Filley Public Schools in 1998. The school attendance center, located in Adams, is approximately 25 miles southeast of Lincoln. Freeman Public Schools consists of a Pre-School Program for 4 year olds, a Kindergarten-6th Grade Elementary, a 7th and 8th Grade Junior High, and a 9th-12th Grade High School. Freeman Public Schools employs over 65 certified and classified staff members to serve the children and families within the district.

The district provides 1 to 1 technology for all students 7th through 12th Grade, Chromebooks travel between school and home daily. In 5th and 6th grades 1-to-1 technology is provided as well, the hardware used in these grade levels is housed at school and stays at school at all times.

Freeman Elementary has implemented, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, PBIS. This program aids students in understanding the expectations for sharing space and learning as well as how their actions impact their personal outcomes. "CHOICES," is a program adopted PreK-12th Grade at Freeman. This program is based on four core concepts; Ownership, Thinking, Character, and Respect. Support systems consisting of; Family, School, and Community complete this program.

Each core area in the 7-12 school has at least two teachers due to Freeman's consistently growing enrollment Freeman implements a junior high school model with 7th and 8th grades and 9th - 12th grades in high school.

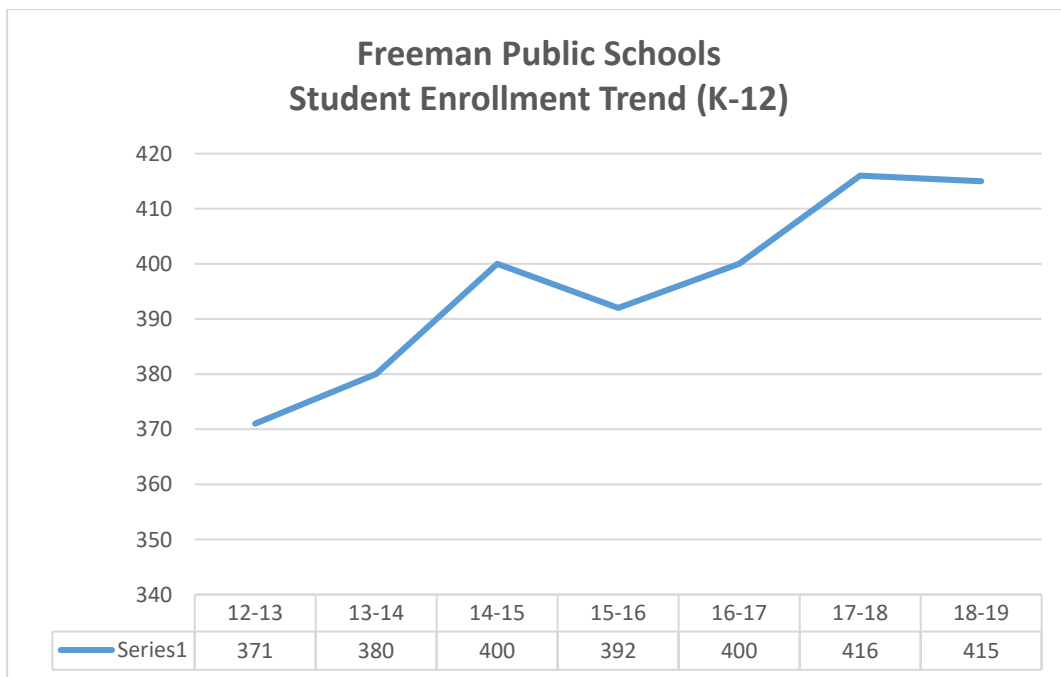
As the district student population grows, so do the facilities. In May, 2012, a bond issue was passed to address facility needs both inside and outside. Construction of a new competition gym, locker rooms, offices, a classroom, commons area, and a satellite kitchen/concessions area was completed in November, 2013. Outside of the bond issue, a new football/track stadium was completed in the fall of 2014.

Freeman continues to be an outstanding school with many opportunities for students. In addition to being a high academically achieving school, students get a balanced education with the opportunities to be involved in numerous activities and athletics. Community and patron support is solid.

