

Franklin School Committee Minutes

February 10, 2015

Municipal Building – Council Chambers

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Call to order: 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Mullen

Mrs. Mullen read the Districts Vision Statement. The Vision Statement reads the Franklin Public Schools will foster within its students the knowledge and skills to find and achieve satisfaction in life as productive global citizens.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Two 7th graders from the Horace Mann Middle School recited the Pledge of Allegiance – one in person and one via Google Hangouts.

Attendance: Mr. O'Malley, Mrs. Rohrbach, Mr. Clement, Mrs. Mullen, Mrs. Trahan and FHS representative Justin Bates were present. Also present were Assistant Superintendent Sally Winslow, Miriam Goodman, School Business Administrator, and other invited guests. Mrs. Douglas, Mr. Jewell, Superintendent Sabolinski and FHS representative Conor Lemanowicz were not in attendance.

Moment of Silence:

A moment of silence was observed.

1. Routine Business

- Citizens Comments: None
- Review of Agenda: The Action Item regarding the adoption of the proposed 2015-2016 school calendar will be removed from the agenda. A discussion of the revised proposed 2015-2016 school calendar will be added to the Discussion Only Items
- Minutes:
I recommend approval of the minutes from the January 13, 2015 School Committee Meeting.
Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approve: 5

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

- Payment of Bills: Mr. Clement
 Motion: Mr. Clement Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
 Approve: 5 Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent	Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mr. O'Malley: Yes	Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes	Mr. Jewel: Absent
Mr. Clement: Yes	

- Payroll:
 Mrs. Douglas was not in attendance at this evening's meeting.
- FHS Student Representatives: Justin noted that the school has voted and a decision has been made to allow students to choose which color robe they will wear to graduation - either blue or white. He noted that students are cooperating with and making the best of the parking situation in light of the recent snow. Lastly, he asked the Committee if they plan on taking away days from April vacation as a means to make up snow days. Mrs. Mullen noted that have not yet discussed this notion.
- Correspondence: The Budget to Actual was noted.

2. Guests/Presentations:

- a. Senator Spilka noted that the State's budget needs to be cut by \$768 million and pretty much everything is being cut. However, she stated she will continue to protect local aid and Chapter 70 funding. Representative Roy discussed how Massachusetts is number one in education in the United States; however, he feels there is still room for improvement and he is looking for ways to improve education. He noted there are a number of pieces of Legislation filed that will force a conversation on PARCC and Common Core. He asked that we participate in the dialogue and hearings going forward. Senator Ross added that he and the others are available to talk should we have any concerns. Lastly, it was noted that Senator Spilka and Representative Roy helped Franklin establish the first ever Elementary School Chapter of Best Buddies.
- b. Middle School Blended Learning: All three middle schools are using blended learning platforms, as is the high school. The platforms used are Its Learning and Google Drive. Mr. Fortin and Mr. Peri noted that Blended Learning is a formal education program in which students learn through the following: an online environment, a traditional classroom and through a combination of the two which provides an integrated learning experience. Blended learning opens access to information to all students, increases collaboration and allows for live real-time feedback which significantly transforms how we access information at the schools. Mrs. Rohrbach asked how long we have been using this and it was noted that we have been using this for about 8-10 years. She asked if there is any

research on how this method enhances students learning. Mr. Fortin noted that while the research is very new, it is overwhelmingly positive. So far it has show that as blended learning increases, student achievement increases.

3. Discussion Only Items:

- Proposed 2015-2016 School Calendar: The FEA noticed a conflict with the proposed calendar. The FEA contract states that the first day of school for teachers should be no earlier than the Monday before Labor Day. Therefore, the first day for staff can be no earlier than August 31st. The Committee has before them a revised calendar to reflect this and subsequent changes. It is recommended that August 31st be a professional development day, September 1st will be an orientation day for staff, September 2nd will be the first day of school for students in 1st – 12th grade and September 3rd will be the first day of school for Kindergarteners. The last day of school is slated for June 20th – and allows for eight snow days. New staff orientation days will remain the same. Mr. O’Malley questioned why the students have Election Day off – it was noted that parking poses a problem at the high school that day. This will come back to the Committee at the next meeting for adoption.

Mr. O’Malley made a motion to have September 4th a no school day.

Motion: Mr. O’Malley

Second: Mr. Clement

Mrs. Mullen noted how she thinks it’s a silly notion to have the kids come back to school for just two days and then have Friday off, also taking into consideration they have a day off every week until October.

Approve: 1

Oppose: 4

Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent

Mrs. Mullen: No

Mr. O’Malley: Yes

Mrs. Trahan: No

Mrs. Rohrbach: No

Mr. Jewel: Absent

Mr. Clement: No

- Policy GCBA – Professional Staff Salary Schedule – Second Reading for Elimination: Mrs. Trahan noted she has not heard back from anyone regarding this policy. It is recommended for elimination under Action Items.
- Policy – First Readings:
 - KCDA – Memorial Commemorations:
 - KCD-E1 – Non-Budgeted Funds Donation Form:
 - KCD-E2 – Guidelines for Donations of Gifts/Memorials Non-Budgeted Funds to the Franklin Public Schools

Mrs. Mullen noted that in response to community input led by Mrs. Graci, new language was incorporated into the above policies. Mrs. Winslow added that the initial intent has been kept – which is the belief that all life has equal value and we do not typically commemorate deceased individuals in the form of assemblies,

dedications, plantings or walkways. The new Policy reiterates that memorial scholarships are the most meaningful way to commemorate deceased loved ones, but the added language allows for some flexibility and discretion to accept other types of memorial donations other than a scholarship.

Mrs. Rohrbach thinks everyone did an incredibly great job with this. She would like to add the word ‘supplemental’ to the KCD-E1 form so it reads ‘supplemental supplies’ instead of ‘supplies’. She also clarified that scholarship means a financial gift and memorial means an actual tangible gift.

Mr. Clement thinks this is the wrong direction for the Committee to go in and will vote ‘no’ on this policy. He noted how the Committee unanimously voted on this policy twice and it wasn’t until after it was approved that Mrs. Graci came before the Committee. The policy was then reopened. He feels in adopting her concerns, we have gutted the policy and ignored the advice from the experts – who suggest that life be recognized and celebrated in a uniform fashion. He feels the new policy is the same as having no policy – by opening it up to the principals, if a memorial isn’t patently offensive – we will end up accepting it and if we say ‘no’ to someone, they will come before the Committee.

Mr. Rohrbach stated she thinks we did a good job with the revision. We are an open minded Committee and even though it was looked at, we can step back and look at it again.

Mrs. Trahan fears that if we make this change, then every time 2-3 people think a policy needs to be changed they can come before us and do that.

Mrs. Mullen feels this is a wider Franklin sentiment. She feels we opened this back up due to the process whereby Mrs. Graci wasn’t able to be heard. She stated it is important to listen to what people have to say and that she is pleased with the process we went through.

Mr. O’Malley noted that he appreciates Mr. Clements thoughtful presentation, and feels it is hard to encapsulate grief in a policy. He further stated we need to do the best we can by being an open Committee that is able to receive and respond to input.

4. Action Items:

1. I recommend approval of the budget transfers as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 5

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent
Mr. O’Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

2. I recommend elimination of Policy GCBA – Professional Staff Salary Schedule as discussed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 5

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

3. I recommend moving the following policies to a second reading:

- o KCDA – Memorial Commemorations
- o KCD-E1 – Non-Budgeted Funds Donation Form
- o KCD-E2 – Guidelines for Donations of Gifts/Memorials Non-Budgeted Funds to the Franklin Public Schools

Motion: Mrs. Trahan

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

The language change Mrs. Rohrbach suggested for KCD-E1 will be added for the second read. Mr. Clement noted how two members have grave concerns and reservations on this policy. Mrs. Mullen noted that this policy came from the Sub-Committee to the whole Committee and if we weren't prepared to bring it here tonight, these sentiments should have been brought up in the Sub-Committee meetings.

