

## Welcome

### Franklin School Committee Minutes

August 23, 2011

Municipal Building – Council Chambers

Call to order: 7:00 p.m. Mr. Roy

Mr. Roy read the Districts Vision and Mission Statements. 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. The Mission Statement reads the Franklin Public Schools, in collaboration with the community, will cultivate each student's intellectual, social, emotional and physical potential through rigorous academic inquiry and informed problem solving skills within a safe, nurturing and respectful environment.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mrs. Sabolinski recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Mrs. Douglas, Mr. Cafasso, Mrs. Rohrbach, Mrs. Mullen, Mr. Roy, Mrs. Trahan, and Mr. Glynn were present. Also present were Superintendent Maureen Sabolinski, Assistant Superintendent Sally Winslow, Miriam Goodman, School Business Administrator, and other invited guests. The FHS representatives are on summer recess.

Moment of Silence:

A moment of silence was observed.

#### 1. Routine Business

- Citizens Comments: None

- Review of Agenda: No additional items.

- Minutes:

I recommend approval of the minutes from the August 9, 2011 School Committee Meeting.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approve: 6 Abstain: 1

- Payment of Bills: Mr. Glynn

Motion: Mr. Glynn Second: Mrs. Mullen

Approve: 7

- Payroll:

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

- FHS Student Representatives: The FHS student representatives are on summer recess.

- Correspondence: There was no correspondence to discuss at this evening's meeting.

## 2. Guests/Presentations:

a. Food Service Director – Whitsons Management: Mrs. Sabolinski welcomed the team from Whitsons Management - John Gersbeck, VP of School Nutrition Services, Vyju Gopalan, Food Services Director, Joe Armenti, District Manager, Scott Berry, Assistant District Manager, and Kyle Parson, District Chef. The team has been on scene for a couple of months. She is delighted with the decision to use Whitsons Management and has received excellent feedback from the staff, custodians, and even the students who participated in the FHS Experience and were able to sample the menus. Mr. Gersbeck noted that they serve wholesome foods that taste great. They prepare most foods from scratch using locally grown fruits and vegetables and offer 'concept stations' which include the main meal of the day as well as a variety of other items. They also noted that parents can go online and see the nutritional profiles of the menus including a list of all ingredients in each product offered. This will prove especially useful for parents of student's with allergies. Mr. Roy thanked them for their presentation and noted that they are offering great meals at the same price while meeting the Healthy Hunger Free Act of 2010 guidelines.

b. Art Director – Jane Hogan, who has been a teacher at FHS for the past six year has been named the new art director. She overviewed for the Committee the K-12 art program as well as the status and direction of the Franklin Arts Academy (FAA). At the K-12 level, they will do professional development and curriculum enrichment, and continue to celebrate and display student work. She stated that the first year of the FAA was a good year. Going forward, the program will be doubling in size. The initial junior class of 44 students now includes 49 seniors. The incoming junior class will consist of 44 students. This year they would like to expand, refine and strengthen the academy – they will launch a student mentor program where seniors will mentor new students, they will implement new and existing curriculum, write a grade 10 curriculum, etc. She commented that areas for improvement include more teacher collaboration opportunities, full implementation of science programs and the need for better scheduling and assessments, just to name a few. Mrs. Hogan acknowledged the teachers from this program for their commitment.

## 3. Discussion Only Items:

- Software Transition: Mrs. Sabolinski, Mr. Rapoza and Mr. Light noted that they have run into some glitches implementing the new student information management system software. Mr. Light commented that the transition has been slow and the system hasn't yet met expectations. He further stated that issues will get resolved but it will be a slow process. Mrs. Sabolinski added that she has talked with other Districts who use the same system and they have had consistent experiences with implementation, but they did say that once the system is up and running, it is a terrific system.

Mrs. Sabolinski also noted 54 interactive whiteboards will be installed throughout the District, all teachers have laptops and wireless is at three of the K-8 complexes. She also asked for volunteers from the School Committee to assist with the creation of the new School Committee website. Mr. Roy volunteered.

- Facilities Update: Mrs. Sabolinski noted that the Parmenter school parking lot is being paved and 50 new spaces will be added. She also noted that the Wachuset Street Project is complete. The Remington Jefferson Complex had roof damage which has been repaired. The cement walk in front of the Jefferson Elementary school has been repaired and repairs to the partitions in the bathrooms will be completed in the fall. The high school has had some new carpeting installed and there has been some electrical upgrades done in the kitchen area. She also noted that it is anticipated that the leased modular at the high school will be removed this fall. At the Kennedy school, the HVAC system has been updated. Finally, all buildings floors, windows and walls have been washed down in preparation for the opening of school.

#### 4. Action Items:

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

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

2. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1,123.20 from the Oak Street PCC for Art Room Supplies at Oak Street Elementary School.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

3. I recommend acceptance of the donation of arts and crafts items from Michael's for Franklin elementary schools.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

4. I recommend approval of a new contract for Miriam Goodman, Director of Financial Operations.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

Mr. Roy thanked Mrs. Goodman for the phenomenal job she has done over the last three years and is delighted that she has signed a contract for five more years.

5. Information Matters:

- Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Sabolinski noted that enrollment continues to grow at the elementary level where classroom sizes range from 19 – 27 students. Over the next two weeks, she anticipates an increase in overall enrollment. She noted that 117 new students have enrolled over the summer and 119 students have moved out as a result of relocations or private schools. She expects the bus routes to be posted on the District's website by the end of the week. The FHS experience was very successful, 250 students participated this year. Finally, she noted that we have been selected to participate in a pilot program which will develop a new system for teacher evaluations.
- 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 mentioned that the FEF Casino Night will be held on Saturday, November 5th.

7. Adjourn: 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Barker