

**Franklin School Committee
Minutes
September 24, 2019
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. Bergen

Attendance: Mrs. Dianne Feeley; Mrs. Cindy Douglas; Dr. Monica Linden; Mrs. Mary Jane Scofield; Dr. Anne Bergen; Mrs. Denise Schultz; Mrs. Zub; Mr. Lucas Giguere; Dr. Sara Ahern; Mrs. Miriam Goodman; Dr. Joyce Edwards. present.

Pledge of Allegiance

We proudly introduce Evie King as tonight's Keller Kid who will lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Evie is a third-grader at Keller and is in Mr. Joseph's class.

Evie LOVES school! Evie has strong connections to her school and peers. This year, Mr. Craddock, Keller School's Assistant Principal, developed a "Peer Mentor Program" which matched students who were new to Keller with peer role models. In planning for such, it was easy for Mr. Craddock to see the ways in which Evie could contribute to this program. Evie was matched with a new student. She gave her a tour of the school over the summer and continues to work hard at developing a friendship with her and making sure that she feels a strong connection to Keller.

Evie is viewed by her peers as caring, inclusive, and very funny. Evie's sense of humor creates a warm environment for anyone who she crosses paths with.

Evie also has strong connections to her community. Outside of school, Evie participates in girl scouts, dance, softball, and basketball.

Evie also loves being around her younger brother Teddy, who is a kindergartener at Keller.

Evie defines what it means to be a Keller Kid! Together, with her parents Christine and Dan, we are very proud of her!

Moment of Silence

1. Routine Business

a. Review of Agenda - All is fine.

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 comments 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 - none were present

d. Superintendent Report

Dr. Ahern - I have several things for the School Committee and the community. I have exciting news to share and wanted to recognize the MCAS results. We will present all of the results later this fall. But we have two schools who were recognized with distinction and they are Kennedy and Davis Thayer. Congratulations on this.

I have some more information about that Student Opportunity Act which incorporates proposals towards education reform funding. The House of Reps have come forward with increased funding for healthcare , sped and english learners, financial support for charter reimbursement, school guidance and services and lifting the cap on buildings. They have accountability measures for schools to close opportunity acts.

It is still early and has only been out a couple of days and is headed to the Senate for debate. This bill will support all communities across the Commonwealth. We are a minimum aid community and we will see the chapter 70 funding impact us. We think the circuit breaker will help us with out-of-district transportation and will be phased in over 4 years. There will be support for charter reimbursement. We see

grants that will be available. It will take multiple years for the bill to be implemented.

I'd like to preview our professional development day and we will have building based days in the afternoon. They will work with staff on the school improvement plans. At ECDC they will develop the Day for Pre K curriculum and proposed report card. The elementary schools will have action planning in their school improvement plans. The middle schools will have relationship building. At the FHS they will work on cultural efficiency. We look forward to this professional development day.

I would like to apologize to the FHS community on a recent Sunday morning call that went out at 6:00 am instead of the 6:00 pm. It was an accident and a mistake.

2. Guests / Presentations - none

a. ECDC and Elementary Schools - Improvement Plans

Mrs. Kelley - Thank you all for having me. AT ECDC we are aligned with the elementary schools, but we do have differences and we do our own plan. Our theory of action aligns with all the schools and district plan. We have pulled the cultural proficiency and we weave this through all our objectives. We have Big Day for pre K and we will continue this.

In SEL:

- SEL committee is rebooting and refocusing and looking at our goals
- Green zones and cozy corners
- Staff we will have a safe and collaborative environment and feeling safe
- Engaging in rigorous curriculum
- Ensure all the new units are aligned with the new report card
- Including fine motor and gross motor skills
- We will have a new report card to present to you
- Develop a play group for families coming from early intervention and building those relationships
- High quality instruction
- We use our community garden as a tool for the students and use it as a science lesson

- Right now it is not accessible to handicap students
- We have a technology team and have these new clear touch computers, three of them
- We are learning how to use them and to enrich what we are doing

Effective Two way communication:

- We have our second year of school council
- We did a survey to current families and former families
- We will use social media
- We are working with Dean College and they have a new Bachelor's in Early Childhood

Any questions?

