

Franklin School Committee
Minutes
March 27, 2018
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: 7:01 pm

Dr. Bergen

Attendance: Mrs. Dianne Feeley; Mrs. Cindy Douglas; Mrs. Mary Jane Scofield; Dr. Anne Bergen; Dr. Monica Linden; Mrs. Denise Schultz; Ms. Virginia Zub; Mr. Peter Light, Dr. Sara Ahern, Mrs. Miriam Goodman, Dr. Joyce Edwards. The two high school representatives were not present, Blaine Roche and Claudia Moccia. Steve Sherlock from Franklin Matters.

Pledge of Allegiance:

We proudly introduce Izzy Barbato as tonight's Keller Kid who will lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Izzy is a first grader at Keller and is in Mrs. Cahill and Ms. Gicas' classroom. Izzy's teachers describe her as "100% a strong Keller Kid!" Izzy comes to school every day with a big smile on her face, ready to learn. Izzy pays attention, participates, and follows directions. Izzy loves math, especially subtraction! Izzy also loves art.

Morning Meeting is another favorite part of school for Izzy. She enjoys participating in fun activities and listening to others during Morning Meetings. Izzy is also a model student who can always be counted on to do the right thing. She is kind and helpful to both her peers and teachers. She enjoys being around all of her friends at school. Izzy also participates in school-wide events such as Socktober and Valentine's for Veterans.

Outside of school, Izzy likes to play in the snow and does gymnastics and softball. Izzy defines what it means to be a Keller Kid and together with her parents and teachers, we are very proud of her!

The School Committee wanted to acknowledge Troop 99 here working on their Citizen's merit badge.

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Franklin School Committee
March 27, 2018
Final

Moment of Silence

1. Routine Business

a. Review of Agenda - Dr. Bergen - no changes

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 comment 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 - were not present

d. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Ahern - I have a few things to share. The first is a congratulations to the music students and faculty for the MICCA performance over the weekend. We are very proud of them. The Franklin High School symphony and repertory orchestra have been invited to perform at the Mechanics Hall in Worcester. A huge congratulations for an outstanding performance in all our music programs.

The second piece is the professional development day next Friday, April 6. Some schools will be doing what they have been working on in the past with school improvement goals and some will be working on new agendas.

ECDC will work with teaching strategy goals. Davis Thayer and Parmenter will have theirs with Lesley University becoming trauma sensitive schools.

The Jefferson Elementary School will have a Middlesex Partnership for Youth training and do workshops and it will be on the impact of anxiety for students. They are doing a book study of her work. Keller will have three sessions, the first being on how educators can support students who are

gender transitioning, best practices for working with English learners and one on positive core culture within the school.

Kennedy elementary is focusing on strategies on English Language and Arts and Reading and in grades 3 - 5. Oak Street will continue with their committee work. ASMS and Remington will continue with Keys to Literacy. HMMS will break into groups to work on the development for fall programs. Franklin High School will be working on grading practices and reporting systems and the school nurses have CPR training.

2. Guests/Presentations

a. FY19 Budget Hearing

Dr. Bergen - Is there a motion to open the hearing?

Motion: Mrs. Douglas
Approve: 7

Second: Mrs. Zub
Oppose: 0

Dr. Ahern - We will start with a presentation regarding the FY19 budget. We began this in February and centered the work on the vision and mission of the FPS and really had the work based on this as well as the district improvement goals.

The process to date is summarized and had a series of meeting over the past few months. We worked with Town Council and central office administrators and principals for building-based budgets. We began the process in the fall and have continued meetings throughout the year. Please refer to the budge books in front of you. We will be applying revolving funds to support the budget.

Mrs. Goodman - We look at the foundation budget and recognize the Massachusetts laws and the minimum amount necessary to provide an adequate education in Massachusetts. There are a couple of key factors that the State looks at. This year the rate is \$10,163 per student for Franklin. Then they look at how much each town can afford and then they take the total budget and subtract the local contribution and then the State funds what they can.

We are proposing a budget of \$63,235,000 for the FY19 with an increase of \$3.5 million. Added to that we have the revolving funds we are going to use for the FY19 expenses. We will have less revolving funds this year. They will be non-recurring after this year.

We will have \$1.391 million in Federal funding for special education.

We talked about some assumptions and an increase in the Town allocation and that looks like \$3 million increase from last year. The health care increase will be in the 4% range as opposed to 8%.

