SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH

Regular Meeting

Date: September 22, 2020
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Gala Meeting Room, Town Hall
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Richard Pearson, Mr. Rob Canfield, Ms. Tina Belanger, Mr. Brent Ruter, Ms. Michelle Raymond arrived during the Teaching and Learning Highlight portion of the meeting
SCHOOL STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Amy Berdos, Dr. Alison Mello, Mr. William Yukna

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Mr. Pearson opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance and those viewing at home.

Open Public Comment
Mr. Pearson reported there were no community inbox submissions since the last Committee meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Belanger moved; Ruter seconded
Approve the regular meeting minutes of September 2, 2020, as presented
Vote: 4-0-0

Ruter moved; Belanger seconded
Approve the executive session minutes of September 2, 2020 as presented
Vote: 4-0-0

Belanger moved; Canfield seconded
Release the executive session minutes of September 2, 2020, as presented
Vote: 4-0-0

Teaching and Learning Highlight
Dr. Berdos introduced FHS drum majors Mary Clare Earnst and Nicole Corkery. Using a PowerPoint presentation and video clips, the students demonstrated how they were able to hold "virtual" marching band camp since they could not meet with band members in person due to COVID-19. They described the challenges and difficulties they had to overcome in order to share information, teach students marching fundamentals, and include fun activities to create a welcoming and collaborative environment in the remote format. Music Department staff Ms. Cami Tedoldi and Mr. Aaron Bush attested to the students' work ethic and dedication. The Committee followed up with questions and discussion.

Back-to-School Update
Dr. Berdos reported on a smooth opening of school. Staff and students adjusted to a new kind of routine; the students were happy to be back; and much positive feedback was received.

Student/athletes started practice last Friday with safety precautions in place. Field hockey and soccer scrimmages are scheduled for the coming week. Dr. Berdos reminded students and adults to continue to follow all safety guidelines during athletic events.

Dr. Berdos noted there were some technology glitches during remote Wednesday that are being addressed. The district continues to work with families regarding devices and internet accessibility. She reported on Comcast's Internet Essentials program which provides home broadband and WIFI service to benefit-eligible families at a cost of $9.95 per month.

The ship date for the laptop order is October 9. Once delivered, the devices will be imaged and prepared for roll out to students. The estimated timeframe for distribution is the end of October. A technology protection/insurance policy is available for families at a cost of $40 per year per student device. The district will administer this plan using My School Bucks. The protection allows for a damaged device to be repaired or replaced. Families can opt in to the protection program when devices are deployed.

Dr. Berdos thanked the Foxboro Jaycees who have volunteered to be a liaison for the district for those who want to donate electronic devices for remote learning. The Jaycees will facilitate distribution of donated devices to those in need. They can be contacted at wm@foxborojaycees.org for further information.

Dr. Mello updated the Committee on a successful ten (10) days of Professional Development. Safety protocols, technology and pedagogy of remote learning were emphasized. Professional Development was purposeful and prepared staff for hybrid and remote teaching. There was time for collaboration among staff, question and answer opportunities, and safety videos. The Professional Development schedule included offerings for all faculty and staff. Samples schedules attached include offerings for the World Language Department, elementary educational assistants, K-12 Wellness, school counselors and social workers, K-12 Art, high school special education teachers, high school science, and remote learning technology expectations. Feedback was outstanding. Dr. Mello thanked the staff for their commitment and enthusiasm.

Discussion with the Committee followed.

Back-to-School Update – Flu Clinic

FPS Nurse Leader Jennifer Rosenberg presented a health update. She reported a great start to the school year. A flu clinic was conducted before school started, and over 300 vaccinations were administered to families and over 150 vaccinations to staff members. An additional flu clinic is scheduled for October 13 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the high school. More information will be forthcoming.

Ms. Rosenberg reported the nursing staff has been fielding health related phone calls from families. Students have done well with wearing masks and social distancing. Parents are asked to wash their child(ren)'s masks frequently. There are eleven (11) cases of COVID-19 cases in Foxborough, and

the prevalence rate is .05%. There is daily discussion around the "tipping" rate and its impact on different teaching model. Dr. Berdos stated that parents will be notified if there is a positive case of COVID-19 found in their child's classroom or if they are considered a close contact.

Questions and comments with the Committee followed. Out-of-state travel was discussed, and the importance of community responsibility was emphasized.

Mr. Canfield inquired about bus ridership and additional custodial responsibilities. Mr. Yukna reported that many parents are driving students to school which helps keep buses well under capacity limits. Extra custodial staff is available during the day for additional cleaning. All custodial staff understand the importance of consistent cleaning and disinfecting of school buildings.

Dr. Mello discussed the complexity of working out transportation and bus routes. She thanked the Transportation Department for their diligence in working out routes and ridership.

Collier's International HVAC Report
Mr. Yukna followed up with the Committee on the Collier's International HVAC report and analysis of ventilation systems in all school buildings in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. A detailed summary of findings for each school and list of corrective actions were provided.

Overall the analysis gave high marks for maintenance of the HVAC equipment. All repairs have been made and recommendations implemented. There was discussion about exchange rates in certain buildings. Mr. Yukna stated that systems are bringing in all the fresh air possible at this time. This will be adjusted as the weather gets cooler. Discussion with the Committee followed.

Approval of Student Activity Accounts
Mr. Yukna presented the standard list of high school and middle school student activity accounts for the 2020-2021 school year. The School Committee is required to annually approve authorization for these clubs to go forward. There was discussion around whether clubs would run in person or virtually this year. After discussion the following vote was taken:

> Ruter moved; Belanger seconded
> Approve the listed Student Activity Accounts for the 2020-2021 school year
> Vote: 5-0-0

Bi-County Collaborative (BICO) Quarterly Report – June 2020
Dr. Berdos discussed the Bi-County Collaborative (BICO) quarterly report of June 2020. BICO reported their enrollment is up from last year; their summer program was fully remote; and Professional Development provided offerings in social/emotional learning and technology. This was Dr. Arlene Grubert's final quarterly report prior to her retirement. Ms. Jeanne Sullivan is the new Executive Director at BICO.

Other Matters

Ms. Belanger thanked Mrs. Margi Rossetti for her over 30 years of service at the Boyden Library and wished her well in retirement.

Dr. Berdos noted that school open houses will look different this year. All are virtual and will offer an opportunity to see classrooms. She encouraged families to take advantage of the virtual format and extended her thanks to staff for creating the videos.

Mr. Yukna stated that the food service department has moved to U.S. federal funding to provide free lunch for all students through December 31.

Ms. Belanger mentioned that the FPS Nutrition page on Facebook reports food pick up at the Ahern on Wednesdays.

Mr. Pearson closed the meeting by thanking all teachers and administration for opening of a great school year.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Canfield
Clerk

Attachments:
Regular meeting minutes of September 2, 2020
Executive session minutes of September 2, 2020
Professional Development Schedule
COVID Commissioning Analysis
COVID Commissioning Support Report – September 17, 2020

Approved: October 6, 2020