

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE  
TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH

Regular Meeting

Date: October 28, 2019

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Foxborough High School Media Center

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Tina Belanger, Mr. Richard Pearson, Ms. Beverley Lord, Mr. Rob Canfield; Mr. Brent Ruter arrived at 8:12 p.m.

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

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Mr. Kristian Andersen, Ms. Chiara Pacini

---

Ms. Belanger opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and introduced new Student Representatives Chiara Pacini, Grade 11, and Kristian Andersen, Grade 12. Ms. Jenna Chaplin, Grade 10, will alternate attending meetings with Ms. Pacini. It was noted that Mr. Ruter will be joining the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m.

***Open Public Comment***

None.

***Approval of Minutes***

Lord moved; Pearson seconded

Approve the regular meeting minutes of October 7, 2019, as amended

Vote: 4-0-0

***2019 MCAS and Baseline & Benchmarks Report and Review of Results***

Dr. Berdos introduced the panel reporting on the 2019 MCAS and Baseline & Benchmarks Annual Report and Review of Results -- Ms. Noelle Hendrixson K-8 Director of Math and Science, Ms. Sue Shea K-8 Director of English Language Arts and Social Studies, FHS Department Heads Ms. Sue Carle, Math; Dr. Shannon Wasilewski, English; Ms. Alyssa Mocharnuk, Science; and Ms. Lauren White, Guidance. Dr. Mello described this report as a snapshot of our internal data and state data for FPS students' assessment results.

This comprehensive presentation included information and analysis on the following: FPS student demographics, MCAS Achievement Levels for the Legacy and Next-Generation MCAS tests, FHS 2019 MCAS results in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Biology, and Science & Technology Engineering, Advanced Placement data, SAT and ACT scores, Elementary Schools Combined Baseline and Benchmarks Goals, Next-Generation MCAS English Language Arts and Mathematics data for grades 3-8, and Science, Engineering/Technology MCAS data for grades 5 and 8. Summary data statements with supporting data, root causes, and action steps were provided.

FHS Department Heads each presented in their content area and discussed challenges associated with the new computer-based test design and scoring of the Next-Generation MCAS test. FPS students continue to score above the state average in all testing areas.

Ms. White reported on Advanced Placement (AP) opportunities and results. The data is notable for the increased number of AP tests taken each year as the number of students taking AP courses continues to increase. The goal is to expose students to college-level classroom experiences. ACT scores were reported, but data for the SATs had not yet been released.

K-8 Directors reported on middle and elementary school results. In most grades, the percentage of students who met or exceeded expectations on the 2019 Next-Generation MCAS test was above the state averages. Discussion with the Committee followed based on the detailed information provided.

### ***International OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) Test for Schools – 2019 Results***

Dr. Berdos presented results of the third administration of the OECD International Test for Schools (based on the PISA, the Programme for International Student Assessment). In April 2019, sixty-eight randomly selected 15-year old FHS students participated in this assessment that measures students' applied knowledge and competencies in reading, mathematics and science and compares our individual school-specific results to United States scores and other countries such as Singapore, Hong Kong-China, Canada, Japan, Korea and many others. Dr. Berdos described the test as an international benchmarking tool.

The summary of results for Foxborough High School reported on school performance, results across PISA proficiency levels, levels of student proficiency, how FPS students compare with students from other countries; the six levels of reading proficiency, reader profiles in the United States, the six levels of mathematics and science proficiency, and FPS results compared to schools in the United States. Foxborough students' mean performance remains statistically and significantly higher than the mean performance attained by students in the United States in the 2015 PISA (the latest PISA results available). Based on these results, Foxborough students remain nationally and globally competitive.

Discussion with the Committee followed. As of next year, testing will not be available through the current vendor. Future OECD testing will be discussed during the strategic planning process. Discussion with the committee followed.

### ***Other Matters***

Dr. Berdos mentioned several items: there is no School Committee meeting next week due to the Special Town Meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup>; the first term for the high school and middle school ends on Friday, November 1; conferences will be held the end of next month; many thanks to our School Resource Officer for Halloween safety lessons; and congratulations to our athletic teams heading off to the playoffs.

Dr. Mello gave a brief update on Project Lead the Way and some possible future additions to the program.

Mr. Pearson extended his congratulations to all of our athletes.

Ms. Lord talked about *The Addams Family* performances scheduled at the high school November 14<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>.

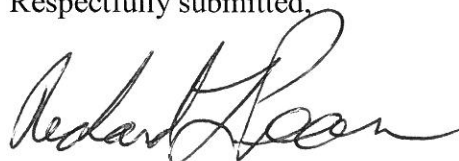
Mr. Canfield described hosting a French exchange student as an incredibly rewarding experience and added last week's Voices and Strings Concert was outstanding.

Ms. Belanger noted there is a School Building Committee meeting October 29<sup>th</sup> and reported that the October 17<sup>th</sup> Financial Summit was a good start for the municipal budget process.

Pearson moved; Ruter seconded  
Adjourn the meeting  
Vote: 5-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Pearson  
Clerk

Attachments:

Regular meeting minutes of October 7, 2019

2019 MCAS/Next Generation MCAS Results & 2019 Baseline and Benchmarks Report

OECD International Test for Schools – 2019 Results

Approved: November 18, 2019