

order.

- **Payroll** - Ms. Douglas reviewed payroll and found same to be in order.
- **FHS Student Representatives** - None

Correspondence: None

2. Guests/Presentations:

a. Ffion Titmuss – Salutatorian, FHS Class of 2017 – Poetry Recitation

Ffion recited the poem ‘Personal’ by Tony Hoagland

b. Special Education – Debbie Dixon, Paula Marano and Ellen White

Ms. Marano gave an overview of the new program ‘Goals’ (Generalization of academics language and social studies) which is held at the Jefferson Elementary School for the 2016-2017 school year.

Ms. Dixon gave an overview of the Brains Frames Training. It was introduced this year and training was provided to the staff. It is a set of 6 graphical patterns that students draw out to organize their language and ideas. The training began with 4 special educators, however, we now have 120 teachers trained in Brain Frames.

Ms. Marano gave an overview of a Registered Behavior Technician Course for the Educational Assistants. In the fall we contracted with Accept Collaborative to provide a Registered Behavior Technician Course. The course was a very rigorous 40 hour course.

Ms. Dixon gave an overview of the iReady Math highlight. iReady is an online tool which was piloted in one of the elementary schools and it offers both diagnostic assessment and intervention strategies. Students can use this program online in school or at home. It is a very engaging program and it is aligned with the curriculum that we use and the State standards. It does not replace good teaching, it enhances the instruction.

Ms. Dixon gave an overview of the Special Educations facts and figures. (see powerpoint).

Dr. O'Malley inquired as to our system number

Ms. Dixon advised that she did not have a number but historically it has been below the State average. It is about 15-16%. State average is higher than that.

Ms. White gave an overview of the IDEAS program. The IDEAS program is a language based program. The program will be expanded from Elementary through High School to support the learners who need a little more support.

Ms. Marano gave an overview of the STRIVE program held at Keller Elementary School. The STRIVE program is a specialized program for students who need consistent behavior support. This is a continuum program starting at Keller to Post Grad.

Ms. Dixon advised that the REACH program is held at the Oak Street Elementary School. The REACH program provides students with a therapeutic venue for social emotional and behavioral needs.

(See powerpoint for special education facts and figures)

Ms. White advised that she is primarily focused on the out-of-district students. She explained why some students are placed out-of-district and that Franklin is always thinking of how we might be able to develop programs here so that the students are able to attend school in their own town.

Ms. Dixon showed the numbers of the Disability Categories (see powerpoint) and advised that there are 913 students on IEP's as of March 1, 2017.

Dr. Sabolinski added that Ms. Goodman did some math and the percentage is 15.11% in answer to Dr. O'Malley's question about our system number.

Ms. White introduced Derek Donohoe to talk about his experience in Franklin. Derek started his education here at ECDC, went to the Jefferson Elementary School, followed by the Remington Middle School and he is a rising Sophomore at Franklin High School. Ms. White advised that this is Derek's first speaking

engagement of the week, he will be speaking at Fenway Park on Friday as he is the recipient of an award presented by the Genesis Foundation for Children which is called the Latham award.

Derek Donohue gave an overview of his experiences in Franklin.

Dr. O'Malley commented to Derek that it was a pleasure having him at the School Committee meeting.

Dr. Bergen thanked Derek for coming and being a role model for others as it really matters.

Ms. Dixon advised the Committee of the items that the Student Services Office will be working on during the 2017-2018 school year. (see powerpoint).

Ms. Sarah Mulcahy from SEPAC advised she has been President for 2 years and is now turning over to others and will continue to work as Vice President. Ms. Mulcahy gave an update on the SEPAC.

Mr. & Mrs. Wroblewski gave an overview of their experiences as parents with 2 special needs children.

Ms. Bilello commented that the SEPAC in Franklin is fantastic. The support they provide the educators and the other parents in Town is tremendous. She feels bringing the voices, the stories to other counsels would be great way to share the message of what they do with the rest of the Town. She feels there is a voice there that is sometimes lost and misunderstood.

Dr. Jewell commented that he can't say enough about all you do for the kids. What impressed him tonight was that students can far exceed rather than just getting along and doing the bare basics. We need to encourage parents to encourage other parents, the journey can be long but can be successful. Dr. Jewell is impressed and what we do in Franklin far exceeds what is going on in other communities. He noted that the School Committee needs to work harder to get you what you need and making sure that these kids have the chance to excel and become even better than the average student. We saw an example of that tonight.

