

Welcome

Franklin School Committee Minutes

August 11, 2009

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Roy recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Mrs. Armenio, Mr. Kelly, Mrs. Mullen, Mr. Roy, Mrs. Rohrbach, and Mrs. Trahan. Also present were Superintendent Maureen Sabolinski, Assistant Superintendent Sally Winslow, Miriam Goodman, Director of Finance, and other invited guests. Mr. Cafasso and the FHS student representatives 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 minutes from the July 21, 2009 School Committee Meeting.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Armenio

Approve: 5 Absent: 1 Abstain: 1

- Payment of Bills: Mr. Kelly

Motion: Mr. Kelly Second: Mrs. Mullen

Approve: 6 Absent: 1

- Payroll:

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

- FHS Student Representatives:

The FHS student representatives were not in attendance due to summer recess.

- Correspondence:

a. Budget to Actual: The Budget to Actual from Miriam Goodman was noted by

Mr. Roy.

2. Guests/Presentations:

a. Strategic Plan Core Values/Mission: Miriam Goodman and Judi Bassignani spoke about the Strategic Plan. They started by acknowledging all members of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee thanking them for all their hard work. The Strategic Plan is a 5-year document containing core values, vision, and mission statements that provide a foundation for the District. The Strategic Plan allows the District to respond to emerging trends, events, challenges and opportunities within the framework of the District's core values, vision, and mission. The core values are 1.) all students are entitled to academic excellence, appropriate facilities and quality materials and instruction, 2.) students will become engaged, responsible citizens who respect the dignity and diversity of all individuals and cultures, 3.) through our words and actions, we create a culture of civility, thoughtfulness, appreciation, and approachability, 4.) an active commitment among family, community and school is vital to student learning, and 5.) we partner with all members of the community to exchange ideas, solve problems and build a comprehensive educational experience. The core values came about as a result of a survey that was distributed to various stakeholders. From these, vision and mission statements were created. The vision statement is: 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 is: 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. From this Strategic Plan, a District Improvement Plan and individual School Improvement Plans will be implemented.

Mr. Roy suggested that the vision and mission statements be inserted into the handbooks.

b. Handbooks: Mrs. Winslow mentioned that school Counsel reviewed all handbooks and made several recommended changes. The school principals then spoke about other minor changes within their own handbooks. More significant changes were made to the High School handbook, and Mr. Folan was on hand to discuss them. Changes were made to the attendance policy, academic policies, health requirements and policies, code of conduct policies, student expectations, transportation, activities and athletics, and Federal, State & Local regulations.

It was noted that all handbooks will be available for review on-line this year. Hardcopies will be available upon request.

Mr. Roy suggested that Paige Tobin, school Council, come to a School

Committee Meeting to discuss her recommended changes.

Upon review of the handbooks, Mrs. Rohrbach suggested it might be helpful for all schools to highlight “new” information to make it more noticeable.

Mrs. Armenio commented that the handbooks this year seem to be more consistent and streamlined.

3. Discussion Only Items:

- Enrollment Update/Staffing Add-Backs: Mrs. Sabolinski stated that enrollment is still continuing to grow. She also noted that the staff add-backs have made class sizes more reasonable.

4. Action Items:

1. I recommend approval of the Strategic Plan Core Values and Mission & Vision Statements as presented.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 6 Absent: 1

2. I recommend approval of the school handbooks as presented.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 6 Absent: 1

Mr. Roy noted that the handbooks are still a work in progress and noted changes can easily be made to them since they are electronic.

3. I recommend acceptance of the donation of supplies from the Castro family valued at approximately \$200.00.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 6 Absent: 1

4. I recommend approval of the changes to the FHS Program of Study as presented.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 6 Absent: 1

5. Information Matters:

- Superintendent’s Report:

- a. Staffing Update: Mrs. Sabolinski noted that they are still in the process of hiring.

- b. Strategic Plan: Mrs. Sabolinski commended Mrs. Goodman and Mrs. Bassignani for their participation in this Committee. She also noted that the school principals will be meeting with all teachers next week to go over the new strategic plan.

- c. Dean College Partnership: Mrs. Sabolinski said that the Dean of Continuing

Studies will speak at the next School Committee Meeting.

Mrs. Sabolinski added an update on H1N1. She noted that on Friday, August 14, 2009, she will meet with the Franklin Fire Chief and Mr. Nutting, along with others to discuss a Town-wide pandemic plan with regards to the H1N1 virus. After this meeting, Mrs. Sabolinski will then speak with local physicians to partner with them and get their feedback.

Mrs. Goodman wanted to let everyone know that a letter will be going out to parents regarding the online prepayment service for food services at the schools.

- 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. Armenio wanted to acknowledge Mr. Light on the letter he sent to parents regarding the changes taking place at the High School. She said that it was very comprehensive and informative.

7. Executive Session:

- Contractual Negotiations

8. Adjourn: 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Barker