

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWN OF FOXBOROUGHRegular Meeting

Date: February 22, 2016

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Foxborough High School Media Center

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

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

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: Ms. Melissa Lynch (Ms. Mical Henriquez was not present)

Mr. Gardner called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda.

Visitors

None.

Approval of Minutes

Udden moved; Belanger seconded

Approve the regular meeting minutes of January 25, 2016 as amended

Vote: 5-0-0

Udden moved; Lord seconded

Approve the special meeting minutes of February 3, 2016 as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

After discussion the following motions were made.

Udden moved; Belanger seconded

Rescind approval of the special meeting minutes of February 3, 2016

Vote: 5-0-0

Udden moved; Weiss seconded

Approve the special meeting minutes of February 3, 2016 as amended

Vote: 5-0-0

Update on the Opioid Challenge in the Community

Selectman Jim DeVellis joined the meeting to discuss the impact of substance abuse, specifically opioid addiction which is prevalent in many communities. He noted surrounding communities are struggling with this issue and that Foxborough is not immune. The cycle of narcotics addiction frequently begins with prescription medication which can lead to the use of street drugs. On January 22nd selectmen brought an initiative to the table regarding the opioid crisis.

Selectman DeVellis requested that the schools appoint a representative to work with other town departments to collectively share their perception of the current crisis and bring education and awareness to the community around this issue.

Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention in the Schools

Ms. Spinelli introduced Ms. Linda Mealey, RN and FPS Nurse Leader to present information regarding substance abuse prevention and intervention in the schools. Ms. Mealey discussed the school nurse's role, the school physician's authorization for Narcan (a life-saving opiate antidote), and training provided by the Department of Public Health (DOPH), i.e., Narcan administration, recognizing symptoms of an overdose, and how to care for the individual before emergency personnel arrive. Ms. Mealey was awarded a grant by the DOPH and will receive consultation and funding to implement a substance abuse screening program SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral for Treatment) at the high school.

FHS Principal Diana Myers-Pachla joined the discussion along with School Resource Officer Frank Azevedo. Ms. Myers-Pachla shared information regarding substance abuse prevention education at the high school and the availability of a social worker, guidance staff and nursing staff. Officer Azevedo remarked he has observed no issues involving opioid abuse in school-age students as of yet, although it is in the adult community. Foxborough Police are trained to assess and treat overdoses and have also received training in Narcan administration.

The committee discussed parent education and how to reach those that may be experiencing the effects of addiction in their families. Student School Committee Representative Melissa Lynch commented that having a speaker address students about this issue would make a huge impact. The committee thanked all those presenting for taking the lead on this important topic.

Mid-Year Technology Progress Report

Ms. Spinelli introduced Assistant Superintendent Dr. Amy Berdos and Director of Technology Mr. Aaron Hyre to present the mid-year Technology Plan update. Dr. Berdos introduced the plan's vision and the two reported on progress made to date in the following goals: Learning-Engage and Empower; Assessment-Measure What Matters; Teaching-Prepare and Connect; Infrastructure-Access and Enable; and Productivity- Redesign and Transform.

It was noted that FPS has high technology expectations and has made a great deal of progress in a short period of time under Mr. Hyre's leadership (i.e., technology acquisition, a vastly improved infrastructure, professional development, access for staff and students, and the addition of another technology integration specialist). Technology discussed in this progress report will be highlighted at the upcoming district-wide Family Technology Night scheduled for April 5, 2016.

Questions and discussion among the committee followed. The committee thanked the technology team for their hard work and also thanked the community for their support for the technology budget.

Teaching and Learning Highlight

Ms. Spinelli introduced DECA Advisor Mr. Jon McCabe, Business Teacher at FHS, and FHS DECA members Courtney Seeley, Matthew Weiss, Chris Cunniff, Tim Luciano, Caitlin Brightman and Bailey Sullivan. DECA is an international student organization that prepares its members for potential challenges they may face in the industries of Marketing, Finance, Hospitality and Tourism, and Management in a competitive setting. On Thursday, January 29th twenty-five members of the FHS DECA chapter competed in their first ever district competition and came away with an impressive amount of first, second and third place wins, with eleven students earning a spot at the state competition. Ms. Spinelli read the names of the winners and the industry category they represented. FHS students described the competition experience and their reasons for joining DECA. The committee was impressed with their performance and extended congratulations to all involved. Mr. McCabe noted the state competition will be held in Boston from March 10-12, 2016. The chapter is currently considering fundraising options.