Dr. Ahern - As a reminder the budget is a level-service budget but there are some needs that we will support. We will review the counseling program and make recommendations moving forward. We have seen success with the William James partnership and we will include \$8,500 in the budget for this. We want to pilot the DESSA assessment for SEL students and target interventions for students.

In terms of staffing we will look at this across the district and have increases and decreases as well but it will be budget neutral. We have put in a need for a partner classroom at ECDC and this will generate revenue. We will also have a partnership with NECC for students with autism and service students within their local school. This will help these students stay in their schools and not have them go out of district. We proposed some FTE within student services.

Mrs. Goodman - When we look at the total spending we have an increase of 4.98%, we have an increase in the revolving accounts.

You can see based on roughly 9.5% is contributable to red part, the revolving account.

As a whole the \$63 million -- 76% is going to salaries; 9% to health and medicare; 7% to out of district; 4% to transportation and 4% to other expenses.

So in terms to the State average our total for FY17 is \$14,011; the state average is \$15,932. We will be below that. In terms of the categories of expenses, we are below in most categories and we are above in professional development. I will point out that in terms of insurance we are below the State by 33%. We work to keep the healthcare premiums down.

Dr. Ahern - Some recommended next steps is to have a motion at the April 10 meeting to adopt the budget and bring this to the Finance Committee and the Town for adoption. Looking to FY20, at some of the things that did not make it and could be considered long term. We are looking at interventionists, technology integration specialists K-12 STEM coordinators, K-12 Humanities Coordinator, staffing increased due to enrollment, health/PE FTE at middle schools. We will have considerations for the new plans and they are declining enrollment, increasing high high school enrollment. We are looking at current places being built for families and could increase enrollment in certain schools.

Any questions?

Ms. Scofield - A question on the \$15,000 for the study of the counselor. How long will that take? Is the need there?

Dr. Ahern - Great question, the idea is to have information to build into the FY20 budget. This will be to support some counselor positions in those buildings and a conversation to be had at the leadership team. We want to look at the models and how the buildings are staffed and come up with a system for all schools and have the right positions applied across the board.

Dr. Bergen - We are going line by line through the budget.

From a parent from Troop 99 - In one of the slides we are spending 54% of teaching materials and technology, we should be spending more on technology and why is it so low?

Mrs. Goodman - The majority of our budget goes to salary and health care and there is a small portion that goes to instructional materials, we spend a lot less than other towns do on instructional items and we don't have additional funding for that.

Jarrett Schmidt - How do you decide what goes in the budget and what doesn't?

Dr. Ahern - It is a big process. That is a great question. It is an enormous collaboration in my office with all the staff and School Committee and the staff at the schools. We try to understand the wants and needs. We meet with the Town and

what they would be willing to support. We get our instructions and then take that and work with that. Then we come up with recommendations and report on it.

Dr. Bergen - Now we go line by line through the budget

The School Committee went through the budget at 7:40 PM.

Dr. Bergen read through each area, if you would like to hold for discussion please say so.

Mrs. Douglas - Hold on assist superintendent's office.

Ms. Scofield - Hold on Legal services.

Ms. Scofield - Hold on out of district total.

Mrs. Douglas- Why aren't they both here and one is somewhere else? The Assistant Superintendent salaries.

Mrs. Goodman - The Department of Education states that their function is reporting under curriculum and instruction. They are both here just under a different category.

Ms. Scofield - What does \$130,000 gets us?

Mrs. Goodman - It is our attorney and what we need them for.

Mrs. Schultz - Why is that under School Committee?

Mrs. Goodman - It is contracting an attorney.

Ms. Scofield - Out of district, how much is that out of the goodness of our hearts? How much is not?

Mrs. Goodman - None. We must supply it.

Ms. Scofield - The information provided is great. Miriam, thank you. It has great back up.

Mrs. Schultz - Thanks to all the team. This is great. It sticks with me that we spend less per student and that is a lot and I wanted to point this out. I am glad we are doing the counseling review.

Dr. Bergen - Thank you for all that you have done and we have been educating the public and just to get a level service budget and what we cannot get funded is a shame and this is unsustainable. We need to make everyone aware of the budget and what we will need in the long term.

At this time, we need a motion to end the budget hearing.

A motion was made to end the hearing.

Motion: Mrs. Douglas
Approve: 7

Second: Mrs. Zub
Oppose: 0

3. Discussion / Action Items

a. School Choice Vote

I recommend that the School Committee not accept any new public school choice students for the 2018-2019 school year as discussed.

Motion: Mrs. Douglas
Approve: 7

Second: Mrs. Zub
Oppose: 0

b. Draft 18-19 School Committee Schedule

I recommend that the School Committee approve of the 2018-19 School Committee meeting schedule as discussed.

