

Franklin School Committee
August 9, 2022
Municipal Building – Council Chambers
7:00 P.M.

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Vision Statement

The Franklin Public Schools will foster within its students the knowledge and skills to find and achieve satisfaction in life as productive global citizens.

Members of the public are now welcome to attend committee meetings in person. Additionally, in an effort to ensure citizen engagement, citizens will be able to continue to view the public meeting using Zoom. We will use the Zoom Webinar feature. You may view the meeting with the link or phone numbers below. Participants wishing to speak during the Citizen's Comments portion of the agenda will be able to raise their hand to be recognized by the Chair. The webinar host will invite the attendee to unmute for comment.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86899114277?pwd=dnFRdFNXNR2dFRMRmszTEQzNIUvQT09>

Passcode: 971740

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Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 646 931 3860 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558 8656 or +1 346 248
7799 or +1 386 347 5053 or +1 564 217 2000 or +1 669 444 9171 or +1 720 707 2699 or +1 253 215
8782

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MINUTES

“The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.”

Ms. Spencer called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Roll call attendance: Ms. Camille Bernstein-Absent; Mr. David Callaghan-Yes; Mr. Al Charles-Yes; Mr. David McNeill-Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes-Absent; Ms. Meghan Whitmore-Yes; Ms. Denise Spencer-Yes(zoom)

Also in attendance were: Mr. Lucas Giguere; Dr. Tina Rogers; Mrs. Paula Marano; Mrs. Miriam Goodman.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

I. Routine Business

- A. Review of Agenda** - reviewed and in order
- B. Payment of Bills** - reviewed and in order
- C. Payroll** - Ms. Spencer will review with Ms. Stokes
- D. FHS Student Representative Comments** - there were none

E. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Giguere spoke about universal free meals for the upcoming 2022/2023 school year due to approval in the state budget. The original deadline in congress was 6/30/22. He noted it is still important for families to fill out the income eligibility forms. Those forms are important as those who qualify will also qualify for benefits such as a waiver of pandemic summer EBT or a waiver of transportation fees. He said notification will be sent out to families. He said the High School Experience is taking place on August 9th and 10th for incoming FHS freshmen.

Mr. Giguere spoke about Covid health and safety practices. He said the same protocols will be in place that were followed in the spring with no new guidance. He noted the following information:

- Masks have been optional and available for any students in the High School Experience and in the Solutions Summer Program. He said the district is supportive of those wearing a mask.
- UVGI filters and air purification systems are still in the schools and frequently touched surfaces are cleaned and disinfected.
- Students and staff will still practice good hand hygiene.
- If an individual does not feel well and is experiencing symptoms, they are asked to test and follow appropriate guidance.
- Close contacts can still attend programming as long as they remain asymptomatic, wear a mask, and follow protocols.
- No data needs to be reported to DESE.

He spoke about this week's annual FPS Summer Leadership Retreat held at Dean College. This retreat includes team building exercises, meetings with principals, and assistant principals.

Mr. Giguere spoke about the status of hiring. He said FPS is hiring for a variety of

positions such as teachers, ESP's, Solutions, Secretaries, and cafeteria staff. He noted that more detailed information can be found on the job postings which can be found on www.schoolspring.com.

He noted important dates to remember:

8/23/22 - New teacher orientation

8/29/22 - First day for staff

8/30/22 - First day for students

9/2/22 - PDD no school

Ms. Spencer asked for any questions or comments from the committee?

Mr. Callaghan asked about staffing and how many positions still need to be filled?

Mr. Giguere replied that it is fluid and can get the information. There will be an update at the next meeting.

Mr. Callaghan asked about the status of substitutes and does the substitute pool look to be how it was last year?

Mrs. Goodman replied that it is about the same as last year.

Mr. Callaghan asked if the interest is not there for subbing?

Mrs. Goodman replied the interest is not there for substitute teaching it seems.

Mr. Giguere said colleagues in other districts report similar concerns.

