

Franklin School Committee

September 8, 2020

7:00 P.M.

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

☐ 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.

Per Governor Baker's Executive Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A sec. 20, the public will not be allowed to physically access this School Committee meeting. Members of the Public can access the meeting via remote conference. The School Committee reserves the right to implement additional remote participation procedures and will notify the public of these procedures as soon as practicable.

LOCATION: School Committee members will meet in Town Council Chambers and on Zoom. Members of the public may access the meeting via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/93420832148?pwd=WXdWV0szeWRESFJ6bHhCb2UzQk4zQT09>

Meeting ID: 934 2083 2148

Passcode: FSC

+16465588656,,93420832148#,,,,,0#,,416420# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 934 2083 2148

Passcode: 416420

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."

Call to Order at 7:01 pm

Roll Call Attendance: Ms. Jennifer D'Angelo - Yes; Mr. Timothy Keenan - Yes; Ms. Judith Pond-Pfeffer - Yes; Ms. Scofield - Yes; Dr. Anne Bergen - Yes; Ms. Denise Spencer - Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes - Yes

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Also present were: Dr. Sara Ahern; Mrs. Miriam Goodman; Dr. Joyce Edwards. Mr. Lucas Giguere; Mrs. Paula Marano.

Pledge of Allegiance
Moment of Silence

I. Routine Business

A. Review of Agenda - reviewed and the hiring update was removed and will be on the next agenda

B. Citizen's Comments - none

In the spirit of open communication, "the Committee will hold a public participation segment (also called Citizen's Comments) about matters 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.... The Committee will hear public comments related to an agenda item when the Chair deems appropriate during the Committee meeting. Topics for discussion during the meeting must be limited to those items listed on the Committee meeting agenda for that evening.... " - from Policy BEDH

C. FHS Student Representative Comments - none at this time

D. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Ahern shared the reopening update and the professional development for the staff for the first 10 days. The staff is working hard on content for the upcoming year. She shared what the next few days will look like. She spoke about the number of communications going out and there have been a number of glitches and to bear with us. She spoke about air quality issues and will be summarized by Mike D'Angelo and how the air quality has been improved throughout the district and he will be posting this information on our website. Dr. Ahern shared how all the HVAC units have been maintained and new filters have been installed.

Dr. Ahern shared communications expectations and how we will handle it. She stated that we need to maintain confidentiality of this information but will share it with the public when it is appropriate. She clarified information regarding the influenza vaccine and that there are exceptions to getting the vaccine; medical exemptions require a Doctor's note.

II. Guests/Presentations

A. ECDC Reopening Plan -- Ms. Kelty Kelley and Ms. Paula Marano

Ms. Kelley shared a presentation regarding the opening process for ECDC. This was shared with parents on August 5. She spoke about how the committee worked together on this opening with focus on in-person for the children and will have a low class size plus what tuition will look like. She shared how they considered two models for ECDC and the decision was made for the in-person model as opposed to the hybrid model.

Ms. Kelley also shared that children who need to be evaluated will be conducted on Wednesdays. She also shared how tuition payments will be made and how they will be handled if school goes completely remote.

She stated that on September 16, families will be at ECDC to come see the school and September 21 is the first day of school.

Mr. Keenan thanked Ms. Kelley for a complete plan.

Ms. Scofield asked about the enrollment.

Ms. Kelley stated that it was around 100.

Ms. Stokes also stated what a great job the task force did, and wanted to know why the playground will be closed.

Ms. Kelley stated that it is just the sanitizing issue.

Dr. Bergen also thanked everyone for all the hard work.

III. Discussion/Action Items

A. Policy - 2nd Reading/Adoption

I recommend adoption of the following policies as discussed:

- EBC (SUPPLEMENTAL) - Creation Of A General (Interim) Policy On Covid-related Issues
- EBCFA - Masks/Face Coverings (New)
- COVID Policy Addendums

Motion: Ms. Pond-Pfeffer
Approve: 7

Second: Ms. Scofield
Oppose: 0

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Roll Call Vote: Ms. Jennifer D'Angelo - Yes; Mr. Timothy Keenan - Yes; Ms. Judith Pond-Pfeffer - Yes; Ms. MaryJane Scofield - Yes; Dr. Anne Bergen - Yes; Ms. Denise Spencer - Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes - Yes

B. School Handbooks and Covid Addendums

I recommend approval of the School Handbooks with the Covid Addendums as discussed.

Mr. Giguere gave a presentation of all the handbooks for Franklin Public Schools and how they have changed with COVID. He provided a description of what the changes are in the handbooks.

Dr. Bergen wanted to know about school councils.

Mr. Giguere spoke about the COVID information and how this will be communicated with all the changes related to these times and how to support the students.

Ms. Pond-Pfeffer commented on how large the handbooks are and how impressive it is.

Mr. Giguere said they are done digitally but you can request a hard copy.

Ms. Spencer asked about the back-to-school presentation.

Motion: Ms. Pond-Pfeffer
Approve: 7

Second: Ms. Scofield
Oppose: 0

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Jennifer D'Angelo - Yes; Mr. Timothy Keenan - Yes; Ms. Judith Pond-Pfeffer - Yes; Ms. MaryJane Scofield - Yes; Dr. Anne Bergen - Yes; Ms. Denise Spencer - Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes - Yes

IV. Discussion Only Items

A. Annual Report Draft

Dr. Ahern spoke about the annual report and what will be submitted to the town for the annual report for Franklin.

