

Welcome

Franklin School Committee Minutes

April 28, 2009

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

A 5th grader from Oak Street Elementary recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Moment of Silence:

A moment of silence was observed.

1. Routine Business

· Citizens Comments: None

· Review of Agenda: Mr. Roy moved the first two presentations from the Guests/Presentations portion of the Agenda to this point in the meeting due to the fact that the Committee will enter into Executive Session to discuss the FEA Proposal.

After presenting Certificates of Achievements to Dan Telhada and Coach Colace (see Guests/Presentations section below), Mrs. Mullen made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Mrs. Armenio seconded the motion. Mr. Roy took roll call and the Committee agreed to enter into Executive Session with the intention to return to open session. At 7:44 p.m., the meeting returned to open session.

· Minutes:

The minutes from the April 14th, 2009 meeting will be approved at the May 12, 2009 meeting.

· Payment of Bills: Mr. Kelly

Motion: Mr. Kelly Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approve: 7

· Payroll:

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

acceptance.

· FHS Student Representatives:

Brittany MacLeod reported that the Best Buddies Prom is this Saturday, May 2, 2009. It will be held at the Adirondack Club. Junior Prom will be held on Friday, May 8, 2009 at 7 p.m. Senior awards will be handed out on Monday, June 1, 2009, and graduation will be held on Friday, June 5, 2009. Pat Slight reported that high school announcements are now on Twitter. The Sophomore Banquet will be held on Friday, May 29, 2009 and Sports Night will be held on Thursday, June 4, 2009.

· Correspondence: Mr. Roy noted that there was no correspondence.

At this point in the meeting, Mr. Roy discussed what transpired during the Executive Session. He prefaced by saying in December of 2008, Mr. Ogden asked the FEA to consider a wage deferment until June 30, 2010. At the April 14, 2009 School Committee meeting, the President of the FEA, Chandler Creedon, presented the Committee with a proposal. Within the proposal, the FEA agreed to a wage deferment but attached three conditions: 1.) permanent removal of five floating after school meetings, 2.) permanent removal of the requirement to give a reason for taking a personal day, and 3.) permanent removal of scheduled meetings two weeks prior to the issuing of report cards. They also offered to forgo course reimbursement.

The Committee reviewed the proposal during an Executive Session and came up with a counter-proposal. The counter-proposal allowed for the personal days for the 2009/10 school year; however, asked that the FEA keep the five meetings due to the fact that they were previously negotiated. During negotiations that took place in 2004, professional development days were reduced from five to three in exchange for the five floating after school meetings. The Committee also proposed that there would be no meetings two weeks prior to the issuing of report cards for the 2009/10 school year. The Committee would also like to continue providing course reimbursement. The Committee hoped to be able to convey the reasons for this counter-proposal at an FEA membership meeting.

Mr. Roy presented the counter-proposal to Mr. Creedon on April 15, 2009, the morning following the School Committee meeting. On April 16, 2009, Mr. Roy met with Mr. Creedon, the FEA's Vice President and Treasurer to discuss any middle ground that could be found between the two proposals. It became clear during the meeting that middle ground could not be reached without further consultation between both teams, the School Committee and the FEA.

It was proposed to convene a special meeting between both sides. The FEA

did not want to discuss the proposals in an open forum so declined the Committee's invitation to a School Committee meeting. The meeting took place on April 28, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. at the Horace Mann Middle School. Despite the FEA meeting for over two hours, no middle ground was reached. The FEA rejected the counter-proposal. Mrs. Armenio noted that after the FEA meeting broke up, their leadership came over with a statement, not allowing a discussion – there was no conversation between the two sides. At this point, the School Committee is not inclined to accept their proposals, but is open to discussing the proposals with the new union leadership, which takes reign on May 1, 2009.

Mr. Nutting, who was in attendance this evening, noted that he was disappointed a resolution could not be met. He hopes a resolution can be had within the next few weeks.

2. Guests/Presentations:

- a. Dan Telhada – All Scholastic Award: Both the Boston Globe and Boston Herald recognized Dan Telhada as an All Scholastic wrestler. Mr. Roy presented him with a certificate recognizing this achievement.
- b. Coach Carmen Colace – Coach of the Year: Coach Colace was Boston Globes Coach of the Year. Mr. Roy presented him with a certificate recognizing this achievement. Coach Colace added that Franklin's wrestling team is the only undefeated team out of 168 teams in Massachusetts. They are ranked #1 in the State.
- c. Miriam Goodman - Cafeteria – Point of Sale Implementation: A new computerized Point of Sale system (the NUTRIKIDS's POS System) has been installed in all the school's cafeterias. This new system, which will be up and running in May, will provide greater accuracy with school meal accounts and increase the level of service.

Mrs. Armenio is thrilled this system is coming into place. It will provide anonymity to those students eligible for free or reduced lunches and eventually parents will be able to tell what their children are purchasing. Mr. Cafasso wondered how parents would be informed of this new system. The information will be provided in the May newsletter sent out by the Central Office. School principals will also be sending out information to parents. He suggested having the PCC's put it in their newsletters as well.

3. Discussion Only Items:

- Budget to Actual: Mrs. Rohrbach stated that there were no questions forwarded to her from other School Committee members regarding the Budget to Actual monthly report.
- FY10 Budget: Mr. Roy noted that we will have a public hearing on the budget at the May 26, 2009 School Committee meeting.

At this point in the meeting, Steve Sherlock urged the Committee and FEA to

resolve the disconnect between both sides before coming to a resolution regarding the FEA's proposal.

4. Action Items:

1. I recommend budget transfers as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Armenio

Approval: 7

Mrs. Armenio asked Mrs. Goodman to review the transfers.

2. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$2,500 from the Oak Street PCC for nurses and bus fees for upcoming field trips.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

3. I recommend approval of the ASMS 8th grade trip to the Connecticut River Valley and Eastern NY on May 1, 2009.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 6 Abstain: 1

4. I recommend acceptance of the donation of 12 cases of copy paper for the Franklin Public Schools from Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Johnson.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

5. I recommend acceptance of the donation of \$4,200 from the ASMS PCC to pay for two 8th grade field trip coach buses.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 6 Abstain: 1

6. I recommend declaring the graphic arts classroom modular at FHS as surplus.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

5. Information Matters:

· Superintendent's Report:

a. Using Data to Monitor Student Achievement: This is a pilot program, which looks at data longitudinally with the growth model. The data provided will help with the instructional model.

b. Best Buddies Prom: see information on subject matter above.

c. Bicycle Racks: Bicycle racks will be installed next week at schools that do not have any – part of the Roll Out The Green initiative.

d. FHS Modular Classroom: It was decided to remove the modular instead of leaving it unoccupied.

e. Implementation of Point of Sale Technology/Food Service: Mrs. Sabolinski thanked Mrs. Goodman and Mr. Rapoza for getting this up and running.

Mrs. Sabolinski mentioned that on May 5, 2009 she, along with Mrs. Goodman, will attend a meeting about applying for and receiving stimulus money hosted by the DESE, which stands for Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – the new name for the DOE – Department of Education.

Links to the CDC and DPH regarding the swine flu can be found on the School Department's Website. Each school will be vigilant encouraging hand washing.

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

- School Committee Liaison Reports:

- o Mrs. Trahan commented on the Financial Planning Committee's meeting held last evening at Horace Mann. She wanted to thank Mr. Ogden and Mrs. Sabolinski for all their help. Mr. Cafasso thought that the meeting was well done and well conveyed.

6. New Business:

- Mr. Cafasso would like to put the State's inspection of the High School on the next agenda in order to bring it to the Community's attention.

7. Executive Session:

- The Executive Session occurred at the beginning of the meeting.

8. Adjourn: 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Barker