

- Payroll:
Mrs. Douglas reviewed the payroll, found it to be in order and recommended acceptance.
- FHS Student Representatives: Ms. Mullen and Ms. MacLaughlin noted upcoming events at the Franklin High School which included a Jazz Concert at the FHS Lecture Hall on April 11th; the Change for a Chance Program, initiated by FHS student, Queen Butahe which supports buying books for a library in Tanzania; the Mr. Franklin Pageant, featuring FHS boys – all proceeds will support the Change for a Chance Program; the new sports team “Ultimate Frisbee” spearheaded by FHS student, Brian Doherty with a 3-1 record – next match 4/11/12 at 3:30 at Dacey Field; a blood drive at FHS on April 11th and a reminder that next week is vacation week.
- Correspondence: Budget to Actual

2. Guests/Presentations:

- a. Mrs. Nancy Schoen, Music Department Director introduced Dianne Plouff and the Franklin Repertory String Orchestra, who recently won a gold medal at the MICA Festival to perform the “Russian Easter Overture” for the Committee. Mrs. Schoen updated the Committee on the many FHS Music Program initiatives. She commended the many talented students and noted that the FPS sent 11 ensembles to the MICA Festival this year, the most in the 26 years that Nancy has been in Franklin. Mrs. Schoen discussed the many musical performances scheduled this year and noted that the calendar of events is published in September for that school year.

Mrs. Schoen then discussed the Franklin Arts Academy, in its second year under the direction of Mike Peacock, which is responsible for music integration into the core academics. Mrs. Schoen looks forward to expanding the sound recording and Sound in the Hall FHS radio station when the new facility is built. She commented on the popularity of the two talk radio shows, *Sports Blast*, a sports talk radio show, and *Indie Outbreak*, where students interview independent bands. These shows can be heard through a link through www.SoundintheHall.com or through www.iradiola.com.

Mrs. Schoen then discussed the Music Department’s professional development initiatives which included a workshop with Denise Guilbault, RIC Music Dept. Chair and specialist in the Gordon Learning Theory; the opportunity for the FPS music teachers to visit neighboring districts to observe and share ideas; and the LSDO and All State Music Conferences. On half days, the staff revised curriculum and developed smart goals. This year, additional music opportunities included 4th & 5th grade chorus across the district, elementary students performing

in an interactive concert with the RI Philharmonic and the All Town Band for all band students in grades 6-12.

Mrs. Schoen thanked the Franklin Music Boosters, whose fundraising efforts support scholarships, private lessons, guest artists, instrument purchases and commissioned work projects. The Committee received a packet of the above information and a few articles supporting the benefits of music programs to students. Mrs. Trahan asked about donations to the program and Mrs. Schoen explained that they could be made over the summer via the web site for that upcoming year. Mrs. Mullen thanked Mrs. Schoen for sharing the detail regarding professional development days with the Committee. Mrs. Edwards commented on how our music teachers go above and beyond after the school day to bring these opportunities to students. Mrs. Rohrbach thanked Nancy for her innovative ideas. Mrs. Sabolinski added that due to our talented staff, the Choral program is growing by leaps and bounds and we look forward to what new opportunities will become available with the new HS and new equipment.

- b. Mrs. Goodman, Business Administrator, presented an overview of the upcoming budget process, including revenue sources, expenditures and budget drivers. The budget process typically follows the following timeline: State Aid is allocated (52.6% of the budget); the Budget Sub Committee meets, then meets with the Joint Budget Sub Committee; the Superintendent recommends a budget; the Town Administrator recommends funding for schools; the School Committee holds a Public Hearing; the School Committee adopts the budget; the budget goes to the Town Council for review; the Town Council adopts the school budget.

Mrs. Goodman detailed the District's sources of revenue which include Chapter 70 aid, the required municipal contribution, Federal and State Grant revenue, and revolving accounts, such as Circuit Breaker, food service, athletics, school choice, etc. Mrs. Goodman explained Circuit Breaker in more detail. Mrs. Sabolinski added that the circuit breaker reimbursement fluctuates annually and is subject to a lot of accountability, i.e. it is audited annually. The foundation budget, which is defined as "the minimum level necessary to provide an adequate education for all students" varies by community. Mrs. Sabolinski noted that students deserve more than an adequate education.

Mrs. Goodman discussed the FPS expenditures which includes salaries (75% of the budget), transportation, legal fees, software maintenance, Insurance, Medicare, out-of-district tuition and allocations to principals. She explained that at the Budget Hearing, if there is a question on a line item, the Committee would "hold" the particular item so that questions could be asked regarding that item. Mrs. Rohrbach asked Mrs. Goodman to speak to the formula used to figure the principal's allocations. Mrs. Goodman noted that the per-pupil allocation was approximately \$210.00 per student at the elementary level, \$230.00 at the middle school level, and \$300.00 for the High School. All principal's allocations are

distributed in the building at the discretion of the Principal. Mrs. Sabolinski added that all building principals would be present at the Budget Hearing on April 24th to answer any questions regarding their allocation line items. It was noted by the Chair that it would be helpful to the administrators if the Committee's questions were sent to Mrs. Goodman ahead of time if at all possible. The Committee will be receiving an electronic budget packet as well as a binder for easy reading.

Mrs. Goodman spoke about the budget drivers, which are health care costs, contractual obligations and special education costs. Mrs. Goodman noted the following timeline:

April 24, 2012 = SC Public Budget Hearing
April 25, 2012 = Presentation to Finance Committee
May 8, 2012 = School Committee adoption of budget
May 30, 2012 = Town Council adoption of budget

3. Discussion Only Items:

- Kindergarten Registration – Mrs. Sabolinski reported that registration was held on March 27, 29 and April 2. Enrollment was down approximately 100 students from last year at this time. (327 now - was 412 last year) Students will continue to register over the summer and we expect an increase of approximately 10%. Mrs. Sabolinski urges those parents who have not registered yet to do so as soon as possible as the enrollment numbers drive decisions made pertaining to reassignment of staff, etc. Mr. Jewell asked if the distribution of students to schools was the same. Mrs. Sabolinski stated that Davis Thayer, Keller and Jefferson's numbers were down so far and the other elementary schools were comparable to last year other than Oak Street which reported growth. Mr. Jewell asked how the ESL students fit in. Mrs. Sabolinski explained that at registration, the parents met with the school nurse and set up an appointment for a screening, where this issue was addressed. Mrs. McIntyre asked how the FPS communicated with the community regarding registrations. Mrs. Sabolinski noted that the ECDC placed ads on our web site and in local newspapers as well as her outreach to all area private preschools throughout the year. This year we had registration later (usually in February) and added a Transportation kiosk so that busing questions could be answered.
- Transportation Update – Mrs. Goodman reported that all bus letters would be personalized with each student's name, school and ID number this year, utilizing our new SIS Aspen. These eligibility letters would be going out by the end of the month at the latest. Deadlines for Pay-to-Ride are as follows: Applications are due by June 1st and first payments (half or full) are due at that time. Final payment is due by July 9th. The fee per child is still \$325.00 with a cap of \$975.00 per family. Payments may be made by mail using the new tear-off form, or electronically via our web site. Mrs. Goodman urges online payments, as they are free with a debit card (there is a small fee for credit card payments). Mrs.

6. New Business:

- Mrs. Mullen wanted to echo Mrs. Sabolinski's gratitude for all the support for the new high school. Special thanks to Mrs. Sabolinski, Mr. Mike Doherty, the Town Council, Mr. Mercer and Mr. Nutting for all your hard work.

At 8:19 P.M., Mrs. Rohrbach made a motion to go into executive session to review the executive session minutes and not return to open session. Mrs. Trahan seconded. Role call vote: Mrs. Douglas-yes; Mr. Donahue-yes; Mrs. McIntyre-yes; Mrs. Rohrbach-yes; Mrs. Mullen-yes; Mrs. Trahan-yes; Mr. Jewell-yes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Miller
Assistant to the Superintendent

List of documents
SCAgenda 4-10-12.pdf
Budget2Actual.pdf
March 27, 2013 SCMinutes-DRAFT.pdf
Payroll Warrant #1220 earnings.pdf
Payroll Warrant #1220 summary.pdf
Franklin Public Schools summary & sign off.pdf
SC Warrant 032212.pdf
SC Warrantn 032912.pdf
4-10-12 School Committee MUSIC Presentation.pdf
Grid at k-registration 4-2-12.pdf
ActionA.pdf
ActionB.pdf
ActionC.pdf
ENROLLMENTCOMPARE-March 2011-2012.pdf
4-10-12.doc
Executive Session Minutes-1-24-12-DRAFT.doc
Executive Session Minutes-2-28-12-DRAFT.doc
April Newsletter.pdf