# Franklin School Committee Minutes October 27, 2015 Municipal Building – Council Chambers

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Call to order: 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Mullen

Mrs. Mullen read the District's Vision Statement.

Pledge of Allegiance: Alana Lynch and Julie Harrington, seniors at Franklin High School led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Mrs. Douglas, Dr. O'Malley, Mrs. Rohrbach, Mr. Clement, Mrs. Mullen, Mrs. Trahan and Dr. Jewell were present, Julie Harrington and Alana Lynch (Student Representatives). Also present were Superintendent Maureen Sabolinski, Assistant Superintendent Joyce Edwards, Ms. Debbie Dixson, Director of Student Services, Mr. Peter Light, Principal, Franklin High School, Mr. Paul Peri, Deputy Principal, Franklin High School, Mr. Joshua MacCreery, Guidance Counselor (Administrative Intern), Representative Roy, Mr.

Dennis Giombetti from Senator Spilka's office and Mr. Jeffrey Nutting, Town Administrator

Moment of Silence:

A moment of silence was observed.

#### 1. Routine Business

- Citizens Comments: Mr. William Glynn was present to extend his thank you and appreciation to Mrs. Mullen, Mrs. Trahan and Mrs. Rohrbach for their time and energy invested in our Town. Not only did the Town benefit but the students have also benefitted.
- Review of Agenda: None
- Minutes: I recommend approval of the minutes from the October 13, 2015 School Committee Meeting.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approve: 7 Oppose: 0

• Payment of Bills: Mr. Clement made a motion to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$589,181.19. Seconded by Mrs. Rohrbach.

Approve: 7 Oppose: 0

 Payroll: Mrs. Douglas reviewed the payroll, found it to be in order and recommended acceptance.

FHS Student Representatives: Alana Lynch advised the Committee that Panther Pride was held on October 21, 2015 for 8<sup>th</sup> graders and it was a great turnout. She also advised that Term One closes on November 9<sup>th</sup>. The Volleyball team has secured a spot for the Hock Championship. Peer Leaders attended the presentation of the MIIA Wellness Coordinator Award ceremony for Ms. Kristen Cerce.

Julie Harrington advised the Committee that the homecoming dance was held on October 17, 2015, it was very successful with about 800 students attending, one of the biggest of all times. Freshman officer elections took place and now will be holding freshman Representatives election. Ben Waters who is a senior started a Student Coalition to raise awareness of the drug problem in Franklin, we are very impressed by him.

## • Correspondence:

- Cafeteria Intent to open negotiations
- Secretaries Intent to open negotiations
- FEA Intent to open negotiations
- o Van Drivers Intent to open negotiations

#### 2. Guests/Presentations:

# a. Representative Roy, Mr. Giombetti and Mr. Nutting -

Mr. Roy advised the Committee that it is a great honor and privilege to come here tonight. He had the distinct pleasure and honor of working with Mrs. Rohrbach, Mrs. Mullen and Mrs. Trahan for 10 years. He recognizes them for their great service to the School Committee. Mr. Roy presented a Citation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts General Court. He noted that Senator Ross was unable to make it due to another engagement and extends his best wishes.

Mr. Nutting also thanked Mrs. Rohrbach, Mrs. Mullen and Mrs. Trahan for their service.

Mrs. Mullen thanked Mr. Roy, Mr. Giombetti and Mr. Nutting for taking the time to come to the meeting tonight. It is a bittersweet evening for the 3 of us. Mrs. Mullen recommended that if anyone has the opportunity to do whatever your passion is, do it!

# Safety Update – Mrs. Sabolinski, Mr. Jay Brennan from Synergy and Mr. Manocchio from the Franklin Police Department

Mrs. Sabolinski gave a brief overview of the current safety plan. She notes that in order to foster a positive school culture the students need to feel safe. The school District collaborates with public safety with regard to training and drills. She advised the

Committee that a Lockdown means that all students and staff are safe. An Administrative Lockdown means that students can move around the school but not leave.

