

## Welcome

### Franklin School Committee Minutes

December 8, 2009

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

#### Pledge of Allegiance:

Zachary Cipriano, a 7th grader from the Horace Mann Middle School, recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Mrs. Douglas, Mr. Cafasso, Mrs. Rohrbach, Mrs. Mullen, Mr. Roy, Mrs. Trahan, Mr. Glynn, and FHS representatives Zach Price and Christie Gianetti were present. Also present were Superintendent Maureen Sabolinski, Assistant Superintendent Sally Winslow, Miriam Goodman, Director of Finance, and other invited guests.

#### Moment of Silence:

A moment of silence was observed.

#### 1. Routine Business

- Citizens Comments: None

- Review of Agenda: The first reading of policies BIBA, BID, BGF, DJA and the second reading of policy JIEE will be added to the Discussion Only Items as well as the addition of an Action Item to adopt Policy JIEE.

- Minutes:

I recommend approval of the minutes from the November 17, 2009 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: Zach noted that winter sports are underway. He also mentioned the addition of a peer mediation program at the High School. Christie mentioned that the music department will hold a winter concert on

December 9th at the Horace Mann Auditorium at 7 p.m. Also, Cyrano de Bergerac will be presented on December 16th -17th.

The Committee congratulated the football team for a great season and for an exciting game against Natick.

- Correspondence: Mr. Roy noted the Budget to Actual and the letter from NEASC.

## 2. Guests/Presentations:

a. Fine Arts Academy: Mike Caple and Marushka Waters spoke to the Committee regarding the Franklin Arts Academy, which is a teacher driven initiative, that will inspire students to learn through the arts by integrating the arts with academics. The suggested courses will be Creative Literacy, Humanities and Math & Science III. An example of the curriculum is students will be asked to make a video describing the arc of a basketball – or parabola. In 2010, they would like to have 25-30 11th grade students participate with the anticipation of having it fully up in running in 2012 with students from grades 10-12.

Mr. Cafasso wonders if participating students will get credits towards graduation. Mr. Caple said participating students will meet the current requirements.

Mrs. Rohrbach wonders if other schools are doing this. Mr. Caple responded by saying not many in Massachusetts are doing this. The best example is the Boston Arts Academy. It was also mentioned that Pawtucket, RI has a similar program.

Mrs. Mullen commented that it is impressive that this initiative is teacher driven.

Mr. Roy noted that these teachers are dedicated to the task of improving education and thanked them for their presentation.

There was a five-minute recess.

b. MetroWest Health Update: Michele Kingsland-Smith spoke to the Committee regarding the MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey. The anonymous and voluntary survey is given to Middle and High School students every other year. The results of the survey show that while bullying has increased in the Middle Schools, tobacco use and alcohol use have declined in both Middle and High School.

To address these issues, the Community Health Council offers student and parent education programs.

Mr. Glynn wondered about the percentage of children who participated in this survey. Mrs. Kingsland-Smith said it was between 85-90%.

Mr. Cafasso wondered about the validity of student responses. Mrs. Kingsland-Smith explained that the design of the questions make the answers more reliable and statistically significant.

### 3. Discussion Only Items:

- 2010-2011 School Calendar Options: Last spring, two 2010-2011 calendar options were presented to the Committee. Mrs. Sabolinski recommends opting for the calendar that starts school before Labor Day.

- H1N1: Mrs. Winslow gave the Committee an update on H1N1. The first clinic will be held on Thursday, December 10th at the High School Field House. Available doses will be given to children ages 6 months – Kindergarten, as well as their parents and caregivers. Information regarding the clinic, along with the forms that need to be filled out, is available on the Board of Health's website and the School Department's website.

- Healthy Futures Summit: The School Department, in conjunction with the area YMCA's, brought in Mark Fenton to discuss how walk-able Franklin is. The School Department would like to make parents feel safer having their children walk to school and will look into safer walking routes for children. With regards to this, Franklin has applied for and received two grants: 1.) Mass in Motion grant and 2.) MetroWest Hospital grant.

- Policies: Each year, the Committee will review 1/3 of the Policy Manual and make recommended changes. The following policies were reviewed and require minor changes.

- o First Reading: Policy BIBA – School Committee Conferences, Conventions & Workshops: There was a motion to move this to a second reading.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approve: 7

- o First Reading: Policy BID – School Committee Member Compensation & Expenses: There was a motion to move this to a second reading.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approve: 7

- o First Reading: Policy BGF – Suspension of Policies: There was a motion to move this to a second reading.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approve: 7

- o First Reading: Policy DJA – Purchasing Authority: There was a motion to move this to a second reading.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approve: 7

- o Second Reading: Policy JIEE – Pregnant Students: This item is on the agenda as an Action Item.

#### 4. Action Items:

1. I recommend adoption of Option One of the 2010-2011 School Calendar.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 6 Oppose: 1

2. I recommend approval of Remington Middle School's request to declare the listed books as surplus.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approval: 7

3. I recommend acceptance of two checks (\$25.00 & \$53.30) totaling \$78.30 from Adirondack Vending for the RMS for supplies.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

4. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$300.00 from Fidelity for the Annie Sullivan Middle School for in-house enrichment, supplies and supplemental curriculum materials.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

5. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1,050.00 from ASMS PCC for buses for field trips.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

6. I recommend acceptance of Policy JIEE – Pregnant Students.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

#### 5. Information Matters:

##### • Superintendent's Report:

a. NEASC: Mr. Light received a letter from NEASC stating that the High School is continuing with its accreditation. We informed NEASC of the changes that have taken place at the High School and received a nice letter back from them stating that they were delighted with the changes that have occurred. Mr. Light commented that he feels like we are in a good place with regards to the High School and that all we have left to address is the renovation project.

b. Grant Update: See information on subject matter above.

c. FHS Facilities: The School Building Committee will meet on December 14th.

d. Enrollment Comparison: Mrs. Sabolinski did not discuss this during this meeting.

• 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:

- Mr. Cafasso requests the budget sub-committee to look into the idea of using the vast number of empty seats on the school buses to offer paid seats to those who need rides home from school.
- Mrs. Trahan wanted to thank those who attended Casino Night. She would like to let everyone know that the FEF Trivia Bee will be held on April 29, 2010.
- Mr. Roy informed everyone of the special meeting on pending education reform legislation this Saturday and wanted to know who could attend.

7. Executive Session:

- Contractual Negotiations

8. Adjourn: 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Barker