

## Franklin School Committee

**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.**

**DATE: 4/14/2020**

**TIME: 7:00 PM**

**LOCATION:** Remote participation via Google Hangouts Meet -- link below

<p><a href="#">Join Hangouts Meet</a></p> <p><a href="https://meet.google.com/kpf-tgcx-hth">meet.google.com/kpf-tgcx-hth</a></p>	<p>OR</p>	<p><a href="#">Join by phone</a></p> <p>402-369-5348 PIN: 991 744 663#</p>
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## Franklin School Committee Minutes April 14, 2020

*Meeting are recorded by Franklin TV and shown on Comcast Channel 11 and Verizon Channel 29*

Peter Fasciano of Franklin TV was located at Franklin TV  
No one present from the Milford Daily News

### **Moment of Silence**

**Call to order:** 7:00 pm

Dr. Bergen

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

**Motion was made to open the discussion on FY 21 budget:**

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. Scofield - Yes; Dr. Anne Bergen - Yes; Ms. Denise Spencer - Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes - Yes

**FY21 Budget Open Hearing**

Dr. Ahern shared a presentation that shows the FY 21 budget. The goals for this budget were the four goals:

- SEL
- Engaging in rigorous curriculum
- High-Quality Instruction to Meet the Academic and SEL Needs of Each Learner
- Effective Two-Way Communication to Support Student Learning

She explained how the budget process works and provided a timeline of the budget process.

Mrs. Goodman described some of the key factors that define the budget. The State defines 3 factors:

- Wage adjustment factors
- Enrollment
- Inflation

Mrs. Goodman explained the State contribution and the local contribution towards the foundation Budget and Net School Spending.

A chart was shared showing the FY20 budget compared to the FY21 budget.

The FY21 budget is \$68,767,873 which is a 6.03% increase.

Mrs. Goodman shared information regarding what Franklin Schools will receive from Federal Grant money of \$1.4 million which is an estimate at this time.

Mrs. Goodman stated that we are waiting for more information about what the allocation from the town will be and looking at other factors.

Dr. Ahern explained what is to level service. She explained that two programs will need to be increased: NECC and GOALS programs.

Mrs. Goodman explained all the numbers and costs associated with the budget. She spoke about the comparable school districts to ours and there are 11 school districts which are similar. She pointed out that Franklin Public Schools are in the middle of this list. She went on to explain the 11 categories for spending and we are below the State average with the exception of professional development.

Dr. Ahern spoke about the next steps and that the public could ask questions at this time.

There will be a vote on April 28 on this budget. That date could change with all that is going on.

Dr. Ahern shared that a concern is that we are addressing budget gaps each year and given the economic downturn, that may play a role in this.

Dr. Bergen went through the line items in the budget and the amounts associated with each.

Budget line item 1430 - Ms. Scofield asked for a hold  
Ms. Scofield wanted an explanation of how this number seems to fluctuate.

Dr. Ahern explained that this covers labor and legal services and counsel for any policies and special education is part of this as well.

Mrs. Goodman also explained that these fluctuate year to year with contract negotiations.

Budget line item 2210 - Ms. Pond-Pfeffer asked for a hold  
Ms. Pond-Pfeffer wanted an explanation of why Franklin High School had six administrators.

Dr. Ahern added that other high schools similar to our size, may have a smaller number but their department heads evaluate at FHS the administrative team does all the evaluations.

Ms. D'Angelo inquired about the number of teachers at the HS and whether the evaluations were split evenly among the 6 administrators.

Dr. Ahern responded that there are about 125 professional staff and the evaluations are split roughly evenly, with the high school principal having slightly fewer due to evaluations of the assistant principals.

Budget line items 2352, 2354, 2356, 2358 Ms. Pond-Pfeffer asked for a hold on these  
Ms. Pond-Pfeffer stated her opinion about the role of the instructional coach and why they are needed. She also stated her opinion on the cost of professional development.

Dr. Ahern clarified these positions and how the instructional coaches are instructing students and work in the classrooms alongside teachers.

Ms. D'Angelo requested further information on instructional coaches and paraprofessionals

Dr. Ahern explained the differences between a coach and paraprofessionals in that coaches have a higher degree of professional qualification and expertise.

Budget line item 9100 Ms. Scofield asked for a hold  
Ms. Scofield requested the number of students who are in out of district placements and inquired about whether or not it is the district's choice to pay.

Dr. Ahern explained that out of district placement is for students to get specialized services outside of Franklin and is decided by a team process.

Mrs. Goodman added that this is a legally required cost.

Ms. Scofield wanted people to know what that number of students are and the costs.

Mrs. Goodman estimated at 75 to 80 students and the range is \$45,000 to \$300,000 per year.

Ms. D'Angelo asked whether due to the current situation, if we would expect fluctuations for the rest of the fiscal year.

Dr. Ahern stated that we are expecting fluctuations, but as to amount, we will have to wait to see what happens.

Questions from online participants:

Brendan asked what causes out-of-district expenses.

Dr. Ahern stated that we do have students who attend out of district school and the school district pays for those services.

Kathryn asked about bringing students back into Franklin Public Schools with the programs that they will need.

Dr. Ahern stated that they are doing that currently and working on new programs.

## **1. Routine Business**

**a. Review of Agenda** - All is fine.

**b. Citizen's Comments** - None

i. 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**

**d. Superintendent Report**

Dr. Ahern shared an update regarding the high school principal search and how that is progressing. There is a committee accomplishing this and here are the three candidates:

- Mr. Rick Arena
- Mr. Josh Hanna
- Mr. William Klements

Next Dr. Ahern shared information about the high school girls who participated in the Girls Who Code and how they were highlighted on Facebook live.

Dr. Ahern spoke about how Dianne Plouffe, the Music Director, is keeping the music alive and they will be performing via the web. She spoke about FEF and that Kit Brady is stepping down and how the Franklin Public Schools will miss him. Dr. Ahern thanked Kit for all he has done and reminded everyone the FEF grants extend into the Fall. She also announced that the Educator of the Year Award and Symposium is on hold.

**2. Guests / Presentations - None**

**3. Discussion / Action Items**

**A. Continued payment for hourly employees**

I recommend approval of continued payment for hourly employees as detailed.

Ms. Pond-Pfeffer amended this motions to continue payment for hourly employees to continue for the duration of the closure. Ms. D'Angelo seconded.

Motion: Ms. Pond-Pfeffer  
Approve: 7

Second: Ms. D'Angelo  
Oppose: 0

Roll Call Vote: 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

**B. School Calendar 2019-2020**

I recommend that the School Committee adjust the 2019-2020 school calendar as detailed.

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. Scofield - Yes; Dr. Anne Bergen - Yes; Ms. Denise Spencer - Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes - Yes

**4. Discussion Only Items**

**A. Franklin Public Schools Remote Learning Plan**

Dr. Ahern spoke about the remote learning plan and how it is working. She explained they are following the State guidelines and as the closure continued we needed to provide additional instruction through the Department of Education.

She explained a couple of key features to focus on students and well being and well being of families and staff and the other one is seeking to approximate a half of school day learning. Dr. Ahern explained the teachers are doing their best with this type of learning.

Dr. Ahern explained how the chromebooks were distributed and how the assignments will be graded. She shared that they are keeping in contact with the principals regarding participation of the students.

Ms. D'Angelo commented about the presentations which were done the other day and how well they were. .

Ms. Stokes commented on how much she appreciates everything and how it affects families. She asked that families please keep in touch with the teachers. We are all in this together - alone.

Mr. Keenan stated how his children have adapted. He would like to recommend that we check in with the kids to see if they are getting enough interaction with classmates.

Dr. Ahern stated that they will be looking into how to do this.

A member of the public Brendan, asked if there was a plan to increase to more than 2 hours per day?

Dr. Ahern explained that this time frame for synchronous instruction was done in response to DESE guidance. She shared that the district will be reaching out to gather more information about how it is going as time goes by.

Brendan asked if we are bound by the Department of Education guidance and can we do more?

Dr. Ahern stated that it is wise to follow DESE guidance as access can be a challenge for students and families.

## **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, Mr. Keenan and Ms. D'Angelo - Met on March 31

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS** - Ms. Spencer, Ms. Pond-Pfeffer, Dr. Bergen - No information at this time

**PUBLIC SCHOOL ADVOCACY** Dr. Bergen - No report

**POLICY** Mrs. Scofield, Ms. Spencer, Ms. Stokes- Met on April 8 and will meet on April 29.

**JOINT PCC** - Ms. Pond-Pfeffer - Met on April 13

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE** - Dr. Bergen, Ms. D'Angelo, Mr. Giguere - No update

**SCHOOL WELLNESS** - Ms. Spencer, Ms. Stokes - no report

**AD HOC DAVIS THAYER FACILITY** Ms. Stokes, Ms. Pond-Pfeffer, Ms. Scofield- met on April 1 - waiting for facilities report

**TRANSPORTATION** - Mr. Keenan, Dr. Bergen, Ms. Scofield - No report

**AD HOC SUPERINTENDENT** - Dr. Bergen - There will be a remote workshop soon, please review goals

## **6. New Business**

a. To discuss any future agenda items

Dr. Ahern shared that they can anticipate budget, policy and closure updates.

## **7. Consent Agenda**

A. Approval of Minutes

I recommend approval of the minutes from the March 10, 2020 School Committee Meeting as detailed.

The minutes were not in the packet but will be in the next packet for School Committee

B. Executive Session Minutes

I recommend approval of the minutes from the Executive Session of the March 10, 2020 School Committee Meeting to be released.

C. Budget Transfers

I recommend approval of the budget transfers as detailed.

D. Athletics Gift

I recommend acceptance of a check for \$136.00 from Agile Sports Technologies for supplemental supplies for Athletics as detailed.

E. FHS Gift

I recommend acceptance of a check for \$25.43 from Ohiopyle Prints for in-house enrichment at FHS as detailed

F. Oak Street Gift

I recommend acceptance of a check for \$2,029.00 from the Oak Street PCC for field trips as detailed.

G. Music Gift

I recommend acceptance of a check for \$781.00 from the Franklin Music Boosters for in-house enrichment as detailed.

H. Revised Minutes

I recommend approval of the revised minutes from the February 11, 2020 School Committee meeting.

Motion to approve items B - H

Motion: 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. Scofield - Yes; Dr. Anne Bergen - Yes; Ms. Denise Spencer - Yes; Ms. Elise Stokes - Yes

**8. Payment of Bills Dr. Bergen noted that the bills were correct**

**9. Payroll Ms. D'Angelo noted that the payroll was correct**

**10. Adjournment at 8:48 PM**

Roll Call to Adjourn Meeting

Roll Call Vote: 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

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Simon

SCAgenda 4-14-20  
FY21 Budget Hearing Presentation.pdf  
Executive SummaryRevised.pdf  
DIP.pdf  
District achievement Profile FY21.pdf  
Enrollment.pdf  
OverviewA.pdf  
OverviewB.pdf  
ECDC.pdf  
Davis Thayer.pdf  
Jefferson.pdf  
Kennedy.pdf  
Oak St.pdf  
Parmenter.pdf  
Keller.pdf  
ASMS.pdf  
RMS.pdf  
HMMS.pdf  
FHS.pdf

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April 14, 2020  
FINAL

Central Office.pdf  
Teaching & Learning.pdf  
Student Services.pdf  
Special Revenue FY21.pdf  
Revolving Detail FY21.pdf  
Glossary and FAQs FY21.pdf  
Discussion Action A - Hourly Employee Pay.pdf  
Discussion Action B - Revised 19-20 School Calendar.pdf  
Remote Learning Framework and Roll Out - Families.pdf  
Consent Action A - Minutes.pdf  
Consent Action B - ES Minutes.pdf  
Consent Action C - Transfers.pdf  
Consent Action D - Athletics Gift.pdf  
Consent Action E - FHS Gift.pdf  
Consent Action F Oak St Gift.pdf  
Consent Action G - Music Gift.pdf  
Consent Action H - Minutes.pdf  
SCWarrant030520EX.xlsx  
SCWarrant031220EX.xlsx  
FPS Summary & sign off.pdf  
SCWarrant030520.pdf  
SCWarrant031220.pdf  
Payroll Warrant #2019 Summary.pdf  
Payroll Warrant #2019.pdf  
Payroll Warrant #2020 Summary.pdf  
Payroll Warrant #2020.pdf