

Franklin School Committee Minutes

November 18, 2014

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:

A 5th grader from the Parmenter School recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Mrs. Douglas, Mr. O'Malley, Mrs. Rohrbach, Mr. Clement, Mrs. Mullen, Mrs. Trahan, Mr. Jewell and FHS representatives Conor Lemanowicz and Justin Bates were present. Also present were Superintendent Maureen Sabolinski, Assistant Superintendent Sally Winslow, Miriam Goodman, School Business Administrator, and other invited guests.

Moment of Silence:

A moment of silence was observed.

1. Routine Business

- Citizens Comments: Members of the audience spoke in regards to Policy KCDA – Memorial Commemorations. Mrs. Graci would like to donate a sculpture to the high school, with a commemorative plaque, in memory of her daughter. The Policy states that “donations may be made to Franklin scholarship funds”. It further states “The Franklin Public Schools do not commemorate deceased individuals in the form of assemblies, memorials, dedications, plaques, gardens, planting, walkways or other permanent physical structures”. She has met with the Policy Sub-Committee regarding this Policy but came to the meeting to formally request an amendment to the Policy feeling that the Policy was created without input from the community. Mrs. Peterson supports Mrs. Graci and feels the sculpture is a display of our Franklin pride. Ms. Spillane noted there are bridges in town named in honor of fallen heroes, parts of buildings named in honor of community members, etc. She finds this policy “not fair”. Lastly, Mrs. Perrault read an email written by her daughter who is a 2012 graduate of Franklin High School. She too supports Mrs. Graci in her efforts to amend the Policy. Mrs. Mullen prefaced these statement by noting the Committee will not comment on citizen comments at this point in the meeting.

- Review of Agenda: It was noted that the Global Competency Program presentation will occur before the MCAS presentation.

- Minutes:

I recommend approval of the minutes from the November 4, 2014 School Committee Meeting.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approve: 7

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

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

- Payment of Bills:

Mr. Clement

Motion: Mr. Clement

Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approve: 7

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

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

- Payroll:

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

- FHS Student Representatives: Conor noted that a Financial Aid Seminar will be held on November 20th. This week is Spirit Week. An ice cream social will be held for the class who is most spirited. Justin noted that a pep rally will be held next Tuesday and the parking lot is now complete.

- Correspondence: It was noted that comments from Mrs. Graci and Ms. Spillane were forwarded to the Committee.

2. Guests/Presentations:

- a. Global Competency Program: Ms. Crowley, Ms. Edwards and Mr. Light spoke to the Committee regarding Global Competency. Ms. Crowley noted that the objective tonight is to make the Committee aware of Global Competency. Global Competency allows for preparation for 21st century skills and knowledge. What she will eventually propose to the Committee is the following: Academic requirements will be a grade of C or better in both a Language and World History, a portfolio and presentation, a research paper on global issues, Global Immersion – such as studying abroad, hosting an exchange student or courses at Dean College and lastly, 60 hours or community service. She notes they would like to

gauge interest in such a program from students first, and then present the program to the School Committee for approval and possibly get the program up and running for the 2015/2016 school year. Ms. Edwards stated they would initially like this to be a two year program and roll it out to a 3 year program. Mr. Light noted we had a Global Awareness Initiative in the past that died out due to lack of well defined student outcomes. He noted that this has defined student outcomes. He feels this holds a lot of potential for students at the high school. Ms. Edwards noted global learning is a priority of the curricular world these days further noting that this program will not be for everyone. This will be just another pathway to meet the needs of students. Mrs. Sabolinski stated she sees this as a way to cultivate creativity and innovation of students. These skills can set students apart in college and their career. Mrs. Trahan noted how she is continually impressed with teachers who continue to raise the bar without any budgetary increases. Mr. Clement wondered about the relationship with Dean College. It was noted it would involve participation in course offerings or culturally based student organizations.

- b. MCAS: Ms. Edwards discussed with the Committee the MCAS results. Analysis of the data shows some data gaps due to the PARCC field testing done; however, we continue to be a Level 2 District and continue to show growth in our scores from last year. In ELA, 82% of our students are Proficient or Advanced. In Math, 76% of our students scored in the Proficient or Advanced range. 73% of our students scored Proficient or Advanced in Science. This year, PARCC will be administered to our students; however, MCAS will be administered to our 10th grade students in order to meet their graduation requirements. Mr. O'Malley and Mrs. Rohrbach would like to see specifics on our subgroup achievements and want to know more about how we are helping those students move forward. Ms. Edwards will provide this information to the Committee. He also wondered why we seemed to have flat lined in some areas. Ms. Edwards thinks this is due to the alignment to the new Massachusetts Frameworks. It was noted that MCAS results can be found on the Districts Website.