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Student Enrollment Comparison

2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
K	32	K	32	K	32	K	31	K	28	K	36	K	27
1	17	1	33	1	35	1	35	1	34	1	29	1	34
2	30	2	21	2	33	2	31	2	35	2	30	2	29
3	30	3	31	3	22	3	33	3	33	3	35	3	31
4	30	4	28	4	33	4	22	4	35	4	36	4	33
5	25	5	30	5	32	5	33	5	23	5	35	5	36
6	34	6	25	6	28	6	28	6	33	6	23	6	37
K-6	198	K-6	200	K-6	215	K-6	213	K-6	221	K-6	224	K-6	227
7	32	7	34	7	26	7	31	7	26	7	34	7	22
8	25	8	29	8	35	8	27	8	33	8	26	8	34
9	30	9	25	9	31	9	33	9	31	9	35	9	28
10	32	10	31	10	25	10	31	10	33	10	29	10	39
11	25	11	36	11	32	11	25	11	31	11	38	11	28
12	29	12	25	12	36	12	32	12	25	12	30	12	37
7-12	173	7-12	180	7-12	185	7-12	179	7-12	179	7-12	192	7-12	188
Total	371	380	400	392	400	416	415						



Freeman Pre-Kindergarten Enrollment

Freeman Public Schools provides a 3.25-hour preschool program for 4-year olds, where all children learn and build confidence through play. Please note that the 2016-17 school year marked a change for the preschool as the program went from three- and four-year olds to four-year olds only. Our half-day program provides opportunities to socialize and develop many pre-kindergarten skills such as positive social-emotional skills, letter recognition, beginning number sense, and development of fine motor skills for handwriting.

Year	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
PK Enrollment	40	39	49	48	37	29	28

2018-19 Student Data Comparison

Freeman Public Schools has shown growth and stability over the past seven years. K-12 enrollment has increased by 44 students over that span, an increase of 11.9%. Over this time, Freeman students have maintained an attendance rate over 96% and a graduation rate at or near 100%. Free and reduced lunch, special education, dropout, and mobility rates all fall below the state average. Freeman's High Ability Learner rate remains above the state average.

Students	Freeman	State
Free/Reduced Lunch	15.84%	45.21%
Special Education	13.53%	15.48%
High Ability Learners	14.49%	13.03%
Attendance	96.31%	94.48%
Dropout Rate	0%	1.17%
Mobility Rate	5.31%	10.32%
Graduation Rate	100%	88.42%
College Going Rate	92%	

STAFF INFORMATION

The Freeman Public Schools staff is dedicated to providing the highest quality education to our students. Certified staff take part in multiple staff development opportunities throughout the year. This included five days during the 2018-19 school year dedicated to professional development. Freeman currently has nearly 60% of its teachers obtaining an advanced degree and has an average experience of 16.89 years. There are currently 23 teachers with ten or more years of experience at Freeman. Of those 23, nine teachers have worked at Freeman for twenty or more years. Of those nine, we have one staff member that has worked over 30 years at Freeman. While the average years of teaching experience for the state has decreased from 14.34 to 14.01, Freeman's average has increased from 14.94 to 16.89 over that same time period.

Teachers	Freeman	State
Total FTE	35.9	23702.34
Advanced Degrees	59.46%	55.99%
Average Experience	16.89	14.01
Average Salary	\$55,051	\$54,601

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Certified Faculty	36.5	39	40	39	42	42	43
Non-Certified Faculty	21	19.6	19.6	19.6	20.39	17.71	19.2
Total	57.5	58.6	59.6	58.6	62.39	59.71	62.2

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Freeman's transportation fleet consists of nine buses (6 route, 2 spare, and 1 activity), four vans, two cars, one special education vehicle, and one pick-up truck used for maintenance. Below is a summary for 2018-19 transportation:

Route Miles: 95,537
 Special Education Miles: 1,576

Activity Trip Miles: 40,331
 Estimated Repair Costs: \$55,716

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The financial information prepared for this portion of the report contains data from the previous ten school years. Included is a levy and valuation history that shows the tax levy by fund and the valuation over the past 10 years. Over the past ten school years, land valuations have increased from \$277,433,980 to \$541,515,855, an increase of over 95%. The total levy has decreased by more than 30 cents over the past 10 school years.