Motion: Ms. Scofield
Approve: 7

Second: Mrs. Zub
Oppose: 0

4. Discussion Only Items - NONE

5. Information Matters

a. School Committee Sub-Committee Reports (e.g. Budget; Community Relations; Policy; Transportation; Public Schools Advocacy; Ad Hoc Superintendent's Evaluation)

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

Budget - Dr. Bergen - None to report

Community Relations - Mrs. Zub - Next meeting will be on April 4, at 6:30 pm, the community coffee at the Franklin TV studio. We will have some time to talk about elementary schools. A shout out to Denise for the newsletter. Great job.

Policy - Ms. Scofield - We had something from MASC with a recommendation to update a few policies by April 1. I will pass those along.

Substance Abuse Task Force - Mr. Light and Dr. Bergen - We had that meeting this morning and have a plan to hand this over to the next person. We don't want to lose the work.

School Start Time - Dr. Linden - The website is now available.

6. New Business

a. To discuss any future agenda items -

Dr. Ahern - For April 10, is a budget vote on the FY19 and a presentation by Dr. Edwards for District Improvement Plan on STEM and we are anticipating a school safety update presentation by Mr. Light and Officer Manocchio.

7. Consent Agenda

- a. Keller Recurring Field Trip I recommend approval of the request for a recurring field trip for Keller 5th Graders to Roger Williams Zoo, in Providence, RI on Friday, May 11, 2018 as detailed.
- b. Jefferson Donation I recommend acceptance of the donation of sporting equipment valued approximately at \$300.00 from Dr. Maureen Sabolinski for supplemental supplies at Jefferson Elementary School.
- c. Grant for Jefferson I recommend acceptance of a check from Martin W. Richard Charitable Grant for \$500.00 for supplemental supplies at Jefferson Elementary School as detailed.
- d. FHS Senior Pilot I recommend continued suspension of policy JH – Student Absences for the purposes of the late arrival/early release pilot for seniors at FHS on good standing during quarter 4.
- e. Budget Transfers I recommend Budget Transfers as detailed

Motion for all: Mrs. Douglas
Approve: 7

Second: Mrs. Schultz
Oppose: 0

8. Payment of Bills Dr. Bergen reviewed the bills and found them to be in order.

9. Payroll Mrs. Douglas reviewed payroll and found the same to be in order.

10. Executive Session

EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Purpose 7 (M.G.L. c 30A, Section 21(a)(7)), to comply with or act under the authority of a general or special law when an open meeting would compromise the purpose for which the executive session is called, with the relevant citations of law being M.G.L. c. 71, §34D and 603 CMR 23.00 et. seq. and 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, which pertain to the confidentiality of student and education records, and to receive legal advice from counsel protected from disclosure under Massachusetts General Law with the relevant citations of law being M.G.L. c. 4, Section 7, clause twenty-sixth, MGL. c. 30A, s. 21 (a) (1), and M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 22 (f).

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A motion was made to go into executive session

Motion: Ms. Scofield
Approve: 7

Second: Mrs. Schultz
Oppose: 0

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

11. Adjournment

Adjourned for the purpose of Executive Session at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Simon

SCAgenda 3-27-18.pdf

1. Executive Summary.pdf

2. District Improvement Plan.pdf

3. District Achievement Profile.pdf

4. Enrollment

5. FAQ's.pdf

6. Overview.pdf

7. ECDC.pdf

8. Davis Thayer.pdf

9. Jefferson.pdf

10. JFK.pdf

11. Oak St.pdf

12. Parmenter.pdf

13. Keller.pdf

14. ASMS.pdf

15. RMS.pdf

16. HMMS.pdf

17. FHS.pdf

18. Central Office.pdf

19. Teaching & Learning.pdf

20. Student Services.pdf

21. Transportation.pdf

22. Special Revenue Funds.pdf

23. Revolving Accounts.pdf

BigBudgetBookFY19.pdf

FY19 Budget Hearing Presentation.pdf
Superintendent's Report to School Committee March 27, 2018.pdf
Discussion ActionA-School Choice Vote.pdf
Discussion ActionB-SC Mtg Schedule 18-19.pdf
Consent ActionA-Keller Field Trip.pdf
Consent ActionB-Jefferson Donation.pdf
Consent ActionC-Jefferson Grant.pdf
Consent ActionD-FHS Pilot.pdf
Consent ActionE-Budget Transfers.pdf
Payroll Warrant #1819 summary.pdf
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