Dr. Bergen commented that she wanted to echo what others have said, especially the power of sharing stories is so important so people can see the advocacy for parents to come forward but also the complexity of issues that the public needs to see. With the Response to Intervention, are we seeing an impact over the years, is it decreasing the needs for students going on IEP's?

Ms. Dixon advised that anecdotally, yes, it does have an impact, however she does not have data.

Dr. Bergen inquired are there surveys from students?

Ms. Dixon advised that no, there hasn't been, but she likes the idea. Ms. Dixon advised that by law as the students get older and at age 14 they are invited to meetings. Not all attend the meetings. We do solicit their feedback for IEP development beginning at age 14. We have not formally surveyed them, it is something we can explore. We do survey post graduates.

Discussion ensued.

Recess

3. Discussion Only Items - Policy – First Reading

o IKB – Homework Policy - Ms. Scofield advised that this policy is the result of several discussions and a meeting attended by several parents. Dr. Ahern joined the Policy Subcommittee at their meeting last week and she will be attending the next meeting as well. The policy is an all encompassing policy. It does not say there will not be any homework.

Mr. Light advised that what was learned from the process is that there are extraordinarily diverse views on homework and the value of homework and the impact it has on students. Survey was sent out to all faculty, received 20 responses, met with all administrators, surveyed parent population, received 250 responses. We received a good representation across the district on views on homework. There are things we were trying to do with the policy and Mr. Light thinks we have. We wanted to articulate what the value and purpose of homework is and why we use homework as instructional strategy. To reinforce for parents, students and faculty that we are here for kids first and not just for the

academic side, we are about the whole child and we realize that there is a balance between school life and life activities. We also wanted to be sure that homework is developmentally appropriate for the child. Another piece of feedback received and incorporated was to have faculty in grades 6-12 to collaborate with each other particularly on larger scale projects. Feedback was received that kids are getting hit with sometimes multiple large projects at the same time. Also a statement that homework is not to be used as a punishment. We do not take away privileges from the kids. This has been a long time practice of the schools.

Ms. Edwards advised that the district did research on policies from other districts. She also advised that they did research on what is currently considered to be best practice. Ms. Edwards also advised that they were trying to be responsive to what they have been hearing for years that the stress levels of children today is very significant and homework appears to be a major contributor to some of that stress and anxiety, so we were trying to be mindful of that at the same time preserving the teachers need to be able to autonomously work through the curriculum.

Ms. Schultz advised that while she is good with this policy, she supports it with the hope to continue to revisit the policy going forward.

Discussion ensued.

o JICH – Substance Abuse Policy - Ms. Scofield

Mr. Light advised the Committee about the Substance Abuse Policy.

Ms. Bilello inquired about the sentence referring to steroids and controlled substances. Do we need to have some language in the policy ‘except under nurse or doctor orders’ because we have students who are administered medications from the nurses, i.e. ADHD medication and Inhalers at school?

Mr. Light advised that the nurses have not seen the policy, however, the policy was sent to our attorneys. There are corresponding health policies that cover prescription medications.

Dr. Sabolinski advised that there is a separate policy.

Discussion ensued.

4. Action Items:

- a. I recommend approval of the Budget Transfers as detailed.
Motion: Dr. Jewell Second: Ms. Scofield
Approve: 7 Oppose: 0
- b. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$375.00 from the Remington PCC for field trips.
Motion: Dr. Jewell Second: Ms. Douglas
Approve: 7 Oppose: 0
- c. I recommend acceptance of two checks totaling \$4,880.00 from the Oak Street PCC for in-house enrichment and supplemental supplies.
Motion: Dr. Jewell Second: Ms. Douglas
Approve: 7 Oppose: 0
- d. I recommend moving the following Policies to a second reading:
 - 1. IKB – Homework Policy
 - 2. JICH – Substance Abuse PolicyMotion: Dr. Jewell Second: Ms. Douglas
Approve: 7 Oppose: 0

5. Information Matters:

- **Superintendent’s Report:**
 - Dr. Sabolinski advised that it was another successful closing of school, facilities summer projects have begun.
 - Thank you to Susan Childers as the School Committee Secretary.
- **School Committee - Sub-Committee Reports**
 - **Policy Sub Committee-** Ms. Scofield advised that the Policy Sub Committee’s next meeting is on July 11th at 7:00 p.m. MASC policy newsletter, all policies that are suggested to look at.
 - **Community Relations -** None

- **School Committee Liaison Reports**

6. **New Business:** Next meeting on July 18th.

