

FAIRHAVEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
September 14, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Bueno, Ms. Kuechler, Mr. Andersen, Mr. Monroe, Ms. McKenna, Mr. Veitch

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Mrs. Kohler, Mr. Balestracci, Mrs. Potter, Ms. Bouchard

STAFF ABSENT: Mrs. Potter – with notice

OTHERS PRESENT: Members of the community and staff

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Kuechler at 6:33pm.

Ms. Kuechler read the recording policies for the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Committee Members: Mr. Andersen, Mr. Bueno, Mr. Monroe, Ms. McKenna, Mr. Veitch, Ms. Kuechler

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from August 24, 2022 was made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Bueno, approved unanimously, 6-0.

Report of the Student Advisory Committee

Adin Monroe presented. He spoke about Spirit Week and Athletics as well as other happenings at the school. Elizaeth Cunha will also be a the new student representative.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Receive update regarding opening of school.

Mrs. Kohler presented. She stated that there is a nice sense of normalcy. She spoke regarding residency and the stringency of the policy. She also reminded the community to bring their concerns directly to her office or the schools instead of social media.

Receive update regarding monthly enrollment.

Mrs. Kohler presented. She stated that we are down a bit. She stated that we normally hover around 2000, and we are 1800 and change. This is a trend across the state as well. She stated that there are new neighborhoods coming in so we may have an increase at the elementary level. She stated that our numbers that are graduating are the same as well as our numbers from Acushnet.

Receive update regarding ESSER funding and programs.

Mrs. Kohler spoke regarding the Family Center. The Liaison has come up with things to help with anxiety, group support for parents, and more creative resources for families all at once. She has created an area where people can go get help. She is currently coordinating with our afterschool program, ensuring that students that are not typically represented are being given opportunities in our programs. She is working heavily on family and student engagement. Mr. Balestracci presented. This year we have 438 students enrolled. We have no cost transportation for the offsite programs. We are hosting a theater club and flag football club as well as a cricut club. We are at capacity. Mr. Monroe asked about the middle school gym and the status. Mrs. Kohler said we are waiting on some supply delays and the bleachers. Ms. McKenna asked about possibly offering a course to the high school students in the form of an afterschool club/activity regarding credit. Mr. Balestracci told her that it would be best to involve Mr. Kulak in that discussion.

Upcoming Events:

Next meeting: September 28, 2022

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

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New Business

Vote to approve MOA with Unit A regarding Parental Leave

Mrs. Kohler presented. She stated that the non-birthing parent will get 2 weeks paid using sick time. Motion to approve the MOA with Unit A regarding parental leave made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Veitch, approved unanimously, 6-0.

Vote to expend \$58,000 from Special Education Stabilization Fund

Mrs. Kohler presented. She reminded the Committee of the conversation regarding the transportation bids. The bid came in higher than expected by \$58,000. Should this Committee agree tonight, we will be going to get approval from the Select Board. Motion to expend \$58,000 from the Special Education Stabilization Fund made by Ms. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Bueno, approved unanimously, 6-0.

Vote to approve 2022-2023 student activities and clubs

Motion to approve the 2022-2023 student activities and clubs list made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Ms. McKenna approved, unanimously 6-0.

Receive information regarding 40R Working Group Volunteer

Mr. Foley reached out to see if there is any interest in volunteers who are interested in serving with the group. It involves zoning and by-laws.

Ms. Kuechler made a suggestion to Mrs. Kohler to set the timeline for goals. Ms. Kuechler also commented on the ceremony for the PressBox dedication last Friday.

There will be no Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Bueno, approved, 6-0, unanimously.

Adjourned at 7:07p.m.



Tara M. Kohler
Secretary to the School Committee
Fairhaven Public Schools