

**Franklin School Committee**  
**January 23, 2024**  
**Municipal Building – Council Chambers**  
**7:00 P.M.**

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

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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.”

**At 7:03pm, Mr. Callaghan called the meeting to order.**

In attendance was: Mr. David Callaghan-Yes; Mr. Al Charles-Yes; Ms. Erin Gallagher-Yes; Dr. Paul Griffith-Yes; Mr. David McNeill-Yes; Ms. Ruthann O’Sullivan-Yes; Mr. KP Sompally-Yes

Also in attendance was: Mr. Lucas Giguere; Mrs. Paula Marano; Dr. Robert Dutch

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Ben Hester: Ben is a fifth grader in Mrs. Caouette's class. His favorite subjects are writing and recess. In addition to playing football at recess, Ben enjoys playing and watching basketball and hockey in his free time. Unsurprisingly, Ben's favorite sports teams are the Celtics and the Bruins. Aside from school and sports, Ben likes playing outside with his friends and his dog, Blue. Ben says the best thing about Jefferson is that everyone is nice and that he will miss the teachers when he moves on to Middle School next year.

Elsa Schulhaus: Elsa joined the Jefferson School Community this fall after living in North Carolina for seven years. She is in Mrs. Sharples' fifth-grade class and one of her favorite things about Jefferson is that the students are nice. Outside of school, Elsa enjoys dance, playing with friends, and spending time with her cousins. One of Elsa's goals in the year ahead is to improve her reading. Being new to Massachusetts, Elsa is also excited to see more than 1 inch of snow per year! We are thankful that Elsa and her family are part of the Jefferson School community.

Emily Rosa: Emily has gone to Jefferson her entire school career and is now in 5th grade with Mrs. Doherty. Emily currently plays on two soccer teams: Franklin Soccer Club and Town Travel. Emily practices playing soccer often, even playing 1 vs. 1 with friends to get better and prepare for games. Her efforts paid off this year when she moved from the B to the A team! In school, Emily enjoys writing because she likes to type on the computer. One of Emily's goals is to improve her handwriting, especially when writing letters to people. Emily describes herself as a huge animal lover despite being allergic to fur. Luckily, she has a hypoallergenic cat named Oreo who she loves! Emily says that her favorite things about Jefferson are the teachers and the materials they get to work with.

## **Moment of Silence**

### **I. Routine Business**

- A. Review of Agenda** - reviewed and in order
- B. Payment of Bills** - reviewed and in order
- C. Payroll** - reviewed and in order

### **D. FHS Student Representative Comments - Mr. Siddharth Chandra**

Mr. Chandra spoke about Panther Pride Night coming up on 2/12/24. He said the FHS Jazz Concert will be held in the FHS Auditorium on 1/29/24.

He noted that the second semester has just started and course selection just began for 9th graders.

He said that Best Buddies is hosting a Food Drive and Spanish NHS is now offering tutoring.

He said all winter sports have been going well and Sarah Dumas recently achieved Hockomock Player of the Week.

He noted that the class of 2024 can order caps and gowns and for class of 2025, their prom will be on 5/3/24.

**Mr. Callaghan asked the committee for any questions/comments from the committee?** There was none.

#### **E. Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Giguere thanked families and the community for their flexibility recently in regards to inclement weather.

He spoke about some recent articles published surrounding athletics, theater, and DECA.

He also gave a newcomer update. He said that 69 students are enrolled with 12 at the high school, 15 at the middle schools, and 40 at the elementary schools. He said the Interfaith Council offers after school tutoring. He said they purchased a Digital Literacy Tool to help support classroom instruction, adding that they were awarded a grant through a 344 grant. He also added that English is being taught to adults at the hotel through the library.

**Mr. Callaghan asked the committee for any questions/comments from the committee?** There were none.

## **II. Guests/Presentations**

### **A. Jefferson Elementary School Highlight - Ms. Stefanie Wasik; Ms. Beth Murray** ***\*See presentation slides for more detailed information***

Ms. Murray shared Jefferson's Mission Statement and their Core values.

Ms. Wasik spoke about their School Improvement Plan and Wellness Wednesdays at Jefferson each Wednesday to model healthy living.

She spoke about Growing the Good and making sure the sense of community is felt across the entire school community. She spoke about Walking Wednesdays, a new initiative to encourage students in grades 3-5 to walk during recess.

Ms. Murray spoke about PAWS-itive Cards and how they are earned by going above and beyond showing their Jefferson core values.

Ms. Wasik spoke about ST Math, a grant funded visual program.

Ms. Murray spoke about student-led pledges and assemblies.

**Mr. Callaghan asked the committee for any questions/comments from the committee?**

Ms. Gallagher said she liked to hear about Wellness Wednesdays.

Mr. Griffith asked if they will be growing the Wellness Wednesday program?

Ms. Wasik replied that they listen to the teacher's voice and welcome feedback.

Mr. Charles noted he enjoyed hearing about the grade level school meetings and asked how this year feels compared to the past couple of years post pandemic.

Ms. Wasik replied that they are feeling a return to normalcy.

Ms. Murray noted that kids can feel the energy of adults and if adults feel safe then the students will as well.

Mr. McNeill also noted his appreciation for Wellness Wednesday and also the vending machine for books.

Ms. O'Sullivan noted the importance of Wellness Wednesday. She said they appreciate everything that they do.

Mr. Sompally said he appreciates what they are doing at Jefferson.

