

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWN OF FOXBOROUGHRegular Meeting

Date: September 19, 2016

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Foxborough High School Media Center

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

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

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE: Alex Shilcusky

Ms. Belanger opened the meeting.

A moment of silence was observed for Mr. Gabriel Trost, a beloved and long-time substitute teacher for Foxborough who passed away the previous weekend. Ms. Spinelli shared some memories of Mr. Trost and described him as having a wonderful and kind spirit. It was noted that through Student Council, FHS students made a donation to the town's flag pole in Mr. Trost's memory.

Ms. Belanger introduced the new student representative to the School Committee, senior Alex Shilcusky, and then reviewed the agenda.

Visitors

None.

Approval of Minutes

Gardner moved; Connolly seconded

Approve the executive session minutes of July 18, 2016, as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

Lord moved; Weiss seconded

Release the executive session minutes of July 18, 2016

Vote: 5-0-0

Gardner moved, Weiss seconded

Approve the regular meeting minutes of August 29, 2016, as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

Teaching and Learning Highlight

Ms. Spinelli welcomed new administrators, Mr. David Pierce, FHS Assistant Principal, and Mr. Joe Russo, Taylor Elementary School Interim Principal, to the guest table. Both were introduced and each told a little bit about themselves and their experience in education. They shared their observations on their short time in Foxborough so far. Questions and discussion with the committee followed.

Back-to-School Update

Ms. Spinelli noted another smooth opening to a new school year. High school and elementary school open houses have already occurred, and the middle school open house is scheduled for this week. Athletics are off to a great start, and buses are running with very few issues. There was discussion about the new town-wide phone system.

Update on Town Opioid Task Force (S.A.F.E. Foxborough)

Assistant Town Manager Ms. Mary Beth Bernard and Foxborough Police Chief Ed O'Leary joined the meeting to provide an update on the Opioid Task Force, renamed S.A.F.E (Substance Abuse Free Environment). Town Manager Bill Keegan was unable to attend the meeting due to a previous commitment. Ms. Bernard reported that the task force was formed last year in response to the current opioid crisis in Massachusetts. She outlined town organizations who are part of the task force and explained its main goal is serving as a clearinghouse for information and resources available for those families struggling with substance abuse issues. More specifically, information about prevention programs, identifying early-stage, post-stage and long-term support services, and a strong presence at community events were identified as areas of focus for S.A.F.E.

Chief O'Leary restated the focus on substance and opioid use prevention. He described the recent program provided by the Foxborough Police Department in conjunction with the high school Athletic Department where student-athletes and their families viewed the video *Chasing the Dragon*. He also discussed the use of speakers to help students make healthy choices and avoid substance use. Chief O'Leary emphasized the importance of visibility of S.A.F.E. within the community, supplementing the treatment end, and steering families towards support services.

FPS Nurse Leader Linda Mealey joined the meeting and reported on efforts made by the nursing staff in recognizing and preventing the use and abuse of substances. She reported that a parental awareness night will be held October 18 with speaker Kathi Meyer-Sullivan at the high school, and that SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment) screening will begin next month at the high school level. Discussion with the committee followed.

Recognition of Chief Ed O'Leary

On the special occasion of his upcoming retirement, Ms. Spinelli and the School Committee recognized the dedication of Police Chief Ed O'Leary to the community and to Foxborough Public Schools in particular. Ms. Spinelli read aloud a letter of gratitude from administration

and the committee and extended her congratulations on his retirement and heartfelt appreciation for his years of service.

Second Reading of Policies

Ms. Belanger summarized the changes made to the three policies brought forward: IHAMB – Teaching About Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco; JICH – Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use Prohibited; and JLCD – Administering Medicines to Students. She noted that legislation has mandated the need for some of the updates. Nurse Leader Linda Mealey joined the committee during the discussion of policy JLCD-Administering Medicines to Students. Ms. Spinelli explained the intent of this policy and the rationale for the revisions made.

Lord moved; Weiss seconded

Waive the second reading of policy IHAMB – Teaching About Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco

Vote: 5-0-0

Gardner moved; Lord seconded

Approve policy IHAMB – Teaching About Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco, as amended

Vote: 5-0-0

Gardner moved; Weiss seconded

Waive the second reading of policy JICH – Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use Prohibited

Vote: 5-0-0

Gardner moved; Lord seconded

Approve policy JICH – Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use Prohibited, as amended

Vote: 5-0-0

Gardner moved; Connolly seconded

Waive the second reading of policy JLCD – Administering Medicines to Students

Vote: 5-0-0

Gardner moved; Connolly seconded

Approve policy JLCD – Administering Medicines to Students, as amended

Vote: 5-0-0

Superintendent's Goals 2016-2017

Ms. Spinelli reported on her goals for the 2016-2017 school year. Goals were set in four areas: Professional Practice, Student Learning, District Improvement, and Other. The goal in the category of “Other” continues to be completion of a full outdoor athletic complex at the high school. After discussion the following motion was made.

Connolly; Lord seconded

Approve the Superintendent's Goals for the 2016-2017 school year with additional detail provided for goal 2

Vote: 5-0-0

Other Matters

Ms. Spinelli thanked everyone for a great opening year and thanked parents who attended the open houses. She noted that members of the FHS football team have been invited to Gillette Stadium on Thursday to take part in the NFL Thursday Night Football broadcast.

Ms. Lord suggested that the high school Spanish teachers attend the next meeting since the Spanish exchange students are arriving soon. She congratulated Ms. Spinelli on the arrival of her new grandchild.

Mr. Yukna reported on changes made as part of the Municipal Modernization Act and the procedures they would affect.

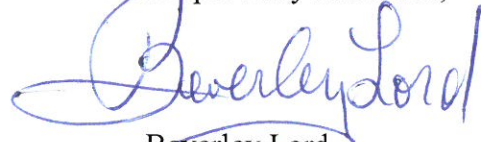
Ms. Weiss inquired about the new high school students from China. Ms. Spinelli related the two students have arrived (one senior, one freshman).

Ms. Belanger noted that per Mr. Steve Massey the U.S. Army Field Band will be playing at FHS on October 30, at 2:00 p.m. in the gym. She also cautioned that several communities have recently experienced children being hit by cars and reminded us all to be aware when driving and to stop for school buses.

Weiss moved; Lord seconded
Adjourn the meeting
Vote: 5-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beverley Lord
Secretary/Clerk

Attachments:

Executive session minutes of July 18, 2016
Regular meeting minutes of August 29, 2016
Policy IHAMB-Teaching About Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco
Policy JICH-Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use Prohibited
Policy JLCD-Administering Medicines to Students
Superintendent's Goals 2016-2017
September 6, 2016 FPS Enrollment

Approved: 10/17/16