

Franklin School Committee
May 24, 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:

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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. She said at the conclusion of the meeting they would be adjourning to executive session and not returning to open meeting.

Roll Call Attendance were: Ms. Camille Bernstein-Yes; Mr. David Callaghan-Yes; Mr. Al Charles-Yes; Mr. David McNeill-Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes-Yes; Ms. Meghan Whitmore-Yes (zoom and then in person); Ms. Denise Spencer-Yes.

Also in attendance were: Dr. Sara Ahern; Mr. Lucas Giguere; Mrs. Paula Marano; Mrs. Miriam Goodman; Dr. Tina Rogers (zoom); Dr. Linda Ashley (zoom).

Pledge of Allegiance

Brody Ceurvels will be representing Oak Street School and leading the pledge of allegiance this evening. Brody is a fifth grader at Oak Street School. He is the son of Nick and Lindsay Ceurvels and the brother to older sister Riley, who is a sophomore at FHS, and younger sister Bailey who is in third grade at Oak Street.

Brody's teachers have selected him this evening because of how well he represents the school's ACORNS of Achievement, Caring, Original, Respect, Never give up and Safe. Brody is a hard worker, a thoughtful contributor and a good friend to other students at Oak Street School. He is respectful to teachers and students and always has a positive word for the people around him. Brody's favorite subjects in school are art and science. In his free time he enjoys drawing, playing on his ipad, playing basketball with his younger sister and learning how to code. At school he volunteers weekly teaching kindergarteners how to draw and is currently spending his recess time painting a mural on a picnic table in the school courtyard that he designed. When he grows up Brody wants to be involved in coding as well as helping to protect marine life.

Moment of Silence

I. Routine Business

A. Review of Agenda - all is fine

B. Payment of Bills

Ms. Spencer

C. Payroll

Ms. Stokes

D. FHS Student Representative Comments

Mackenzie Atwood said that AP exams are over and seniors begin their finals this week. She also said that class officer elections are also this week. She said Theater III is performing Oskey on 5/25/22 with an awards ceremony immediately following. She said the marching band is playing at the Memorial Day Parade. She added that Theater II is presenting The Chronicles of Jane Book 7 on 6/9/22. Finally, she said the FHS Theater Company is ending the year with a senior directed one act play called the Play That Goes Wrong on 6/10-6/11.

Nipun Goel said the regular season is coming to an end for spring sports, adding that boys and girls lacrosse and baseball all won the Hockomock league title. He said that 11 students earned the Seal of Biliteracy which will be displayed on their diplomas. He said the last day of classes was 5/23/22. He added that there is an upcoming senior night boat cruise, a trip to Kimball Farm, and a senior breakfast/rehearsal, followed by graduation on 6/3/22.

Ms. Spencer thanked them both for their contributions to the meetings.

E. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Ahern said that Dr. Tina Rogers has secured additional funding from the One8 Foundation for supplemental math materials to be used at Parmenter, Keller, and Oak. There is an additional grant to support all K-5 math learners including Jefferson and Kennedy.

Dr. Ahern said that the Senate Weighs and Means committee released their proposal on 5/10/22. She said it is similar to the House proposal but does not propose funding universal school breakfast and lunch.

She added that the recent grant awarded to Mrs. Mary MacMurray from the Franklin Cultural District for the Ammaya Dance and Drum who will be presenting at the elementary schools in early June. There will also be a performance for the community on 6/11/22.

She said there are many Lifelong Learning offerings this summer and the sign-up discount ends on 5/31/22. She said the week of April 19-23 had been Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week.

She said Lifelong Learning is offering many summer offerings such as preparing for college and essays, photography, STEM, financial literacy, arts and crafts, and summer music, etc.

She gave an update on the administration positions that have been filled and those that remain open. She said they have filled 9 positions with 2 pending formal announcements:

- Karrah Ellis, Athletic Director
- Colin Boisvert, Food Services Director
- Amy Harvey, Assistant Principal - Parmenter
- Stephanie Wasik, Principal - Jefferson
- Pattie Gay, Lifelong Learning Director
- Adam Gooder, Art Director
- Lucas Giguere, Superintendent
- Director of Special Education to be named

Still pending are two assistant principal positions at Keller, an assistant principal at Jefferson, assistant superintendent, and a director of curriculum for ELA and Social Studies. She added that the DEI process is wrapping up.

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

Mr. Callaghan asked if there is tracking for the amount received through grant writing?
Dr. Ahern replied, yes through the Business Administrator's office.
Mr. Callaghan asked for an update to the Sharon baseball incident.
Dr. Ahern said at the last meeting there was an active investigation. She said they have concluded the investigation, identified parties and the consequences given. She said they have been in touch with the Anti-Defamation League and Stand With Us for more education. She added that for younger students in grades K-5 they are looking to bring in the Anti-Defamation K-5 resources. She said there is an increased level of supervision at night games and an administrative presence. She added this behavior wasn't happening for the entire baseball game.

II. Guests/Presentations

A. Retiree Recognition

Dr. Ahern said there are 19 retirees and several are at the meeting:

- Kim Booth - Jefferson. Mrs. Klim recognized Assistant Principal Mrs. Booth. She said she is in front of the school each morning greeting the students. She said she calls Mrs. Booth the parent whisperer for the ways she puts parents at ease.
- Mary Doherty - Oak. Mr. Hendrixson recognized Mrs. Doherty. He said she has been an integral part of the Oak community for 35 years. He said when he met her she told him the highlight of the year is the Memorial Day concert.
- Sandy Gaudet - FHS. Mr. Giguere recognized Mrs. Gaudette. Mr. Giguere said she has fed a lot of people over the years, starting with the 1989 FHS snack bar. He said she has connected well with the students.
- Carol Gillespie - FHS. Mr. Giguere recognized Mrs. Gillespie. She has been working for 40 years in the cafeteria. He said she was reliable and able to transition to the new FHS seamlessly.
- Marilyn Johnson - Keller. Mr. Stark recognized Mrs. Johnson. He said she has served FPS for the past 20 years as an ESP. She has also kept families and students safe as a crossing guard since 2011. He said the Massachusetts Safe Routes to School program will be honoring her with a Crossing Guard Champion Award.
- Dr. Joanne MacNeil - Physical Therapist. Mrs. Marano recognized Dr. MacNeil. She said she is leaving a legacy that every student is fully connected and included no matter their physical disability.
- Christine Rebello - Jefferson. Mrs. Klim recognized Mrs. Rebello. She said she has been an ESP in Franklin for the last 15 years. She said she is kind and patient and she is grateful for many years of Mrs. Rebello's service.

- Lynn Rizzolo - Keller. Mr. Stark recognized Mrs. Rizzolo. He said she has worked at both Oak and Keller. He said her students look forward to seeing her out in the community. She has also served on many district wide committees.
- Kathleen Roberts - Oak. Mr. Hendrixson recognized Mrs. Roberts. He said she has dedicated herself for the last 27 years to the children of Franklin. He said she was the Assistant Director of the Star program for years including Ready, Set, Kindergarten. He said she is a caring, hardworking, and flexible teacher.
- Debbi Winteroth - Jefferson. Ms. Klim recognized Mrs. Winteroth. She said she has been teaching in Franklin since 2000 but her career began earlier than that. She is a believer in hands-on learning and the value of the outdoors.

Ms. Spencer said Franklin is so fortunate to have had such wonderful individuals serving this community and its students. She said the job of educators is very powerful and their reach extends so far.

Here is the full list of retirees:

Tom Angelo

Kim Booth

Mary Doherty

Patricia Elias, RN

Sandra Gaudet

Carol Gillespie

Debra Glynn

Susan Horan

Karen Jewett

Marilyn Johnson

Amy Kruse

Dr. Joanne MacNeil

Christine Rebello

C. Lynn Rizzolo

Kathleen Roberts

Laura Roy

Eileen Vizakis

Deborah Winterroth

Eugenia Costarellos

At 7:44, Ms. Spencer said there would be a recess to allow time for photos to be taken with the retirees.

At 7:52, Ms. Spencer called the meeting back to order.

B. District Improvement Plan Update 2021-2022

**See presentation slides for more detailed information.*

Dr. Ahern said this would be an update on the four strategic objectives:

#1: Social-Emotional Well-Being of Students and Staff

#2: Engaging and Rigorous Curriculum

#3: High-Quality Instruction to meet the SEL and Academic Needs of Each Learner

#4: Effective Two-Way Communication

#1: Social-Emotional Well-Being of Students and Staff

Dr. Ahern noted the work of the PD committee this year, meeting regularly.

