

**Franklin School Committee
Minutes
August 27, 2019
Municipal Building – Council Chambers**

Meeting are recorded by Franklin TV and shown on Comcast Channel 11 and Verizon Channel 29

Chris Sterns of Franklin TV was present
No one present from the Milford Daily News

Call to order: 7:00 pm

Dr. Bergen

Attendance: Mrs. Dianne Feeley; Mrs. Cindy Douglas; Dr. Monica Linden; Mrs. Mary Jane Scofield; Dr. Anne Bergen; Mrs. Denise Schultz; Mrs. Zub; Mr. Lucas Giguere; Dr. Sara Ahern; Mrs. Miriam Goodman; Dr. Joyce Edwards. present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

1. Routine Business

a. Review of Agenda - All is fine.

b. Citizen's Comments - none

i. In the spirit of open communication, "the School Committee will hear public comment not related to an agenda item at the beginning of each regular School Committee Meeting. The Committee will listen to, but not respond to any comments made. A Committee member may add an agenda item to a future meeting as a result of a citizen comment" – from Policy BEDH

c. FHS Student Representative Comments - none were present

d. Superintendent Report

Dr. Ahern - It has been a very exciting week. Schools were opened today. We had a smooth opening. We began the week with faculty and staff. I share remarks with the faculty. We had 56 staff members as being here 10, 15, 20 and 25 year benchmarks. We have 35 earning professional status. They will be recognized in the

fall at a reception. Donna Grady, FEA President, did a great speech on being kind. The administrative team helped craft this message and expectations we can take to make our schools welcoming and inclusive. We will be talking about cultural proficiency and this is a great way to start. We did program where name tags were given to the students with what they would like to be called or how we would pronounce their names, all the students were using name tags to introduce themselves. I encourage staff to get to know each other. We greeted students all day, the team made our way to the schools and classrooms.

It was a pleasure to greet the students and we will welcome the kindergarteners tomorrow. I want to thank everyone who contributed to that.

I wanted to mention a couple of things that last week the Town Council received a vote of budget increase and wanted to thank them for their support. We did not find money and that the state budget was revised and adopted late and it was not clear until August. We were able to request \$125,000 and support two kindergarten ESPs and eliminated the high school parking fees.

We don't have much on student accomplishment. Tyler Brogan set a race record at the invitational mile of 4 minutes and 22 seconds

Lastly we will not have school this Friday or on Labor Day.

Dr. Linden - Thank you for inviting us to come to the welcome address of staff. It was nice to see how excited everyone was to come back.

2. Guests / Presentations - none

a. Introduce New Faculty

Dr. Ahern - We have some members of our administration team in the audience and I would like to introduce them.

Kim Soloski - She is the Assistant Director of Student Services

Donna Krikorian - She is the Assistant Principal at Oak Street Elementary School

Mike Procacini- He is the Assistant Principal at Annie Sullivan Middle School

Jen Santosuosso - She is the Assistant Principal at Franklin High School

b. New Faculty and Staff

Dr. Ahern - There is a list of new faculty and staff in your packet. We hired 24 teachers, 5 counselors and 3 secretaries. Their schools and information are listed in packet.

Some people ask about turnover and where did they come from. We had retirements, some shifts in positions, some departures and a number left for relocation reasons.

We had 33 staff members at the new teacher orientation. I will do a plug for new vacancies, sub nurse and substitutes. We have a few lingering pieces to look at but we are mostly fully staffed.

Dr. Bergen - What an impressive group of educators. We wish you the best. Thank you for coming tonight.

Executive Session at 7:15 pm

Motion: Mrs. Schultz

Second: Ms. Scofield

3. Executive Session a. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.

Roll call vote: Dr. Bergen-yes; Ms. Scofield-yes; Mrs. Schultz-yes; Mrs. Feeley - yes; Dr. Linden - yes; Mrs. Zub - yes.

Resume school committee meeting at 7:23 pm

Dr. Ahern - Before we do action items, I would like to make a recommendation take a public vote to adopt the contract with the FEA cafeteria bargaining unit.

A motion was made.

Motion: Mrs. Schultz
Approve: 6

Second: Mrs. Douglas
Oppose: 0

4. Discussion / Action Items

a. Strategy for District Improvement - Annual Goals 2019 -2020

Dr. Ahern - This is a collaborative effort and I invite my colleagues to chime in.

This is the updated strategy for the upcoming school year. We are adding the portrait of a graduate and this will have a new draft.

The cores stay the same this year and we review this with all the staff.

The theory of action remains the same as last year. One of the changes that we did make is in the next line which is around cultural proficiency should transcend all of our objectives. We pulled that out of an initiative strategy and put it above the others. We have work to do and it is something that requires professional development and define this more across the district. We have elevated this.

The 4 objectives remain the same as we are working on improvement.

In terms of SEL we have our committee working on this. We will also continue with professional development, using DESSA assessment, expanding Project Interface and new this year is a monthly district wide focus on CASEL.

We concluded the district wide counseling services and will implement strategies for self care. We will implement the 19 -20 goals for task force including substance abuse, vaping prevention, and smoking.

Dr. Ahern - Any Questions?

Dr. Linden - The month that focuses on CASEL, will that be repeated every year?

Mr. Giguere - We are excited about that. It began last year and shared this with staff. That will become a tradition that we will continue. We will teach them how to embed all of this into their instruction and with the students. One of the areas, is that we will also support families.

Mrs. Feeley - You didn't get all the support with the budget cuts, how do you feel as though your staff will be able to manage what you need?

Dr. Ahern - Yes, we will communicate those needs to you as they year progresses. We still need middle school and high school counselors. We have been able to come up with some alternatives.

Mrs. Zub - The strategies for staff focus on their well being is great.

Dr. Bergen - The Project Interface is so important, will you continue that?

Dr. Ahern - Yes.

Mr. Giguere - One of the pieces is developing a PSA on this which involves the community. We will be at the Harvest Fest with Project Interface as well. We get our next biannual report next month.

Dr. Ahern - We have initiatives in rigorous curriculum. Also working on portrait of a graduate. We will work on the new social studies curriculum. We want to include this in all the subjects. There will be some other areas that we will be continuing. We will be implementing the new homework guidelines. We will look at grading reform.

Any questions?

Mrs. Schultz - All of these are great. The homework and grading will be a great thing to look at.

Dr. Ahern - This area focuses on instruction as it relates to the tiered system. We want to identify a model assessments where we are and then make plans. We have a team that will identify that model and develop a plan to meet these elements. We want to focus on literacy. Strengthen personalized opportunities working with MAPLE. We want to look at different pathways for high school students for becoming biliterate. We are meeting students needs to examine the middle schoolers are getting curriculum and instruction on guidance and what pathways might be available to them.

Dr. Ahern - Any questions?

Ms. Scofield - What districts are you referring to?

Dr. Ahern - There are six, I believe.

Mrs. Zub - I like finding new pathways is important.

Dr. Ahern - I am excited about that. We need to make FHS smaller and personalized.

Dr. Linden - These jumped out for me as well.

Dr. Ahern - The fourth one is effective two way communication. Revising communication channels, social media, more mailings, work with families, working

with subs, continuing to use school councils, PCC, parent education series, etc. We really appreciate being a part of the Franklin Community and having them as partnerships.

Mrs. Feeley - I like that you are mailing to the residents. The schools do so much and this is a great idea to do. It is hard to reach out and help everyone.

Dr. Bergen 0 Thank you for your feedback. You addressed all of this and it is clearly reflected in this.

Dr. Ahern - It is comprehensive. These initiatives are not smart goals, it trickles down to all the staff. We had some conversations about being concrete and tangible and how we are going to do this. We have a plan that we can use.

5. a. Draft Presentation Schedule for School Committee Meetings 2019-2020

Dr. Ahern - You have a draft presentation schedule and what you would like to see from the retreat. I will highlight a few. We want to talk about improvement goals, at the end of September we will update student sleep and start times, presentation on health and wellness and a recap of the HS trip to Europe, maybe some students will be here to tell their stories, a few workshops in the fall, we will have ECDC will have a revision of their report card, budget process, school improvement plans and district goals and we could possibly bring in students as well,

Any feedback regarding this?

Ms. Scofield - I noticed that April presentation will include a homework update, that's a really long time. Will we get anything after the first break? Are the guidelines are to be implemented?

Dr. Ahern - Yes, we can do an interim update or I could include some in the superintendent report.

Mrs. Schultz - Maybe halfway in the year?

Dr. Ahern - How about after the December break?

Ms. Scofield - Thank you.

6. Information Matters

a. School Committee Sub-Committee Reports (e.g. Budget; Community Relations; Policy; Transportation; Public Schools Advocacy)

b. School Committee Liaison Reports (e.g. Joint PCC; Substance Abuse Task Force; School Wellness Advisory Council [SWAC]; , MASC)

BUDGET Dr Bergen - We need to set up our meetings and we will focus on a five year plan

COMMUNITY RELATIONS Mrs. Zub - We will also be setting up our meetings and will be at the Harvest Festival on October 5.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ADVOCACY Mrs. Schultz - Annual conference will be in November.

POLICY Mrs. Scofield - Next meeting is September 19 and October 24. We have several items coming up.

JOINT PCC - Dr. Bergen and Mrs. Douglas - Will resume in the fall.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE - Mrs. Douglas - Next meeting is October 1.

SCHOOL WELLNESS - Next meeting is September 24.

7. New Business

a. To discuss any future agenda items

Dr. Ahern - The middle schools will present their school improvement goals and the high school will present their improvement goals.

8. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes I recommend approval of the minutes from your August 13, 2019 School Committee meeting as detailed.
- b. JFK Gift I recommend acceptance of a check for \$3,339.00 from the JFK PCC for supplemental supplies as detailed.
- c. Music Gift I recommend acceptance of a check for \$2,785.05 from Music Parents for inhouse enrichment as detailed.
- d. 2019 Student Activity Account Approval I recommend approval of the 2019 Student Activity Accounts as detailed

Motion for all: Mrs. Schultz
Approve: 6

Second: Mrs. Douglas
Oppose: 0

9. Payment of Bills Dr. Bergen - correct

10. Payroll Mrs. Douglas - correct

11. Adjournment at 8:02 pm

Mrs. Schultz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Douglas. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Simon

SCAgenda 8-27-19.pdf
New Hires August 2019.pdf
Discussion ActionA - DIP Goals.pdf
Draft 19-20 SC Presentation Schedule.pdf

Consent Action A - Minutes.pdf
Consent Action B - JFK Gift.pdf
Consent Action C - Music Gift.pdf
Consent Action D - Student Activity Acct.pdf
FPS Summary & Sign Off.pdf
SCWarrant080819.pdf
SCWarrant081519.pdf
Payroll Warrant #2004 Summary.pdf
Payroll Warrant #2004.pdf