

Welcome

Franklin School Committee Minutes

October 12, 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:

A 4th grader from the Keller Elementary School recited the Pledge of Allegiance
A moment of silence was observed.

Attendance: Mrs. Douglas, Mr. Cafasso, Mrs. Rohrbach, Mrs. Mullen, Mr. Roy, Mrs. Trahan, Mr. Glynn and FHS representatives Jay Borelli and Heather Grove were present. Also present were Superintendent Maureen Sabolinski, Assistant Superintendent Sally Winslow, Miriam Goodman, School Business Administrator, and other invited guests.

1. Routine Business

- Citizen's Comments: None

- Review of Agenda: Mr. Roy noted the addition of action item E to accept the FHS SIP be included.

- Minutes:

I recommend approval of the minutes from the September 28, 2010 School Committee meeting. Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Approve: 6 Abstain: 1

- Payment of Bills: Mr. Glynn has reviewed and recommends approval. Motion: Mr. Glynn Second: Mrs. Mullen
Approve: 7

- Payroll: Mrs. Douglas has reviewed, found it to be in order and recommended acceptance.

- FHS Student Representatives: Jay Borelli noted that there would be a Yankee Candle Fund Raiser to defer the cost of Senior Week activities and the Banquet. New schedules went into effect last week. The Cards for Kids program has been successful. Student photos will be taken on Friday. Panther Pride Night for 8th graders will be next Wednesday (10-20-10). Heather Grove noted that peer mentors continue to meet throughout the year. Friends of Rachel will meet on Friday. Seniors can order caps and gowns in the cafeteria, and homecoming is this Saturday (10-16-10).

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

2. Guests/Presentations:

a. FHS Sr. Project – (Sascha Werner D'Angelo) Mrs. D'Angelo reported that this is the third year for this project at the High School. The new logo was created by Meghan Shaw, a Franklin High School student. This program affords students the opportunity to participate in internships with area businesses as a career exploration project during the last quarter of their senior year. Some of the benefits of this program include the development of leadership and communication skills, the knowledge gained by researching the student's career choices and the hands on experience of actually working in the field of their interest. The student requirements are described as the 5 P's: proposal, paper, project, portfolio and presentation. Students were surveyed online anonymously as to their reflections of the program and the results of the survey were overwhelmingly positive. Several students participated in a video presentation discussing their thoughts of the program and copies were disseminated to the Committee. Mr. Cafasso and Mrs. Trahan commented on what a great opportunity this was. Mrs. Rohrbach asked if anyone had changed their career choice after completion of their project and Mrs. D'Angelo stated that a couple of students had adjusted their focus after having experienced their chosen career firsthand. Mr. Light noted that he has heard only positive feedback from College officials. All feedback from the area businesses who have participated is positive and they would welcome students back. Mrs. Sabolinski noted that area districts are interested in the model.

b. FHS Update – (Peter Light, Derek Folan, Joe DiLorenzo & Bob Lima)

a. Student Services (Mr. Folan & Mr. DiLorenzo) Mr. Folan spoke to the structure changes in the department and showed how the number of infractions in the different discipline categories, for the most part, have declined over the past two years. Also, the relocation of the Alternative Learning Program back to the H Wing of the FHS has benefited the students by increased opportunities for support and access to programs in a learning environment. Mr. Light will email the presentation to the School Committee. Moving forward, new and continued programs include Friends of Rachel, Bullying/Peer intervention, Problem

solving/conflict resolution, instructional support teams and peer mentoring. The Athletic Department is working on Impact Concussion Testing for students playing sports to develop a baseline in case of a head injury. The Franklin High School is proud of the culture of respect, and helping others throughout the school.

Data Dashboard (Mr. Lima) Mr. Lima presented this new innovating way to communicate test data in a user friendly manner through the FHS Edline web site. The “dashboard” shows our student data and affords the opportunity to compare the FHS to several groups, such as the Hockomock area districts, the DESE identified districts (districts that the DESE has deemed comparable based on low income, enrollment, % of limited English proficient and % of special education students) and the State and Federal levels. The Data Dashboard will be unveiled on Panther Pride night and published on the Franklin High School web site thereafter. This initiative was inspired by the Charlotte-Mecklenberg School District’s one million dollar data dashboard, which Mr. Lima created on his own at no expense to the district. As time allows, more data will be added to include disciplinary data, course offerings and online course opportunities, etc. Mr. Roy noted his concern that the community would perceive this as doing more with less money, but stressed that the students of Franklin deserved high expectations, raise the bar and imagine what we could do with a little more resources.