Mrs. Feeley - The early interventions, does the early intervention stop when they come to you?

Mrs. Kelley - Yes, it does. It stops at age 3. We have a process to help them transition and have testing for them. We have a transition period for the student and families.

Dr. Linden - Around the digital literacy goal, what is that for preschool?

Mrs. Kelley - That is some of the questions we have asked; what do we want the preschoolers to get out of it? We don't do field trips but we can bring something into the classroom by using the web. We can use short videos to get attention. They will not be able to use it independently. We use it to enrich what we are doing.

Dr. Bergen - We had the joint PCC, and ECDC was so wonderful. Developmentally, when you bring in assessment how do you differentiate at this level?

Mrs. Kelley - That is important to understand. The teachers at ECDC are special educators and they understand that all children CAN. It is not I can't, it is what can I do. You will see all different learning being done. The report card will be based on the individual child's growth curve.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Mr. Stark - we are going to speak to some of commonalities. We have combined our theory of action and strategic objectives.

Mrs. Wasik - Our first is SEL of students and staff.

- Continuing SEL Skills
- Develop a cohesive and will support student with SEL needs
- We will have regular meetings for identifying students at risk
- We will have zones of recess and have clubs at some schools
- Improve students absenteeism and attendance
- We partner with U Inc. at Parmenter
- We work with five CASSEL competencies
- Provide staff with SEL as well

Ms. Klim - We will be looking at:

- Rigorous curriculum
- Implement the new homework guidelines
- Provide prod del opportunity for stall in developing rigorous standards based utis using the Understanding by Design.
- Parmenter will work digital literacy as STEAM

Dr. Ashley - We will also look at:

- High quality instruction to meet the needs of students
- Review current special ed practices and ved app school structures practices to meet the
 - needs of students on IEPs
- Implements a continuum of series for enrichment and interventions
- We will use ICE
- We will have passion project initivitative.

Mr. Hendrixson -

- We will have effective two-way communication

- Committed that all families have a voice
- Continue to expand communication channels to further enhance engagement with the community
- Create clear areas of focus for School Council directly related to school and district plans.
- Provide outreach and surveys to parents
- Teacher presentation through PCC meetings
- We will provide community outreach school local or global

Dr. Bergen - Any questions?

Mrs. Schultz -The homework guidelines, you are sharing this and resharing this, not recreating this?

Ms. Klim - We linked it through some newsletters so new families could access it.

Dr. Linden - You touched on advanced learners and what is happening there?

Mrs. Barca - The passion project taps into student's strengths and comes up with a common goal and how they can accomplish this.

Mrs. Feeley - On the UBD, are the grades working independently or are they by school?

Mrs. Barca - The science units are being designed and the units are solid and they work for the teachers and they can use it to present to the students. We have math and literacy specialist and we are working on that.

Dr. Bergen - I love seeing the school council and involving parents. It is good to see this. On attendance, are you keeping base-line data?

Mrs. Barca - All schools. Yes.

b. School Start Times Update - Dr. Ahern

Dr. Ahern - I wanted to update you on school start times. The advisory committee worked for about a year looking at adjusting start times. We dove deeper into this and had informational data about start times. We will look at alternative start times.

Last year the issue with students and sleep and the importance of sleep and how we should look at this:

- We focus on educating students, staff and families on sleep.
- Implementation of the homework guidelines.
- Draw attention to technology and social media on sleep
- Piloting a late start for students at the high school, on a half day

We would like to issue a brief survey to students to gather an interim data point about their sleep and its impact on school.

I suggest that the District pause on its consideration at this time. We have an obligation that we need to continue the health of children and sleep is one of them. I want to take an opportunity as to why I would frame it around priorities. We have some key priorities that the State legislation as to how we are going to put together the 2021 budget. I would want to have us look at other items that need careful attention such as Davis Thayer and also we have been negotiating contracts and we need to focus on these.

