

Regular Meeting: March 12, 2018

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE FALL RIVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**Monday, March 12, 2018**  
**5:30 PM**

**Morton Middle School Auditorium**  
**1135 North Main Street**  
**Fall River, MA 02720**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Mayor Correia called the meeting to order. A roll call for attendance showed at 5:32 p.m.:

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Present  | Mr. Khoury: Present    |
| Mr. Coogan: Present  | Mr. Martins: Present   |
| Mr. Costa: Absent    | Mayor Correia: Present |
| Mr. Hetzler: Present |                        |

Also present were Attorney Assad and Superintendent Malone. Student Delegates Joseph Camara and Ruben Santos were absent.

Mayor Correia read the Open Meeting Law.

A salute to the flag followed.

**CITIZENS' INPUT**

Mayor Correia announced that there was one person signed up for Citizens' Input:

Ben Coleman – 57 Goss Street – Budget and Talbot

Mr. Coleman stated that he was a teacher at Talbot Middle School. When he was hired at Talbot six years ago, he was told that they would be getting a new school within the next few years and they were next on the list. However, that has not happened. He thought that it would be helpful if the School Committee knew some of the issues that the teachers were having at Talbot. He thanked the Superintendent for the renovations at Talbot such as the new bushes and grass and repainting the hallways. Talbot was designed to be carpeted. It was originally carpeted but the carpeting was taken out more than 10 years ago. However, nothing was done to mitigate the sound waves. Their classrooms are echo chambers now with nothing to absorb sound which makes it difficult to teach. Teachers don't want carpeting reinstalled but they need something to mitigate the sound such as acoustic tiles. He also wanted to talk about the issue of chalkboards. They were told a few years ago that they couldn't use chalkboards anymore. He presented the Committee with a Home Depot shower board that has a plastic coating on the front. These boards only last a few years. He demonstrated how he was not able to erase the board anymore. If he leaves writing on his board for more than 24 hours, it won't erase. He said that it would be helpful to have new boards.

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Mayor Correia assured Mr. Coleman that the School Committee and the Superintendent would look into this more. Superintendent Malone thanked Mr. Coleman for coming. These items are on the list and they will be discussed at an upcoming subcommittee meeting where he will invite teachers to come in and speak.

### **RECOGNITION AWARDS**

Mayor Correia announced that there were no Recognition Awards to present this evening. He added that Mr. Aguiar had brought to his attention and encouraged them to put together a Recognition Award Committee where they could put together and draft potential recognition awards. They'll put together a committee and bring that back at the next meeting.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- *New Durfee Project*

Superintendent Malone thanked the residents of Fall River for the new Durfee High School Project vote this week. Any new building is a game changer for a school system. He thanked the building committee, parents, students, and teachers for this effort.

- *Puerto Rican Hurricane Relief*

Superintendent Malone stated that they have been talking about additional financial relief/aid for the students who came to Massachusetts as a result of the hurricane in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean. About \$5,000 was given to districts with over 100 students. Based on the number of students who have come to Fall River since October 1, which was 145 students, the state has appropriated \$15 million which they will administer to the Fall River Public Schools using a quasi-Chapter 70 formula. It will come to them in two components. The first will be within the next month which they could use this year to fill some holes in the McKinney-Vento transportation and the second they will get this June to carry forward into FY19. They're feeling very positive that the needs of the school system were heard and the State is taken appropriate response to mitigate and provide relief for the increase cost.

- *Subcommittee Meeting Requests*

Superintendent Malone is requesting the following subcommittee meetings: Finance, Instructional, Sped/Alt Ed, Facilities and Operations, and Evaluation. The one that will be the most taxing on their time is the Finance Subcommittee meeting.

Superintendent Malone announced that all Fall River Public Schools will be closed tomorrow.

