Welcome

Franklin School Committee Minutes

May 26, 2009

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Two 5th graders from the Parmenter School 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 Superintendent Wayne Ogden, Assistant Superintendent Maureen Sabolinski, and other invited guests.

Moment of Silence:

A moment of silence was observed.

1. Routine Business

· Citizens Comments: None

- · Review of Agenda: Mr. Kelly requested that the warrants be removed from this evening's agenda.
- · Minutes:

I recommend approval of the minutes from the May 12, 2009 School Committee Meeting.

Motion: Mrs. Mullen Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approve: 7

· Payment of Bills: Mr. Kelly

The warrants were removed from this evening's agenda.

· Payroll:

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

FHS Student Representatives:

Brittany MacLeod reminded everyone that now is the time to register online for summer programs. Pat Slight reported that on June 2nd, seniors will go to Six Flags Amusement Park and on June 3rd they will go on a senior cruise. On June 4th there will be a senior barbecue and June 5th will be graduation.

· Correspondence: Mr. Roy acknowledged the correspondence received from Ms. Barbara Hiss.

2. Guests/Presentations:

- a. FY10 Budget: The Cafeteria Members of the FEA agreed to freezing their salaries through June 2010. Mr. Roy thanked them for their sacrifice.
- b. Mary Cole Track Star: Mr. Roy presented a certificate of recognition to Mary for shattering Franklin High's 1979 two-mile track record. After attending Junior Prom and with only three hours of sleep, Mary ran the two-mile in 11 minutes 31.8 seconds.

3. Discussion Only Items:

· FY10 Budget Hearing:

A motion was made by Mrs. Mullen to open the budget hearing. Mrs. Armenio seconded the motion.

The School Department is working with a level funded budget. They will potentially have to reduce 42-45 staff positions. At the high school, they suggest cutting 4 teaching positions, an assistant principal, an office secretary whose job is to maintain databases, and the librarian. Class sizes will still be manageable because they intend on changing from 7 periods a day to 6 periods a day - maintaining core classes and allowing for one elective. At the middle schools, they suggest cutting 12 teaching positions, the librarian, and one Math CET along with reducing extracurricular activities. Core class sizes will increase. At the elementary schools, they are looking to cut 18.5 teaching positions, 2.5 librarians, and 1.2 specialists. Class sizes will increase. Any teaching positions that can be added back due to retirements or additional monies, will be at the elementary level to decrease class sizes. The School Department is considering increasing user fees (athletic fees, extracurricular fees, and pay-to-ride fees) over the course of the next three years where 50% will be paid through District funds and 50% by the user. However, there is the concern that increased fees will decrease participation which would decrease revenue.

Mrs. Armenio asked about the projected enrollment at the High School for next year. Mr. Light said that enrollment is expected to increase by 50-75 students. There will be an increase in enrollment and a decrease in staff, along with the loss of an assistant principal.

Mr. Cafasso wondered what would happen to the libraries without any librarians. Educational Assistants will be in the libraries allowing students and teachers access to the books.

Mr. Cafasso also wondered about the music programs. The elementary

schools will maintain general music – they will have no instrumentals. The middle schools will maintain chorus, band and strings – but will share teachers. The High School will maintain chorus as an elective.

Mr. Cafasso also noted that we have seen a slow erosion of services over the years. We need to stop relying on the State for funding and realize this is a town wide problem – there is a loss of services on the Municipal side as well.

A motion was made to hold another public hearing regarding the budget on June 6, 2009.

Motion: Mr. Cafasso Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 6 Opposition: 1

- · First Reading Acceptable Use Policy: Mrs. Mullen mentioned that due to some issues with wording, they are going to take another crack at this Policy.
- 4. Action Items:
- I recommend to amend the preamble of the existing agreement of the Bi-County Collaborative to include the School Committee of the Town of Walpole, MA.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

2. I recommend approval of the Parmenter Primary Learning Center field trip to Roger Williams Park, in Providence, RI on June 2, 2009.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

3. I recommend approval of the 2009-2010 School Committee Meeting Schedule.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

Mrs. Trahan requested that the July 13, 2009 meeting be rescheduled for July 21, 2009. The Committee agreed and accepted the schedule as amended.

4. I recommend approval of the budget transfers as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

5. I recommend acceptance of the donation of \$5,000.00 to the FHS Science department in memory of Mr. Donald Redpath from the Sanofi Pasteur Company.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

6. I recommend approval of the request of Peter Light to declare the attached list of additional FHS Library books as surplus.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

- 7. I recommend acceptance of the following checks for the Franklin High School Scholarships as listed:
- o \$500.00 from Alan Guidrey for the Susan E. Guidrey Memorial.
- o \$500.00 from Carla & Richard Guidrey for the Susan E. Guidrey Memorial.
- o \$500.00 from Philip & Jennifer Guidrey for the Susan E. Guidrey Memorial.
- o \$500.00 from Nancy Lovely for the Susan E. Guidrey Memorial.
- o \$500.00 from Janet Guidrey for the Susan E. Guidrey Memorial.
- o \$5,000.00 from Jessie Lo & Michael Johnson for the Michael N. Johnson Alumni.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

8. I recommend approval of the RMS 8th grade Science field trip to Roger Williams Park Zoo on June 8, 2009 as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

5. Information Matters:

- · Superintendent's Report:
- a. Honorary Diploma: This was not discussed at this evening's meeting.
- b. Retirements: The School Department is expecting about 10 retirements this year. Only 4 have given their official notice by letter. Mr. Ogden commented that these retirements can help us keep someone that might otherwise be laid off, and can provide cost savings if someone is going out on a higher level of the pay scale, they can retain someone to fill that position on the lower level of the pay scale.
- · 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. Kelly announced that the F.X. O'Regan Early Childhood Development Center PCC will hold a New England Sports Celebration on May 31, 2009 from 2-4 p.m. On hand will be several sports celebrities as well as all three Super Bowl rings.

He also wanted the thank the Franklin bands that performed at the Memorial Day celebration.

· Mrs. Trahan wanted the thank the Town and the Community for the efforts with

the Memorial Day celebration.

- · Mr. Roy mentioned that the coordinator of the Memorial Day festivities, Bob Fahey, would like to publicly thank the many students who helped raise funds for the new memorial. This recognition will take place in the fall.
- 7. Executive Session:
- · Contractual Negotiations
- 8. Adjourn: 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Barker