Mr. Callaghan asked how someone would apply to substitute?

Mr. Giguere replied go online to www.schoolspring.com, keywords Franklin Public Schools.

Mrs. Marano replied that they can contact Lisa Trainor in the Human Resources Department directly too.

Mr. Callaghan asked when bus routes will be available?

Mrs. Goodman said they will be posted to the transportation website by the end of the week.

Mr. Charles asked if there are any more communications coming about bus routes?

Mrs. Goodman replied that social media has had some information and they do anticipate more sign ups.

Mr. Charles said last year there was a job fair, will there be another one?

Mrs. Marano replied that they are discussing having one.

Mr. Charles asked if any of the facilities are under staffed?

Mrs. Marano replied that they are still actively hiring.

Mr. Giguere replied that they do have candidates still applying.

Mr. Charles asked what is the percentage of students who are registered for the High School Experience program?

Mrs. Gay replied that 235 are attending this week. Mr. Giguere added that there had been some last minute registrations and it's about 60% of the class.

Ms. Whitmore asked if there is a risk of some positions not being filled?

Mr. Giguere replied that there are more positions they are trying to fill but they have candidates who are interested.

II. Guests/Presentations

A. Summer Curriculum Projects and Summer Learning Review – Dr. Rogers, Ms. Marano, & Ms. Gay

**See presentation slides for more detailed information*

Mrs. Marano spoke about the Extended School Year program. This program is held at ECDC, Keller/Sullivan and FHS.

Mrs. Gay spoke about the Lifelong Learning Summer 2022 Programs. She said this program is back to about 80% capacity.

Mrs. Marano spoke about the Strength and Conditioning program and said it is sponsored by the Summer Athletic Program. She said the program is offered to any FHS student.

Dr. Rogers spoke about Summer Curriculum Projects. She gave an overview of the project requests and funding. She said there were 80 requests with 63 projects approved (77%).

She gave an overview of the different projects at the elementary, middle, and high school level.

Mrs. Marano spoke about Special Education and English Learner Projects.

Ms. Spencer asked for any comments or questions from the committee?

Mr. Callaghan asked if summer curriculum projects are unique to Franklin or are seen in other districts too?

Dr. Rogers replied other districts have summer curriculum but could vary or have differences from how Franklin presents it.

Mr. Callaghan said this program seems like a terrific return on investment.

Mr. Callaghan said his son did Ready Set Kindergarten and it is nice to see enrollment numbers close to pre-pandemic numbers.

Mr. Charles said congratulations to Patti on her new position. He said his son took a Forensic Science course this summer.

He asked if the \$56,000 was to fund the 63 projects or was additional funding needed for the projects not approved?

Dr. Tina Rogers said those not approved typically didn't align to Franklin's goals.

Mr. Charles asked for examples of other projects that were not approved.

Mr. Giguere said sometimes there are duplicate projects and that's why only one is approved.

Mr. McNeill asked if there is a roadmap of what is to be improved for the MTSS?

Mrs. Marano replied they are working with the Novak Consulting Group. They know they need to strengthen their Tier 1 support, followed by Tier 2 and then Tier 3 which is in decent shape.

Dr. Rogers added that they can be more specific on this with their DIP and school improvement plan.

Ms. Whitmore referred to the financial slide and asked if the \$107,623 in requested funds encompasses every project requested?

Dr. Rogers replied yes, if every project was approved at 100% of the hours.

III. Discussion/Action Items - there were none

IV. Discussion Only Items

A. 2020-21 Annual Report

Mr. Giguere spoke about the 2020-2021 Annual Report and the initiatives and goals. He said schools contribute to the report as part of a larger town report. He said it includes a message from himself as well as School Committee Chair, Ms. Denise Spencer.

Mr. Callaghan asked about ESSER II and ESSER III funding and the dates the funds need to be used by?