Weiss moved; Belanger seconded

Approve the overnight trip to Boston for the DECA State Competition to be held March 10-12, 2016

Vote: 5-0-0

Update on Enrichment and Challenge

Ms. Spinelli presented a comprehensive list by school of enrichment and challenge opportunities within the K-12 core curriculum. She noted that the increased and improved technology infrastructure has allowed some of these opportunities to be more accessible. Given the tools available, staff is ready to challenge all students at any time within the core curriculum during the regular school day. The philosophy of enrichment and challenge was discussed.

Superintendent's Mid-Cycle Review

Ms. Spinelli discussed the themes of her mid-cycle review and explained its purpose which is to foster a productive dialogue between the committee and the superintendent. The review focused on three main areas: 1) what she is really proud of; 2) what she is working hard on; and 3) what challenges she faces. Ms. Spinelli noted pride in the positive culture and climate in the schools; the hard work of targeted leadership development to the larger Administrative Team; and the growing challenge of students with mental health and social-emotional/behavioral needs. Further progress towards goals was reported in the categories of Professional Practice, Student Learning, District Improvement and Other, where significant progress was made in four of the five goals. Positive feedback and thanks for a job well done from the committee followed.

FY '16 Budget Update

Mr. Yukna reported on changes since his last budget update. The fuel account will be decreased because of current favorable fuel rates. Maintenance items discussed were a vapor containment issue at the middle school, and two vehicles that may need to come off the road. Total variance revised to forecast is a favorable \$17,124.

Lord moved; Belanger seconded

Accept the FY '16 Budget Update of 2/22/16

Vote: 5-0-0

Second Reading of Policy JKAA – Restraint Prevention

Ms. Belanger reviewed the need to revise this policy based on changes that have been dictated by state law.

Lord moved; Udden seconded

Waive the second reading of Policy JKAA – Restraint Prevention since changes made have been dictated by state law

Vote: 5-0-0

Udden moved; Weiss seconded

Approve Policy JKAA – Restraint Prevention as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

Lord moved; Belanger seconded

Go into executive session for the purpose of discussing negotiation strategies with union personnel (Foxborough Maintenance Workers' Association). The committee will return to open session.

Vote: Gardner-aye; Belanger-aye; Lord-aye; Udden-aye; Weiss-aye

The committee entered executive session at 9:40 p.m.

Lord moved; Udden seconded

Reconvene open session

Vote: 5-0-0

Mr. Gardner reconvened the meeting and explained the committee is returning from executive session for the purpose of discussing negotiation strategies with union personnel (Foxborough Maintenance Workers' Association). After committee review of the Maintenance Workers' Association, Mr. Gardner noted it is a fair and reasonable contract.

Lord moved; Weiss seconded

Approve the July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2018 Foxborough Maintenance Workers' Association Collective Bargaining Agreement as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

Other Matters

Ms. Spinelli noted the following:

- Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) has officially invited Foxborough into the next phase of the Burrell School project.
- The FHS Vocal Jazz Ensemble took 1st place at the 2016 National Berklee High School Jazz Festival for their division.
- Mr. Ted Hagarty, Ahern Music Teacher, has been elected as the 2016 recipient of the MICCA (Massachusetts Instrumental & Choral Conductors Association) Paul Smith Hall of Fame Award. Congratulations Mr. Hagarty!

- Town meeting will be held tomorrow night. There are important articles to be voted on.

Ms. Belanger noted the Ahern Drama Club will be performing this weekend, and FHS has been named a finalist in the 2016 Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition and Festival.

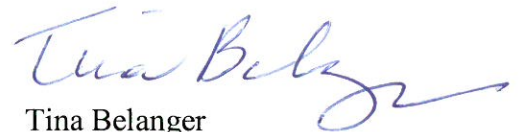
Ms. Lord extended her congratulations to Mr. Hagarty on his award.

Mr. Gardner noted we have had two snow days since the last meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tina Belanger
Secretary/Clerk

Attachments:

Regular meeting minutes of January 25, 2016
Special meeting minutes of February 3, 2016
Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention in Our Schools
Mid-Year Technology Plan Update
Update on Enrichment and Challenge within the Core Curriculum K-12
FHS DECA Team Competition
Superintendent's Evaluation – 2015-2016 Mid-Cycle Review Process
FY '16 Budget Summary Statement 2/22/16
Policy JKAA Restraint Prevention

Approved: