

Franklin School Committee Minutes

September 9, 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:

Two students from the Keller School recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Mrs. Douglas, Mr. O'Malley, Mrs. Rohrbach, 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. Mr. Clement was not in attendance.

Moment of Silence:

A moment of silence was observed.

1. Routine Business

- Citizens Comments: The owner of Elizabeth's Bagels pointed out her concern with the high school's new policy that doesn't allow students to bring outside beverages other than water into the school. She noted this new policy is hurting business. She was instructed to contact Mr. Light.
- Review of Agenda: It was noted that a discussion on the Opening of School will be added under Discussion Only Items.

- Minutes:

I recommend approval of the minutes from the August 26, 2014 School Committee Meeting.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approve: 5

Abstain: 1

Mrs. Douglas: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes

Mr. O'Malley: Abstain

Mrs. Trahan: Yes

Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes

Mr. Jewel: Yes

Mr. Clement: Absent

- **Payment of Bills:** Mr. Clement
Mr. Clement was not in attendance at this evening's meeting.
- **Payroll:**
Mrs. Douglas reviewed the payroll, found it to be in order and recommended acceptance.
- **FHS Student Representatives:** The new FHS student representatives introduced themselves to the Committee. Justin Bates is the president of the Student Government. He plays three sports and is a member of many committees. Conor Lemanowicz is the senior class president. He is involved in many clubs and is the Mock Trial team captain. They noted that the transition into the new school has gone smoothly. Students are abiding by the new policies aside from a few infractions of the new cell phone policy. Some concerns students have are adjusting to the narrower hallways, the new policy against outside beverages and lack of seating in the cafeteria. It was noted that Mr. Light is looking into moving around lunch schedules to resolve the congestion in the cafeteria.
- **Correspondence:** The Budget to Actual was noted.

2. Guests/Presentations:

- a. **Lifelong Learning Update:** Mrs. Carlucci stated that Lifelong Learning had a fabulous summer. About 2,000 students in grades K-12 participated and several program directors were on hand to share with the Committee their experiences. Mr. Diamond, Director of the Star Program, discussed how Ready, Set Kindergarten helps students transition into school. Ms. Fanuele, Assistant Director of the High School Experience, noted 375 freshmen participated in the High School Experience Program this summer. Over the course of the week, incoming freshman experienced skills sessions in English, History, Math and Science, participated in Technology sessions and developed a class motto, amongst other experiences. Mr. Chelman, who is a part of the Summer Math Academy, showed the Committee a promotional video on the program. 65 students participated in this two week program which incorporates games, engineering and data collection to name a few. Mr. O'Malley commented on their outstanding work. He noted that extending the walls of schools beyond the stereotypic school day is fabulous. Mrs. Rohrbach noted that the Lifelong Learning program is the entrepreneurial arm of the Franklin Public Schools further noting this self-sustaining program allows teachers to do exciting stuff they can't do in the traditional school year. Mr. Jewell added this is a way for students to get challenged by teachers in an area they like.

Ms. Hogan discussed the Summer Art Institute noting this program offered six different courses for students in grades 6-12. Not only were these courses an enriching opportunity for students, they were enriching for faculty as they allowed

them to teach different grade levels. Ms. Shoen stated that this summer saw the highest enrollment ever for the music program. The program allowed for high school students to mentored younger students as well as lead small group and one on one instrumental lessons. The program concluded with a concert attended by over 500 people. Ms. Gay discussed the summer solutions program. This program runs for seven weeks during the summer from 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. An afternoon only option was also available from 1 p.m. – 6 p.m. This summer the Solutions program was held at the Parmenter School. Each week had a specific theme. The children attended field trips as well as enjoyed community visitors. Brenda Reed, the new Director of Adult Education introduced herself to the Committee. She passed out an Adult Education program guide for the Fall/Winter session as well as invited the Committee to let her know what they would like to see in Adult Education and Community Learning programs. Mrs. Trahan noted how it never ceases to amaze her the enthusiasm of all the teachers. She noted how they have a busy school year, take a week or two off and then get right back into it; further stating the students absolutely benefit from it. She thanked Mrs. Carlucci for her innovation and ability to have wonderful ideas that bring this all to fruition. Mr. O'Malley noted he would love to see more public relations surrounding this program. Mrs. Sabolinski noted they do promote this program. She noted that the staff does try and get the word out but they are open to suggestions.

3. Discussion Only Items:

- **Opening of School:** Mrs. Sabolinski noted that the high school opening went off without a hitch, except for the traffic. The DPW and police department have worked on new traffic flow configurations and the situation has improved. Chromebooks and ID's have been distributed and technology is running well. Also, safety drills have been completed. She also noted the capital improvements that occurred over the summer. The curbs at Keller are complete, Lincoln Street is still a work in progress but the work that has been completed has helped slow down traffic near the school. Curbing repairs were also done at Parmenter and Horace Mann. The Jefferson playground was re-landscaped and a new handicap ramp was installed at Kennedy. Lastly, she discussed enrollment. The high school has an enrollment of 1,735, up 111 students since September 5th. The middle and elementary enrollments are down, however, families continue to enroll within the District. Mrs. Goodman discussed transportation. She noted things are going smoothly. There are 2,863 students being transported on 31 buses which run on 3 tiers. The Pay-to-Ride program is up 99 students from last year. There are 40 students on waiting lists. They will try and accommodate those students by the end of September. She also noted that there are 49 students taking the temporary buses that run from Beaver Street and the ice staking rink to the high school. Mrs. Sabolinski added that the demolition of the former high school is going faster than anticipated which means the new parking lot will be ready sooner than anticipated. Mr. O'Malley stated we owe a debt of gratitude to our Superintendent further stating the opening of the high school is a triumph of

leadership. He also asked if we could look at any trends in enrollment as to what we can expect. Mrs. Sabolinski stated will look into it.

4. Action Items:

1. I recommend a donation of a set of cheerleading floor mats (valued at approximately \$1,000) to the Franklin Pop Warner program.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 6

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 1

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

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

2. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$250 from Fidelity Charitable for supplies at ECDC.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 6

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 1

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

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

3. I recommend acceptance of two checks totaling \$323.04 from Wells Fargo Community Support for in-house enrichment at Franklin High School.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 6

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 1

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

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

4. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$300 from Jefferson PCC for in-house enrichment at Jefferson Elementary School.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 6

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 1

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

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

5. Information Matters:

- Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Sabolinski wanted to remind the Committee about the dedication ceremony for the high school. Tours of the school will be given on

- September 20th from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The official dedication ceremony will take place on September 21st at 1 p.m. A commissioned piece of music, performed by students, will be premiered during the ceremony.
- 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 the Franklin Education Foundation (FEF) is looking for new members. Anyone interested in joining should reach out to the current president, Kit Brady or Mrs. Trahan. She also noted the annual Casino Night fundraising event will take place November 1st. More information on this event will follow.
- 7. Executive Session:** Contractual Negotiations
- 8. Adjourn:** 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Barker

List of documents:

SCAgenda9-9-14.pdf

August 26, 2014 SCMinutes-DRAFT.pdf

B2A.pdf

Payroll Warrant #1504 earnings.pdf

Payroll Warrant #1504.pdf

Franklin Public Schools summary & sign off 2.pdf

SCWarrant082114.pdf

SCWarrant082814.pdf

ActionA.pdf

ActionB.pdf

ActionC.pdf

ActionD.pdf

9-9-14Memo.pdf

June - Sept5,14 Compare.pdf