Levy and Valuation History

	General Fund	Bond Fund	Building Fund	Total Levy	Valuation
2018-19	0.744164	0.111023	0.044488	\$0.899675	\$541,515,855
2017-18	0.7467	0.112	0.045499	\$0.904199	\$538,359,630
2016-17	0.761327	0.11453	0.046377	\$0.922234	\$526,990,786
2015-16	0.825253	0.108786	0.0491	\$0.983139	\$492,311,666
2014-15	0.950342	0.144604	0.011399	\$1.106345	\$417,389,831
2013-14	0.958	0.167234	0.047383	\$1.172617	\$362,402,918
2012-13	0.972387	0.188805	0.049002	\$1.210194	\$312,437,949
2011-12	0.923899	0.141881	0.079426	\$1.145206	\$297,588,634
2010-11	1.048294	0.151322	0	\$1.199616	\$279,689,825
2009-10	1.049558	0.164033	0	\$1.213591	\$277,433,980

State aid and Freeman's total tax asking over the past five years can be tracked below. Nearly all of the state aid that Freeman Public Schools receives is net option funding. The district's total tax asking increased by 5.5% over the past five years.

State Aid History

Year	State Aid
2018-19	\$774,129
2017-18	\$674,989
2016-17	\$516,908
2015-16	\$712,673
2014-15	\$799,438

Total Tax Asking

Year	Total Tax Asking
2018-19	\$4,871,883
2017-18	\$4,867,842
2016-17	\$4,860,088
2015-16	\$4,840,108
2014-15	\$4,617,772

2018-19 General Fund Receipts vs. Expenditures

The following will show you a breakdown of general fund expenses by category and revenue by source. For the 2018-19 fiscal year, Freeman’s expenditures were \$187,980 greater than revenue, resulting in a depletion of our cash reserve. In contrast, 2017-18 audit information showed expenditures were \$196,142 less than revenue. The increase in expenditures during the 2018-19 fiscal year was due primarily to the addition of one certified staff member and contracted custodial services.

Receipts	Amount	Expenditures	Amount
Local Property Taxes	\$3,732,598	Instruction	\$4,023,951
Carline Tax	\$2,807	Support Services - Students	\$118,116
Public Power District sales tax	\$97,051	Support Services - Instruction	\$149,385
Motor Vehicle Taxes	\$222,693	General Administration	\$199,909
Interest	\$14,929	School Administration	\$345,921
Preschool tuition	\$6,750	Central Services	\$174,076
Community Services	\$26,782	Maintenance and Operation	\$435,431
Other Local	\$7,450	Student Transportation	\$257,660
County License Fees	\$18,974	Community Services	\$40,100
State	\$1,355,975	High Ability Learners	\$1,845
Federal	\$151,085	Capital Outlay	\$108,033
Non-revenue	\$29,353		
Total	\$5,666,447	Total	\$5,854,427

General Fund Beginning of Year Balance: \$2,605,460

General Fund End of Year Balance: \$2,417,483

2018-19 Excess of Receipts over Expenditures: (\$187,980)

STUDENT ACHEIVEMENT

NWEA MAP Test Results

The NWEA MAP Test is a norm-referenced test that is given three times throughout the year to Freeman's 1st through 11th graders. Tests are taken in the areas of Math, reading, and language usage. The MAP test is a dynamic and adaptive test that adjusts the difficult of the questions to match the students' current level and success. This test also gives our staff immediate access to student progress and allows for our teachers to fully understand what skills each of our students excel at and in what areas further assistance is needed. The following tables show the growth Freeman students made from the beginning to the end of the 2018-19 school year. Freeman students grew, on average, 7.7 points in math, 5.9 points in reading and 2.6 points in language usage over the course of the school year.

Math

Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Avg. Growth
Fall '18 to Spring '19	16.5	15.1	14	11.3	7.2	8.9	6.3	3.4	2.8	(2.4)	1.2	7.7