Mr. Manocchio thanked Mrs. Mullen, Mrs. Trahan and Mrs. Rohrbach for their service. He also advised the Committee that all teachers and staff are trained and hope to be able to provide safety training to substitutes as well. He notes that drills are made crystal clear, if you do not hear that it is a drill, then it is real. He commented that one of the police officers had a way to describe these drills to younger students, with a police drill you are in the school and a fire drill is out of the school. Mr. Manocchio advised that the students are very used to have a police presence in the schools now, so they have become accustomed to the drills.

Mrs. Sabolinski advised the Committee that school safety is all or nothing, it is not just during the school day. She notes that we have extended our safety protocol to our Building Use protocol. All school doors are closed and locked at all times. There have been camera upgrades, PA repairs in the cafeteria, kitchens, etc. and rooms that did not have speakers. At Parmenter there is desk coverage and large monitors in the office. Both Parmenter and the High School are piloting a new Badge system. It runs a license and it is like a mini background check and so far the schools are loving it. It is very easy and inexpensive.

Mr. Brennan advised the Committee of the work that Synergy is doing with the School Department with regard to policies and procedures during the day to day operation at each school. Synergy will draft a report at the end of their audit to Maureen and for each school as well as the whole district.

Mrs. Sabolinski notes that communication is the most important piece; it is a tremendous challenge to get the information out quickly. We continue to use Connect-Ed, actively using twitter for the last 6 months, etc. Continue to keep this as a focus area moving forward.

Mrs. Rohrbach- sounds to me we sort of assessed things from a systemic point of view, now going through schools, based on the structure of the school. Is that a fair assessment in terms of what you just reported?

Mrs. Sabolinski advises that DT is different than HS. DT will need some deep thoughtful facilities work and a plan. Will need to align that with capital plan when planning.

Is there continued capital plan ahead of us? Mrs. Sabolinski hopes so. It will be helpful to have the plan out there to think and anticipate of what the needs will be.

Mrs. Rohrbach's final question with regard to the Id badge system for visitors at Parmenter and High School. Will you eliminate desk coverage?

Mrs. Sabolinski advises that the person at the desk is the one who does it, runs license and then issues a badge.

Mr. O'Malley indicates this is a big issue in schools. Doing a great job. In the area of safety, there is no more important topic in education than the safety of our students.

School safety and training is the new administrative competency. Safety has become just as important as instructional leadership. So important for students to feel safe and secure in the learning environment. Drills have become so automatic.

Ms. Trahan notes that it was a great presentation...thank you. She loves the collaboration between police and schools. It is a great asset. Sadly, our students need to know so much about this, we try to protect, but unfortunately we need to do this. It seems as though the plan is clear cut and detailed. I applaud you and feel good about this. Thank you for coming tonight.

Trevor, looking forward to reading the results of the audit, is there a timeline?

Mr. Brennan advised that Synergy is looking at last 2 schools, High School is one of the last one. There is a lot to look at to give a fair assessment. Mr. Brennan hopes within the month of November the report will be in draft form. Synergy will go to each school and meet with administrators; they will make recommendations during the audit. These recommendations will be accurately reflected in the report.

Ms. Sabolinski indicated that Mike D'Angelo has gone with Synergy on the tours and that there is a partnership with facilities department.

Mr. Clement - the incident that was the catalyst for this where there was uninvited individual gaining access to the school.

Mrs. Sabolinski indicated that as discussed there are new monitors, badging system in place and an individual sitting at the front door at all times to let people in or not. Mr. Morris, the Principal has talked to the parents and they are thrilled with the measures that have been put into place. All school doors are locked at all times. The High School the fob action has been limited for coaches at the high school. Folks have been wonderfully compliant.

Trevor, I agree, put into high gear on this and made it a priority. Thank you.

Mr. Jewell is firm believer in training. Individuals like this look for no training. I believe that with the Administrators and teachers if they are so well trained; minimal damage will be done if we have one of these unprecedented attacks. Having the police know and understand is very important and I want to commend you that you are present and the kids know and feel safe. We do it well and we should continue to do it.

