

**Franklin School Committee
Minutes
November 14, 2017
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: 7:00 pm

Dr. Ahern

Pledge of Allegiance: Kelly O’Conner -A fifth grader from the JF Kennedy Elementary School Per Mrs. Lacerda, Kelly’s fifth grade teacher: Kelly is a very humble and hardworking student who is always willing to help other students. She is a role model for her peers and consistently demonstrates our school core values everyday: Considerate and Kind Achieves and Perseveres Respectful and Safe Engages and Includes everyone Some additional information about Kelly: I play soccer and my team came in first in our division. The name of my team is NEFC Boston Breakers Academy 2007 Central United. I just started basketball season and I play for the town of Franklin I have an older sister. Erin is 14 years old and is a freshman at FHS. I also have an older brother. Michael is in 6th grade at HMMS. I love art specifically free draw. I draw from imagination and what comes to my mind. If it turns out good then I color it in. I have a binder of all my great artwork. I love meat-lovers pizza and I hate peanut butter and peanuts.

Attendance: Ms. Dianne Feeley; Mrs. Cindy Douglas; Mrs. Mary Jane Scofield; Dr. Anne Bergen; Ms. Monica Linden(remote participation); Mrs. Denise Schultz; Ms. Virginia Zub; Mr. Peter Light, Dr. Ahern, Mrs. Goodman, Dr. Edwards. The two high school representatives were present, Blaine Roche and Claudia Moccia. Teresa Burr, Town Clerk; Donna Grady, President of Teacher’s Association.

Moment of Silence

Swearing in of School Committee Members by Terry Burr, Town Clerk: Diane Feeley, Cindy Douglas, Mary Jane Scofield, Anne Bergen, Monica Linden (by remote), Denise Schultz, Virginia Zub

A brief recess was taken to complete the swearing in.

Election of Chair: Seeking nominations for Chair of the School Committee.

Mrs. Douglas – I would like to nominate Anne Bergen.

Dr. Ahern – Is there a second?

Mrs. Schultz – Second.

A vote was taken:

In Favor: 7

Opposed: 0

Dr. Ahern - Dr. Bergen is the Chair of the School Committee, congratulations Dr. Bergen.

Dr. Bergen - It is my job to now the Chair solicits nominations of Vice Chair of the School Committee.

Ms. Scofield – I would like to nominate Denise Schultz as Vice Chair for the School Committee.

Mrs. Douglas – Second.

Dr. Bergen – Are there any other nominations?

A vote was taken:

In Favor: 7

Opposed: 0

Dr. Ahern – Monica Linden voted remotely.

Dr. Bergen – I wanted to say how proud I am to be a part of this group. Congratulations to everyone. We are all new and learning the roles. We will walk through the agenda tonight and explain the process to all the new members. We will talk about the roles and responsibilities. We are here to work together.

Recess at for the Town Clerk to complete the process of swearing in - 7:08 pm
Meeting resumed at 7:18 pm

1. Routine Business:

a. Review of Agenda - Dr. Bergen - Any comments? None.

b. Citizens Comments: Dr. Bergen – Read this... *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

Claudia and Blaine introduce themselves to the new School Committee members and tell them about all the groups they belong to.

Claudia – Our sports are coming to an end. Our football team will play KP. Cheerleaders placed second, the unified basketball team were the recipients of the Sportsmanship award.

Blaine – This week is spirit week at Franklin High School. Each day a class gets points based on participation.

Claudia – We had a dodgeball tournament after school today and one of the senior teams won. On Thursday we will have a powderpuff football game.

Blaine – We will have a dance this Friday. SAD will have tailgate before the event.

Claudia – On Tuesday before the break we will have a pep rally. We will have a lot of events to show school pride.

Blaine – The math team won their meet, our 40 % club was recognized at the MIAA summit.

Claudia- Our first quarter grades have closed. This is a busy time for the seniors.

Blaine – There was a blood drive today at Franklin High School, there were about 40 donors.

Dr. Bergen – We should show the incredible level of community services that the FHS has. It is wonderful.

d. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Ahern - A couple of things this evening, welcome to our returning and new School Committee members. We would like to invite all of the School Committee members to do a walking tour of all the buildings in January. So we will put that together to host you and get to know the buildings and administrators. I would like to thank all the parents who attended the parent forums. I have been using the Superintendent's report as a guide. The attendance varied and we had at least 12 to 15 at each forum. It was well worth the time to listen to parents. I am continuing with faculty forums and student focus groups in the month of December.

There will be a general community forum on Thursday, November 30 at 6:00 at the Town Hall which is open to the community, meet me and provide a voice for them.

I want to acknowledge Mary Olsson, who is the Chair for the Franklin Historical Commission, for the invite to attend the historical commission is hosting a ceremony for Alice Wiggin, an English at teacher at Franklin High School who was a passionate teacher and when she was buried there was no marker on her grave. They will give her an appropriate marking on her grave. I would like to highlight that and share my appreciation on behalf of the School Department.