I wanted to share the survey and the students are sharing that they are getting less sleep. It goes down from grade to grade.

Dr. Linden - What is going to be your measure of success?

Dr. Ahern - I don't think I have pinned that down in terms of what that will be. I would be curious to see other school's data.

Mrs. Zub - That would be good to look at.

Mrs. Feeley - I see how it is only 8 plus hours, but would it be interesting to see ranges?

Dr. Ahern - We had some information about that, we do have a sense of that to get that range. I added this slide that a 5 minute add to the end of the day was meeting the requirements of time on learning and collective bargaining agreement.

Dr. Linden- If the school starts were spaced, there would be some savings with bussing?

Dr. Ahern - I can't answer that at this time.

Dr. Linden - Just because of the budget, you could save money on busing?

Dr. Ahern - I can't answer that at this time.

The next steps will be to provide education to families and students and the importance of sleep. We will work on the homework guidelines. We will have Social Media Nights Oct 21 and sleep education night on November 19 was well.

Dr. Linden - This is not meant to be disrespectful to you. I want to express my gratitude to the members of this group. They did a wonderful job presenting this and researching this.

Ms.Scofield - I want to thank you for your presentation tonight. We need to take more time on this.

Tim Keenan - I would echo what Monica said for the research and appreciation for Dr. Ahern answering all the questions. I have done a lot of research and contacted a key author and some schools that have done this. I wonder if I am missing something on the research. There is difference between sleep research is different than start time research. I would be happy to share information about what I discovered. Monica, I don't know if you will appreciate this but it goes back years ago and over 1,000 students were involved in 1998, each year the bedtime got gradually earlier. Bed time and stronger grades had a direct correlation.

Dr. Bergen - Not to cut you off but you may want to come to the November meeting and share that with her. She has that data.

Mr. Keenan - Sure, I would like to know if I am missing something here that there is a start time study is clear, I would like to hear about that.

Dr. Bergen - That is a great question and we will bring it up.

Mrs. Feeley - I wanted to thank Dr. Ahern and administration to summarize this. We agreed as a committee to pause and bring in education to help.

Dr. Bergen - The issues that we are confronted with right now, we need to focus on those. We have budget issues and possible closing of Davis Thayer. We want to not make quick decisions and gather the data. It takes schools a long time to change their start times. Monica, you worked very hard.

Mrs. Zub -I agree with Monica. We spent a year working on this. There is no right answer. We want to do the best that we can do for our students. It will be interesting to look at this at a State level. We always need to keep the students across this district in mind.

Dr. Linden - While the DT process is going on this could be in the background but if we closed a school and then had mandated start times.

At 8:24 pm meeting adjourned to go into executive session

Executive Session a. Pursuant to M.G.L.C. 30A, §21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.

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

Mrs. Schultz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Douglas. All were in favor.

Meeting resumed at 8:33 pm

3. Discussion / Action Items

a. Elementary School Improvement Plans

I recommend approval of the 19-20 School Improvement Plans for Davis Thayer, Jefferson, Keller, Kennedy, Oak Street and Parmenter elementary School and ECDC as presented and discussed.

Motion: Mrs. Schultz
Approve: 7

Second: Mrs. Douglas
Oppose: 0

b. Policy - First Readings

I recommend moving the following policies to a second reading at the next School Committee meeting as discussed:

BEDB - Order of Business
updated the citizen's comment section

BEDH - Public Participation
clarity of number 2, the Chair can determine the length of public speaking

Motion: Mrs. Scofield
Approve: 7

Second: Mrs. Douglas
Oppose: 0

4. Discussion Only Items

a. Revised FY20 Budget

Dr. Ahern - There is a possibility for a revised FY20 budget but have an opportunity to get more appropriation for our budget. We are looking to apply to secure consultants for DT school and look long term at enrollment and additional money of some of the cuts in supplies for the schools. Also we want to look at professional development. I wouldn't advocate for any of the

positions and the school year has started and the Charter reimbursement is bigger this year because of their expansion.