Mr. Giguere said the PD committee met three times this year and how the check-ins and collaborations have been helpful this year

Mr. Giguere and Mrs. Marano spoke about an Update on Strategic Initiative #1.

Mr. Giguere spoke about the new Critical Conversations community engagement series that started this year made up of stakeholders from throughout the community. Mrs.

Marano said there will be more critical conversations next year.

Dr. Ahern gave an update to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. She noted the ongoing process for hiring a director.

Dr. Ahern said Unified basketball has expanded to middle school. Also, there is now Unified music and track at the high school level.

She noted the DEI Committee has two more upcoming meetings.

#2: Engaging and Rigorous Curriculum

Dr. Ahern said this revolves around the work for a guaranteed and viable curriculum units aligned to the Portrait of a Graduate.

Dr. Rogers spoke about Professional Development for teachers, support for math specialists at elementary level, and a virtual family night and survey. Also, a teacher survey for math implementation and for future PD. She also spoke about the middle school grant for the new science program called Open SciEd.

Dr. Ashley spoke about the Prek-12 ELA review they are getting ready for. She said they are looking to purchase new textbooks through capital funds for grades 9-11 social studies. She said they went through an evaluation process through the Department of different cultures. They started with four options and narrowed it down, finally selecting Savvas Learning (formally Pearson).

Dr. Ahern said they are working as a team on a curriculum review cycle. She said in the

past, it has been reactive due to subscriptions ending or changes from the Department of Education, this would be a more deliberate process. She said this will help make capital requests more predictable as well. She also noted that the central office administration now includes two K-12 Directors of Curriculum in specific areas.

#3: High-Quality Instruction to meet the SEL and Academic Needs of Each Learner

Dr. Rogers and Dr. Ashley spoke about the NWEA-MAP assessment. Dr. Rogers said students took the assessment in the fall, winter and spring. Dr. Ashley added they were very careful and planful with this process and thanked all the K-8 educators for their patience and perseverance.

Dr. Ahern noted that Title I has been expanded to Keller Elementary.

Mr. Giguere and Mrs. Marano spoke about the SEL side of assessments and DESSA. DESSA at all 5 elementary schools and is administered three times a year. Mrs. Marano noted that e-DECA is at preschool level. She added that they are implementing Panorama at the middle school level. This is a survey that students take. She also noted SBIRT, The Wellesley Center for Women, and Metrowest Adolescent Health survey. Dr. Ahern said SBIRT is optional for families but required of the district.

Dr. Ahern noted that while COVID is not mentioned in the DIP update, she said they are still responding to the ways the pandemic has influenced education. She said the multi-tiered systems of support have been around before the pandemic but the greater need for them now.

She said Mr. Giguere has been working with the DLI's. He said they have been working hard to sustain the high level of instruction. He said there were 289 TouchViews installed in the K-8 schools this year and the DLI's help to facilitate this rollout.

Dr. Ahern spoke about how they expanded on specific resources in the budget such as the Transition Coordinator, English Language Development educators, DLI's, Wilson Language Educator, staffing for specialized programs like Paraprofessionals. She noted the difficulty in staffing Paraprofessionals this year and utilizing staffing agencies.

#4: Effective Two-Way Communication

Dr. Ahern spoke about communications from Human Resources. She spoke about the community partnerships Franklin has such as the Franklin Cultural Council, William James College, SAFE Coalition, Franklin Freedom Team, Hockomock YMCA, Wellesley Centers for Women. She also spoke about beginning and communicating the Master Facilities Plan process, noting the Space Needs sub-committee; communicating the long-term budget forecast with the Franklin community; and expanding two-way communication with faculty/staff such as a quarterly newsletter.

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

Mr. Callaghan asked if the funding in #1 regarding the Wellesley Center was from the operating budget?

Dr. Ahern replied that last year in the state budget State Senator Spilka put aside money for her districts for additional mental health support. She said this year she and Jamie Hellen have written a letter to have additional funding again.

Mr. Charles asked how long the curriculum review process takes?

Dr. Rogers said it can vary and then once the process starts it is broken down into parts in the process.

Mr. Giguere also replied that it is like a self study and ensuring the needs are being met.

Mr. McNeill asked what has been the most impactful social emotional initiative during pandemic learning?

Mrs. Marano replied that she had polled the building principals and overwhelmingly it was e-DECA, DESSA, and Panorama. She added that whole school meetings have also returned. They also said mindfulness, movement breaks and mystery readers. She added that advisory at the middle level has been focusing on small groups and at the high school it was having all the teams and clubs back. As well as masks being off.

