

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH

Regular Meeting

Date: October 5, 2015

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Foxborough High School Media Center

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Tina Belanger, Mr. Bruce Gardner,
Ms. Beverley Lord, Mr. Stephen Udden, Ms. Marilyn Weiss

SCHOOL STAFF PRESENT: Ms. Debra Spinelli, Dr. Amy Berdos, Mr. William Yukna

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: Ms. Melissa Lynch (Ms. Mical Henriquez was absent)

Mr. Gardner called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda.

Mr. Gardner extended congratulations on behalf of the committee to Ms. Spinelli and her husband who recently became grandparents.

Visitors

None

Approval of Minutes

Lord moved; Belanger seconded

Approve the regular meeting minutes of September 21, 2015 as amended

Vote: 5-0-0

Teaching and Learning Highlights

Ms. Spinelli introduced Technology Integration Specialists Ms. Darlene Reed, Mr. Dan Ambrosio, and Ms. Julia Greenstine who presented the teaching and learning highlight, the Role of the Technology Integration Specialist as Coach to Teachers and Students. Dr. Berdos noted this is an important teaching and learning highlight in light of the community support of technology integration. Ms. Greenstine defined the objectives of technology integration as collaborating, integrating, engaging students, and coaching teachers with the goal of using technology as teaching and learning tools both inside and outside the classroom. Technology integration specialists collaborate with the technology department, and together they work as a team to achieve technology integration in the classroom.

Ms. Reed described progress made in the second year of Office 365 implementation, and the design, development and delivery of Office 365, including OneNote training, to 142 classroom teachers across the curriculum. She reported that as a result teachers have created over 190 groups that are used for collaboration.

Mr. Ambrosio described the use of OneNote, a digital binder, as a tool being used across the district and in every kind of classroom. OneNote provides 24-hour access through an Internet

connection for both students and teachers and allows for personalized learning and real time feedback. He outlined the uses of Office 365 from the student's point of view, and the emphasis on digital citizenship awareness and responsibility at both the elementary and secondary levels.

During the presentation, the importance of developing relationships with teaching staff was emphasized. Teachers have reported that they are happy to have technology integration specialists on staff stating they help them "identify tools that match student needs," and "move closer to our district vision."

It was noted that Ms. Greenstine, Ms. Reed and Mr. Ambrosio all attended a four-day training at Microsoft and have attained Microsoft trainer certification.

The committee made many positive observations and remarks, noting that students and teachers have flourished under the coaching and teaching of this team of specialists. School Committee Student Representative Ms. Melissa Lynch stated that she uses the student email and collaborative groups regularly.

Athletic Director Update

Ms. Caitlin Brown, Athletic Director, provided the FHS Athletic Department Update. Accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation, she focused on the Athletic Department's mission statement, leadership training, collaboration with local Athletic Directors, captain's conferences, and sportsmanship guidelines and expectations. A future goal is to create a leadership class for all students. Further topics of discussion were character education, involvement with the Positive Coaching Alliance, expansion of Unified Track and Field, the importance of community service and health and wellness education. Coaching ratios for fall, winter and spring sports were analyzed, and an update on the progress of athletic facilities and the Sam Berns Community Field were provided. Areas for continued improvement were outlined.

Discussion with the School Committee followed. Topics discussed were the value of the Positive Coaching Alliance, progress on programs being implemented, and improving communication between student athletes, coaches and parents. The committee noted it was a terrific update. The committee did discuss areas of potential improvement such as processes across teams and asked Ms. Brown to come back at a future date.

2015 Culture and Climate Survey Results

Ms. Spinelli presented the district-wide results of the 2015 Culture and Climate Surveys taken by students, teachers and parents during the spring of 2015. As in previous years, the surveys and analysis were provided by K12 Insight. It was noted that K12 Insight reported the overall message over the past five years of data collection was one of stability and growth. While referring to a PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Spinelli summarized highlights of the latest in-depth, lengthy report, which surveyed the areas of Overall Education Quality, Academic Preparation, Student Support, Parent Involvement, Safety and Behavior, School Operations, District Operations, Communication, and Middle and High school Transitions. Each topic had a series of specific, pointed questions.

The School Committee was pleased with the results and noted this is valuable perception data to have going forward. The Committee encourages more participation in the future as it is valuable and useful to us.

