

Franklin School Committee

December 22, 2020

7:00 P.M.

Meetings are recorded by Franklin TV and shown on Comcast channel 11 and Verizon channel 29

□ 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.

Per Governor Baker's Executive Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A sec. 20, the public will not be allowed to physically access this School Committee meeting. Members of the Public can access the meeting via remote conference. The School Committee reserves the right to implement additional remote participation procedures and will notify the public of these procedures as soon as practicable.

LOCATION: School Committee members will meet in Town Council Chambers or via Zoom.
Members of the public may access the meeting via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/95908067264?pwd=dm5qbjdNY2lpSzg3SmdyR0tHYzFQdz09>

Meeting ID: 959 0806 7264

Passcode: FSC

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,95908067264#,,,,,0#,,505420# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 959 0806 7264

Passcode: 505420

MINUTES

Call to Order at 7:01 pm

Roll Call Attendance: Ms. Jennifer D'Angelo - absent; Mr. Timothy Keenan - Yes; Ms. Judith Pond-Pfeffer - Yes; Ms. Mary Jane Scofield - Yes; Dr. Anne Bergen - Yes; Ms. Denise Spencer - Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes - Yes

Franklin School Committee

December 22, 2020

FINAL

Also present were: Dr. Sara Ahern; Mrs. Miriam Goodman; Dr. Joyce Edwards; Mr. Lucas Giguere.

Pledge of Allegiance

Anthony Ridgeway,

4th Grade Anthony Ridgeway is a standout 4th grade student at the VLA. His teachers and classmates look forward to seeing his smiling face every morning and his positive attitude and awesome sense of humor always keep classroom learning upbeat! Anthony can always be counted on to put forth his best effort in all situations and offer help and encouragement to his classmates. He has helped to create a fun, inclusive, productive classroom community where everyone can learn and have fun at the same time! Outside of school, Anthony loves to use his imagination to create fun activities and in addition to being a great big brother, enjoys spending time hiking and swimming with his family. We are excited and proud to have Anthony represent the Franklin Virtual Learning Academy this evening as he leads us in the Pledge of Allegiance.Moment of Silence.

I. Routine Business

A. Review of Agenda - reviewed - all is fine

B. Citizen's Comments - none

In the spirit of open communication, "the Committee will hold a public participation segment (also called Citizen's Comments) about matters 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 comment made.... A Committee member may add an agenda item to a future meeting as a result of a citizen comment.... The Committee will hear public comments related to an agenda item when the Chair deems appropriate during the Committee meeting. Topics for discussion during the meeting must be limited to those items listed on the Committee meeting agenda for that evening...." - from Policy BEDH

Donna Grady, President of FEA, spoke as a teacher and President of FEA and spoke about a SC meeting a few weeks ago and reminded us that we need to bring kindness and grace. She described how the schools are doing and how much work the school nurses are doing during COVID. She asked that we reframe how we think about what students have lost and instead of what we are trying to do, keep them safe, learn online and keep their spirits up.

Michelle Brent agreed with Donna and provided insight into the counseling for students. She spoke about having the power to control what we do and that the priority is keeping the students safe. She continued to speak how trauma is affecting students and staff. She is a trauma counselor.

A. FHS Student Representative Comments

Akash Shetty agreed with the previous comments. He spoke about a meeting with Mr. Hanna about upcoming events.
He said not much is happening.

B. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Ahern shared information about the Department of Education and the requirements for remote settings and hybrid. She spoke about the fact that Congress approved a stimulus package and FPS will have the CARES Act Funding deadline to be extended. This funding will include more funding for our schools.

Dr. Ahern spoke about the snow day last week. She thanked all the staff for what was done for that day and spoke about some of the fun that was incorporated. She acknowledged that Beth Simon will be leaving as the secretary for the School Committee.

Ms. Stokes asked about the funding.

Dr. Bergen also asked about expenditures we could use the money for.

