

FAIRHAVEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

August 21, 2019

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

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

STAFF ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Abigail Bernardo, Student Advisory Representative, Mrs. Amy Silva, East Assistant Principal, Mrs. Wendy Weidenfeller, East Principal, Mr. Bob Mota, Asst. Director of Student Services, Ms. Elizabeth Warren, EHMS Assistant Principal, Mrs. Nicole Potter, Director of Technology and Finance, Dr. Nicholas Bettencourt, Elizabeth Hastings Middle School Principal

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:31 p.m.

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

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

Welcome and intro of new staff.

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

Grant from Lauren Dunne Astley Foundation. Application process and appropriation of funds discussed. Motion made by Mr. Munroe and seconded by Mr. Veitch to accept grant from the Lauren Dunne Astley Memorial Foundation in the amount of \$1500. Voted 6-0 unanimously.

District & School Leadership

Dr. Baldwin gave the School Committee a synopsis of the requirements in the handout & reviewed how FPS adheres to all that is outlined. Discussion determined that it would be in the best interest to stay on the same path.

Transportation

Dr. Baldwin gave an explanation of the laws & policies. He also reviewed the letter going out to families. Parent communication was discussed. School Messenger to be utilized as well as emails. Vice Principals will be the first line of communication regarding transportation & will escalate as needed. Ms. Powers commended FPS on their communication methods and styles.

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Student Residency

Dr. Baldwin went over the policy. The basis is the paperwork must be turned in by the families to prove residency. There are no exceptions. No paperwork, no entry. School Committee assured Dr. Baldwin that FPS has their full support on this.

Facility & Maintenance Projects & Updates

Ms. Nicole Potter spoke to the status of all projects ongoing.

- FHS Gym HVAC – shipping issue. New ship date 9/4/19, should all go as planned.
- Fiber Project – Should be live in all schools by Friday, 8/23/19.
- Lighting in the Performing Arts Center – about a week behind.
- Wall pads to be installed in gyms.

Dr. Baldwin discussed the idea of moving meetings around to different locations once projects are complete. He also announced that Opening Day will be at Wood School this year.

Welcome Back

Mrs. Kohler & Mrs. Costa presented the new packet to the School Committee. Many new back to school features such as class supply lists for all grade levels, bus route, and general info were included and communicated clearly. Packet was well received by School Committee.

Mrs. Kohler gave the School Committee a brief overview of the district's new direction for the delivery of music. Video detailing FPS music program was shown. Brief discussion regarding the new set up for music instruction was had after the video for clarification.

Budget

Handout attachment was in the packet sent out to School Committee with the agenda. Dr. Baldwin explained the handout. Discussion regarding the excess of \$245,000. This was more than originally planned through the Ch. 70 for FY 20. This should aid in the development of next year's budget. School Committee would like to push for spending the money through Special Town Meeting. They would also like to determine where the need is. Dr. Baldwin advised he is willing to speak with Town Administrator regarding utilization of the funds.

The next School Committee meeting is scheduled for September 11th at 6:30 p.m.
Colin Veitch will not be in attendance of the next meeting.

Votes

Motion made by , seconded by Kyle Bueno to approve the acceptance of food service donations by the Local 1555 Fairhaven Firefighters Union in the amount of \$764.15. Voted to approve 6-0, unanimously. **School Committee suggests sending thank you letters to those who donate. Also, a suggestion was made by Ms. Kuechler to have a shout out page/ad to list all those who donated, including businesses at the end of the year.

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Motion made by Pamela Kuechler, seconded by Donna McKenna to approve the Clubs/Student Activities for 2019-2020. We did not have the list of student interest clubs for EHMS as of yet. Voted to approve 6-0, unanimously.

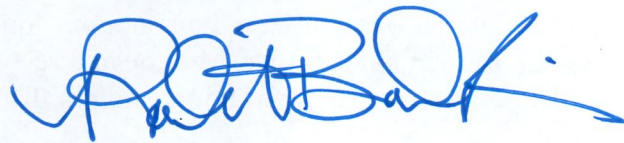
Motion made by Donna McKenna, seconded by Colin Veitch to surplus the outdated technology items on the list provided by Nicole Potter. Ms. Potter did indicate that they would be recycled. Voted to approve 6-0, unanimously.

Motion made by Donna McKenna, seconded by Colin Veitch to approve auditing of student activity funds/ accounts by the Director of Finance, Nicole Potter. Voted to approve 6-0, unanimously.

School Committee made note regarding Dr. Baldwin's evaluation for next year that there will be a check in around February & then formally in June.

School Committee & Dr. Baldwin discussed the threat of EEE in the neighborhood & the effect on activities at the schools. Dr. Baldwin stated that he had reached out to the Town Health Agent with no response to date. The plans for activities are to go no later than 6pm which is 1.50 hours earlier than the scheduled closing time (7:30pm) put forth by the town. Dr. Baldwin also made mention of another concern regarding Athletics. The MIAA rules now include a stipulation regarding the heat index. Dr. Baldwin says that he has been working with the Athletic Director to ensure we comply. Dr. Baldwin also made note to the School Committee that the Athletic Director has expressed a possible need for additional coaching staff (i.e. assistants). School Committee did not take any issue with Dr. Baldwin & the Athletic Director using their judgement on the needs for Athletics.

Adjourned to Executive Session at 8:01pm.



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