Reading

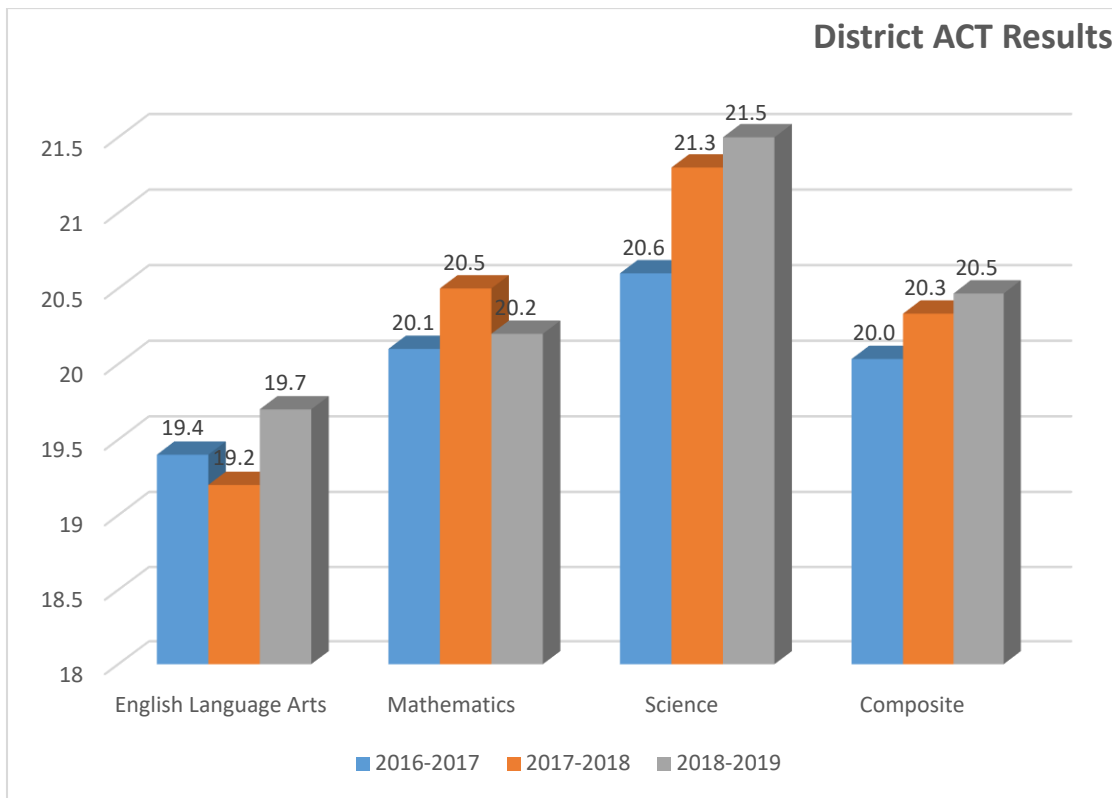
Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Avg. Growth
Fall '18 to Spring '19	18.4	11.2	11.7	8.8	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.1	2.2	(0.5)	1.1	5.9

Language Usage

Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Avg. Growth
Fall '18 to Spring '19	x	x	7.7	6.9	3.5	2.9	1.6	(0.9)	0.4	(1.6)	3.1	2.6

ACT Results

Beginning in the spring of 2017, every 11th grade student in the district completed the American College Test (ACT). Below are results comparing each part of the test and overall composite over the past three years and a comparison to the average scores across the state. Freeman students scored above the state average in every test area.



Level	Data Years	English Language Arts	Mathematics	Science	Composite
District	2018-2019	19.7	20.2	21.5	20.5
State	2018-2019	17.7	18.9	19	18.5

Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS)

Beginning in 2017-18, the state of Nebraska implemented the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS). Assessments are given each spring and results are returned to the district in the fall. Students in Grades 3-8 complete assessments in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Students in Grades 5 and 8 complete an assessment in Science. Included are district results over the past two school years and scale score comparisons to the state average.

Percent Proficiency – NSCAS

Year	English Language Arts	Mathematics	Science
2018-19	63%	57%	81%
2017-18	68%	53%	77%

Average Scale Scores – NSCAS

English Language Arts

Range: 2220-2890

Level	Grade 03	Grade 04	Grade 05	Grade 06	Grade 07	Grade 08
District	2517	2521	2544	2555	2562	2590
State	2486	2514	2525	2538	2544	2557

Mathematics

Range: 1000-1550

Level	Grade 03	Grade 04	Grade 05	Grade 06	Grade 07	Grade 08
District	1227	1230	1225	1267	1247	1267
State	1195	1225	1244	1252	1251	1266

Science

Range: 0-200

Level	Grade 5	Grade 8
District	104	118
State	102	97