c. FHS SIP – (Mr. Light) Mr. Light started his presentation with a review of his 09-10 goals. The first goal was regarding Summer Reading and he is not pleased with the High School’s progress, but will continue to work on the initiative through the next year. The second was the school’s graduation rate (low SES Subgroup) and the target was met with an increase from 78% to 88% (98% aggregate). The third goal was to increase AP enrollment by 10% which was surpassed with an increase of 48% last year. The new goals for this year include a shared responsibility for underperformance, to support a culture of learning and growth, continued work on Summer Reading, MCAS performance goals in ELA, Math and Science, and a bullying prevention program to track and respond to incidents. Mrs. Mullen shared her concern for the summer reading program. Mr. Light noted the difficulty in trying to create a passion for reading in young people. Mrs. Sabolinski noted that the Literacy program was helping and that starting to foster an excitement about reading at a younger age would increase progress in this area.

3. Discussion Only Items

- Policy IHBG Homeschooling (1st Reading) Mrs. Mullen noted that the policy was revised to clarify some of the language in the current policy. Mr. Roy would like to add the requirement that the parent would need to sign a MIAA release in addition to the Handbook release that is requested. Also Mr. Roy would like to

add MIAA to the last bullet regarding eligibility standards. Mrs. Mullen noted the changes. Mr Doug Hardesty asked for a copy of the revised policy, which Mrs. Mullen will email to him. Mr. Hardesty was concerned that the changes proposed would effect a small number of students.

Mrs. Mullen made a motion to move Policy IHBG to a second reading on October 26, 2010, Mrs. Rohrbach seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

4. Action Items:

a. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1,500.00 from the YMCA/Stop & Shop Healthy Futures Grant for field trips, supplies and supplemental curriculum materials for the Annie Sullivan Middle School.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approved: 7-0

b. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$200.00 from the ASMS PCC for field trips.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approved: 7-0

c. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$5,000.00 from the Jefferson PCC for Field Trips for Jefferson Elementary School students.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approved: 7-0

d. I recommend approval of the recurring field trip for Middle School Chorus students to New York City to see a Broadway show on May 7, 2011 as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approved: 7-0

e. I recommend approval of the FHS School Improvement Plan as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approved: 7-0

5. Information Matters:

• Superintendent's Report

a. Enrollment Comparison – Mrs. Sabolinski reported that there was a decrease of 48 students and that the SIMS data will be available soon.

b. FHS Feasibility – Mrs. Sabolinski reported that the Architects completed their measurements on Monday (10/12/10). The Educational Consultant will meet with the Franklin High School Instructional Leadership team on Friday, October 22, 2010 to begin educational planning. The Educational Consultant plans to outline the revisions to the Building Committee and the public at their meeting on Wednesday, October 27th at approximately 7:15 P.M.

c. HMMS Principal Search – Mrs. Sabolinski reported that the advertisement was published in last Sunday’s paper. She noted that she would be looking at the applicant pool, and then would outline the process.

d. Mrs. Sabolinski reported that members of the FHS and Special Education Department had met in a Strategic Planning meeting to reinvent Special Education services at the High School. Three additional planning meetings are set.

- School Committee Sub-Committee Reports

- a. Joint Budget Sub Committee – Mrs. Rohrbach reported that this committee has met to work on the initial planning of the FY 12 Budget season and timeframes, which will be sooner rather than later.

- School Committee Liaison Reports

- a. Mrs. Rohrbach reported that the Joint PCC’s had their first meeting of the year. Mrs. Sabolinski noted that it was a good sounding board, a place to discuss ideas and get feedback. Mrs. Goodman was requested to attend the December 2nd meeting.

6. New Business: Mrs. Trahan noted that the FEF Casino Night was to be held on Friday, November 19th at the Elks in Franklin.

7. At 9:14 P.M. Mrs. Mullen made a motion to go into Executive Session and not return to Open Session, Mrs. Rohrbach seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Douglas-yes; Mr. Cafasso-yes; Mr. Glynn-yes; Mrs. Mullen-yes; Mrs. Rohrbach-yes; Mr. Roy-yes; Mrs. Trahan-yes.