

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH

Regular Meeting

Date: June 15, 2021

Time: 6:45 p.m.

Place: Gala Meeting Room, Town Hall

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Rob Canfield, Mr. Brent Ruter,
Mr. Richard Pearson, Ms. Michelle Raymond, Ms. Sarah LiDonni

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

Mr. Canfield opened the meeting and stated that the Committee would enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing wage/contract negotiations with Union Personnel (Foxborough Custodial Workers' Association and the Foxborough Maintenance Workers' Association). Mr. Canfield requested a roll call vote to enter executive session:

Raymond – aye; Pearson – aye; LiDonni – aye; Ruter – aye; Canfield – aye

Vote: 5-0-0

The Committee returned to open session at 7:11 p.m. Mr. Canfield stated there are two bargaining agreements requiring a vote.

Vote on Proposed FY '22 – FY '24 Foxborough Custodial Workers' Association Collective Bargaining Agreement

Ruter moved; LiDonni seconded

Approve the FY '22 – FY '24 Foxborough Custodial Workers' Association Collective Bargaining Agreement as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

Vote on Proposed FY '22 – FY '24 Foxborough Maintenance Workers' Association Collective Bargaining Agreement

LiDonni moved; Pearson seconded

Approve the FY '22 – FY '24 Foxborough Maintenance Workers' Association Collective Bargaining Agreement as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

Open Public Comment

Mr. Canfield stated there were no submissions to the Community Inbox since the last meeting, and no visitors were in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

LiDonni moved; Ruter seconded

Approve the regular meeting minutes of June 1, 2021 as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

Recognition of Retirees

Dr. Berdos recognized the service of fourteen 2020-2021 FPS retirees. Several retirees attended the meeting in person, and two attended remotely. Dr. Berdos read the names of those retiring, listed their years of service and their position, and noted collectively they represented 302 years of service to Foxborough in various roles. The School Committee extended their congratulations and acknowledged their dedication to students and the Foxborough school community, especially during this past extraordinary year in public education. Each retiree was presented with a gift from the Committee.

District Improvement Update – Summary of Strategy

Dr. Berdos and Dr. Mello presented the District Improvement Update: Summary of Strategy. Using a PowerPoint presentation, key strategic areas of focus under the three Strategic Objectives (Ensuring Equity for All; Academic Excellence, Rigor, Relevance and Responsiveness; and Communication and Community Engagement) were discussed in detail: preparing and supporting staff through multiple and varied professional development opportunities to learn effective proactive/preventative strategies to support students with unique behavioral or social emotional challenges; restructuring of Special Education Programs, MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) ability to offer students multiple layers of support in academics, behavior and social and emotional learning; new elective offerings at FHS that add engaging and relevant instructional opportunities; and leveraging the use of technology. This year a BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst) has been moved from a contracted service provider to in-house staff in order to directly support students. The larger, more comprehensive “Plan for Success” will be presented in October along with the first year’s action plan.

MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) Update

MTSS is a system used to provide targeted support to struggling students and will replace RtI (Response to Intervention). The shift from RtI to MTSS will provide continuity among K-12 as it is a district-based model. MTSS is starting to replace RtI across the country. MTSS will provide more consistency across the district and strives to support the whole child. Dr. Mello reviewed the FPS MTSS “Journey,” a timeline of implementation of MTSS, the three tiers of special education eligibility determination, and the rising rate of the special education population. She further discussed the differences between MTSS and RtI, the purpose of the DCAP (District Curriculum Accommodation Plan), DESE (Department of Elementary and Secondary Education) MTSS Academies, and next steps. The shift to MTSS is expected to be a 3-year process district wide.

Questions and discussion with the Committee followed.

Superintendent's Evaluation – Continued Discussion

Dr. Berdos opened discussion regarding her performance evaluation for FY '21 and asked if any members required further clarification regarding the process. There was no further discussion. The timeline for submitting individual evaluations was reviewed.

Second Reading of Policies

Pearson moved; LiDonni seconded
Waive the second reading of Policy EBCFA – Face Masks
Vote: 5-0-0

Dr. Berdos clarified that the Department of Education still requires masks in the classroom at this time.

LiDonni moved; Ruter seconded
Adopt Policy EBCFA – Face Masks as amended
Vote: 5-0-0

LiDonni moved; Raymond seconded
Waive the second reading of Policy JKAA – Restraint Prevention
Vote: 5-0-0

Raymond moved; Ruter seconded
Adopt Policy JKAA – Restraint Prevention as amended
Vote: 5-0-0

Athletic Trainer Bid Results

Mr. Yukna presented the athletic trainer bid results. Brigham & Women's Hospital / Department of Orthopedics is the current vendor for these services and was the only submittal received for this bid. After discussing details of the proposal, Mr. Yukna recommended that Brigham & Women's Hospital / Department of Orthopedics be awarded the contract for FPS Athletic Trainer Services for FY '22 through FY '24.

Pearson moved; LiDonni seconded
Award the bid for FPS Athletic Trainer Services to Brigham & Women's Hospital / Department of Orthopedics for FY '22 through FY '24
Vote: 5-0-0

Acceptance of Donation

One donation from the Foxboro Diamond Club was presented to the Committee for their consideration. The donation of \$2,500 is to support FHS baseball.

Ruter moved; LiDonni seconded

Accept the generous donation in the amount of \$2,500 from the Foxboro Diamond Club in support of FHS baseball, with gratitude

Vote: 5-0-0

Proposed 2021-2022 School Committee Dates

Dr. Berdos opened discussion regarding next year's School Committee meeting dates, meeting location, and possible earlier meeting time. A list of proposed dates for the 2021-2022 school year was provided. After discussion, the Committee decided to continue to meet at the Town Hall for the foreseeable future and approved by consensus the proposed meeting dates for next year. There will be a future conversation to discuss an earlier meeting start time for next.

Other Matters

Dr. Berdos stated that the K-12 Culture and Climate Survey is open until Friday. Reminders will be going out to families. Rising 6th graders through rising seniors will be keeping their laptops at home. Grade 5 will receive laptops when they return to school in the fall.

Dr. Berdos extended her thanks to the School Committee for their support during this historic year. She also extended her heartfelt thanks and gratitude to faculty, staff, and the community.

Dr. Mello reported a great response to Summer Academy programming and stated that alternative programming may be needed for some students.

Mr. Yukna discussed the FY '21 budget and grants, stating the budget looks good for the end of the year. He requested to meet with the CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) Committee one more time to bring a couple of items to their attention, although the intent is still to return a fair amount of money back to the town.

Each School Committee member took an opportunity to comment on and acknowledge the hard work and dedication that went into navigating the school year during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Canfield briefly discussed the liaison to the Board of Recreation position (currently held by Committee member Ms. LiDonni), and the liaison to the Audit Committee position, which is still open.

Ruter moved; Pearson seconded

Adjourn the meeting

Vote: 5-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Ruter".

Brent Ruter
Clerk

Attachments:

Regular Meeting Minutes of June 1, 2021
2020-2021 FPS Retirees
Strategy Update and MTSS Update
Policy EBCFA – Face Masks
Policy JKAA – Restraint Prevention
Athletic Trainer Services Request for Proposals
Foxboro Diamond Club Donation
Proposed 2021-2022 School Committee Meeting Dates
Warrant Summary – 6/4/21, 6/3/21

Approved: July 12, 2021