Any questions?

Mrs. Scofield - Do you have a cost for consultant?

Dr. Ahern - I don't have a number for that as of today.

Dr. Bergen - When the budget was finalized, we did not find the money. This was based on the State.

5. Information Matters

a. School Committee Sub-Committee Reports (e.g. Budget; Community Relations; Policy; Transportation; Public Schools Advocacy)

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

BUDGET Dr Bergen - Met on September 23. Miriam did a five year projection. Talked about community relations.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS Mrs. Zub - We have a couple of opportunities to share: Saturday, September 28 we will be at Dacey Field at 9:00 am, the next is the Harvest Festival on October 5 from 12 to 5. The newsletter is coming.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ADVOCACY Mrs. Schultz -We met prior to this meeting. Will be planning for the 2020 forum. MASC conference is October 15.

POLICY Mrs. Scofield - We met this past week. Our next meeting is October 24. We have reviewed all the "b" policies.

JOINT PCC - Dr. Bergen and Mrs. Douglas - We met on September 23. The schools shared as to what their schools are doing.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE - Mrs. Douglas and Mr. Giguere - We received some funds to support substance abuse and vaping.

SCHOOL WELLNESS - Mrs. Douglas - We met today and reviewed last year's agenda and had a few new people.

6. New Business

- a. To discuss any future agenda items

Dr. Ahern - At the next meeting we have advisors and students from the Europe trip. We will have an update from health and wellness. We will look at the two-year NEASC report from the high school. We will look at MASC resolutions.

7. Consent Agenda

a. Minutes

I recommend approval of the minutes from the September 10, 2019 School Committee meeting as detailed.

b. Executive Session Minutes

I recommend approval of the executive session minutes from the September 10, 2019 School Committee meeting to be released as detailed.

c. Parmenter Gift

I recommend acceptance of a check for \$1,560.50 from the Parmenter PCC for supplemental supplies as detailed.

d. Remington Middle School Trip

I recommend approval of the request to take the RMS Adventure Club to Mt. Monadnock in Jaffrey, NH for a recurring field trip on October 19, 2019 as detailed.

e. Budget Transfers

I recommend approval of the budget transfers as detailed

Motion for all: Mrs. Schultz
Approve: 7

Second: Mrs. Douglas
Oppose: 0

8. Payment of Bills Dr. Bergen - correct

9. Payroll Mrs. Douglas - correct

10. Adjournment at 8:56 pm

Mrs. Schultz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Douglas. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Simon

SCAgenda 9-24-19.pdf

1. 2019-20 ECDC Sip Presentation.pdf

2. _ECDC School Improvement Plan 2019-20.pdf

3.. 2019-2020 Elem SIP Presentation (9.24.19 School Committee Meeting).pdf

4. Davis Thayer School Improvement Plan 2019-2020.pdf

5. Draft- Jefferson School Improvement Plan 2019-2020.pdf

6. Keller 19-20 SIP for School Committee.pdf

7. JFK SIP 2019-2020.pdf

8. SY20 Oak Street Improvement Plan.pdf

9. Parmenter School Improvement Plan 2019-20.pdf

School Start Times Presentation_ Part II.pdf

CURRENT - BEDB - Order of Business

CURRENT - BEDH - Public Participation

Discussion Action A - Elem SIPs.pdf

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Final

Discussion Action B - Policy.pdf

Sept. Memo re Revised FY20 Budget.pdf

Consent ActionA - Minutes.pdf

Consent ActionB - ES Minutes.pdf

Consent ActionC - Parm Gift.pdf

Consent ActionD - RMS Trip.pdf

Consent ActionE - Transfers.pdf

Payroll Warrant #2006 Summary.pdf

Payroll Warrant #2006.pdf

FPS Summary & Sign Off 092419.pdf

SCWarrant090519.pdf

SCWarrant091219.pdf

Pledge Student - Evie King 9-24-19.pdf

