

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH

Regular Meeting

Date: June 20, 2016

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Foxborough High School Media Center

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Tina Belanger, Ms. Beverley Lord,
Ms. Marilyn Weiss, Mr. Chris Connolly, Mr. Gardner joined the meeting at 7:35 pm

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

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: were not present

Ms. Belanger called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda.

Visitors

Foxborough resident Mr. Dennis Naughton addressed the committee regarding supporting a resolution against the proposed ballot question to lift the cap on commonwealth charter schools. Mr. Naughton presented his rationale for such a proposal, read a sample resolution aloud, and asked the committee to give serious consideration to drafting and supporting a resolution. Discussion with the committee followed. Ms. Belanger will conduct research regarding committee resolutions and bring information back to the committee.

Foxborough resident Ms. Kris Long addressed the committee and expressed her concern regarding the opiate problem currently occurring in Foxborough and surrounding communities. She introduced Mr. John Green, a resident of Easton and founder of "No First Time," an organization whose mission is to educate children and adults about the opiate epidemic occurring across the country. It was noted that an opioid crisis update is on tonight's agenda and that more discussion can continue at that time.

Approval of Minutes

Connolly moved; Weiss seconded

Approve the regular meeting minutes of June 6, 2016, as presented

Vote: 4-0-0

Weiss moved; Connolly seconded

Approve the executive session minutes of June 6, 2016, as presented

Vote: 4-0-0

Lord moved; Connolly seconded

Release the executive session minutes of June 6, 2016

Vote: 4-0-0

Teaching and Learning Highlight

Ms. Spinelli reported on Instructional Rounds, her professional practice goal for the 2015-2016 school year, explaining that twenty-four administrators, coordinators and directors participated in this new activity. Instructional rounds are monthly informal instructional classroom visits focused on inquiry in teaching and learning. In small, informal groups of two to five people, classrooms were visited throughout the year to learn about successful practices where specific educational initiatives were being implemented. After the visits, participants followed up by sharing information. Ms. Spinelli discussed the Overview and Purpose of Instructional Rounds and specific Areas of Inquiry, each of which contained a Focus Question and Vision Statement. It was found that this activity has great potential for sharing strategies and effective practices and builds momentum toward a unified vision of quality education across all grade levels, classrooms, departments and schools. Instructional Rounds will be continued next year and will be opened up to interested teachers. Discussion with the committee followed.

K-12 Music Curriculum Review

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Amy Berdos introduced FHS Music Department Head Mr. Steve Massey and Music Department staff Ms. Cami Tedoldi and Ms. Jennifer Greenleaf who presented the K-12 Music Curriculum Review. The comprehensive report covered the following: FPS K-12 curriculum alignment to the Massachusetts Arts Standards, National Core Arts Standards, National Coalition for Core Arts Standards, analysis of best practices in music education and current practices within the K-12 Music Department. A PowerPoint presentation included clips of student performances and allowed the committee to experience student accomplishments. Areas of strength and need were highlighted, and an implementation plan was suggested. Discussion with the committee ensued. The Music Department was commended for the sustained level of excellence in music education.

FPS 5-Year Technology Plan 2013-2018

Dr. Amy Berdos, Assistant Superintendent, and Mr. Aaron Hyre, Director of Technology, reported on the progress made during the 2015-2016 school year toward meeting the goals established in the FPS 5-Year Technology Plan (2013-2018). Progress on each of the plan's five broad goals were discussed: Learning: Engage and Empower; Assessment: Measure What Matters; Teaching: Prepare and Connect; Infrastructure: Access and Enable and Productivity: Redesign and Transform. Considerable progress was made in each of these areas. It was suggested that work towards a new technology plan be started and that by this time next year we would transition to a new plan. A 3-year plan is recommended to align with the current FPS Strategic Plan.

Opioid Crisis Update – Local Efforts

Ms. Spinelli updated the committee on Foxborough's efforts to tackle the opioid crisis affecting the community. She explained that the solution is multi-faceted and needs a concerted effort from all town departments. To that end, the town has created an Opiate Task Force which is chaired by Ms. Mary Beth Bernard, Assistant Town Manager. Ms. Bernard was not able to attend this meeting. Three areas of focus for the Task Force are: prevention and community

education; crisis response and post events; and family support and resources. This summer more progress will be made in each of these areas.

Foxborough schools already include drug abuse prevention and resistance skills as part of the wellness curriculum and have active mental health teams in place in every school. Also, the school nurse, Ms. Linda Mealey, applied for and received a grant from the Department of Public Health for SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment) funding. The SBIRT screening will be implemented in the fall for grade 10 students, and later on to grade 8 students.