### **STUDENT COMMENT/STUDENT DELEGATE REPORT**

Mayor Correia announced that there was nothing to report from the student delegates.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: Mr. Martins-Mr. Coogan: To approve the meeting minutes from the February 12, 2018 Regular Meeting of the School Committee.**

No discussion

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**A roll call showed:**

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes   | Mr. Khoury: Yes    |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes   | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Absent | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes  |                    |

**Six were in favor    None were opposed    One was absent (Costa)    Motion passed**

**TRAVEL REQUESTS**

**MOTION: Mr. Coogan-Mr. Khoury: To approve all travel requests.**

No discussion

**A roll call showed:**

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes   | Mr. Khoury: Yes    |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes   | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Absent | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes  |                    |

**Six were in favor    None were opposed    One was absent (Costa)    Motion passed**

**DONATIONS**

**MOTION: Mr. Hetzler-Mr. Coogan: To accept all donations.**

No discussion

**A roll call showed:**

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes   | Mr. Khoury: Yes    |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes   | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Absent | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes  |                    |

**Six were in favor    None were opposed    One was absent (Costa)    Motion passed**

**CONTRACTS**

Mr. Martins asked to take the Southcoast Hospitals Group contract separately.

**MOTION: Mr. Martins-Mr. Hetzler: To approve the Southcoast Hospitals Group contract.**

Discussion:

Mr. Martins asked how many people have utilized this program. Tom Coogan introduced Ron Pelletier, the coordinator for the Southcoast Employee Assistance Program who will talk about some of the features and benefits of the program and answer any questions that the Committee may have. He pointed out that there has been no increase and that the number is the same as what they have been paying for the past several years.

Mr. Pelletier stated that a common misconception people have about the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is that they think it's just a counseling benefit. The program has evolved over the years. With the School Department, they've done an immense amount of work over the years. Over

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the past three years, they've provided EAP services to almost 350 employees and family members of the Fall River Public Schools. They've done onsite work at 12 different schools. They've done grief and trauma response following four tragic events over the past few years. While the teachers, counselors, and school adjustment counselors focus on helping the students, EAP is there supporting the staff and debriefing them. They consulted two different schools where principals and staff were looking for professional guidance on how to deal with a difficult parent who was being disruptive in the school. They did conflict mediation at three different schools. They've also done culture and climate assessments at three different schools. He met with teachers and staff and talked about what it was like to work at the school and any concerns that they may have. They did leadership development coaching with the administrative teams at those schools to help them improve the overall culture and climate. EAP led some workshops at two different schools.

Mr. Khoury asked who holds them accountable for the work that they are doing in the schools.

Mr. Pelletier stated that their contact usually communicates with Human Resources. That's always been the person to reach out to them first and puts them in contact with the principals and department heads where they're going to do their work. They maintain contact with both HR and the principals. Mr. Khoury asked if their cases were ongoing. Mr. Pelletier stated that there was work that they did over time in particular schools.

Mr. Martins asked if the 350 people that EAP has helped were repeats. Mr. Pelletier stated that they were not duplicative. He added that a lot of EAPs only limit to a few sessions but the services Southcoast offers to the school system are unlimited. People can go to them for counseling 10 times in the course of six months, stop their services, then come back again six months later. They do have some people who have been going to counseling for over a two- or three-year period. Mr. Martins asked if they refer people out to other agencies. Mr. Pelletier said that they do not.

Mr. Aguiar stated that it sounds like Mr. Pelletier was more of a consultant. He was under the impression that this was to assist individual employees but Mr. Pelletier spoke about consulting work. He asked if this could be paid out of a consultant line item. He asked if the administration has looked at any other ways to fund this. Mr. Pelletier stated that they have 23 companies and organizations that they do work for and they all pay the same way. EAP has evolved over the years. It started out as a counseling benefit but they have since changed their array of services. However, their fees have not changed. Mr. Aguiar asked when the contract ends. Superintendent Malone said that it ends on June 30. Mr. Aguiar doesn't think that they should move forward with this yet until they have more information. He would like the administration to weigh in on the consulting aspect of it.

Superintendent Malone stated that they don't have a consultant line item which is why they put this in Contracted Services. They've had the program for several years. There's no rush to vote on this tonight. They can gather more information. What he's been told is that it has been well received by the employees that have participated in it.

Mr. Khoury asked what schools Mr. Pelletier has performed services at. Mr. Pelletier stated that he has performed services at Kuss, Resiliency, Viveiros, Fonseca, Silvia, and Greene. The School

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Department is their longest standing contract when they started contracting with EAP in 1987. Mr. Khoury stated that he needed to learn a little bit more about what services were being provided.

Mr. Martins asked, of the 350 people and onsite assistance to 12 schools, if anyone has been sent out to outside counseling services. Mr. Pelletier stated that the only time they have to refer someone out is if they need drug or alcohol treatment requiring an impatient stay.

