

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH

Regular Meeting

Date: August 26, 2019

Time: 7:06 p.m.

Place: Foxborough High School Media Center

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Tina Belanger, Ms. Beverley Lord,
Mr. Rob Canfield, Mr. Brent Ruter

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Mr. Rich Pearson

SCHOOL STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Amy Berdos, Dr. Alison Mello, Mr. William Yukna

Ms. Belanger opened the meeting. She explained that the agenda will no longer be read at the beginning of each meeting but instead will be posted on the FCA Community Bulletin Board on meeting day. Agendas are also available to attendees at the meeting. It was noted that Mr. Pearson was unable to attend this evening.

Visitors

None.

Approval of Minutes

Lord moved; Canfield seconded

Approve the executive session minutes of June 17, 2019, as presented

Vote: 4-0-0

Lord moved; Canfield seconded

Release the executive session minutes of June 17, 2019

Vote: 4-0-0

Canfield moved; Lord seconded

Approve the special meeting minutes of July 15, 2019, as presented

Vote: 4-0-0

Ruter moved; Canfield seconded

Approve the policy subcommittee meeting minutes of July 22, 2019, as presented

Vote: 4-0-0

Ruter moved; Canfield seconded

Approve the policy subcommittee meeting minutes of August 5, 2019, as presented

Vote: 4-0-0

Teaching and Learning Highlight

Dr. Berdos welcomed Foxborough Police Officers Lt. Michael Grace and School Resource Officer (SRO) Will Monterroso. The Committee extended congratulations to Lt. Grace who will soon be sworn in as Foxborough's Chief of Police. SRO Frank Azevedo was not able to attend the meeting.

Last year the town supported a second SRO, and the schools have benefitted greatly from this support. The SROs are dedicated full time to the schools, and SRO training as police officers is specific to their duties. They are our 24/7 resource and lead classroom lessons, build relationships with students, conduct special activities, and their presence promotes a feeling of safety in the schools. They run crisis intervention training and demonstrate de-escalation techniques for teachers, work fire drills, lock downs and bus safety, and serve as a liaison between the juvenile courts in Dedham and families. Both Lt. Grace and SRO Monterroso spoke about their backgrounds and experience. Questions and discussion with the Committee followed.

Sheriff's Task Force on Juvenile Substance Abuse & Mental Health

Ms. Belanger cited a letter she received from the Norfolk County's Sheriff Office regarding the Sheriff's Task Force on Juvenile Substance Abuse and Mental Health. This group will convene in the fall and meet quarterly to discuss these issues as they effect the youth in Norfolk County. The majority of the members will be comprised of school committee members from across Norfolk County. Sheriff McDermott asked that a member of Foxborough's School Committee be appointed a member. After discussion it was agreed that Ms. Belanger will attend the first meeting and report back to the Committee.

Elementary School Improvement Plans

Dr. Berdos explained that one of the functions of the School Committee is to approve School Improvement Plans (SIPs). All principals have been working to finalize plans for their particular school. Tonight elementary principals will present theirs, and the middle and high schools will present at the next meeting. Dr. Berdos introduced elementary principals Ms. Michele McCarthy, Burrell Elementary; Mr. Mike Stanton, Igo Elementary; and Dr. Moira Rodgers, Taylor Elementary who presented their SIPs for FY '20-22. She noted that it is important that the elementary schools are on the same page so that students feel equally supported as they move on to middle school.

The plans restate the Vision, Mission and Values of Foxborough Public Schools and contain the four objectives of the Strategic Plan. Specific goals and strategies are developed to reach the stated objective. Each principal discussed one common goal within each objective to highlight. Ms. McCarthy explained SIPs are developed by the School Councils and thanked all who gave their time and energy to this work.

Ms. McCarthy discussed progress towards goal 1.2 *refine Response to Intervention procedures to ensure consistent implementation of practices that meet the needs of diverse learners*, which relates to Strategic Plan Objective 1 *to develop responsible global citizens by providing dynamic learning experiences within a rigorous curriculum that fosters high levels of achievement for all students*.

Dr. Rodgers discussed progress toward goal 2.1 *to implement strategies and practices that will allow the social/emotional needs of students to be met as we cultivate and maintain a positive, supportive, and respectful school community*, which relates to Strategic Plan Objective 2 *to continue*

to strengthen school culture, ensuring that students, staff, parents and all stakeholders feel valued, safe, and have a voice.

Mr. Stanton discussed progress towards goal 2.2 *promote and celebrate the growing diversity of our school community* which also relates to Strategic Plan Objective 2.

It was noted that a revised District Curriculum Accommodation Plan (DCAP) will be introduced to all staff. After discussion the following vote was taken:

Ruter moved; Lord seconded

Approve the School Improvement Plans for Burrell Elementary School, Igo Elementary School and the Taylor Elementary School as presented

Vote: 4-0-0

Update on Summer Work and Preparation for the Opening of School

The annual update on summer work and preparation for the opening of school was presented by Mr. Anthony Moussalli, Facilities Manager, and Mr. Aaron Hyre, Director of Technology.