7. **Adjourn:** Dr. O'Malley made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Douglas.

Adjourned: 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Childers

SCAgenda 6-27-17.pdf
Payroll Warrant #1725 summary.pdf
Payroll Warrant #1725.pdf
FPS Summary & Sign Off.pdf
SCWarranto60817.pdf
SCWarranto61517.pdf
June 13, 2017 SCMinutes-DRAFT.pdf
6-27-17 Special Education Presentation.pdf
IKB - HomeworkPolicy-FIRSTREADCOPY.pdf
JICH-SubstanceAbuseforFIRSTREAD.pdf
ActionA.pdf
ActionB.pdf
ActionC.pdf
ActionD.pdf
Enrollmentcompare-June2016-June2017.pdf

SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATE 2016-2017

June 27, 2017

2016-17 Highlights

- ▣ **Program Development/Expansion**
- ▣ **Brain Frames Training**
- ▣ **Registered Behavior Technician Course**
- ▣ **iReady Math**

Special Education Facts and Figures

School	Head-count	% of School Population	Specialized Programs	Inclusion %
Davis Thayer	47/265	17.7%	-	17.7 %
Jefferson*	54/335	16.1%	21	10.9%
Keller*	63/410	15.4%	13	12.5%
Kennedy*	51/362	14.1%	4	12.6%
Oak Street*	64/411	15.6%	28	12.3%
Parmenter	33/368	9.0%	-	7.7%

Based on 3/1/17 SIMS data

Special Education Facts and Figures

School	Headcount	% of School Population	Programs	Inclusion %
Annie Sullivan	76/467	16.3%	7	15.7%
Horace Mann	64/461	13.9%	6	11.5%
Remington	89/458	19.4%	16	16.7%
Franklin High	228/1746	12.7%	26	11.1%
ECDC	50/138	36.2%		

Based on 3/1/17 SIMS data

Special Education Facts and Figures

Out of District	79
Service Only 3-5	10
Service Only 6-21	5

Based on 3/1/17 SIMS data

Disability Categories

- ▣ Autism **146**
- ▣ Developmental Delay **92**
- ▣ Intellectual **21**
- ▣ Sensory - Hearing **8**
- ▣ Sensory - Vision **4**
- ▣ Sensory - Deaf-blindness **2**
- ▣ Neurological **44**
- ▣ Emotional **78**
- ▣ Communication **132**
- ▣ Physical **1**
- ▣ Health **163**
- ▣ Specific Learning **219**
- ▣ Multiple Disabilities **3**

Based on 3/1/17 SIMS data

A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Meet Derek Donahoe

Looking Ahead to 2017-18

- ▣ **Complete/Update Program and Service Descriptions**
 - **Teacher and parent access**
- ▣ **Continue Brain Frames Training**
- ▣ **Expand iReady Usage across Elementary Level**
- ▣ **Professional Development**
 - **ESPs**
 - **Jessica Minahan – behavior strategies**
 - **Sarah Ward – executive functioning**
- ▣ **Promote increased cultural proficiency with respect to inclusionary practices**



Franklin Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)

www.franklinsepac.org

www.facebook.com/franklinsepac

Twitter: [@franklin_sepac](https://twitter.com/franklin_sepac)



2017/2018 Executive Board

Co-Presidents:

**Jennifer Hiscoe
Jennifer O'Duggan**

Co-Vice Presidents:

**Sara Mulcahy
Holly Perkins**

Co-Secretaries:

**Monisha Kallianpur
Laurie Wrobleski**

Treasurer:

Sharon Taylor

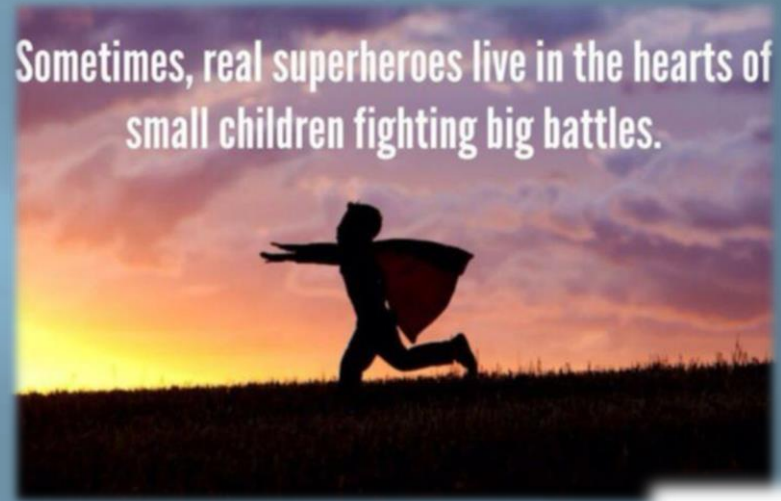
Regional SEPAC Liaison/Outreach:

Caryn Budd

Community Relations:

Mark Thompson

Some of our reasons why...