II. Guests/Presentations

A. ECDC Highlights - Kelty Kelley

Ms. Kelley shared a presentation about ECDC, the integrated public preschool. She spoke about the students and how the staff interact with them and how the students interact with each other. She shared what they do in some of the classrooms and how they communicate with the parents.

Mr. Keenan appreciated all the information. The SC members thanked Ms. Kelley.

B. Performing Arts Events - Diane Plouffe

Ms. Plouffe shared some highlights from the music department from this year as of today. She shared a slide presentation. She introduced the music staff from all the schools. Ms. Plouffe spoke about new safety guidelines for the rest of the year.

SC members enjoyed the presentation and how they are keeping the performances going.

III. Discussion/Action Items

A. Superintendent's Goals 2020-21

I recommend approval of the Superintendent's Goals for 2020-2021 as discussed.

Dr. Ahern spoke about the six goals that she is evaluated on. She spoke about the two goals that are being presented.

Ms. Pond-Pfeffer stated the goals are lofty.

Motion: Ms. Pond-Pfeffer
Approve: 6

Second: Ms. Spencer
Oppose: 0

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Timothy Keenan - Yes; Ms. Judith Pond-Pfeffer - Yes; Ms. MaryJane Scofield - Yes; Dr. Anne Bergen - Yes; Ms. Denise Spencer - Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes - Yes

IV. Discussion Only Items

A. School Calendar Draft - 2021-22

Dr. Ahern shared the school calendar for next year and the first day of school will be Tuesday, August 31.

B. School Reopening Status Update (as of 12/18/20)

Dr. Ahern shared the metrics on our status on COVID and Franklin became red. She spoke about how she keeps in touch with the health department.

She spoke about teaching and learning and working with literacy specialists and department heads as we move forward. She said that the survey for K-1 has been closed. She spoke about switching the instruction mode after the break and will wait to see what the metrics are.

Dr. Ahern shared a strategy on how they will be taking in COVID reports from families and staff. She stated that Monday, January 4 will be a remote day for all Schools.

Dr. Ahern spoke about the flu vaccine and how this requirement has been extended to February.

Mr. Keenan stated he liked the idea of asynchronous Wednesdays for the high school and when that might happen. He also asked about surveying other grades.

Dr. Ahern responded that they are still working on a date for that. She stated there are no surveys at this time so as not to overwhelm the staff.

Ms. Pond-Pfeffer stated that the school department surveyed the parents and not the staff and they should.

Ms. Spencer asked about the number of cases of COVID and asked about the results of the K-1 survey.

Ms. Stokes spoke about concerns about coverage for the schools and how they are being handled.

Mrs. Goodman spoke about the pay for subs.

Dr. Ahern stated that the schools have building subs and ESPs that will be assigned and times when Principals and Assistant Principals are in classrooms.

Ms. Stokes asked about what other districts are doing with full time for K-1.

Dr. Edwards reached out to other districts regarding this.

Dr. Bergen stated the remote day after vacation will allow schools to make sure they are safe. She asked about the timeline for CORI checks for new employees.

Donna Grady said she did agree with the one day for remote but the one day may not be enough for the nurses to ensure that the school is ready. She asked to consider that we may need to have more discussions on this and having remote

for a longer period of time.

Gayle Melko reiterated that the asynchronous learning on Wednesdays for FHS is helpful but to please wear your masks and social distance because it is scary to get the COVID emails.

V. Information Matters

- A. School Committee Sub-Committee Reports (e.g. Ad Hoc Supt. Evaluation, Ad Hoc Facilities Analysis, Budget, Community Relations/Public Schools Advocacy, Policy, Transportation)
- B. School Committee Liaison Reports (e.g. Joint PCC, Substance Abuse Task Force, School Wellness Advisory Council, Franklin Racial & Social Justice Task Force)

BUDGET Dr. Bergen, Mr. Keenan and Ms. D'Angelo - Need to set up meetings.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS - Ms. Spencer, Ms. Pond-Pfeffer, Dr. Bergen - Need to set the next meeting.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ADVOCACY Dr. Bergen - no information.

POLICY Mrs. Scofield, Ms. Spencer, Ms. Stokes - met on December 17. Next meeting January 21

JOINT PCC - Ms. Pond-Pfeffer - Meeting in January.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE - Dr. Bergen, Ms. D'Angelo, Mr. Giguere - Met December 22.

SCHOOL WELLNESS - Ms. Spencer, Ms. Stokes - Met last week. Next meeting is January 12.

AD HOC DAVIS THAYER FACILITY Ms. Stokes, Ms. Pond-Pfeffer, Ms. Scofield- updates on recent presentations and spoke about some of the numbers and how they were incorrect. They do not affect the analysis. Next meeting is in mid January.

TRANSPORTATION - Mr. Keenan, Dr. Bergen, Ms. Scofield - no information.

AD HOC SUPERINTENDENT - Mr. Keenan, Dr. Bergen and Ms. Stokes - no information.

RACIAL JUSTICE - Dr. Bergen - meeting after the holidays.

VI. New Business

- A. To discuss any future agenda items

Dr. Ahern spoke about the student opportunity act that will come up for a vote. She shared Mr. Hanna will provide an update. She will update personnel and the K-1 survey.

VII. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes

I recommend approval of the minutes from the December 8, 2020 School Committee meeting as detailed.

- B. Budget Transfers

I recommend approval of the budget transfers as detailed.

- C. Parmenter Gift

I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1,625.00 from the Parmenter PCC for supplemental supplies as detailed.

- D. Scholarship

I recommend acceptance of a check for \$250.00 from Sean Jobin for a FHS Scholarship as detailed.

- E. Keller Gift

I recommend acceptance of a check for \$296.45 from the Keller PCC for supplemental supplies as detailed.

- F. Air Purifiers

I recommend acceptance of the donation of 650 Air Purifiers from the DESE valued at \$175,500.00 as detailed.

Motion for all: Ms. Pond-Pfeffer Second: Ms. Scofield
Approve: 6 Oppose: 0

Roll Call Vote:; Mr. Timothy Keenan - Yes; Ms. Judith Pond-Pfeffer - Yes; Ms. MaryJane Scofield - Yes; Dr. Anne Bergen - Yes; Ms. Denise Spencer - Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes - Yes

VIII. Payment of Bills are in order

Dr. Bergen

IX. Payroll is in order

Ms. D'Angelo

X. Executive Session goes into session at 10:35 pm

- A. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the FEA as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.
- B. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A §21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel.

Motion to adjourn go into Executive Session:

Motion: Ms. Spencer

Second: Ms. Scofield

Approve: 6

Oppose: 0

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Timothy Keenan - Yes; Ms. Judith Pond-Pfeffer - Yes; Ms. MaryJane Scofield - Yes; Dr. Anne Bergen - Yes; Ms. Denise Spencer - Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes - Yes

XI. Adjournment at 10:35 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Simon

SCAgenda 12-22-20

ECDC Update to School Committee 12_22_20.pdf

Franklin Performing Arts Department Presentation 2020.pdf

Discussion Action A - Supt. Goals 20-21.pdf

Calendar 2021-22 DRAFT.pdf

Reopening Schools Status Update Dec 18 2020-2021.pdf

Consent Action A - Minutes.pdf

Consent Action B - Transfers.pdf

Consent Action C - Parm Gift.pdf

Consent Action D - Scholarship.pdf

Consent Action E - Keller Gift.pdf

Consent Action F - Air Purifiers.pdf

Payroll Warrant #2112 Summary.pdf

Payroll Warrant #2112.pdf

SC Warrant 120320.xlsx

SC Warrant 121020.xlsx

FPS Summary & Sign off 120820.pdf

Franklin School Committee

December 22, 2020

FINAL

SC Warrant 120320.pdf

SC Warrant 121020.pdf

Executive Session Minutes- 12-8-2020-DRAFT.pdf

Pledge Student

Franklin School Committee

December 22, 2020

FINAL