Approval: 4

Oppose: 1

Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: No

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

4. I recommend approval of the request of Anthony Joseph to take Keller 5th graders to Roger Williams Zoo in Providence, RI on May 1, 2015 as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 5

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

5. I recommend approval of student activities as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 5

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent
Mr. O'Malley: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes

Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mr. Jewel: Absent

6. I recommend acceptance of the donation of pottery glaze from EMC (valued at \$68.30) for the Empty Bowls program at Oak Street Elementary School.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 5

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

7. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1,394 from the Keller PCC for field trips.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 5

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

8. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1,000 from the Davis Thayer PCC for field trips.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 5

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

9. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1,000 from the Franklin Music Boosters for Extra Curricular Music.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 5

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

10. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$305.50 from All American Publishing for the Athletic Department.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 5

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

11. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$3,725 from the Gen Youth Foundation for Remington Middle School.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 5

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

12. I recommend approval of the request of Dawn Lacerda to take 5th grade JF Kennedy students to the Marine Biology Center in North Kingstown, RI on March 10, 2015 as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 5

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 2

Mrs. Douglas: Absent
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

5. Information Matters:

- Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Winslow wanted to acknowledge those on the School Wellness Advisory Council for their hard work and dedication. The high school was awarded the Healthier US Challenge Bronze Medal Recognition Award for demonstrating a commitment to excellence in both nutrition and physical education in an effort to promote a healthier school environment. Remington Middle School was awarded \$4,000 from the New England Dairy Council to support before and after school programs from the Fuel up to Play 60 Program. She thanked the DPW and Facilities for all their tireless efforts removing snow. The District has two more snow days – which would bring the last day of school to June 30th. Mrs. Mullen would like to have a discussion at the next meeting regarding our options, should the District need to take additional snow days. Lastly, Mrs. Winslow noted a PARCC information night for parents will be held tomorrow night from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the Horace Mann Middle School.
- School Committee Sub-Committee Reports: No new information discussed at this time.
- School Committee Liaison Reports: No new information discussed at this time.

6. **New Business:** Mrs. Trahan noted that the Trivia Bee will be held on April 8th from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. to help raise money for the Franklin Education Foundation.

7. Adjourn: 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Barker

List of documents:

SCAgenda 2-10-15.pdf

January 13, 2015 SCMinutes-DRAFT.pdf

Budget2actual.pdf

Payroll Warrant #1514 earnings.pdf

Payroll Warrant #1514.pdf

Payroll Warrant #1514M earnings.pdf

Payroll Warrant #1514M.pdf

Franklin Public Schools summary & sign off.pdf

SCWarrant010815.pdf

SCwarrant011515.pdf

Blended Learning SC.pdf

GCBA - Professional Staff Salary Schedules.pdf

KCD-E1 Non-Budgeted Funds Donation Form-REV.pdf

KCD-E2 Guidelines for Donations of Gifts-Memorials Non-Budgeted Funds for FPS-REV.pdf

KCDA-Memorial Commemorations REV.pdf

OLD-KCD-E - Non-Budgeted Funds Donation Form.docx

OLD_KCDA - Memorial Commemorations.docx

ActionA.pdf

ActionB.pdf

ActionC.pdf

ActionD.pdf

ActionE.pdf

ActionF.pdf

ActionG.pdf

ActionH.pdf

ActionI.pdf

ActionJ.pdf

ActionK.pdf

ActionL.pdf

ActionM.pdf

15-16 Calendar-Draft.pdf

2016-17-Calendar Draft1.pdf

2016-17-Calendar Draft2.pdf