

Welcome

Franklin School Committee Minutes

January 11, 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:

An 8th grader from the Annie Sullivan Middle School 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 student representatives were not in attendance at this evening's meeting.

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 Executive and Open Session minutes from the December 14, 2010 School Committee Meeting.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approve: 7

- 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 were not in attendance at this evening's meeting; however, they did forward information to Mrs. Sabolinski to share with the Committee. Mrs. Sabolinski stated that funds raised from this year's Winter Carnival, which is scheduled for March 13, 2011, will go to the Massachusetts Soldiers Legacy Fund. This fund provides educational assistance grants to the children of Massachusetts servicemembers who were killed in action. She noted that the Theatre Program is rehearsing their spring musical and the Young Democrats Club went on a field trip to see the inauguration of Governor Patrick. Finally, the winter sports season is off to a great start and all teams are doing well.

- Correspondence: Mr. Roy acknowledged the Budget to Actual from Miriam Goodman.

2. Guests/Presentations:

a. FHS Girls Soccer Team: Mr. Roy presented the girls soccer team with a Certificate of Achievement for winning the Hockomock Kelly-Rex Division and the Division I South Sectional title – a first in the school's history.

b. Harry Potter Re-write – Davis Thayer: Two students from Mrs. Taylor's first grade class re-wrote Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone and shared their work with the Committee. Mrs. Taylor said these two students are the brightest readers she has come across in her 31 years of teaching. They worked together to rewrite each chapter into 2-3 sentences. They also illustrated their work. Their work was then made into a book for all students to enjoy and is available for checkout from the school's library.

c. K-5 Health Program: Michele Kingsland Smith and Kristen Cerce spoke to the Committee regarding the K-5 Health Program. Currently, the program is 90% physical education and 10% health related topics. The topics being taught this year include Nutrition, Bullying and Growth and Development. Next school year, the program will be 50% physical education and 50% health. It has been proposed to add Body Systems, Safety and Injury Prevention, Substance Abuse and Prevention, Contagious and Non-Contagious Disease as well as Mental Health to next year's curriculum.

d. Budget Update – Kindergarten: Mrs. Goodman spoke to the Committee regarding the financial impact that ½ day kindergarten or tuition based full-day kindergarten would have on the budget. While there may be a short term savings in FY12, it will lead to a reduction in the Foundation Budget which will

impact Chapter 70 funding beginning in FY13. Mrs. Sabolinski noted that this would create another structural deficit that will make the hole deeper down the road. Mr. Roy noted that when we need to make cuts to the budget – we need to look at everything – and make cuts in a fiscally prudent manner. He further stated that it would not be fiscally prudent to cut full-day kindergarten.

3. Discussion Only Items:

- Community Engagement: Mr. Cafasso noted that the Sub-Committee met last week to discuss different ways to communicate with the Community about such topics as the budget, the high school renovation project, etc. He noted that in 2005, a survey was sent out to parents asking them how they prefer to get their information. The Sub-Committee would like to replicate this survey and have it go out to parents in the spring. Mr. Cafasso noted that the next step is to write up a draft survey for the Committee to review.
- Policy BEDA – Notification of School Committee Meetings – First Reading: As a result of the new Open Meeting Laws, some changes needed to be made to this policy. Mrs. Mullen made a motion to move this policy to a second reading.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Approval: 7

4. Action Items:

1. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$600 from the ECDC PCC for supplies.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 7

2. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1,000 from the Davis Thayer PCC for library books.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 7

3. I recommend acceptance of two checks (\$200 and \$50) for the Jacqueline Schaeffer Theatre Arts Memorial Scholarship at FHS.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 7

4. I recommend approval of the request of the FHS Music Department to take the Jazz band and workshop to New Hampshire for the UNH Clark Terry Jazz Festival on Saturday, March 12, 2011 as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 7

5. I recommend acceptance of the anonymous gift of used books for the Oak Street Elementary School.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 7

6. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$50 from the Insurance Store for Keller Elementary School in-house enrichment.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 7

7. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$50 from an ECDC parent for supplies.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 7

5. Information Matters:

- Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Sabolinski wanted to acknowledge Kristen Cerce for doing such a wonderful job at getting the Health program up and running. She also noted that she will give a presentation on transportation at a future meeting. Finally, she asked that any suggestions on the Budget Workshop be forward to her.
- School Committee Sub-Committee Reports: Mrs. Rohrbach noted that the Budget Workshop will be held on Saturday, January 29, 2011 from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Mrs. Trahan mentioned that the Space Needs Sub-Committee met on January 6th, 2011 and will present a report to the School Committee at their next meeting. Mr. Glynn noted that the Nutrition Sub-Committee met earlier in the evening for their first meeting. Finally, Mrs. Mullen noted that the Policy Sub-Committee met last week and is continuing to review the Policy manual as well as work on the Bullying Policy.
- School Committee Liaison Reports: No new information discussed at this time.

6. New Business:

- Mrs. Trahan mentioned that the FEF is beginning to form teams for its upcoming Trivia Bee, scheduled for March 10, 2011.

7. Executive Session:

- Contractual Negotiations

8. Adjourn: 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Barker