

## Welcome

### Franklin School Committee Minutes

February 24, 2009

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

#### Pledge of Allegiance:

A 7th grader from the Horace Mann Middle School recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Mrs. Armenio, Mr. Cafasso, Mr. Kelly, Mrs. Mullen, Mr. Roy, Mrs. Rohrbach, Mrs. Trahan, and FHS representative Pat Slight were present. Also present were Superintendent Wayne Ogden, Assistant Superintendent Maureen Sabolinski, and other invited guests. FHS representative Brittany MacLeod was not in attendance.

#### Moment of Silence:

A moment of silence was observed.

#### 1. Routine Business

· Citizens Comments: None

· Review of Agenda: Mr. Roy would like to give the Committee an update on the FY10 Budget. This will be added under Discussion Only Items.

· Minutes:

I recommend approval of the minutes from the February 10, 2009 School Committee Meeting.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approve: 7

· Payment of Bills: Mr. Kelly

Motion: Mr. Kelly Second: Mrs. Mullen

Approve: 7

· Payroll:

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

· FHS Student Representative:

Pat Slight reported that the program of studies for next school year can now be found online. He also reminded everyone to keep up with Mr. Light's blog. On a sports note, the cheerleaders won the National Championship in Atlanta and

five sports teams have made it to the MIAA tournaments. Two wrestlers from the High School are competing for the State championship as well as some members from the track team. He also gave a final reminder that the Winter Carnival will be held on March 1. Proceeds from the Winter Carnival will go to the Tomorrow Fund, which benefits the Hasbro Children's Hospital.

· Correspondence: There was no correspondence to be discussed at this meeting.

## 2. Guests/Presentations:

a. NASA Project – Horace Mann Middle School: Rachita Chaudhury, Cody Williamson, Lauren Kane, Cole Comfort, Elise Rivera and Joe Chernak, along with Mr. Schlieffe and Ms. Forman presented the Committee with information on the NASA Backpack Project. The goal of the project was to construct a backpack that was airtight, heat resistant, and could hold one gallon of water and at least two small boxes of cereal. The 7th graders explained to the Committee how they created two such backpacks.

b. Assistant Superintendent Candidate – Sally Winslow: Mrs. Sabolinski mentioned that the District is looking for someone who can perform the functions of the Assistant Superintendent while overseeing special education for the District. She feels that Mrs. Winslow is the right fit. Mrs. Winslow presented the Committee with an overview of her resume and personal experiences. She has been an Administrator for Special Education for the past 10 years. She has experience with budget development, professional development, writing special education grants, and crisis management.

## 3. Discussion Only Items:

· FY10 Budget Update: Mr. Roy was pleased to announce that 51 school administrators and non-union secretaries voluntarily offered to freeze their salaries and forgo salary increases for FY10. Both Mrs. Rohrbach and Mrs. Trahan praised their actions and thanked them for their sacrifices.

· Budget to Actual: Mrs. Goodman spoke to the Committee on the Budget to Actual report and Budget Transfers that have been made.

· Second Reading – Sub-Committee Minutes Policy & Exhibit BEDGG/BEDGG-E: Mrs. Rohrbach suggested adding the phrase "Next Actions" to the policy form. After some discussion, it was agreed to instead add the phrase "Follow-up Items" to the form.

## 4. Action Items:

1. I recommend budget transfers as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

2. I recommend acceptance of the anonymous donation of \$10,000 for the Ruth

Reitzas Scholarship Fund at the FHS.  
Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan  
Approval: 7

Mr. Ogden noted that the fund is close to \$85,000 and hopes that one day the fund will be permanently endowed.

3. I recommend the acceptance of a check for \$5,000 from the Oak Street PCC for the following field trips: K: Davis Farmland; Gr 2: Stony Brook; and Gr. 4: Fine Arts.

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

4. I recommend adoption of Sub Committee Minutes Policy & Exhibit BEDGG/BEDGG-E.

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

Please note that the term "Follow Up Items" will be added to Policy BEDGG-E as noted in the Discussion Only Items.

5. I recommend action be taken regarding the make-up day for the HM/Oak/ECDC Complex.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Rohrbach  
Approval: 5 Opposition: 2

At the last meeting, the Committee requested a cost analysis for the make-up day at the HM/Oak/ECDC Complex. To make up the day on Good Friday, it will cost the District \$3,581.38. To make up the day in June, by adding a day at the end of the school year, it will cost the District \$2,462.94. Despite the slightly higher cost, over \$1,100.00, Mr. Ogden feels that it will be of more educational value to make up the day on Good Friday. Discussion ensued amongst the Committee. Mr. Roy and Mr. Cafasso agree that it would be better to make up the day on Good Friday for the same reason as Mr. Ogden. They also wanted to note that despite the fact that they both have children who attend this complex, that did not factor in to their decision. The rest of the Committee disagreed. They felt that given the financial situation we are in, they couldn't justify spending the extra money.

Mrs. Mullen made a motion to amend the Action Item to reflect making up the day at the end of the school year in June. A vote was taken and is reflected above.

6. I recommend approval of the Horace Mann MS Trip to Trinity Repertory Theatre in Providence, RI to see the play "A Raisin in the Sun".

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

7. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1,000 from the Singleton Family Foundation for Special Education programs/equipment at FHS.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

8. I recommend approval of the recurring Washington, D.C. field trip for Remington Middle School students in April, 2009.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

#### 5. Information Matters:

· Superintendent's Report: Mr. Ogden followed up on what Mr. Slight said about the high school's program of studies found on-line. He mentioned that some programs might not end up being offered if there is insufficient enrollment for that program.

He also mentioned that the Franklin Masons are sponsoring the Masonic Angels Fund with will assist Franklin families with needs that go beyond what the school system can offer. He wanted to thank them for their support.

· School Committee Sub-Committee Reports: Mrs. Trahan reported that the Financial Planning Committee met on February 19th and that their next meeting would be in March. She also wanted to mention that a public forum will be held sometime in April, and to keep an eye out in the local newspaper and on-line for the date.

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

#### 6. New Business:

· Pat Slight reported that that he just found out that the girls hockey team won, and that the boys hockey team has a 16-point lead with 3-minutes left to play.

· Mr. Roy mentioned that he ran into a former high school representative and that she said hello to everyone on the Committee.

7. Adjourn: 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Barker