3. Discussion Only Items:

- Policy – First Reading: It was noted that the Policy changed as a result of changes to the Department of Education Audit Guidelines. The Policy sets a limit of the distribution of funds for class reunions to \$10,000. This Policy is slated to be approved for a second read under Action Items.
 - JJFG – Disposition of Student Activity Account
- Policy – Second Reading: Mrs. Trahan noted she did not hear back from anyone regarding these Policies. They are slated for adoption under Action Items.
 - GBEB – Gifts to Staff
 - GBI – Political Activities of Staff

4. Action Items:

1. I recommend approval of Budget Transfers as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 7

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

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

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

2. I recommend moving Policy JJFG – Disposition of Student Activity Account to a second reading.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 7

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

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

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

3. I recommend adoption of the following policies as discussed:

- o GBEC – Gifts to Staff
- o GBI – Political Activities of Staff

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 7

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

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

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

4. I recommend acceptance of the following district wide donations as follows:

- o Hockomock Area YMCA \$4,700.00
- o BJ's Wholesale Club \$210.00
- o Spirit Shop, Inc. (Athletics) \$2.75
- o Various Parents (Music) \$1,125.00

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 7

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

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

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

5. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$25.00 from Robert & Jennifer Mancini for FHS.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 7

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Mrs. Douglas: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes

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

Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Yes

6. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$945.00 from the Parmenter PCC for field trips.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 7

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

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

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

7. I recommend approval of the request to establish Science National Honor Society Club at FHS as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 4

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Oppose: 3

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

Mrs. Mullen: No
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: No

Mrs. Douglas noted that other towns have this as well and is glad we are on board with this. Mrs. Mullen notes that she thinks this diminishes the National Honor Society. She like the intent, but feels we have too many as we have one for Music, Spanish and now Science.

5. Information Matters:

- Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Sabolinski updated the Committee on the flood that occurred at the Annie Sullivan Middle School. Service Master quickly removed all wet materials from the building. Air and Mold Assessments have been done. The quick removal of wet materials aided in the negative results of those tests. Sheetrock has been replaced, plastering has occurred and painting will happen over the Thanksgiving break. Mr. Creedon and Mrs. Sabolinski will put together a study group to try and come up with creative ways to make up the three days of school missed due to this incident.
- School Committee Sub-Committee Reports: Mrs. Trahan noted that the Policy Sub-Committee met on November 1st and again last week to discuss Policy KCDA – Memorial Commemorations.
- School Committee Liaison Reports: No new information discussed at this time.

6. **New Business:** Mrs. Mullen made a motion to direct the Policy Sub-Committee to reopen Policy KCDA – Memorial Commemorations based on citizen feedback.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

She further noted that along the way, we left out listening to the input of the people of Franklin, noting that we are elected to take their voices into consideration. Mrs. Trahan noted that hours were spent meeting on this Policy. She believes the Policy is appropriate and allows for a meaningful way to commemorate loved ones via a scholarship, further noting that it was not their intention to imply that a person does not have importance. She notes that we are not wavering on this Policy but can take into consideration individual concerns. She would like to make a request that we wave to authorize in this case if the committee decides they don't want to reopen this Policy.

Mr. O'Malley noted that he will vote to reopen and relook at this Policy. He feels it is dangerous to change each Policy by feels it is just as dangerous to not consider change for good reason.

Mr. Clement noted he is on the fence. He feels this Policy was fully vetted noting poorly attended meetings were held regarding this policy and it wasn't until the Policy went into place that uproar began. He stated this sits poorly with him; however, on the other hand, stated we are members of this Town and Community and this should be taken into consideration.

Mrs. Mullen ended by noting we did a lot of work on this Policy and she is not sure there will be a different outcome if we do reopen the Policy. Again, she stated we were not inclusive of the community when discussing this Policy and that is why community comments came out after the fact. Mrs. Rohrbach echoed that statement saying we could do a better job of listening to our constituents. A roll call was taken on the original motion:

A motion was made to direct the Policy Sub-Committee to reopen Policy KCDA – Memorial Commemorations based on citizen feedback.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen
Approval: 5

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Oppose: 2

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

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: No
Mr. Jewel: No

It was noted that this Policy will go back to the Policy Sub-Committee for review.

7. Adjourn: 9 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Barker

*Franklin School Committee
Minutes – November 18, 2014
Final Copy*

List of documents:

SCAgenda 11-18-14.pdf
November 4, 2014 SCOrgMinutes-DRAFT.pdf
Payroll Warrant #1509 earnings.pdf
Payroll Warrant #1509.pdf
Franklin Public Schools summary & sign off.pdf
SCWarrant103014.pdf
SCWarrant110614.pdf
SC PP MCAS 2014.pdf
GBEC - Gifts to staff - 10-14-14.pdf
GBI Political Activities of Staff - 10-14-14.pdf
JJFG - Disposition of Student Activity Accounts 11-14.pdf
OLD - JJFG - Disposition of Student Activity Accounts.pdf
ActionA.pdf
ActionB.pdf
ActionC.pdf
ActionD.pdf
ActionE.pdf
ActionF.pdf
ActionG.pdf
Article-Seven Questions about Leading Schools in an Interconnected World.pdf
Solutions-Nov Newsletter.pdf