Dr. Ahern said she gives kudos to the entire district regarding their entire SEL mindset.

Mr. Giguere said it was getting back to practices they were sorely missing.

Mr. McNeill asked if they think there is a strategic initiative that will be important in the coming school year?

Dr. Ahern replied that this was and is an ambitious list. She added that the area of communications with the master facilities plan process.

Mr. Giguere replied it would be recommitting to systems such as behavioral systems, how we act and treat each other at school and the response when it is not being adhered to.

Ms. Stokes said it's good to see how all of this has come together and kudos to the whole team.

C. Superintendent's Evaluation – Presentation of Evidence

**See presentation slides for detailed information.*

Dr. Ahern said the evaluation is made up of Personal Goals:

- 1. Professional Practice Goal

- 2. Student Learning Goal

She also added that the rubric is narrowed into focus areas which have been the same for all five years and then District Improvement Goals. She said the work as a Superintendent is a team based effort to work to accomplish these goals.

Dr. Ahern spoke about her self-assessment in the areas of the District Improvement Plan:

- DIP #1 - SEL well-being of students and staff - MET
- DIP #2 - Rigorous and Engaging Curriculum and Instruction - MET
- DIP #3 - High-Quality Instruction to Meet the Academic and SEL Needs of Each Learner - SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS
- DIP #4 - Two-Way Communication - SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS

Dr. Ahern presented her evidence that supports her self-assessment.

Dr. Ahern encouraged the school committee to reach out with any questions or follow up within the next week.

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

Ms. Stokes (Chair of the Superintendent Evaluation Committee) explained to the committee that they will be going through all of this information and doing their own independent assessment. She said the the committee has a little over a week to do this and that hard copy is preferred and is due to Denise Miller by 6/3/22.

Mr. Callaghan confirmed with Ms. Stokes that hard copy is preferred and due to Denise Miller by 6/3/22.

Mr. McNeill asked about communication during the pandemic and what was the most effective communication strategy?

Dr. Ahern replied that she gives credit to the Marketing and Communications Director, Lily Rivera. She said it is a critical position and she meets with her weekly.

Mr. McNeill asked what is the most important goal for her successor to keep in mind?

Dr. Ahern replied that communication is important post pandemic. She said it is a great opportunity to be listening and keep everyone together.

Ms. Stokes said if you have any questions to reach out to Dr. Ahern.

III. Discussion/Action Items

A. Superintendent's Contract

The Chair recommends approval of a 3 year contract with Lucas Giguere as Superintendent of Schools - July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025.

Motion: Ms.Stokes; Second: Mr. McNeill

Approve: 7 Oppose: 0

Motion Carries 7-0

B. Policy - 2nd Reading/Adoption

I recommend adoption of policy ADF - Wellness Policy as discussed.

Motion: Ms.Stokes; Second: Mr. McNeill

Approve: 7 Oppose: 0

Motion Carries 7-0

C. Boys Basketball Trip

I recommend approval of the request of CJ Neely to take the Boys Basketball team to Orlando, Florida from December 26-30, 2022 to participate in the 2022 KSA Events Basketball Tournament as detailed.

Dr. Ahern said this will happen over winter break, therefore no missed days of school.

Motion: Ms.Stokes; Second: Mr. McNeill

Approve: 7 Oppose: 0

Motion Carries 7-0

D. Performing Arts Trip

I recommend approval of the request of Dianne Plouffe to take students to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida from April 15-19, 2023 to perform as detailed.

Motion: Ms.Stokes; Second: Mr. McNeill

Approve: 7 Oppose: 0

Motion Carries 7-0

E. Spain Trip

I recommend approval of the request of Emily Chaisson & Laura Keenan to take students to Malaga & Granada, Spain from April 14-22, 2023 as detailed.

Dr. Ahern noted that April 14th is a Friday and an early release day. She anticipates this is a late night flight so any impact to the school day would be limited.

Motion: Ms.Stokes; Second: Mr. McNeill

Approve: 7 Oppose: 0

Motion Carries 7-0

F. Proposed MASC Resolution Regarding Sanctuary Laws for Trans Students

I recommend the School Committee adopt the proposed MASC Resolution regarding sanctuary laws for trans students for formal consideration by the 2022 Massachusetts Association of School Committees Delegate Assembly in November as discussed.

