

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH

Regular Meeting

Date: February 6, 2017

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 REPRESENTATIVES: Dimitri Davis; Alex Shilcusky was not present

Ms. Belanger opened the meeting, reviewed the agenda and congratulated the hometown New England Patriots on their Super Bowl LI win.

Visitors

None.

Approval of Minutes

Gardner moved; Lord seconded

Approve the January 23, 2017 regular meeting minutes as presented

Vote: 5-0-0

Teaching and Learning Highlight

FHS Business Teacher Jon McCabe and FHS DECA students Courtney Seeley, Brandon Wasserman, Bailey Sullivan and Caitlin Brightman updated the Committee on the Foxborough DECA Chapter's performance at the January 12th District Competition held at Stonehill College. DECA defines its mission as "*preparing emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe.*" The competition involved a test, a written business presentation and an oral business presentation. Mr. McCabe reviewed a detailed and comprehensive DECA evaluation form showing the many rigorous performance indicators used to evaluate students at each stage of the competition. Students discussed their experiences at districts as well as what skills they have acquired that translate to the real world. One student described DECA as introducing students to the idea of being in business later in life.

Currently in its second year, the FHS DECA Chapter showed a lot of membership growth this year from last. Last year 25 students went to districts; this year 44 students participated. Of those 44, 20 students will be going on to the state competition in Boston from March 9 to 11, compared to 11 students participating in states last year. FHS DECA students are currently raising funds for the upcoming state competition. Mr. McCabe thanked the Foxboro Rotary Club and the Foxboro Knights of Columbus for their recent generous donations in support of fundraising efforts.

After state competitions, the DECA ICDC (International Career Development Conference) will be held in Anaheim, California, from April 26-29 2017.

Proposal for Senior Privileges

FHS Principal Diana Myers-Pachla, FHS English Department Head Shannon Wasilewski, and FHS student Colin Spinney presented a Proposal for Senior Privileges. Colin explained that he wanted to do something that would improve upon the culture of the school. The idea behind his proposal is to allow seniors who meet the eligibility requirements, and who have a study hall during the first and/or last block of their day, to enjoy some flexibility in their schedule during those times. Colin discussed the positive aspects of allowing senior privileges, eligibility requirements and sign in/out procedures. Students who do not follow procedures will have their senior privileges revoked.

Ms. Myers-Pachla voiced her support for the program, which she described as very reasonable and doable. She noted, if approved, senior privileges would start immediately and an informational letter will be sent to parents. Questions and discussion from the committee followed.

Weiss moved; Connolly seconded
Approve the Proposal for Senior Privileges as presented
Vote: 5-0-0

Addition to FHS Overnight Travel

FHS Principal Diana Myers-Pachla presented an addendum for consideration to FHS overnight travel for the 2016-2017 school year. This addendum is an addition to the FHS overnight trips previously approved by the School Committee on January 9, 2017, and adds the FHS Track Team's attendance at the Loucks Invitational in White Plains, New York, in May 2017. This item was inadvertently omitted on the previous request and has received School Committee approval in previous years. Approximately 10-20 student athletes will attend.

Lord moved; Gardner seconded
Approve the addendum to add the FHS overnight trip for the FHS Track Team to attend the Loucks Invitational in White Plains, New York, in May 2017
Vote: 5-0-0

Update on Burrell School Project

Mr. Yukna shared an update on the Burrell School Renovation Project. A recent meeting was held in Boston with the MSBA (Massachusetts School Building Authority) and representatives from Foxborough. Mr. Yukna explained the process of selecting an OPM (Owner's Project Manager). A committee of five reviewed OPM proposals and interviewed five companies. Colliers International was the top choice. The Collier group presented to the MSBA board on February 6, 2017. A letter of approval is expected soon, and then the process to hire an architect will begin.

Ms. Spinelli thanked Town Manager Bill Keegan and Fire Chief Roger Hatfield for attending the MSBA meeting in support of the OPM selection.

Mr. Yukna noted that this is a longer MSBA process than we are accustomed to, and that due to the methodical nature of the MSBA process, it should not be expected that any type of renovation should start for at least a year and a half.

Ms. Belanger stated we are expecting about a 49% reimbursement of the cost of the project from the MSBA.

Other Matters

Ms. Belanger related a request from Ms. Ellen Pillsbury, FHS School-to-Career Specialist, that volunteers are needed for the February 28th Credit Fair for Life at Showcase Live. Community members who are interested in volunteering can contact Ms. Pillsbury at the high school or the Superintendent's office.

Ms. Spinelli introduced the video "Dear Patriots, With Love" made by the Superintendent and Foxborough students at all five schools to kick off the Patriots' trip to the Super Bowl. The video was played and enjoyed by the Committee. Ms. Spinelli thanked Mr. Dan Ambrosio, Technology Integration Specialist, who shot the video and Mr. Matt Light, former New England Patriot, for his closing comments.

Ms. Spinelli noted the second semester has had a smooth start, athletic teams are doing well, and FHS art students had another strong showing at the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards contest sponsored statewide by the *Boston Globe*, taking twenty-four art awards and four poetry awards.

Ms. Lord added that digital images of Gold Key award winning work are being sent to New York City to compete on the national level.

Mr. Gardner wished everybody a good second half of the school year.

Ms. Belanger mentioned that FHS students will be leaving on February 15th on their Spanish Exchange trip.

Dr. Berdos reported on a very successful Professional Development Day. The district focused on curriculum design, safe schools, and meeting the needs of transgender students and students with anxiety. Over 60 area World Language educators convened as well. Overall, it was a great day of learning and was the last Professional Development Day of the school year.

Ms. Weiss congratulated FHS wrestlers on winning the State Championship, and congratulated the Patriots on their Super Bowl win.

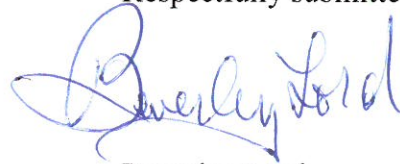
Mr. Gardner mentioned that an announcement was made at the high school that Music Director Mr. Steve Massey is considering retirement at the end of this year and wishes him the best.

Ms. Belanger noted that she enjoys the messages of kindness displayed on the digital sign at the entrance of the high school.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beverley Lord
Secretary/Clerk

Attachments:

Regular Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2017

Proposal for Senior Privileges

Policy JIB: Student Involvement in Decision-Making

Addendum to FHS Overnight Travel for the 2016-2017 School Year

Approved: 2/27/17