Ms. Kris Long and Mr. James DeVellis rejoined the meeting during this segment. There was a lengthy discussion around the purpose of the task force, what more can be done to support families who are struggling with opioid addiction, and what role the schools should play in education and support. Foxborough resident Ms. Debra Stewart also briefly joined in the discussion.

Superintendent's Evaluation – Continued Discussion

The committee was reminded of the timelines for the completion of the Superintendent's evaluation for the 2015-2016 school year. Ms. Belanger encouraged committee members to make their appointment with Ms. Spinelli to complete their portion of the evaluation. Individual reviews are due to Ms. Belanger by July 8. The composite summary will be brought forward to the next School Committee meeting.

Transportation Bid

Mr. Yukna presented the results of the recent bid solicitation for the purchase of two (2) 77-passenger school buses and one (1) 35-passenger school bus. Mr. Yukna recommended awarding a split bid, with DATTCO Sales and Service awarded the bid for the two (2) 77-passenger school buses in the amount of \$149,860 and Anderson Blue Bird Bus Sales of New England awarded the bid for one (1) 35-passenger school bus in the amount of \$75,499.

Lord moved; Weiss seconded

Award DATTCO Sales and Service the bid for the two (2) 77-passenger school buses in the amount of \$149,860

Vote: 5-0-0

Connolly moved; Gardner seconded

Award Anderson Blue Bird Bus Sales of New England the bid for one (1) 35-passenger school bus in the amount of \$75,499.

Vote: 5-0-0

Acceptance of Donations

The following donations were presented for the committee's consideration.

Gardner moved; Connolly seconded

Accept the donation from the Mabelle M. Burrell Elementary School PTO in the amount of \$1,231.56 for the purchase of a preschool table, with gratitude

Vote: 5-0-0

Weiss moved; Lord seconded

Accept the donation from Declan Moloney in the amount of \$3,085.00 for continued maintenance of the birdhouses, bat houses and plantings along the FHS ball fields, with gratitude

Vote: 5-0-0

Ms. Spinelli acknowledged the hard work of Eagle Scout Declan Moloney on this very ambitious project.

Other Matters

Mr. Connolly noted the grade 6 STEM day with the Council on Aging folks was a success. Ms. Belanger agreed it was a great day.

Ms. Spinelli wished everyone a wonderful summer.

Mr. Connolly congratulated the girls' tennis team on their championship win.

Ms. Lord wished everyone a restful and productive summer.

Dr. Berdos noted that FPS will be hosting a professional development summer institute next week for the first time. One-hundred seventy educators are registered for two full days of professional development.

Ms. Lord motioned to enter executive session at 10:02 p.m. for the purpose of discussing negotiating strategies with union personnel (Foxborough Education Association-Professionals; Foxborough Education Association-Educational Assistants; Foxborough Educational Secretaries' Association; and Foxborough Food Services) and for the purpose of discussing wage/contract negotiations with Non-Union Personnel (Superintendent's contract). The committee will return to open session.

Weiss seconded

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

Lord moved; Weiss seconded

Return to open session (10:58 p.m.)

Vote: 5-0-0

Ms. Belanger noted there are four collective bargaining agreements that require votes.

Gardner moved; Lord seconded

Approve the proposed Foxborough Education Association-Professionals Agreement dated September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2019 as presented

Vote 5-0-0

Weiss moved; Connolly seconded

Approve the Foxborough Education Association-Educational Assistants Agreement dated September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2019 as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

Lord moved; Gardner seconded

Approve the Foxborough Educational Secretaries' Association Agreement dated July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2019 as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

Weiss moved; Lord seconded

Approve the Food Services Memorandum of Agreement dated July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2019 as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

Ms. Belanger thanked Ms. Spinelli, Mr. Yukna and Dr. Berdos for their work on contract negotiations. Ms. Spinelli thanked all staff members for their contributions as well, and Mr. Gardner noted a job well done by FEA President Todd Kaeser.

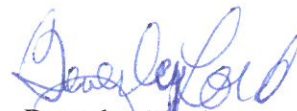
Connolly moved; Lord seconded

Adjourn the meeting

Vote: 5-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 11:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beverley Lord
Secretary/Clerk

Attachments:

Resolution Against Lifting the Cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools

Regular meeting minutes of June 6, 2016

Executive session meeting minutes of June 6, 2016

K-12 Fine Arts (Music) Curriculum Review

5-Year Technology Plan Update

Donations

Approved: June 18, 2016