Ms. Spencer explained to the committee how the MASC delegate assembly works. She read the resolution to the committee.

Motion: Ms.Stokes; Second: Mr. McNeill

Approve: 7 Oppose: 0

Motion Carries 7-0

IV. Discussion Only Items - there were none

V. Information Matters

A. School Committee Sub-Committee Reports

- 1. Superintendent Evaluation** - see presentation slides
- 2. Budget** - has not met; presenting proposed budget to town council on 5/25/22
- 3. Policy** - next meeting 6/8/22
- 4. Community Relations** - next meeting 5/31/22; discussing next social event on 6/4/22 and hosting a booth at the Strawberry Stroll on 6/10/22.
- 5. Space, Needs, and Facilities Assessment** - next meeting 6/6/22

B. School Committee Liaison Reports

- 1. Joint PCC** - met on 5/23/22
- 2. School Wellness Advisory Council** - SWAC reps will be at the Farmers Market this summer
- 3. SEPAC** - next meeting 6/9/22
- 4. Substance Abuse Task Force** - have not met
- 5. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion** - next meeting 5/25/22

VI. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes

I recommend approval of the minutes from the May 10, 2022 School Committee meeting as detailed.

B. Transfers

I recommend approval of the budget transfers as detailed.

C. FHS Gifts

I recommend acceptance of the following gifts totaling \$3,171.04 for FHS:

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. \$2,524.66 | Shutterfly, LLC | Supplemental Supplies |
| b. \$64.38 | Ohiopyle Prints, Inc | Supplemental Supplies |
| c. \$402.00 | MA Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc. | Supplemental Supplies |
| d. \$30.00 | Colleen Bond | In-house Enrichment |
| e. \$150.00 | Paula Marano | Scholarship |

D. Parmenter Gift

I recommend acceptance of two checks totaling \$905.00 from the Parmenter PCC for Field Trips as detailed.

E. JFK Gift

I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1875.00 from the JFK PCC for field trips as detailed.

F. Oak St. Recurring Field Trip

I recommend approval of the request of Brad Hendrixson for 66 2nd Grade students to travel to Roger Williams Zoo in Providence, RI on May 31, 2022 as detailed.

Motion: Ms. Stokes; Second: Mr. McNeill

Approve: 7 Oppose: 0

Motion Carries 7-0

VII. Citizen's Comments - there were none

VIII. New Business

To discuss any future agenda items:

Dr. Ahern shared the anticipated items for the 6/14/22 meeting:

- 8th grade Civics project presentations
- Superintendent Evaluation
- Space Needs Sub-Committee presentation
- Davis Thayer Vote

IX. Ms. Spencer asked for a motion to adjourn and enter into Executive Session:

a. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the FEA/RN unit 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 discuss strategy in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel.

Motion: Ms. Stokes; Second: Mr. McNeill

Roll call vote: Ms. Bernstein-Yes; Mr. Callaghan-Yes; Mr. Charles-Yes;

Mr. McNeill-Yes; Ms. Stokes-Yes; Ms. Whitmore-Yes; Ms. Spencer-Yes

Motion Carries 7-0

X. Adjournment at 9:33pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Tocci, Secretary

SCAGENDA 5-24-22

FPS Summary and Sign off 05242022.pdf

SC Warrant 050522.pdf

SC Warrant 051222.pdf

Payroll Warrant #2223 Summary.pdf

Payroll Warrant #2223.pdf

DIP Outcomes to SC 2021-2022.pdf

Evaluation Evidence for SC May 24, 2022.pdf

Superintendent's Evaluation Evidence 2021-2022.pdf

fran.giguere supt 22.25 contract 5.20.22.pdf

Discussion Action A - Supt. Contract.pdf

Discussion Action B - Policy.pdf

Discussion Action C - Basketball Trip - Orlando.pdf

Discussion Action D - Performing Arts Trip.pdf

Discussion Action E - Spain Trip.pdf

Discussion Action F - Resolution.pdf

Consent Action A - Minutes.pdf

Consent Action B - Transfers.pdf

Consent Action C - FHS Gifts.pdf

Consent Action D - Parmenter Gift.pdf

Consent Action E - JFK Gift.pdf

Consent Action F - Oak Recurring Field Trip.pdf

Executive Session Minutes 5-10-22DRAFT.pdf

Executive Session Minutes 5-17-22DRAFT.pdf

Pledge Student.pdf