Mrs. Goodman replied that ESSER I is finished, ESSER II is until the end of 2023, and ESSER III has just started to be spent and needs to be used before the end of September, 2024. The funds go towards the Director of DEI, BRYT counselors and BRYT ESPs, Interventionists, after school tutors and filling a social worker vacancy.

Mr. Callaghan asked when 9/30/2024 comes, will the money expire?

Mrs. Goodman replied yes.

Mr. Callaghan asked about FY25 and the new positions that were built into ESSER funding, if those positions will be built into the budget?

Mrs. Goodman yes those positions could fold in or be restructured depending on enrollment etc. She added the anticipation will be that these positions will be rolled into the budget.

Mr. Charles asked if this report will be shared with families in a district newsletter?

Mr. Giguere replied that he can find out, he said it may need to be published through the town and then sent out in a secondary form.

Mrs. Goodman replied the same information in this report came from the budget document in respect to the schools. She said the town typically puts this report out to the community around the time of an election.

Mr. McNeill asked where the differences are between the FY22 projected budget vs. the FY22 actual expenses?

Mrs. Goodman replied there are monthly budget transfers for staff replacements such as retirements or resignations, contracted services, and other contractors for evaluations for example. She said the budget is a fluid, working document.

V. Information Matters

A. School Committee Sub-Committee Reports

- 1. Superintendent Evaluation** - N/A
- 2. Budget** - has not met
- 3. Policy** - met on 8/8/22. Mr. Callaghan said some new items will be brought up for first read at the next meeting. Mr. Giguere spoke about safety practices, the goal being to set up a school safety section of the website without detail to jeopardize plans. He said more information is to come. Next meeting is 9/7/22.

4. **Community Relations** - N/A
5. **Space, Needs, and Facilities Assessment** - RFP process has begun for a consultant to support in this process. Next meeting is 8/25/22.

B. School Committee Liaison Reports

1. **Joint PCC** - N/A
2. **School Wellness Advisory Council** - N/A
3. **SEPAC** - N/A
4. **Substance Abuse Task Force** - has not met
5. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion** - N/A

VI. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes

I recommend approval of the minutes from the July 19, 2022 School Committee Meeting as detailed.

B. Transfers

I recommend approval of the budget transfers as detailed.

C. Keller Gift

I recommend acceptance of a check for \$10,000.00 from the Keller PCC for in-house enrichment and supplemental supplies as detailed.

Motion: Mr. McNeill; Second: Mr. Callaghan

**Roll call vote: Ms. Bernstein-Absent; Mr. Callaghan-Yes; Mr. Charles-Yes;
Mr. McNeill-Yes; Ms. Stokes-Absent; Ms. Whitmore-Yes; Ms. Spencer-Yes**

Motion Carries 5-0 with 2 absent

VII. Citizen's Comments - there were none

VIII. New Business

To discuss any future agenda items

Mr. Giguere shared the anticipated items for the 8/23/22 meeting:

- Handbooks presented for approval
- New hire update

IX. Ms. Spencer asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Mr. McNeill; Second: Mr. Callaghan

**Roll call vote: Ms. Bernstein-Absent; Mr. Callaghan-Yes; Mr. Charles-Yes;
Mr. McNeill-Yes; Ms. Stokes-Absent; Ms. Whitmore-Yes; Ms. Spencer-Yes**

Motion Carries 5-0 with 2 absent

X. Adjournment at 8:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Tocci, Secretary

SCAgenda 8-9-22
FPS Summary & Sign off.pdf
SC Warrant 060322 #3.pdf
SC Warrant 071422.pdf
SC Warrant 07222.pdf
SC Warrant 072822.pdf
Payroll Warrant #2302 Summary.pdf
Payroll Warrant #2302.pdf
Payroll Warrant #2303 Summary.pdf
Payroll Warrant #2303.pdf
Summer Programs and Teacher Summer Curriculum Work August 9, 2022.pdf
FY22 Annual Report.pdf
Consent Action A - Minutes.pdf
Consent Action B - Transfers.pdf
Consent Action C - Keller Gift.pdf