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Coordinated Program Review – English Learner Education (ELE)

Dr. Berdos presented the fourth and final report of the Coordinated Program Review (CPR) conducted by DESE during the 2014-2015 school year. This final report summarized results of the English Learner Education (ELE) portion of the review. The report noted only two areas of improvement out of the eighteen criteria assessed -- Program Placement and Structure which was found to be “Partially Implemented,” and Program Evaluation which was found to be “Not Implemented.” The district currently has twenty-nine ELL students (speaking nine different languages with many different dialects) with one teacher servicing them all, and the numbers continue to increase every year. The district response in the form of a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) advocates exploration of opportunities for increased instructional hours.

As a result of these findings, a team will be put together to conduct an evaluation of the ELE Program using the guidelines in the DESE District ELE Program Evaluation process, with a full report completed by January 4, 2016.

Ms. Spinelli acknowledged the hard work of our current ELE teacher who has managed to provide high quality services to the growing group of ELE students in the district. The Committee recognized that ELE is an unfunded mandate in the Commonwealth.

Curriculum Review Cycle

Dr. Berdos noted that the 2015-2016 school year marks the end to the current approved Curriculum Review Cycle. She presented an updated Curriculum Review Cycle which includes the next six years going forward for the committee’s consideration.

Udden moved; Weiss seconded

Accept the proposed Curriculum Review Cycle through the 2021-2022 school year as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

Superintendent’s Goals

Ms. Spinelli presented her performance goals for the 2015-2016 school year. Five goals were itemized in the categories of Professional Practice, Student Learning, District Improvement and Other. Ms. Spinelli clarified and discussed each of her goals. Discussion among the School Committee followed.

Belanger moved; Lord seconded

Approve the Superintendent’s 2015-2016 Performance Goals as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

FHS Lighting In-Kind Service Donation

Mr. Yukna noted the generosity of Mr. Jarrod O'Neil and the staff of Island Lighting and Power Systems in Norfolk, Massachusetts, who donated their services to install the Musco lighting system on the Sam Berns Community Field. The value of these services is approximately \$35,000. He requested the School Committee accept the donation of services, and send a letter of thanks to Mr. O'Neil and his crew.

Lord moved; Weiss seconded

Accept with great gratitude the donation of services with an approximate value of \$35,000 provided by Island Lighting and Power Systems of Norfolk, Massachusetts, for installation of the Musco lighting system on the Sam Berns Community Field

Vote: 5-0-0

Acceptance of Donation

Mr. Spinelli presented for consideration a donation of \$5,200 from the Foxboro Touchdown Club towards the purchase of new uniforms.

Udden moved; Belanger seconded

Accept the donation of \$5,200 made by the Foxboro Touchdown Club towards the purchase of new uniforms, with gratitude

Vote: 5-0-0

October 1 Enrollment Update

Ms. Spinelli conducted a review of the October 1, 2015 Foxborough Public Schools enrollment with an explanation of additional information being reported. Total enrollment as of October 1 was 2,686 students.

Other Matters

Ms. Belanger reported the policy subcommittee will be meeting on Friday, October 9, to review a change recommended to Policy IJNDB: Internet Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for Students. She also noted an individual is interested in the Audit Committee post which may result in an appointment being made.

Ms. Spinelli remarked our new Nurse Leader, Ms. Linda Mealey, and Ms. Allison Johnson, Foodservice Director, will co-chair a reestablished Foxborough Public Schools School Health Advisory Council. The purpose of the council is to provide leadership in all issues related to health and wellness, including a review of health and wellness policies.

Ms. Belanger commented October 7 is walk-to-school day for elementary students.

Dr. Berdos related the following:

- Two upcoming parent information nights will be held at the Burrell. First is regarding elementary report card information on October 7 at 6:30 pm.; second is relating to a grade 2 lesson on good touch/bad touch on October 20, also at 6:30 pm.

- Professional Development Day is scheduled for Friday, October 9. No school for students that day.

Ms. Weiss reported she met with Mr. Yukna and Ms. Spinelli to review the budget process.

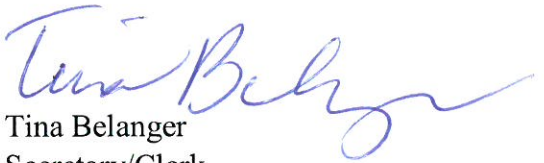
Belanger moved; Lord seconded

Adjourn the meeting

Vote: 5-0-0

Adjournment: 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tina Belanger
Secretary/Clerk

Attachments:

Regular committee meeting minutes of September 21, 2015

FHS Athletic Department Update

2015 Culture and Climate Surveys

Coordinated Program Review (CPR) English Learner Education (ELE) Final Report
Curriculum Review Cycle

Superintendent's Performance Goals for 2015-2016

Donation of Services (Installation of Turf Field Lighting)

Foxboro Touchdown Club Donation

October 1, 2015 Enrollment Update

Approved: