

**FAIRHAVEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**September 11, 2019**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Veitch (with prior notice)

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Baldwin, Mrs. Kohler, Ms. Bouchard

STAFF ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Abigail Bernardo, Student Advisory Representative, Isabelle Pacheco, Student Advisory Representative, Mrs. Nicole Potter, Director of Technology and Finance, Mrs. Perrotti, Elementary Innovation Teacher, Mrs. Higgins, Assistant Principal – Teaching & Learning, Mrs. Souza, Title I Para – Elementary Matt Shortsleeve, Solect Representative, Whitney McClees, Town of Fairhaven Conservation & Sustainability

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:30p.m.

The chair informed the audience that the meeting was being videotaped.

Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Motion made by Donna McKenna to approve regular minutes of June 12, 2019, Stasia Powers seconded.

Motion made by Pam Kuechler to approve executive minutes of June 12, 2019, Donna McKenna seconded.

Motion made by Stasia Powers to approve regular minutes of August 21, 2019, Pam Kuechler seconded.

Motion made by Donna McKenna to approve executive minutes of August 21, 2019, Pam Kuechler seconded.

All minutes from all sessions were unanimously approved, 5-0.

There was no public comment.

Introduction of Isabelle Pacheco to School Committee as new student representative.

Abigail Bernardo informed the School Committee of recent and upcoming event taking place at FHS. Reviewed how athletics are performing. Made audience aware of National Honor Society

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Car Wash details. Isabelle Pacheco addressed the audience as well regarding upcoming fundraisers and club information.

Solect Energy Presentation

Dr. Baldwin introduced Solect Energy. Whitney McClees from the Town of Fairhaven Department of Conservation and Sustainability presented on the projects and initiatives to reduce energy use. Power Options works with nonprofits & their solar options. Wood and East Fairhaven have been selected to benefit from rooftop solar. Matt Shortsleeve did not present but did answer questions from the School Committee.

DM asked a question about the maintenance after the 20 year lease was through. MS answered that Solect provides 3 options: The Town may buy the panels/equipment, extend the lease, or have them removed at Solect's expense.

DM asked a question about the roof conditions as they are. MS answered that Solect has structural engineering offered by an engineer.

SP asked a question regarding supplier issues and company risks. MS answered that Solect is a partnership out of Hopkinton, has 70 employees, also a construction company, and asset company (stream of income due to monthly billing). They are regulation driven so there is sometimes a slowdown in installations. They are privately funded and have other energy projects going on.

PK asked a question regarding the advancement in technology and how Solect keeps up. MS answered that the contract doesn't address it directly, but that it can be amended to reflect that.

BM asked about acts of God and how the insurances work. Mentioned hurricanes as an example. MS answered that the contract is explicit when it comes to insurance. The town could have some liability on it, but that would be for the insurances to sort out.

BM asked about a roof leaking under a panel. MS answered that the town would call Solect & they would help you deal with it.

BM asked about town being eligible for tax credits. MS answered that the town would not be eligible, but if they purchased they would be eligible for the state incentive.

SP asked about educational support and STEM programs through Solect. MS answered that they do have them. Things such as a Clean Energy Day, typically run with elementary schools. They speak on solar careers, what solar energy does, and provide demo's.

Brian Monroe motioned (Kyle Bueno seconded) to vote to authorize the Superintendent to co-sign with the Fairhaven Town Administrator, Power Purchase and Lease Agreements with Solect Energy for solar energy projects to be located at the LeRoy L. Wood and East Fairhaven Elementary Schools. Voted to approve, 5-0 unanimously.

September 2019 Student Enrollment Data/Class Size Goals

Dr. Baldwin presented and reviewed info in packet. Size goals are being met as well as having qualified, solid teachers. When developing the budget, we must keep in mind the high school. It



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is growing, Kids are coming back to Fairhaven from GNBRTVTHS, and some families are even moving to Acushnet just to send their kids to Fairhaven High. SP asked if more data could be added to the information for next time. Dr. Baldwin agreed to get the info for the next time. BM concerned with the High School number, Dr. Baldwin spoke on the idea that it is not just about class size goals.

### District's 2018-2020 Teaching and Learning Plan

Mrs. Kohler spoke on the goals for Teaching & Learning, touching base on the increase of access for student design and innovation as well as K-2 Literacy.

Mrs. Perrotti presented with a slide show and short videos on her new innovation classes. School Committee had a very positive response to this class. Mrs. Higgins and Mrs. Souza spoke and presented a slide show regarding the K-2 Literacy program. School Committee had a very positive response to this initiative. Dr. Baldwin addressed the "all" concept. The initiative needs all support from all stakeholders in order for it to be implemented successfully.

### District Improvement Plan Goals

Dr. Baldwin suggested by the next meeting or the meeting after that he was planning on having full implementation of information on the District Improvement Action Plan. There will be an internal assessment of social workers/psychologists/guidance/SACs to see what is really needed. BM questioned the afterschool care improvement, and PK suggested that even non licensed afterschool programs should try to follow licensing standards. Dr. Baldwin agreed to look in to it.

Next meeting is September 25, 2019.

Dr. Baldwin spoke regarding the Special Town Meeting on November 12, 2019. By September 19, Boards must submit articles. Dr. Baldwin asked if he should submit article to meet deadline to go forward with the placeholder for the money. BM agreed that it is the will of the School Committee that the Superintendent should go forth working with Mr. Rees & Ms. Potter regarding this.

Stasia Powers motioned (Kyle Bueno seconded) to vote to approve the \$16,850 from the Carl Pacheco Memorial Fund. Voted to approve, 5-0 unanimously. Next meeting there will be a presentation for what happens at the camps. Carl Pacheco Memorial Fund commits funds to Fairhaven Public Schools for summer camps.

Kyle Bueno commended Administration on handling EEE.

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Stasia Powers heard a story on the radio regarding the foundation formula for 2021. Dr. Baldwin affirmed that the new FBRC budget should be ready by then.

School Committee recognized EHMS for acknowledging the 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11.

No Executive Session.

Adjourned 8:02pm.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Baldwin", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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