

FALMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FALMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS



School Committee Meeting
January 9, 2018
Administration Building
6:30 pm

Present:

Kelly Welch, Chair
Leah Palmer, Vice Chair
Terri Medeiros, Secretary
Andrea Thorrold
Meghan Fleck
Melissa Keefe
William Rider
John Furnari
Walter Crotty

Nancy R. Taylor, Superintendent
Patrick Murphy, Director of Finance and Facilities
Cynthia Tougas, Dir. of Technology & Library/Media
Zachary Waddicor, Dir. of Curriculum K-6

Press: Andrea Carter, Falmouth Enterprise
Ryan Bray, The Bulletin

*Absent: Sonia Tellier, Assistant Superintendent
Charles Jodoin, Director of Student Services
Joany Santa, Director of Human Resources*

OPEN Meeting

HEARD Ms. Welch open the meeting at 6:30 PM.

PUBLIC Comments

None

Student Advisory Report

HEARD Katrina Wilson, Freshman at Falmouth High School, report that there is some confusion at the High School about what are excused “tardies” as they relate to the weather.

ACT on Exchange Trip to FRANCE for FHS Students

HEARD Ms. Schmidt report that she would like to continue the exchange program that they began last year proposing to go to France in the 18-19 school year. The French students would come to Falmouth in October and would be here for approximately 10 days. Our students will go in April before the vacation week and then stay through April vacation week. Ms. Schmidt assured the Board that they will follow the same protocols. A question and answer period followed Ms. Schmidt’s request. MOTION by Terri Medeiros to approve the exchange trip to France in the 2018-2019 school year. SECONDED by Melissa Keefe. UNANIMOUS.

ACT on Attendance Policy JE

HEARD Leah Palmer state that the policy subcommittee recommends that the Board adopt policy – Attendance (JE). MOTION by Meghan Fleck to adopt the revised Attendance Policy JE. SECONDED by Terri Medeiros. Brief question and answer period followed. UNANIMOUS.

ELL Presentation

HEARD Christine Nicholson, ELE Department Head and Mary Beth Knox, ELE teacher, review the English Language Learner program in Falmouth. Ms. Nicholson and Ms. Knox covered the following topics in their presentation:

1. The mission of the ELE Program
2. The difference between the SEI Teachers and ELD Teachers
3. English Learner Population
4. English Proficiency Levels of Students (level 1-5)
5. Languages in the district - there are 25 languages in our district
 The Top 3 languages are:
 Portuguese
 Patois
 Spanish
6. The students are from 25 Countries of Origin
7. EL's unique needs
8. Activities for students and their families include:
 - a. Summer Camp at Mullen Hall School which is held at the end of the summer before school starts.
 - b. Local Field Trips – Falmouth Public Library, 8 Cousins Bookstore, Carousel of Light, the Falmouth Garden Club, and the Falmouth Historical Society
9. ELD Focus & Professional Development
10. Student Learning Targets from ESE

HEARD a question and answer session following presentation.

Superintendent's Mid-Cycle Review Presentation

HEARD Mrs. Taylor review her progress on each goal and highlight the following:

- To make sure we are consistent with work over time
- Meeting with Adjustment Counselors to see what they are seeing in student learning and the effects of the opioid crisis and to collect data
- How her BC work has informed her leadership (ex. The ACE Study)
- On-going work with McLean Hospital
- Budget Planning – how it impacts students and what we can provide for instruction and support
- How she supports individual principals, including on-going conversations regarding staffing needs and other topics
- *Wheelhouse* Newsletter

HEARD a question and answer session following Mrs. Taylor's presentation.

HEARD Mrs. Taylor also report that she has a binder containing evidence available in the office for review.

Strategic Plan Presentation

HEARD Mrs. Taylor review the strategic plan and priorities of the 2017-2018 academic school year.

These include:

1. Academic Growth and Achievement (Previously named *Teaching and Learning*)
2. Supportive Learning Environments
3. Family Collaboration and Engagement

HEARD a question and answer session following Mrs. Taylor's presentation.

Review and Discuss 18-19 School Year Calendar

HEARD discussion of the 2018-2019 school calendar. Mr. Furnari asked to check some of the religious and cultural holidays. Leah Palmer would like to form a Calendar Task Force. The 2018-2019 calendar will be placed on the next School Committee agenda for a vote.

CONDUCT Routine Business

MOTION by Leah Palmer to approve the minutes from 12/5/17. SECONDED by Melissa Keefe. HEARD Andrea Thorrold request that Mr. Rider's vote on the MASC motion be changed to "no" instead of "abstained." Additionally Kelly Welch asked that Mrs. Welch be changed to Ms. Welch throughout the minutes. Eight in FAVOR. Mr. Furnari ABSTEINED. MOTION PASSES.

Report from the Superintendent

HEARD Mrs. Taylor report on the budget process. The budget is built on the previous three years. At this time we do not know the status of our grants. Our budget recommendation from the Town of Falmouth for FY19 is \$47, 823,129. We maintain the philosophy that whatever we build we can sustain over time. We have made incremental changes while maintaining small class size.

HEARD Mrs. Taylor report on the upcoming activities in the Guidance Office which include:

1. 1/10/18 - Teen Depression Workshop
2. 1/18/18 - Eating Disorders Movie and Panel Discussions
3. 1/31/18 - Bullying and Responsible use of Social Media

HEARD Mrs. Taylor report that the Fields Task Force and Planning Committee was held on December 20, 2017. There were 11 community members and 9 district advisory members in attendance. The team agreed upon a timeline.

HEARD Mrs. Taylor report on the burst pipe at North Falmouth Elementary School on Sunday January 7, 2018. The clean-up crew, supervised by Kevin Pimental and Don Drew, worked diligently to have the school ready to re-open by Tuesday. The connection with the School Department and other Town Offices are very helpful during this type of situation.

HEARD Questions for Directors

FROM Mrs. Tellier's report:

Mrs. Taylor highlighted the concert at the Lawrence School and commended Andrew Fietek and Eileen Cahill, music teachers, for the wonderful job they did.

FROM Mr. Waddicor's report:

Mr. Waddicor discussed the MA History and Science Curriculum recent review and revisions by the DESE.

FROM Mr. Jodoin's report:

Absent

FROM Ms. Tougas' report:

Ms. Tougas highlighted the "Hour of Code" that took place in December 2017.

FROM Mr. Murphy's report:

Mr. Murphy reported that over the next 6-8 weeks feel free to come into the office and go through the budget book. If you have any questions contact him and he will schedule a time to review it with each of you.

FROM Dr. Santa's report:

Absent

REPORT from the Chairman

HEARD Andrea Thorrold and Leah Palmer update on the Policy Sub Committee

HEARD John Furnari report that the Cape Cod Collaborative is searching for a permanent Director.

HEARD Leah Palmer request that the Calendar Task Force convene. They will work on a date to meet.

HEARD Ms. Welch relay that a resident sent information about *Barnstable High School Composting Plan* and suggests the schools look into it. Ms. Welch also mentioned that she would like to finish the workshop from this summer's retreat during the next couple of meetings.

HEARD Terri Medeiros state that she would like to try again to pick a date for a workshop to discuss "*Meeting Structure of the School Committee Meeting.*"

Request for Agenda Items

HEARD Melissa Keefe request a sample of the *Deveraux Screening Tool*

HEARD Kelly Welch request the number of students/staff that we are out of compliance with DESE in regards to the ELE Program.

MOTION by Terri Medeiros to move into executive session to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel. It is expected that the School Committee will NOT resume public session. Roll Call VOTE. UNANIMOUS.

ADJOURNED Meeting: 8:32 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Medeiros, Secretary

RECORDING SECRETARY: Sharon Reid