The last thing is I had the pleasure of attending the library opening on Sunday. I had the pleasure of attending the library opening and we got to see the new and renovated places. The new community space will be a great asset. Our local government officials were there; Representative Roy and Senator Ross, Dr. Paula Rooney spoke eloquently about the need to protect

the privilege of public libraries. She remarked on the relevance of libraries for gathering spaces for the community. Congratulations to Franklin for the great library space.

Dr. Bergen – I am so glad the forums are happening, how are you advertising the community forum?

Dr. Ahern – We will reach out to other sources to reach the citizens.

Mrs. Schultz – I think you are forgetting about this Friday night.

Dr. Ahern – Yes, we are having the Harlem Wizards basketball game at Tri County on Friday, November 17. This is for the Franklin Education Foundation. Yes, I am playing. All are welcome.

2. Discussion / Action Items

a. New Coach Positions

I recommend approval of the new coach positions as discussed.

Girls Varsity Ice Hockey Coach - This position is recommended based on the anticipated size of the team (40-45 students). Currently there are 2 paid coaches for the team, whereas the boys' team has 3 paid coaches for the same number of athletes, practices, and games. This would address equity concerns and provide for better supervision/coaching of the team. This position would be in Tier 2 of the Coaches Stipend of the Collective Bargaining Contract with a salary of \$2,657 for a candidate with no experience.

Gymnastics Assistant Coach -- The team is anticipating 14-18 athletes after surpassing last year's expectations of 6-10 athletes with a total of 11 competitors in 2016-2017 school year. The recommended ratio of coach to gymnasts is 1:8 and other Hockomock League gymnastics teams have two coaches. If we were to forgo this assistant coach, we would have to pay a spotter for all of our meets (at a cost of \$120/meet). An assistant coach will do more than spot at meets, including spotting at practices and developing a relationship with the athletes. This position is proposed to be in Tier 4 of the Coaches Stipend section of the Collective Bargaining Contract with a salary of \$1,057 for a candidate with no experience"

Mrs. Schultz - In the wording of the second, the candidate with no experience, I think we want one with experience.

Dr. Ahern - Yes, we do want them with experience.

Ms. Scofield - It says here it is for an assistant varsity coach, the size of the team is 40 to 45 players, that is a lot.

Mrs. Goodman- It is divided with varsity and JV.

<<<at 7:35 pm Ms. Linden lost connection>>>

Dr. Bergen - Any further discussions? No.

Dr. Ahern – I am recommending approval of these two positions.

Dr. Bergen – Is there a motion?

Mrs. Douglas made the motion to recommend.

Ms. Scofield – Made a second motion.

Motion: Ms. Scofield
Approve: 6

Second: Mrs. Schultz
Oppose: 0

New Student Activities

I recommend approval of the new FHS Student Activities: Alzheimer's Awareness club, Future Physicians and Medical Science, Club, Get Involved Value Everyone Club, Franklin High School National Art Honor Society Club

Motion: Ms. Scofield
Approve: 6

Second: Mrs. Schultz
Oppose: 0

- b. Field Trip Request - Chorus (recurring field trip)
I recommend approval of the request of Renee Hersee to take 8th grade chorus students to New York City to see the play "School of Rock" as detailed.
- c. RMS Math at the Mall (recurring field trip) I recommend approval of the

request of Catherine Gallo to take 8th grade Remington MS students to the Providence Place Mall on April 13, 2018 as detailed.

Motion for the field trips: Ms. Scofield
Approve: 6

Second: Mrs. Schultz
Oppose: 0

3. Discussion Only Items - None

a. Enrollment Report - None

4. Information Matters

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

i. Budget Sub Committee – Dr. Bergen

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

i. Joint PCC – Dr. Bergen

ii. MASC Liaison – Ms. Schultz

Dr. Bergen – We are all learning here tonight. There are a number of sub committees where a lot of the work happens. As new members, you will need to know what they are. We will give some descriptions about each of these committees. Then you can let me know what you might be interested in. Review of the payroll and budget subcommittee, are two important committees.

Mrs. Schultz – Community Relations Committee - We have tried to create opportunities to engage with the community, parents, and stakeholders. We have tried to create opportunities to provide information to all the people of Franklin. We have done that through coffees, fairs and other events. We had discussed that this the strategic planning was being housed in this committee. That is something that in-house in that committee.

Dr. Bergen – Mrs. Douglas has been reviewing the payroll. The PCC Liaison, you meet once a month with the chairs of all the schools. The chairs of all the PCCs get together and share information. I have been representing the School Committee on that and we can use someone else to be connected to the schools at that level. One of the issues was safety and we will be following up with that. We discussed the concern being the disparity among the schools with the raising of money and do they have an advantage. We are trying to come up with solutions on that.

Dr. Ahern – There were going to try to coordinate through the curriculum and there was a sensitivity among the schools.

