

Welcome

Franklin School Committee Minutes

July 20, 2010

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:

Mr. Roy recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Mrs. Douglas, Mr. Cafasso, Mrs. Rohrbach, Mr. Roy, Mrs. Trahan, and Mr. Glynn were present. Also present were Superintendent Maureen Sabolinski, and Miriam Goodman, School Business Administrator. Mrs. Mullen and Assistant Superintendent Sally Winslow were not in attendance.

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 June 22, 2010 School Committee Meeting.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approve: 6 Absent: 1

Mrs. Rohrbach asked if the minutes from the June 22, 2010 Executive Session were up for approval this evening. Mr. Roy said that they are.

a. Payment of Bills: Mr. Glynn

Motion: Mr. Glynn Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approve: 6 Absent: 1

b. Payroll:

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

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

d. Correspondence: Mr. Roy read the letter composed by the Franklin School Committee, dated July 6, 2010, sent to the President of the Franklin Education Association (FEA), Mr. Robert McLaughlin regarding the possible restoration of three teaching positions for the 2010-2011 school year. The letter affirms the elimination of 18 FEA positions due to the FY2011 budget. The unsuccessful override eliminated any hope of restoring these positions through additional funding sources. The letter stated that the Committee desires to explore other means for achieving some possible position restorations, particularly at the elementary level. They suggest, for the 2010-2011 school year only, to shorten the elementary day, one day a week, by approximately 60 minutes, at the elementary (K-5) level only. This would then allow teachers 60 minutes of prep time at the end of the shortened day. The letter also states that the remainder of the weekly prep time (160 minutes) would be covered by specialists. There was no foreseeable impact to the specialists schedule under this proposal and this would allow the District to restore three (3) teaching positions for the 2010-2011 school year. The Committee asked for a response by this evening's School Committee Meeting. Mr. Roy stated that he received no response from the FEA. As a result, Davis Thayer eliminated one teaching position, Jefferson eliminated two teaching positions, Kennedy eliminated one teaching position, Oak Street eliminated three teaching positions, Helen Keller eliminated one teaching position, and Parmenter eliminated two teaching positions. Mrs. Sabolinski noted that kindergartens will now have 26 students in classrooms and fifth graders will have between 26-28 students in each classroom. She also noted that along with the increased classroom sizes in grades K-5, 6-8 will also see an increase in classroom sizes due to enrollment and teacher reductions. To recap, 18 teacher positions have been eliminated in grades K-8 for the 2010-2011 school year.

2. Guests/Presentations:

a. Summer Update: Mrs. Sabolinski updated the Committee on District news. She stated they have received notification that several Federal Grants have been reduced. For example, the Kindergarten grant has been reduced by \$30,000. She received a letter from the DESE regarding the Coordinated Program Review. The letter stated they saw a high level of expertise demonstrated amongst the staff and administration. Two teachers, Ann Williams and Brian Kelly, submitted articles that have been published in the

Choice Literacy Journal. She has received three more resignations and has hired a new physics teacher at the high school as well as a reading specialist at Horace Mann. With regards to the Pay-to-Ride program, 1,420 students are signed up. Seventy-five students have been put on the wait list because their paperwork was not received in time. There has been a reduction of 3 buses this coming school year, which is why students have been put on a wait list. The District would like to participate in a transportation study which will examine all aspects of our transportation, hoping to build in efficiencies and save costs. 2,500 students have enrolled in the Lifelong Learning summer programs and 175 students are signed up for the FHS Experience which begins on August 8th. She also noted that the District will sponsor a table at this fall's Harvest Festival on September 26, 2010 as a means to show the community what we have been doing.

3. Discussion Only Items:

- None

4. Action Items:

1. I recommend acceptance of two checks totaling \$2,655.00 from the Annie Sullivan PCC to pay for buses as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approval: 6 Absent: 1

2. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$721.39 from Stop & Shop for FHS Scholarships.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approval: 6 Absent: 1

3. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1,200.00 from SEPAC for the supplemental curriculum materials.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approval: 6 Absent: 1

4. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$252.00 from Wells Fargo for FHS In House Enrichment.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approval: 6 Absent: 1

5. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$200.00 from Mr. & Mrs. Robert Doyle for In House Enrichment at the FHS.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approval: 6 Absent: 1

Mrs. Sabolinski commented on the letter received from Mr. & Mrs. Doyle. The letter stated that \$200.00 is the amount their taxes would have increased if the

override passed. They also commented on the quality education their children received at the High School – that is why Mrs. Sabolinski found it appropriate to put their contribution towards enrichment at the high school. Mr. Roy also sent out a big thanks to the Doyle's for their contribution.

6. I recommend acceptance of two checks (\$1,377.00 & \$3,031.00) totaling \$4,408.00 from the Parmenter PCC for field trips and supplies.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approval: 6 Absent: 1

5. Information Matters:

- Superintendent's Report:

- a. Stop & Shop/Hockomock Area Y Grant for Jefferson Elementary School: Mrs. Sabolinski noted Kris Carter put in for this grant and received it.

- b. ELL Grant/Curriculum Development: Mrs. Sabolinski noted we are one of five districts invited to receive this \$5,000 grant to design and develop curriculum.

- c. Verizon Affinity Grant: Mrs. Sabolinski noted we are hoping to receive this grant for net books for language acquisition skills.

- School Committee Sub-Committee Reports: Mr. Cafasso spoke about the Advertising Sub-Committee. He said that Mr. Brad Sidwell noted interest remains in advertising at Pisani Field. He also stated that there is interest in advertising on the scoreboards. A more in-depth update will be given in about a month.

- School Committee Liaison Reports: No new information discussed at this time.

6. New Business:

- Mr. Glynn noted that the Resolution Committee met. In November, they will discuss resolutions on Special Education funding.

7. Executive Session:

- Contractual Negotiations

8. Adjourn: 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Barker