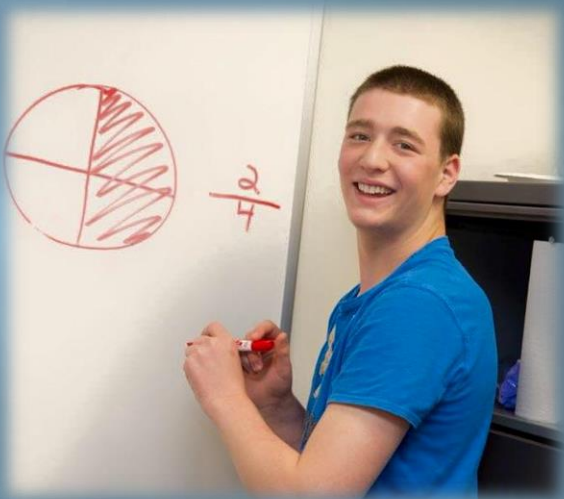




With Our Families...



At School ...



In the Community...





SEPAC Update- Sara Mulcahy

- ▣ **Family Education through monthly workshops**
 - **Rights and Regulations, Siblings, Reading Disabilities, Mass Health, Financial Planning, Mindfulness and Nutrition**
- ▣ **Parent support group- community building**
- ▣ **Community outreach:**
 - **Police/Fire, sensory baskets for schools**
- ▣ **Social Events for Families:**
 - **Hayride, Sensory Santa, Touch a Truck**
- ▣ **Donations to local groups/schools that help special needs families:**
 - **Scholarship and Sunshine Brigade**





SEPAC Update (cont.)

- ▣ **Participation in JPCC meetings to spread the word**
- ▣ **Fundraising Comedy Night**
- ▣ **Expanded our board to 9 members in May vote**
- ▣ **Creation of Regional SEPAC by Caryn Budd**






Upcoming Events for SEPAC...

- ▣ **Working on scholarship for student majoring in the special needs field**
- ▣ **Touch a Truck with police/fire was step one. Goal was to create comfort level between children and police/fire/ems. Future: Meet with Franklin Police to discuss training needs and how we can help. We also hope to work on a disability form to help fire/police/ems when they are responding**
- ▣ **Working on speakers for next year and new camp/respite fair**



Upcoming Events (cont.)

- ▣ **Creation of binders for families with a child on an IEP**
- ▣ **Meeting with team chairs in August to give parent perspective/helpful tips**
- ▣ **Additional social events over school breaks and parent support over the summer**
- ▣ **Continued development of the regional SEPAC**



Anything can happen,
child. Anything can be.

Shel Silverstein



SEPAC's Family Social Events: Hayride





Sensory Santa



Plaster Fun Time





Monthly Parent Support Group





Our Annual Fundraiser

COMEDY NIGHT

- * food, drinks and laughs
- * raffles
- * silent auction
- * full cash bar

April 8th, 2017

Doors open @ 7 PM // Show starts @ 9 PM // Event ends @ 11 PM

Tickets are just \$50
All proceeds benefit Franklin SEPAC
Go to www.franklinsepac.org or email franklinsepac@gmail.com to purchase your tickets today!

Franklin SEPAC
Special Education Parents Advisory Council
www.FranklinSEPAC.org





Touch a Truck- Public Safety



A Parent's Perspective...

The Wrobleski Family



Stacia and Olivia

- ▣ **Two children on IEPs**
 - **Stacia – Center for Applied Behavioral Instruction**
 - ▣ **Needs exceed a public school setting**
 - **Behavioral and safety concerns**
 - **Unable to participate in the life of the school**
 - ▣ **Educational environment with appropriate staff to student ratio based on needs**
 - ▣ **Community outings to focus on generalizing skills**
 - **Olivia – Oak Street Elementary**
 - ▣ **Well supported within district**
 - **Access to social skills groups, school psychologist, and co-teaching environment**



Thank you to the School Committee!