B. Budget Update

Dr. Ahern and Ms. Goodman shared information about the budget.

Ms. Goodman spoke about all the changes with expenses, revenues and savings for the coming year.

Ms. D'Angelo asked about the elementary school positions last week.

Dr. Ahern shared we did not have that information at that time.

Mr. Keenan reminded the community that we are in a budget shortfall.

Ms. Pond-Pfeffer was concerned about new hires and that in December we may not be able to pay them.

Ms. Scofield asked about the elementary school positions and how we are going to accommodate them.

Dr. Ahern stated that staffing changes have allowed this.

Ms. Stokes inquired about the COVID funding and when it expires.

Dr. Ahern stated that December 31, 2020 is the deadline.

Dr. Bergen asked about the grant money, would that include COVID testing.

Ms. Goodman stated that it has not been included to date but that it would be an allowable expense and is being discussed.

Ms. D'Angelo asked about SEL and students.

V. Information Matters

- A. School Committee Sub-Committee Reports (e.g. Ad Hoc Supt. Evaluation, Ad Hoc Facilities Analysis, Budget, Community Relations/Public Schools Advocacy, Policy, Transportation)
- B. School Committee Liaison Reports (e.g. Joint PCC, Substance Abuse Task Force, School Wellness Advisory Council)

BUDGET Dr. Bergen, Mr. Keenan and Ms. D'Angelo - No meetings have been set.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS - Ms. Spencer, Ms. Pond-Pfeffer, Dr. Bergen - No meetings as of yet.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ADVOCACY Dr. Bergen - No meetings as of yet.

POLICY Mrs. Scofield, Ms. Spencer, Ms. Stokes- No meetings as of yet.

JOINT PCC - Ms. Pond-Pfeffer - No meetings as of yet.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE - Dr. Bergen, Ms. D'Angelo, Mr. Giguere - No meetings as of yet.

SCHOOL WELLNESS - Ms. Spencer, Ms. Stokes - No meetings as of yet.

AD HOC DAVIS THAYER FACILITY Ms. Stokes, Ms. Pond-Pfeffer, Ms. Scofield- These meetings are on pause and we will be scheduling meetings shortly.

TRANSPORTATION - Mr. Keenan, Dr. Bergen, Ms. Scofield - No meetings as of yet.

AD HOC SUPERINTENDENT - Dr. Bergen - No meetings as of yet.

VI. New Business

A. To discuss any future agenda items

Dr. Ahern spoke about district goals that will be discussed and new hires overview and description of the hiring process.

Ms. Pond-Pfeffer wanted a number of staff who have left, new hires, retirements, leaves and furloughs.

Ms. Scofield would like an update on chromebooks.

VII. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes

I recommend approval of the minutes from the August 25, 2020 School Committee meeting as detailed.

Motion: Ms. Pond-Pfeffer
Approve: 7

Second: Ms. Scofield
Oppose: 0

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Roll Call Vote: Ms. Jennifer D'Angelo - Yes; Mr. Timothy Keenan - Yes; Ms. Judith Pond-Pfeffer - Yes; Ms. MaryJane Scofield - Yes; Dr. Anne Bergen - Yes; Ms. Denise Spencer - Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes - Yes

VIII. Payment of Bills - looks correct

Dr. Bergen

IX. Payroll - looks correct

Ms. D'Angelo

X. Executive Session

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3), move to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to potential litigation as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares, and not to reconvene in an Open Session.

Motion to adjourn from open session:

Ms. Pond-Pfeffer

Second: Ms. Scofield

Approve: 7

Oppose: 0

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Jennifer D'Angelo - Yes; Mr. Timothy Keenan - Yes; Ms. Judith Pond-Pfeffer - Yes; Ms. MaryJane Scofield - Yes; Dr. Anne Bergen - Yes; Ms. Denise Spencer - Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes - Yes

XI. Adjournment at 8:32 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Simon

SCAgenda 9-8-20

ECDC Covid Reopening Plan 7-2020.pdf

ECDC Reopening Update 8-5-20.pdf

Discussion Action A - Policy 2ndRead-Adoption.pdf

Discussion Action B - Handbooks.pdf

2020-21 Annie Sullivan Handbook

2020-21 Davis Thayer Handbook.pdf

2020-21 ECDC Family Handbook.pdf

2020-21 FHS Student Handbook

2020-21 Horace Mann Handbook

2020-21 Jefferson Handbook.pdf

2020-21 JF Kennedy Handbook.pdf

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2020-21 Keller Handbook.pdf
2020-21 Oak Street Handbook.pdf
2020-21 Parmenter Handbook.pdf
2020-21 Remington Handbook
2020-21 Student Handbook Changes Summary.pdf
Elem. COVID-19 Handbook Addendum 2020-21-FINAL (9_3_20).pdf
FHS COVID-19 Handbook Addendum 2020-21-FINAL (9_3_20).pdf
MS COVID-19 Handbook Addendum 2020-21-FINAL (9_3_20).pdf
Budget Update for School Committee 9_2_2020.pdf
FY20 Annual Report.pdf
Consent Action A - Minutes.pdf
SC Warrant 082020.xlsx
SC Warrant 082720.xlsx
FPS Summary & Sign Off 090820.pdf
SC Warrant 082020.pdf
SC Warrant 082720.pdf
Payroll Warrant #2105 Summary
Payroll Warrant #2105.pdf
Executive Session Minutes-8-25-2020.pdf
Budget2Actual.pdf