

Welcome

Franklin School Committee Minutes

June 9, 2009

Call to order: 7:04 p.m. Mr. Roy

Pledge of Allegiance:

Two students from the Remington Middle 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: There will be two additional items added to the Agenda. 1.) Elizabeth Fitzmaurice will introduce herself to the Committee. She will become the new Director of Special Education; and 2.) an additional Action Item will be added.

· Minutes:

I recommend approval of the minutes from the May 26, 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

Mr. Kelly reviewed the May 26, 2009 and the June 9, 2009 warrants.

· Payroll:

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

· FHS Student Representatives:

Pat Slight thanked all those who made Senior Week, the Athletic Banquet and Graduation possible. Brittany MacLeod thanked everyone involved with the All Night Party. She also reported that finals start June 16, 2009 for the remaining students at the High School.

At this point, Mr. Roy presented both Pat and Brittany with a book from the Committee, thanking them for their contributions and wishing them well in the future.

· Correspondence: Mr. Roy acknowledged the Budget to Actual from Mrs. Goodman, along with the letter received from Margaret Sullivan and the letter of response from the Committee.

2. Guests/Presentations:

a. FEF Grant Awards: The President of the Franklin Education Foundation presented eighteen grant awards totaling \$29,633 to schools throughout the District.

b. Strategic Planning Logo Awards: The Strategic Planning Committee reached out to students in search of a logo. Several students' designs were selected, and the graphic design team at the High School pulled together all the kids ideas and came up with one logo. Mr. Roy presented all those students who participated with a certificate.

A brief 5-minute recess was taken.

c. Senior Projects: Brittany MacLeod and Pat Slight, along with four other seniors, spoke to the Committee about their Senior Projects. The Senior Project was a Pilot Program made possible by a grant from the FEF. Interested seniors were asked to write a proposal on what career they thought they might have interest in, and then spend 60 hours acquiring professional experience in that field. They were required to keep a portfolio with journal entries about their experiences and then give a final presentation. The students worked at companies such as TJX, NE Rubber Company, Milford and Norwood Hospital, Riverside Community Care and Canaccord Adams. All of the students and teachers involved with this program gave positive feedback, and feel it will have a positive experience on post High School experiences.

Mrs. Armenio commented that it is fantastic to see this program happen.

Mrs. Rohrbach asked if the students could think of any way to improve this program. Pat responded that 60 hours of work experience wasn't enough. Next year it will increase to 70 hours.

Mr. Ogden added that this has been cooking for two years. Key faculty members kept pushing despite current circumstances. He noted that a

tremendous amount of people spend hundreds of hours without compensation to get this going.

Mr. Roy thanked the students for taking a chance on this program and being pioneers.

A brief 5-minute recess was taken.

d. Elizabeth Fitzmaurice: Beth introduced herself to the Committee. She will be the new Director of Special Education. Mrs. Sabolinski commented that we were lucky to connect with such a highly qualified candidate.

Mr. Cafasso asked Beth what attracted her to Franklin and what Franklin's reputation is in the field. She responded by saying Franklin has an exceptional reputation of quality education.

3. Discussion Only Items:

· FY2010 Budget Hearing – continued: At the last meeting it was decided to continue the hearing in hopes of having new news to discuss; however, there is no new news to discuss. Mr. Roy commented that the Teachers Union is scheduled to vote on June 15, 2009. His hope is that that vote will bring new news. A public hearing of the Town Council is scheduled for June 10, 2009 at which they will vote for a level funded budget. Any additional monies added to the budget from State or Local aid will be used to bring back teaching positions.

A motion was made by Mrs. Mullen to end the hearing. Mrs. Rohrbach seconded the motion. The Committee agreed to close the hearing.

· School Choice: School Choice allows students from out of District to attend Franklin Schools only if space is available. Families fill out an application and are chosen via a lottery. Mrs. Mullen commented that last year we voted to keep School Choice but were not able to admit any new students. It was noted that the likelihood of admitting new students this year is slim to none. Right now it is anticipated that we will receive \$255,000 of revenue from the School Choice program (\$5,000/child). We currently have 59 School Choice students in the system. If we fall below 51 students, we will have to bring kids into the system in order to balance the budget.

4. Action Items:

1. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$500.00 from Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Malone for future enrichment programs for the ECDC.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

2. I recommend the continuation of the School Choice Program for the 2009-2010 School Year.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

3. I recommend the request of Corine Minkle to declare damaged and outdated books at Oak Street Elementary School as surplus.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

4. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$2,000.00 from Natalie Brunelli for the John A. Brunelli Memorial Scholarship at FHS.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

Mrs. Trahan made a comment about how wonderful Awards Night was this year.

5. I recommend adopting the FY10 Budget in the amount of \$50,297,820.00.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

6. I recommend approval of the FHS Girl's Track Meet in Burlington, VT on Saturday, June 13, 2009 as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Rohrbach Second: Mrs. Trahan

Approval: 7

5. Information Matters:

· Superintendent's Report:

a. Modularity: Mr. Ogden said that it is unclear if the modulars at Davis Thayer will be demolished and removed this summer due to the Town's financial situation. If they are not removed, they will be used again next school year.

b. Elizabeth Fitzmaurice: see information on subject matter above.

c. Pay-to-Ride Program: Mr. Ogden noted that they were under the gun to get the Pay-to-Ride notice out to parents, so they sent the notice out with this year's rates. Mr. Roy commented that there should have been a caveat in the notice stating that if the rates increase, parents could decide to pay the increase or get a full refund. Somehow that did not make it into the notice sent home to parents.

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

· School Committee Liaison Reports: Mr. Cafasso mentioned that the MSBA will do a feasibility study on the High School. He said that is a promising first step for that project.

6. New Business:

· Mrs. Armenio wanted to thank the All Night Party Committee. She said they did a phenomenal job. Mr. Roy also added that Awards Night and Graduation were phenomenal.

7. Adjourn: 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Barker