Mr. Callaghan noted that their presentation tied back to the school improvement plan.

***Mr. Callaghan asked for a motion to move the following Discussion/Action Item to come before the Comprehensive Facilities Planning Update:***

Discussion Item A. DECA International Competition - Recurring Trip

**Motion: Mr. McNeill; Second: Mr. Charles**

**Approve: 7 Oppose: 0**

**Motion Carries 7-0**

### **III. Discussion/Action Items**

#### **A. DECA International Competition - Recurring Trip - Mr. Frank Wood and Ms. Emily Rosborough**

I recommend approval of the request of Emily Rosborough to take DECA Student to Anaheim, CA from 4/26/24-5/1/24 to participate in the DECA competition as detailed.

Ms. Rosborough said she anticipates about 50 students to attend. She said they have hotels secured and are working on getting transportation secured as well.

**Mr. Callaghan asked the committee for any questions/comments from the committee?**

Ms. O'Sullivan asked if they have done any fundraising?

Ms. Rosborough replied that they have done a t-shirt fundraiser, chocolates, and winter hats and will do more.

**Motion: Mr. McNeill; Second: Mr. Charles**

**Approve: 7 Oppose: 0**

**Motion Carries 7-0**

**A. Comprehensive Facilities Planning Update - Mr. Lucas Giguere**

***\*See presentation slides for more detailed information***

Mr. Giguere shared the history and context of the work thus far.

He noted that the McKibbin Census Data has been updated with 2020 data.

He spoke about the population and enrollment forecast, what steps have been taken and what are the next steps.

He also spoke about the educational visioning and adequacy, what steps have been taken and what are the next steps.

He spoke about the Facilities Assessment and next steps.

He spoke about the School Master Plan, the 10 year need, and next steps.

**Mr. Callaghan asked the committee for any questions/comments from the committee?**

Ms. O'Sullivan asked about confirmation about the date for an upcoming meeting and if it conflicts with a joint budget subcommittee meeting.

Mr. Giguere replied that they are still working on a date.

Mr. McNeill said he appreciates the well thought out presentation.

Mr. Griffith said he appreciates the work.

Ms. Gallagher said she is looking forward to the next meeting.

**~~IV. Discussion/Action Items--Moved to earlier in the meeting.~~**

**~~A. DECA International Competition--Recurring Trip~~**

~~I recommend approval of the request of Emily Rosborough to take DECA Student to Anaheim, CA from 4/26/24-5/1/24 to participate in the DECA competition as detailed.~~

**V. Discussion Only Items**

**A. School Committee 2024-25 Meeting Schedule - DRAFT**

Mr. Giguere shared a proposed calendar to be voted on at the next meeting. He noted there is one meeting in July, one in December, and one in February.

Mr. Charles asked if they could remove the language about election day since it is not an election year for the town.

**VI. Information Matters**

**A. School Committee Sub-Committee Reports**

- 1. Superintendent Evaluation** - N/A
- 2. Budget** - met 1/22/24
- 3. Policy** - meeting in February
- 4. Community Relations** - next meeting 2/12/24

**B. School Committee Liaison Reports**

- 1. Joint PCC** - next meeting 2/12/24
- 2. Comprehensive School Facilities Planning Committee** - next meeting 2/7/24
- 3. School Wellness Advisory Council** - N/A
- 4. SEPAC** - N/A
- 5. Mental Health and Well-Being Task Force** - will be at Panther Pride Night
- 6. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion** - have not met

**VI. Consent Agenda**

**A. Approval of Minutes**

I recommend approval of the minutes from the January 9, 2024 School Committee meeting as detailed.

**B. Music Gift**

I recommend acceptance of a check for \$560.00 from music parents for in-house enrichment for the Music Department as detailed.

**C. Jefferson Gift**

I recommend acceptance of a check for \$43.80 from Box Tops for Jefferson Field Trips as detailed.

**D. DECA State Competition - Recurring Trip**

I recommend approval of the request of Emily Rosborough to take DECA Students to Boston, MA from 3/7/24-3/9/24 to participate in the DECA competition as detailed.

**Motion: Mr. McNeill; Second: Mr. Charles**

**Approve: 7 Oppose: 0**

**Motion Carries 7-0**

**VII. Citizen's Comments - there were none**

**VIII. New Business**

**To discuss any future agenda items**

Mr. Giguere shared the anticipated items for the 2/13/24 meeting:

- Budget information
- SC meeting calendar vote
- School Calendar draft

**IX. Mr. Callaghan asked for an adjournment to end the meeting.**

**Motion: Mr. McNeill; Second: Mr. Charles**

**Approve: 7 Oppose: 0**

**Motion Carries 7-0**

**X. Adjournment at 8:12pm**

Respectfully submitted,  
Christina Tocci, Secretary

SCAgenda 1-23-24  
Payroll Warrant #2415 Summary.pdf  
Payroll Warrant #2415.pdf  
FPS Summary & Sign Off 012324.pdf  
SCWarrant 010424.pdf

SC Warrant 011124.pdf  
SC Warrant 122823.pdf  
SC Meeting 1\_23 Jefferson Highlights.pdf  
Discussion Action A - DECA International Competition.pdf  
24-25 SCSchedule-DRAFT.pdf  
Consent Action A - Minutes.pdf  
Consent Action B - Music Gift.pdf  
Consent Action C - Jefferson Gift.pdf  
Consent Action D - DECA state competition.pdf  
Jefferson Pledge Student 1\_23\_24.pdf