Ms. Scofield– The policy sub committee is the best, we review all the policies for the district. The manual was established 17 or 18 years ago. Prior to that they were stashed away and not organized at all. We had to put together a policy manual and this needs to be reviewed. We need to keep it up to date and add new policies. We have to make sure all the policies are legal and everything is included.

Dr. Bergen – What is powerful is the connection with all the committees and hearing all the concerns and we were able to address all the information we receive and address it.

Mrs. Douglas – For the transportation committee, we only met once for the transportation committee. It is really Miriam who can speak to this.

Mrs. Goodman – We talked about the fee structure. We are currently going out to bid and we will have meetings when we do go out to bid as well as information on fees. We have a three year contract. We will meet if there are other transportation issues that arrive.

Mrs. Douglas – SWAC – School Wellness Advisory Council, we meet at 7:30 am at Franklin High School, 4 to 5 times this year, we recommend and review and help implement new school policies for health issues for students. SWAC has a complete manual on the website for you to review.

Dr. Bergen – We just started a public school advocacy committee. We haven't met yet on it. We need to learn about all the legislation and what is going on and what affects us. We need to bring information back and present it to the Town. There has been a lot of misinformation of public schools and we need to set the record straight and have people understand the importance of public schools. We need to bring this information back and present it here. We need to keep in touch with our representatives on both local and statewide.

Mrs. Schultz – We want to include this as being town wide dialogue and involve all the elected officials.

Dr. Bergen- We have a delegate to the MASC which is Mrs. Schultz.

Mrs. Schultz – I was the official delegate. I attended the MASC conference that happened a couple of weeks ago and I voted on behalf of the School Committee. There were seven resolutions that were passed. It is a matter that the community is aware of what is going on at our association level and advocating for better policies and that we are informed of those and that our public knows what is going on as well.

Dr. Bergen – This is a summary of the committees and I will be seeking your input on what committee you would like to be a part of.

5. New Business - None

1. To discuss any future agenda items.

Dr. Bergen - Any new items you would like to see? New School Committee members can add anything up to five days before the meeting. We want to make sure the agenda reflects the meeting. We want to keep the meetings very focused on the specific goals. The benefits of getting the agenda ahead of time you can see what is going to be presented. We have to keep all the goals in mind and what we are trying to accomplish. The consent agenda are the items are more routine, we do it all at once and then vote on them as a block. Dr. Ahern will read all of these, some of them can be put on hold and we can discuss and ask questions before taking the vote.

6. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes – I recommend approval of the Minutes from the October 24, 2017 School Committee Meeting.

Dr. Bergen - This one will be done by exception because there are new committee members who cannot vote.

Motion: Mrs. Douglas
Approve: 4
Abstain: 2

Second: Mrs. Schultz
Oppose: 0

b. I recommend approval of Budget Transfers as detailed.

c. I recommend acceptance of checks totaling \$1,345.00 from various donors for FHS Scholarship.

d. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1,000.00 from the Special Olympics for in-house enrichment at FHS.

e. I recommend acceptance of the donation of a ukulele lending library, sensory rocking chairs and other learning supplies with an approximate value of \$1,680.00 for JF Kennedy.

f. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$375.00 from the Remington PCC for field trips.

g. I recommend declaring the attached list of obsolete technology equipment as surplus.

We put a hold on discussion on Obsolete Technology Equipment as surplus

Ms. Scofield - I would like more information on this. How old is this equipment that is being declared surplus? It ranges from 5 to 15 years old. I would like to let people know it is old and obsolete.

Dr. Ahern - The storage is costing money.

Ms. Zub – Are all of the devices are being wiped and made sure nothing is left on them before being disposed of?

Dr. Ahern – Yes. The technology department will do that.

h. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$925.00 from the Oak St. PCC for field trips.

i. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$490.00 from BJ's Wholesale Club as a districtwide gift.

j. I recommend acceptance of the donation of \$200.00 from Mr. & Mrs. Venkataraman for a scholarship as detailed.

k. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1,896.09 from O'Connor Studios for supplemental supplies & supplemental curriculum materials for Keller Elementary School as detailed.

Motion for all: Ms. Scofield
Approve: 6

Second: Mrs. Schultz
Oppose: 0

7. Motion to Adjourn –

Adjourned by 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Simon

SCAgenda 11-14-17.pdf
Enrollmentcompare-Oct16-Oct17.pdf
DiscussionAcitonA.pdf
DiscussionActionB.pdf
DiscussionActionC.pdf

DiscussionActionD.pdf
Reference IJOAB - Extended Field Trip Policy.pdf
ActionA.pdf
ActionB.pdf
ActionC.pdf
ActionD.pdf
ActionE.pdf
ActionF.pdf
ActionG.pdf
ActionH.pdf
ActionI.pdf
ActionJ.pdf
ActionK.pdf
Pledge Student.pdf