Mr. Moussalli listed annual summer projects such as cleaning of floors, carpets, and gym floors, door replacements, mulching of playgrounds, and the installation of a new playground at Taylor Elementary. Mr. Yukna noted that a good portion of the Taylor playground was sponsored by the P.T.O. Roof repairs, the Burrell sewer connection, water bubbler installation, exterior locks for the Taylor, exterior door replacement at the Taylor and the Igo, and projects to complete the athletic complex at the high school were also undertaken. Mr. Yukna described in detail the remaining work to be done at the concession stand/public bathrooms there. Mr. Moussalli thanked the facilities and maintenance crew for their work.

Mr. Hyre reported a very busy summer that included a number of updates and projects. Work was done to update the technology lab at the Ahern; the FHS language lab was updated to the newest version of Windows; and 50 projectors and 180 classroom computers were replaced in the elementary and middle schools. An automated inventory system was implemented, and a new PA system was designed for the turf field with the assistance of maintenance staff. The Student Information System and schoolyear rollover process were completed. Mr. Hyre thanked the technology, data, custodial and maintenance staff for their teamwork.

Dr. Berdos discussed implementation of the new student online registration and re-enrollment software explaining it will streamline work flow and allow parents to verify and update information online.

School Committee Vote to Approve 2019-2020 School District Goals

Dr. Berdos reported on the 2019-2020 School District Goals, noting there was a very thorough discussion at the July meeting regarding the changes presented. Most notably, the document has been divided into two sections: School District Goals and School Committee Functions and Responsibilities. Discussion with the Committee followed.

Ruter moved; Lord seconded

Approve the 2019-2020 School District Goals and School Committee Functions and Responsibilities

Vote: 4-0-0

Review of Substitute Teacher Pay Rates

Mr. Yukna discussed proposed increases to substitute teacher pay rates, explaining rates have not been increased since 2015. He presented rate increases for FY '20 and FY '21. After discussion the following vote was taken:

Canfield moved; Ruter seconded

Approve increases in substitute pay rates for FY '20 and FY '21

Vote: 4-0-0

First Reading of Policies

Policies BEDH: Public Participation at School Committee Meetings; JFABD: Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights & Services; and JFABE: Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care were presented for a first reading after proposed revisions made by the Policy Subcommittee. Policy Subcommittee member Mr. Ruter provided background information and the rationale for the revisions. Each policy was read in its entirety. After discussion the following votes were taken:

Lord moved; Ruter seconded

Move Policy BEDH: Public Participation at School Committee Meetings forward for a second reading at the next scheduled School Committee meeting

Vote: 4-0-0

Lord moved; Ruter seconded

Move Policy JFABD: Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights & Services forward for a second reading at the next scheduled School Committee meeting

Vote: 4-0-0

Lord moved; Ruter seconded

Move Policy JFABE: Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care forward for a second reading at the next scheduled School Committee meeting

Vote: 4-0-0

Other Matters

Dr. Berdos reported on several items:

- last weeks' Administrators Retreat at Gillette was productive, as approximately 30 administrators participated in a full day of Professional Development. Ms. Kathy Lopes, LICSW and Director of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion at METCO discussed bias in education;
- today's Grade 5 WEB orientation was very energetic;
- opening day for staff is tomorrow;
- a clap-in is scheduled for 7:55 a.m. tomorrow as part of Link Crew's welcome to incoming grade 9.

Ms. Lord wished a wonderful school year to all and is looking forward to opening day.

Mr. Ruter thanked the central office and administration for a smooth start to the school year.

Mr. Yukna briefly updated the Committee on the status of the Burrell Renovation Project. The project is currently out to bid. Sub bids will be opened on September 11th, and general contractor bids on September 18th. Groundbreaking is anticipated to take place the beginning of November. The Committee discussed scheduling a special meeting on September 23rd to review bids received.

Dr. Mello described the recent leadership seminar with department heads as very productive; remarked that New Teacher Orientation welcomed 14 new teachers to Foxborough, and stated that Mr. John Saphier will be presenting on Thursday at Professional Development.

Canfield moved; Lord seconded
Adjourn the meeting
Vote: 4-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Pearson
Clerk

Attachments:

Executive session minutes of 6/17/19

Special meeting minutes of 7/15/19

Policy subcommittee meeting minutes of 7/22/19

Policy subcommittee meeting minutes of 8/5/19

Norfolk County Sheriff letter re: Task Force on Juvenile Substance Abuse
And Mental Health

Burrell, Igo and Taylor Elementary Schools 2019-2022 School Improvement Plans

Proposed 2019-2020 School District Goals and School Committee Functions and
Responsibilities

Proposed 2019-2021 Substitute Teacher Pay Rates

Policies: BEDH – Public Participation at School Committee Meetings

JFABD – Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services

JFABE – Education Opportunities for Children in Foster Care

Approved: September 16, 2019