## c. FHS School Improvement Plan -

Mr. Light and Mr. Peri presented an overview of the Franklin High School Improvement Plan. Mr. Light explained the turnover of Administrators at Franklin High School this summer. He advised the Committee that there was a good transition with the new administrators as there was some training prior to the administrators leaving at the end of the school year. There is ongoing administrative professional development.

Mr. Light advised the committee that community outreach is a focus at the High School. They have replaced the way of the old teacher conferences with a Curriculum Open House and it has been well received.

The High School will continue to focus on communication and hopefully after the New Year there will be a digital newsletter that will be publicizing the good things that happen at the High School.

Mrs. Mullen thanked Mr. Light for talking about the administrator turnover.

Mr. Light indicated that the FHS Improvement plan closely aligns with the District Overarching goal.

Mr. O'Malley appreciated the graphic on the PowerPoint presentation and also appreciates the words on the Guidance Department. I consider your Guidance Department a real strength. Guidance is more than the academic and career guidance; Guidance is the glue that keeps schools together. The myriad of issues that student face in High School; Guidance is the front line to that and there is not enough credit, I am not sure parents give them enough communication in terms of being people that help with problems and be resource for problems. I am appreciative of your efforts to make that happen. I am very anxious for people to know what Guidance can do for them in addition to career and academic.

Mr. Light agrees it is a great point. The work that the guidance counselors do is sometimes behind the scenes to work with families to access medical, mental health services offered by the State. Guidance counselors help the student get the help they need.

Mrs. Sabolinski advised the Committee that there will be a presentation in the spring from the Guidance Department.

Mr. Jewell is very proud of what was presented and to hear from the kids, guidance counselors, etc. What makes a disciplined individual? I feel that too many of the kids don't realize what makes a disciplined individual and to accomplish the task that they really don't want to do but have to do. I would like to see the students understand that they do have to put effort in to complete the task that they really do not want to do. The tasks that you really want to do you have the energy, emotion and passion to do those tasks but the tasks you don't want to do give you the background and intellect that causes you to exceed in what is expected of you.

Mr. Light notes is favorite saying from Singapore, where he had the opportunity to visit. The say was 'develop people to think and be prepared to think outside the box (pause) and yet operate out of it. Stretch our own thinking to push the limits.

Mr. Jewel noted that the military does it very well, create the box that they operate in but those that are successful will operate out of the box and bring the box with them!

Mrs. Mullen inquired as to increasing complexity and rigor; it seems that parents feel that their students need to take advance courses, etc.

Mr. Light notes that there is a perception when we talk about increase complexity and rigor. There needs to be a starting point, constantly trying to stretch a limit of what students can achieve. Mr. Light advises that every student no matter what level of course they take should be a student driven focus, where they are engaged, excited and ultimately challenged to beyond what they are expected to achieve. The goal is to improve every student.

#### d. Coordinated Program Review - Debbie Dixson

Ms. Dixson gave a brief overview of the upcoming Coordinated Program Review. Ms. Dixson indicated that the Review Committee has randomly selected 10 special education records and 10 ELE records. Three (3) members from the Review Committee will be on site during the week of November 16, 2015. They will visit 8 schools, there will be 10 minute observations. A draft report will be received in 1 to 2 months and the District has 10 days to respond. The ELE report will take about 4-5 months. The final report should be received by March or April.

Mr. O'Malley noted that Ms. Dixson's calmness becomes her. It is mind-boggling detailed. Best of luck with your upcoming review.

Ms. Dixson indicated that this is her 3<sup>rd</sup> CPR review.

## 3. Discussion Only Items:

Assistant Superintendent Appointment
Mrs. Sabolinski indicated with Mrs. Winslow retiring on June 30, 2016 that she would
like to recommend Franklin High School Principal, Mr. Peter Light in to the Assistant
Superintendent role effective July 1, 2016. Mrs. Sabolinski advised the Committee that
Mr. Light's resume was included in the School Committee packet for their review. He
would do a wonderful job.

Mrs. Mullen noted that Mr. Light's resume was impressive and that it is a great move for the District.

Mr. O'Malley commented that the High School is a flagship of a school system, ours is a building worthy of that and a school worthy of that, in reputation and in fact has come a long way and is in front of the district. Mr. O'Malley advises Mr. Light that his leadership is exemplary. He thank Mr. Light for his work at the High School...the hardest job in the school is High School Principal. Having you continue in the district is a good move for all of us. Congratulate you on your promotion. The High School will miss you. Mr. Peri is an inspired appointment to keep the progress going. Peter I wish you the best

Mr. Light acknowledges that many hands contribute, he cannot stress it enough. He tributes the success of the High School to the faculty, first and foremost who come to work every day and

give students and awesome experience. He has received incredible support from the Committee and Central Office.

Mr. Jewell commented that Mr. Light's credentials come very impressive, the biggest credential what you do yourself will not matter much, but what you get others to do will change the world. The fact that you get other people to become Principals, leaders in other communities is a credit to you. The other saying I have if you have been a good leader, you can be the least important in the organization. I am looking forward to the High School rolls on with great accomplishments with a new person behind you and others you have trained will be a real feather in your cap and you can look back with a lot of pride.

Mrs. Trahan commented that Mr. Light is well deserved for the position. I know there are big shoes to be filled when Sally retires. She has watched many years and do thank the people under you and you have always done that where you give credit where credit is due. You deserve this opportunity. I'll be watching from afar.

Mrs. Rohrbach commented that since she has been on the Committee there have been a lot of great things happening. It is a great stepping stone for you, in terms of your own professional growth. There are so many valuable people when people decided to move on, a lot of people can fill shoes, speaks a lot for the District and it is encouraging.

Mrs. Mullen commented that this is a great move and that it is terrific that we have Paul Peri to move into the role.

- Policy Second Readings
  - o GDCC Staff, Family & Medical Leave
  - o GDCC-E Family & Medical Leave of Absence
- Policy Elimination
  - o JFABB Admission of Exchange and Foreign Students

#### 4. Action Items:

a. I recommend approval of the Budget Transfers as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach Approval: 7 Oppose: 0

b. I recommend the appointment of Peter Light as Assistant Superintendent

effective July 1, 2016.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach Approval: 7 Oppose: 0

c. I recommend approval of the Franklin High School's School Improvement

Plan as presented.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach Approval: 7 Oppose: 0

d. I recommend approval of the request of Renee Hersee to take 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus students to NY City on May 14, 2016 as detailed. Mrs. Sabolinski advised that this is a recurring trip.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach Approval: 7 Oppose: 0

e. I recommend acceptance of three checks totaling \$2,833.73 from the Parmenter PCC for Field Trips.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach Approval: 7 Oppose: 0

- f. I recommend the request of Paul Peri for the transition Class at Franklin High School for two out-of-state trips:
  - 1. Johnson & Wales University, Providence, RI 1/27/16 or 1/28/16 depending on availability.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach Approval: 7 Oppose: 0

2. New England Institute of Technology, East Greenwich, RI 2/25/16 or 3/3/16 depending on availability.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach Approval: 7 Oppose: 0

g. I recommend acceptance of checks totaling \$1075.00 from various parents for Music field trips as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach Approval: 7 Oppose: 0

- h. I recommend adoption of the following Policies:
  - 1. GDCC Staff, Family & Medical Leave
  - 2. GDCC-E Family & Medical Leave of Absence

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach Approval: 7 Oppose: 0

i. I recommend elimination of the following Policy:

1. JFABB – Admission of Exchange and Foreign Students Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach Approval: 7 Oppose: 0

#### **5. Information Matters:**

• Superintendent's Report:

Ms. Sabolinki advised the Committee the Oak Street Principal search has taken place and The Committee has selected 2 finalists which will have site visits on November 12-13, 2015. She thanks the committee for their exceptional work.

Ms. Sabolinski advised the Committee that there will be a button on the District Website for Alumni News. Sue Streeter was given an honorary grant. If anyone wants to send alumni updated, they should email <a href="millerd@franklin.k12.ma.us">millerd@franklin.k12.ma.us</a>. It is a nice opportunity to celebrate our alumni.

Ms. Sabolinski informed the Committee that because winter is coming, the annual connect-ed test email will be sent to be sure our database is up to date. It will be sent on November 4, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

Ms. Sabolinski advised the Committee the Harlem Wizards came to the schools and the feedback was incredible. The message to kids was so powerful, the Principals said it was the best assemblies we ever had, they were engaging and fun with the students.

Ms. Sabolinski advised the Committee that Kristen Cerce was honored at a lovely awards ceremony. Ms. Pandora Carlucci, Mr. Peter Light, Maureen Sabolinski, Joyce Edwards all attended the ceremony as well as a bus load of students. It was a really nice award and well deserved for Kristen.

Ms. Sabolinski advised the Committee that the Commissioner's update took us a bit by surprise last week, backpedaling, his remarks, his points to the media, MCAS has reached its point of diminishing return, PARCC, the results, reading a variety of different things, better assessment of college and career readiness, interesting for policy members, school committee members, not a real sense on decision. It will be interesting. Take a year and figure out, don't know if we will be testing in the spring, it would do a world of wonder politically, let's think, be thoughtful and mindful before putting kids through a testing cycle. There is not a clear vision of where the Board of Ed is going, hopefully decision will be made in the next month.

Ms. Sabolinski reminded the Committee that the Thanksgiving turkey trot is happening. It benefits the food pantry; it costs \$20 to walk, run, crawl or 20 cans of food. Ms. Sabolinski noted that the Sabolinski crew has been recruited to give back to community before Thanksgiving.

Ms. Sabolinski took some time to honor Paula, Roberta and Sue, please be patient with us.

Mrs. Sabolinski, Ms. Edwards and Ms. Goodwin presented Paula, Roberta and Sue with flowers and a small gift to say thank you. The best representative of education is an apple; it is a hand-blown glass apple. We thank you for your commitment to students of FPS. I would like to invite Kevin, John and Trevor to present a plaque to each of you.

- School Committee Sub-Committee Reports: Ms. Trahan noted the Policy Sub-Committee had their last meeting with minor revisions and the new team will be taking over.
- School Committee Liaison Reports: None

#### 6. New Business: None

**7. Adjourn**: 9:20 p.m.

Mrs. Trahan made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session and not return to open session.

Second by Mrs. Rohrbach

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Mullen-yes; Mrs. Trahan-yes; Mrs. Douglas-yes; Mr. Clement-yes; Mrs.

Rohrbach-yes; Dr. Jewell-yes; Dr. O'Malley-yes.

Respectfully Submitted,

#### Susan Childers

SCAgenda 10-27-15.pdf

October 13 2015 Minutes-DRAFT.pdf

ExecutiveSessionMinutes10-13-15-draft.pdf

Cafeteria.pdf

FEA.pdf

Secretaries.pdf

Van Drivers.pdf

Payroll Warrant #1608 summary.pdf

Payroll Warrant #1608.pdf

Franklin Public Schools summary & sign off.pdf

SCWarrant100815.pdf

SCWarrant101515.pdf

CPR 10-27-15.pdf

School Safety Update.pdf

FHS SIP 2015-16.pdf

GDCC - Staff Family and Medical Leave.pdf

GDCC-E - Family and Medical Leave of Absence.pdf

JFABB - Admission of Exchange and Foreign Students.pdf

Peter Light Resume 2015.pdf

ActionA.pdf

ActionB.pdf

ActionC.pdf

ActionD.pdf ActionE.pdf

ActionF.pdf

ActionG.pdf
ActionH.pdf
ActionI.pdf
PledgeStudent.pdf