







Mascot Selection Process

Selecting a mascot to represent the newly formed Freeman, Marion, Freeman Academy Football CO-OP is a great opportunity to unify multiple schools and communities for the benefit of students. A task force consisting of students, teachers, coaches, AD's, and eventually school board members were asked to bring forward suggestions for a mascot.

Task force members were given the charge to develop a list of mascot options. These options were created and presented to the school boards for approval prior to a student vote. The school boards reviewed the options and felt it was necessary to gather more student input for the mascot options. Each school put together a mini lesson to help students through the process of choosing a mascot for the co-op.

The task force reconvened for a second time. After significant discussion, it was decided this new co-op deserved a fresh start, with a new mascot. Having considered all student suggestions (including Rebels) the following mascots will be presented for a student vote:

Freeman/Marion/Freeman Academy Football Mascot Introduction

| | | | |
|---|--------------|---|---|
| 1 | Mavericks |  | Meaning: a person who thinks or acts independently; roque, wild cattle from the Old West era that were hard to catch or tame. Student comments: Highly skilled and unpredictable athletes that think and behave differently. We believe that the Mavericks would symbolize all three of our schools coming together. We are a cattle and livestock community. It shows power and independence. |
| 2 | Phoenix |  | Meaning: immortal bird from Greek mythology that rises from the ashes of its predecessor. Student comments: A Phoenix is born from its ashes. This coop is the start from something new. The Phoenix can be black with maroon and white flames. No one else has it. It has great symbolism. It fits all the schools and is unique. |
| 3 | Raptors |  | The term raptor is generally used to refer to small to medium sized, bird-like dinosaurs. They share characteristics such as feathers, three-fingered hands, relatively big brains. Student comments: "Raptors are pack hunters and work in a group and since we are partnering with other schools we are working in a group. Raptors are quick and fierce." |
| 4 | Royals |  | A high honor, Royals are given and give respect, take care of their people. Symbolize many people of many strengths coming together to form a nation. Student comment: Works well for both genders and it establishes good honor for all parties involved. |
| 5 | Trailblazers |  | A buffalo, a strong and fierce animal, is native to SD and represents teamwork. Student comment: This mascot would positively symbolize and represent our school's teamwork and effort. |
| 6 | Vipers |  | Vipers are a family of venomous snakes found in most parts of the world. All have long hinged fangs that permit deep penetration and injection of snake venom. Student comment: "The word "viper" sounds powerful, and snakes are intimidating." |

Students in grades K-12 will vote on the following mascot choices during second period on Tuesday, April 5th. The top choices will then be presented to the students for a final round of voting on Tuesday afternoon. The mascot with the highest number of votes will be presented to all three school boards for approval at the April 11th board meeting.

FREEMAN/MARION/FREEMAN ACADEMY
FOOTBALL CO-OP
MASCOT BALLOT

Grade

*Please check the box next to the mascot/logo that is your top choice.
Choosing more than one mascot will void your ballot.*

