

FAIRHAVEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 3, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Bueno, Mrs. Powers, Mrs. Kuechler,
Mr. Veitch, Mr. Monroe

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mrs. McKenna (prior notice)

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Baldwin, Mrs. Kohler, Mrs. Tavares

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OTHERS PRESENT: Kimberly LeBlanc, FEA President, Amber Roderick, Staff, Abigail Bernardo, Student Advisory Representative Mira Yin, Student Advisory Representative, Mike McNamara, Parent, Mary Bernardo, Staff, Pamela Drouin, Staff

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Baldwin, Superintendent of Schools at 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Baldwin informed the audience that the meeting was being videotaped.

Motion made by Mrs. Kuechler and seconded by Mrs. Powers to appoint Mr. Monroe as Chair of the Fairhaven School Committee. Voted 5-0 unanimously

Motion made by Mr. Monroe and seconded by Mr. Veitch to appoint Mrs. Kuechler as Vice-Chair of the Fairhaven School Committee. Voted 5-0 unanimously

Mr. Monroe welcomed Mr. Bueno as the newest member of the Fairhaven School Committee.

Motion made by Mrs. Powers and seconded by Mrs. Kuechler to appoint Mr. Monroe to the Policy-Sub Committee. Voted 5-0 unanimously

Motion made by Mrs. Kuechler and seconded by Mr. Monroe to appoint Mr. Veitch to the Policy-Sub Committee. Voted 5-0 unanimously

Motion made by Mr. Monroe and seconded by Mr. Veitch to appoint Mr. Bueno to the Policy-Sub Committee. Voted 5-0 unanimously

Motion made by Mr. Monroe and seconded by Mrs. Kuechler to re-appoint Mrs. McKenna to the SMEC Committee. Voted 5-0 unanimously

Motion made by Mr. Veitch and seconded by Mrs. Kuechler to adjourn the organizational meeting of the Fairhaven School Committee. Voted 5-0 unanimously

Adjourned 6:41p.m.

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Mr. Monroe opened the regular portion of the School Committee meeting.

Motion made by Mrs. Kuechler and seconded by Mr. Veitch to suspend the regular session School Committee meeting and open the FY'20 budget hearing. Voted 5-0 unanimously

Mr. Monroe announced the open Public Hearing of the FY'20 budget. Mr. Monroe invited the public to ask questions. There was no public comment.

Motion made by Mrs. Kuechler and seconded by Mrs. Powers to close the budget hearing. Voted 5-0 unanimously

Roll Call: Bueno, Powers, Kuechler, Veitch, Monroe

Members of the School Committee took a moment to publicly thank Mr. McNamara for his dedication and years of service on the Fairhaven School Committee.

Motion made by Mrs. Kuechler and seconded by Mrs. Powers to approve the March 6, 2019 regular session minutes. Voted 5-0 unanimously

There was no public comment.

Abigail Bernardo and Mira Yin informed the School Committee of recent and upcoming events taking place at FHS.

Dr. Baldwin gave the School Committee an update regarding the March 22, 2019 legislative hearing on school funding. On behalf of the FEA and the MTA, Ms. Amber Roderick presented information regarding the state budget.

Mr. Monroe then read the following:

Resolution in Support of Full Funding for Our Public Schools

WHEREAS, free public schools available to all students without exception are foundational to our democracy and are required by the state constitution; and

WHEREAS, all of our students, no matter where they live, deserve high-quality public schools that teach the whole child and provide them with a rich school experience that addresses their academic, social and emotional needs;

WHEREAS, the state's foundation budget formula, which determines state aid to each district, has been woefully out of date for years, thereby underfunding our districts by more than \$1 billion a year for essential educational services; and

WHEREAS, an updated foundation budget formula potentially may bring Fairhaven additional state aid each year, allowing this district to move closer to providing all students with the education to which they are entitled as residents of the Commonwealth; and

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WHEREAS, the Legislature failed to pass any foundation budget legislation in the last session, leaving districts, educators and students without the funds necessary to support the schools our students deserve in every district in the state;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Fairhaven School Committee urges the Legislature to approve and fully fund a new foundation budget formula by May 1, 2019.

Motion made by Mrs. Powers and seconded by Mrs. Kuechler to support the said language. Voted 5-0 unanimously

Dr. Baldwin gave the School Committee an update regarding the FY'20 budget process. Dr. Baldwin informed the committee that there is still a discrepancy between the voted on budget number of \$21,524,763 and the recommended budget number by Mr. Rees of \$21,082,516. Dr. Baldwin did reiterate that if the house budget does increase Chapter 70 funding for Fairhaven the School Department is poised to meet with the Finance Committee and the Town Administrator to increase its budget number.

Dr. Baldwin informed the School Committee that the FHS Dehumidification project and the FHS Auditorium lighting project are funded and ready to begin.

Mrs. Kohler gave the School Committee an update regarding the March 21st Professional Development Day-Focus on Safety.

Dr. Baldwin informed the School Committee that a family has reached out to him regarding the naming/renaming process. Motion was made by Mrs. Kuechler and seconded by Mrs. Powers to recommend Dr. Baldwin to move forward with a selection committee. Voted 5-0 unanimously

The next School Committee meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2019

Motion made by Mr. Bueno and seconded by Mr. Veitch to award Arden Engineering Constructors, LLC the Fairhaven High School Gym HVAC Improvements project. Voted 5-0 unanimously

Motion made by Mr. Veitch and seconded by Mrs. Kuechler to approve Draft B as the 2019-2020 School Calendar. Voted 5-0 unanimously

Motion made by Mrs. Kuechler and seconded by Mrs. Powers to adjourn the regular School Committee meeting go into executive session and not return into open session. Roll call: Bueno-yes, Powers-yes, Kuechler-yes, Veitch-yes, Monroe-yes. Voted 5-0 unanimously

Adjourned 7:50p.m.



Robert Baldwin, Ed.D
Secretary to the School Committee
Fairhaven Public Schools