Mr. Hetzler said that he thinks that the Employee Assistance Program is a huge benefit to all the employees who are needing to seek counseling on any issues that they have.

**A roll call showed:**

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: No    | Mr. Khoury: No     |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes   | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Absent | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes  |                    |

**Four were in favor Two were opposed** (Aguiar and Khoury) **One was absent** (Costa) **Motion passed**

**MOTION: Mr. Martins-Mr. Coogan: To approve the Finalsite and Teach Point contracts.**  
No discussion

**A roll call showed:**

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes   | Mr. Khoury: Yes    |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes   | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Absent | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes  |                    |

**Six were in favor None were opposed One was absent** (Costa) **Motion passed**

**GRANTS**

**MOTION: Mr. Hetzler-Mr. Coogan: To approve all grants.**  
No discussion

**A roll call showed:**

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes   | Mr. Khoury: Yes    |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes   | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Absent | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes  |                    |

**Six were in favor None were opposed One was absent** (Costa) **Motion passed**

**DISCUSSIONS**

1. **Second Read and Vote to Approve:** Durfee Program of Studies, *as presented by Mr. Matthew Desmarais, Principal of Durfee High School*

**MOTION: Mr. Khoury-Mr. Hetzler: To approve the Durfee Program of Studies.**

Discussion:

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Mr. Aguiar thinks that anytime something goes before the School Committee, they should hear a short presentation so that the public can be aware of what is happening.

Principal Desmarais stated that, in the introductory section of the Program of Studies, they are looking to get approval to change policy around dual enrollment. Their current dual enrollment policy has students taking courses at Bristol Community College as honors courses but it does not carry as much weight as an AP course. That becomes a deterrent for some students because, if they have a 4.5 GPA and take a dual enrollment course, it would actually hurt their GPA. These courses are credit bearing college courses that transfer to other universities and colleges. They feel that the weight of those courses should have the same weight as AP courses. Outside of that, most of the changes are in certain departments.

In English Language Arts, one of the big changes is that they are looking to pilot a hybrid where students take ENG 101 at BCC and embed it in an advanced American Literature course. The teacher that they are looking at teaches ENG 101 at BCC and is on staff at Durfee. It's a small pilot at 22 slots. They're looking at some grant funds to fund that. In math, they are looking to make statistics and calculus yearlong courses so that there is equity across all senior math classes. They're looking to enhance the offering to freshmen by offering Algebra Essentials CP. A big area for change is in social studies. They are adding AP Research which is a part of the AP capstone diploma. Students take AP Seminar in their sophomore year then in their senior year they would go into their AP Research course. Last year, with their change in schedule, they had a Part 2 of the Year 3 of their AP History course. They split it in half in order to get more offerings to sophomores and also to offer more requirements. They find that a lot of students beyond math and ELA don't have a lot of requirements. He also wanted to highlight financial literacy. In recent years, there have been complaints from the community that kids leave high school not knowing how to do their taxes or how to balance a checkbook. This year, BayCoast Bank offered them an online platform where all students in the senior class going through the financial literacy program online are doing it through their math classes. Next year they would like to move that over to the senior history course.

A small change in world language is that they are asking for AP weight to their advanced Portuguese class. A change in CVTE is that they have two new programs: Marketing and Engineering. Another piece that they have added and piloted and would like to grow school wide is Learn to Serve where service learning is a big piece of many high schools' senior year in order to make a more robust senior year. The last piece he wanted to highlight was that they're looking at a Year 2 cohort. OneGoal is a program where they have a partnership where students in their junior year get support in their class and ramp up their skills to do well on the SAT. They get to go on field trips and explore college campuses and become fellows within the program. They're looking for the students to be able to link with other students from other schools.

Mr. Khoury stated that he was happy to see that the program of studies was evolving and growing. When he ran for School Committee, he was really plugging for civics education and civic engagement. He had the opportunity to sit in on Mr. Farias' civic engagement class last year at Durfee. He was impressed with the level of research and the level of freedom that the students had to perform their research in order to find conclusions to their studies. He sees the civic engagement component growing and he's happy about that. He asked at what part of the social studies curriculum was civics the strongest. Principal Desmarais said in the freshmen year; however, Massachusetts K-12 is about to finalize a new set of standards. Mr. Khoury stated that he knew social studies wasn't in the big three for MCAS standards and that concerned him. Kids don't tend to take social studies as seriously as math, science, and ELA. He wanted the students to have an understanding of how this country was built, what the constitution said, the branches of government,

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and how they work so that, as students mature in their education they have a working knowledge as to how their own country is working. He thinks that will lead to greater civic engagement later on in their own lives.

Mike Costa stated that they got their draft standards for Massachusetts in January and they are working on adjusting their standards. The theme throughout the standards is civics. He knows that the District will be introducing a civics course in 8<sup>th</sup> grade within the next couple of years. The foundations of government will remain in freshmen year but that senior history course is going to have to have a civic component to it. They have a team of teachers looking at a modular approach which he thinks is going to be very hands on and student centered.

Mr. Khoury asked if there were discussions going on in social studies classes relevant to what is scheduled to take place on Wednesday (National School Walkout Day). Mr. Costa stated that he thinks that that has been happening organically in the classrooms. Teachers haven't guided students' decisions with what they're planning to do on Wednesday. A lot of the recent events have created more activists in their schools. They also have the Learn to Serve program and a volunteer fair coming up in April in which a lot of community partners are coming in. They're trying to instill that community pride and the importance of giving back to the community. Mr. Khoury stated that he was excited about the growth and new developments. He commended the social studies department for the civic engagement learning that is going on.

Mr. Martins stated that he was pleased with the improvements and increases in CVTE. When they add new programs, not only do they have great programs but they have a higher rate of reimbursement from Chapter 74 programs which is \$5,000 per student. There is also a higher education element where students can advance to in architecture, civil engineering, and cosmetology. In culinary arts, a student can get a bachelor's degree from Johnson and Wales University. All these programs provide a direct path for students to go on and get a degree in that career field. One of the concerns that he had was looking at their graduation rate and where the students go one year after they have graduated.

Mr. Coogan stated that in 2007 the graduation rate for Durfee was 59%. He believed that this year it's around 80%. Over a 10-year span, they've gone up 20 points. In looking at the additions for Algebra Essentials, he's hoping that is a remedial course for kids who have not had success in math MCAS. Jesse Clements stated that Algebra Essentials was teaching algebra standards focusing on linear functions and everything linear about algebra.

*Transcriber's Note: At 6:17 p.m., Mr. Costa joined the meeting.*

Mr. Coogan pointed out where it said "teacher recommendation and dean approval." He asked if the recommendation comes from the middle school or the high school. Ms. Clements said that the middle schools are recommending for Algebra I College Prep and, because of time constraints, they're going to look at MCAS data and student averages in middle school and determine the small population of students that will be in this class. Mr. Coogan asked if they were following a similar pattern in science and ELA. Principal Desmarais stated that, on the change in science, Biology II is renamed MCAS Biology Review with Lab. Science is a little different because it's very content laden while math is skill building. They're not necessarily going to use that approach in ELA.

Mr. Aguiar read "This class is proposed to change from an intervention class that is taken in addition to regular CP Algebra class." He asked if that meant they were cutting half the time. Principal Desmarais said that right now they have a model where they are sitting in an algebra class and they

would attempt to schedule students into another math class. It's a scheduling nightmare because they're trying to figure out where to put the kids in the class. They thought it would be best to embed the intervention into the class. They found that doing more of something doesn't necessarily lead to a better outcome. Mr. Aguiar asked if it was changing because it wasn't working. Principal Desmarais stated that they have tried to run these intervention courses but they never had enough bodies in them. Mr. Aguiar thinks that there is a benefit to an extra intervention class. He also had a question regarding online classes. He asked if there were any online courses that they offered in the Program of Studies at Durfee. Principal Desmarais said that they use the Edgenuity platform to remediate, do credit recovery, and special programming in the afternoon to accelerate some over age students who are under credited. They use it when a CTE student also wants to take a language and an AP but it simply won't fit especially in the upper levels. He knows that this year history wasn't fitting into some students' schedules and they didn't want to delay it to the summer or next year so they decided to do the course online and it worked out really well. Mr. Aguiar asked if they use the computer lab for this. Principal Desmarais said that there are computer labs in the library two periods a day that covers a portion of that. Sometimes students do this outside of school hours or in the CTE class. Mr. Aguiar asked if After School Homebound Tutoring still existed. Principal Desmarais stated that there are some homebound tutoring situations off campus but they also have a number of students who can't be a part of the full school day. They have a session that goes 11-5 and a session that goes from 3-5. All the services that are offered during the day are embedded in this program. There's special education services, adjustment counseling services, small groups for the students, an online portion, and direct face-to-face instruction. Mr. Aguiar asked if they would see that breakdown in the budget. Principal Desmarais stated that partial is in the line item. There's a \$50,000 allocation to run that program and there's also the MassGrad grant.

Mr. Khoury stated that he knows that high school kids are already so conditioned and they have a tough time in math in high school. At last month's School Committee meeting, Fonseca and Watson presented and he asked what the math and literacy was looking like. He wanted to reiterate the importance of the early learning of math principles and structures so by the time they get to high school they're pretty well set. He also wanted to follow up on Mr. Martins' comments regarding the CVTE program. He is pleased to see that they have been approved for two more courses. He wants to see that program continue to grow. Principal Desmarais added that while it's not a CTE course, they are building a computer science pathway within Project Lead the Way that will cap off with AP computer science.

**A roll call showed:**

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes  | Mr. Khoury: Yes    |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes  | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Yes   | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes |                    |

**All were in favor**

**None were opposed**

**Motion passed**

- Second Read and Vote to Approve:** Student Registration/Assignment presentation, *as referred by the Policy Subcommittee*

**MOTION: Mr. Martins-Mr. Hetzler: To approve the Student Registration/Assignment policy.**

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Discussion:

Julia Carlson stated that they have put together a kindergarten registration process and they're also trying to ensure that kids are assigned to their neighborhood schools. Some of their schools are over populated. One of the changes was the idea of flexible boundaries. This summer they implemented the transfer request process. If parents did not want their child going to a certain school they had three ways they could transfer out: siblings, hardship, and preference. If there were seats available, they would start with the siblings then go into hardships then they'd look at preference. This worked very well last summer.

Ken Pacheco added that the concept of flexible boundaries was driven by two main points: class size reduction and transportation. They're looking at the boundaries in a little bit of a blurred sense. They are using the boundaries that currently exist but they're also moving them around as the students start enrolling to see where they can make sure the students who are able to walk to school are given the option. They have some expansion coming in the north end. Approximately 100 houses are expected to be built in the next year and a half. They're trying to make some room at Silvia, Tansey, and Spencer Borden in order to accommodate those families.

Mr. Aguiar stated that he was trying to understand the benefits of flexible boundaries in the current year. He asked if this was a temporary fix or if this was a long-term solution to their problem. Superintendent Malone stated that this was the first step in a long-term strategy on how they do intake, assignment, and engagement. The long-term strategy for them is that they have to fix their flow of process. This will evolve each year as they continue to enhance. They will be building more foundation classrooms in other schools which will help them with assignment and transportation as well as reduce cost. They're wanting to build a one-stop shop so that kids are processed and enrolled in a more streamlined and helpful way. The PACE office has asked for a lot of training which the School Department will provide. Over time this center will move. It will no longer be at Durfee High School. They will move to the current auditorium. Flexible boundaries gives him leeway to ensure that he can fit all kids because not all kids get into their seats. They will also continue to have a process for a request for transfer. Mr. Aguiar said that, in the presentation, he heard that Fonseca has enough kindergarten students to fill three extra classes.

Ms. Carlson explained that they had to move roughly 300 students out of Fonseca. Mr. Aguiar asked how this corrected the problem. Ms. Carlson said that with flexible boundaries, they could determine how many students per grade per school will go based on where they live. Before, if a student was going to a different school outside of a certain boundary, they had to transport them. This gives them the ability to look at a master map and move lines based on the needs of the school. Instead of transporting them to an open seat at a south end school, they can create the boundaries and have students move up to a closer school. Mr. Aguiar asked if all the schools were going to have flexible boundaries. Mr. Carlson said that they will. There are a few schools that are heavily impacted but the flexible boundaries will be for all schools. Mr. Aguiar asked if this has been implemented yet. Superintendent Malone said that they have not used the term flexible boundaries but that's how students were assigned last year to make sure that they could fit kids in. They're hoping that the boundary where they're building new homes will draw down to Tansey and wrap Doran more interconnected with Fonseca and help Watson with Greene and Letourneau and help Henry Lord and

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Viveiros in the middle. They may have a need for an elementary school in a certain part of the city that they don't have right now. Mr. Aguiar asked if they needed a vote on this if this was something that was done last year. Superintendent Malone stated that this was stuff that was voted on years ago and this is operational stuff. However, it's policy because it's something that they follow.

Mr. Aguiar stated that these flexible boundaries are going to affect the entire city. His concern is that they are voting on something now and they're going to be moving kids around to try to get them back in their neighborhood school. Superintendent Malone stated that what they are presenting tonight is something that they are currently doing. Under ESSA they use the term for failing schools so that parents can opt out. There's misunderstanding with the term school of choice. Kids have always been assigned to their neighborhood school but there was some confusion because of the school of choice which was under the NCLB which is no longer the law. Mr. Aguiar asked, if they redistrict and have flexible boundaries and there are 130 kindergarten students at one of the schools, why the school couldn't have four levels of kindergarten. Superintendent Malone stated that they didn't have enough classrooms to do that. There are three class size reduction positions in the budget again this year. He has three open spaces he could put these classes in. Mr. Aguiar said that he wasn't talking about class size, he was talking about straight numbers. If a school has 60 kids that don't live in that flexible boundary, they need to make room for kids in their neighborhood school.

Mr. Pacheco said that the flexible boundaries are going to be forever. Even if they try to redistrict this year, it may not fit next year. Besides the programming issues, because they're transporting students for programming, they do have the constant changing of population that is not going to allow them to have the rigid boundaries. They have a lot of buses running across the city both for specialized transportation and programs but also for the fact that they do not have the class size. They have Tansey and Spencer Borden that are near to each other. That doesn't extend far enough north in order to accommodate the biggest growth in the city which is in the north end so they are always going to have problems with Silvia which is not a walking school. Silvia relies heavily on transportation. They also have boundaries in the city that don't allow kids to walk to school. The highway separates the city in half and they have to transport students to Doran even though they are close by because they would have to take the highway to get there. It's the same issue with Silvia. The flexible boundaries will allow them to move students to Tansey and some students who would normally go to Spencer Borden would also go to Tansey and fill in the gap.

Mr. Aguiar stated that it seemed like they were making decisions because of the number of students they have. By saying that it's not going to affect anyone but the new students coming in, they're not truly fixing the problem. He asked that the materials from the Policy Subcommittee be provided to the full Committee. There was an issue that was brought up at the subcommittee and he would like information on that because that should not be happening. Superintendent Malone stated that he will provide the information.

Mr. Costa stated that they did have a policy in place and they had very rigid boundaries. He thinks that what happened this year, given the needs and the Superintendent's attempt to reduce class size, he had to make some judgments whether to abide by the policy or ignore the goal of the School Committee to reduce class sizes. He thinks the flexible boundaries gives the administration the flexibility they didn't have before. Often times parents will point out that the boundary divides the

street next to them so when parents are enrolling their children for the first time, they're looking for a school that is within their neighborhood. Sometimes the School Department can't accommodate that because the school is full. Having the flexible boundaries may encourage parents to put their child in the neighborhood school as opposed to them sending their child to a private or parochial school because the public schools are too rigid with their boundaries. He agrees with Mr. Aguiar that it needs to be addressed in a more global way. They can't just manage their transportation based on new student enrollment. He thinks that they need to look more closely at their special programming. He thinks that they are transporting students to schools where the programs are at but perhaps they may be able to replicate those programs in other schools and that may give them some breathing room when it comes to enrollment across the entire district. The schools that have special programming are going to have seats for those students who need special programming. When they look at the special programs and the numbers, he questioned if it was better to have that program at another school in order to manage the numbers better. What he doesn't want to see happen is that kids begin their educational years at one school and then a year or two later get moved to another school. He agreed with Superintendent Malone that they needed to be more clear with what the difference is between school choice and a parent requesting a particular school.

Mr. Aguiar asked what exactly they were voting on tonight. Superintendent Malone stated that the documents in the binder are not necessarily a policy that will go into the policy handbook but is associated with the procedural process. He will always bring these things forward to the School Committee because it is his understanding that this is referred to as a policy. Mr. Aguiar stated that there were two different dates on the documents. One says June 5, the other says June 15.

Ms. Carlson said that those dates are still up in the air. The only big difference that they are voting on is the flexible boundaries. Mr. Aguiar stated that they need to decide on a date in order to make this policy. Ms. Carlson said that they do not know the last day of school so the date is just a suggestion right now. They're working with their team and they are going to get all the dates, the hours of the Parent Information Center, when parents can submit their transfers, and when the School Department will look at them. She did indicate in the document that they will revisit the transfer requests again in September. For the summer, the cut-off date that was suggested was the last day of school. Mr. Aguiar advised that they put "last day of school."

**A roll call showed:**

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes  | Mr. Khoury: Yes    |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes  | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Yes   | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes |                    |

**All were in favor**

**None were opposed**

**Motion passed**

3. **Vote to Approve:** The proposed job description for the Director of Parent and Community Engagement Center, *as referred by the Policy Subcommittee*

**MOTION: Mr. Aguiar-Mr. Martins: To add the word "preferred" to the last four bulleted items under Qualifications.**

Discussion:

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Mr. Martins stated that, under Qualifications, it says “Ability to work with all FRPS, community members and understands their challenges” and “Familiarity with district schools, school programs, and district goals preferred” and “Knowledge of FRPS student assignment and school policies.” These qualifications appear to be written for a particular individual already in mind. Superintendent Malone stated that they do not have a particular person in mind. This is an open posting that will only be posted once the budget is approved. Mr. Martins thinks that these lines need to be rewritten so that it won’t leave the opinion that this is already identified for someone. He pointed out where it said “knowledge of FRPS student assignment and school policies.” He asked what they would do if there was a person from Middleborough who was highly qualified but doesn’t know about Fall River student assignments or school policies. Superintendent Malone stated that he hopes that the applicant would have read the policies which are on the website. Mr. Aguiar suggested adding “preferred” to the next couple of bullets. Superintendent Malone agreed.

|                          |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>All were in favor</b> | <b>None were opposed</b> | <b>Motion passed</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|

**MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Hetzler: To approve the proposed job description for the Director of Parent and Community Engagement Center.**

Discussion:

School Committeeman Coogan asked what they were looking for as far as salary. Mr. Coogan said that it was a director-level position and it depended on whether or not the applicant had a degree. Mr. Aguiar asked if the range of the salary for the SNON contract was an executive session item for the School Committee to give them that range. Mr. Coogan said that a range had not been established yet. Mr. Aguiar asked if they still had time to do that. Superintendent Malone stated that they did.

**A roll call showed:**

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes  | Mr. Khoury: Yes    |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes  | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Yes   | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes |                    |

|                          |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>All were in favor</b> | <b>None were opposed</b> | <b>Motion passed</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|

4. **Presentation:** FY19 Superintendent’s Recommended Budget, *as presented by Dr. Matthew Malone, Superintendent of Schools.*

Superintendent Malone stated that he was going to walk the Committee through what a budget is, the State’s budget, and his recommended budget. After the presentation, this will then become the School Committee’s budget. They will then deliberate over the next two months until they get to the final budget which is approved by the full School Committee. He feels really good about this budget. It will get them where they need to be but there are some concerns.

*What is a Budget?*

- A statement of core values
- A financial planning tool
- A communication vehicle
- A strategic road map
- A living document

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- A budget is not etched in stone

School Committee members must understand the nuances of the school system's budget.

*The Foundation Budget Consists of Three Calculations*

- A foundation budget
- A local contribution
- Chapter 70 Aid
- Add the three together to get Net School Spending

*What is Net School Spending?*

- All the costs the community spends related to the education of students
- The foundation budget is what the required net school spending is
- The total actual net school spending is a combination of what they spend directly and what they spend indirectly

He displayed a slide of what the percentages of communities in Massachusetts spent on net school spending. This past year, there were four communities below 100% and 23 that were between 100% and 104.9%. Fall River was funded at 101% for the first time last year.

*Goal of the Chapter 70 Formula*

To ensure that every district has sufficient resources to meet its foundation budget.

*Chapter 70 Aid: How it is Determined*

A district's Chapter 70 aid is determined in three basic steps:

1. It defines and calculates a foundation budget, an adequate funding level for each district, given the specific grades, programs, and demographic characteristics of its students
2. It then determines an equitable local contribution, how much of that "foundation budget" should be paid for by each city and town's property tax, based upon the relative wealth of the community
3. The remainder is funded by Chapter 70 state aid

Local contribution + state aid = a district's Net School Spending (NSS) requirement. This is the minimum amount that a district must spend to comply with state law.

*Schedule 19*

- The last piece of the budget puzzle is known as Schedule 19 which is the "charge back" or "write off" of certain charges that municipal communities charge to provide services to the school system.
- In Fall River this is known as "indirect cost" and they have an indirect cost agreement which is a statement of partnership between the School Department and the City to ensure that Schedule 19 charters are appropriate. Those are included in the overall operating budget but transportation and crossing guards are not a part of the net school spending.

The budget that Superintendent Malone is presenting tonight is about the strategic investment for future success and long-term sustainability of this school system. They want to be focused, transparent, and forward thinking about their budget driven by student needs and inclusive of all learners. Equity and student achievement are the heart of this work.

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They started the budget process by looking at their long-term facility goals and how they're going to improve on them with this budget. Right now they are working on a new strategic plan which he hopes to bring to the School Committee in the spring. They will articulate the pillars of the system in the next five years about how they're going to focus on them to ensure that they have a road map for them going forward.

*Fall River at a Glance 2017-2018*

- Student enrollment - 10,128
- Upticks in Hispanic population
- Grown immensely in First Language not English and English Language Learners. They've doubled their coded ELL population. Tonight's budget is driven by the need to serve those students.
- The percentage of High Needs and Economically Disadvantaged populations far exceed the state averages
- 26.1% of new registrations in 2017 have been classified as second language learners
- They've enrolled 143 students from Puerto Rico after October 1. On October 1, they were at 15.2% for ELLs. As of today, they are at 15.9%. He anticipates that they will be close to 20% by the opening of school next year.

*Our Team: FY18 Human Capital*

Total FTE of 1669 (not including athletic coaches)

*FY19 Budget Process*

- September-October 2017: Reviewed last year's zero-based process
- November 2017: Developed a budget calendar. Then worked with site level leaders to develop their budget priorities and built their budget around those priorities.
- January-February 2018: Allowed principals to make site level decision on position conversions.
- February-March 2018: All principals and department heads met with the Superintendent to review their proposed budget. He also met with the president of the Fall River Educator's Association.

*FY19 Preliminary Chapter 70 District Summary and Net School Spending Requirements*

- 11,796 – Foundation Enrollment
- \$148,117,901 – Foundation Budget (100% NSS)
- \$29,653,676 – Net Minimum Contribution
- \$118,464,225 – Chapter 70 Aid
- \$148,117,901 – Required Net School Spending
- \$149,599,080 – Actual Net School Spending (101% NSS)

Threshold = 79.98% State aid percentage of foundation. Last year, they were at 80% so there was a decrease.

*FY19 Revenue (House One)*

- Chapter 70 – State Aid - \$118,464,225
  - \$6,029,035 increase over final FY18 Chapter 70 aid
  - Minimum required increase of \$20 per student
- City contribution - \$29,653,676

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- Increase of \$1,721,239 over June 2018 required city contribution
- Appropriation (Chapter 70 + city contribution) - \$148,117,901
  - Increase of \$7,750,274 over FY18 required net school spending

*FY19 Proposed Budget*

- FY18 Operational Budget - \$141,993,253
- FY19 Net School Spending/House One - \$148,117,901
- FY19 Recommended Budget - \$149,599,080
- FY19 Delta - \$1,481,179
- % above Net School Spending – 1.00%

*Budget Design Strategy*

- Zero-based site level and department costs centers
- Student needs driven program improvements
- Cost containments and repurposed allocation
- Human capital conversion
- Strategic reductions to reduce costs

*FY19 Operating Budget*

- Salary and benefits have gone up 3.3%
- Contractual services have gone up 4.1%
- Materials and Supplies reducing by \$25,000
- Benefits/insurance have gone up 1.69%
- Total increase in the budget is 3.42%

*Budget Highlights*

- Used zero-based budgeting strategies for the second year in a row
- Budget was based on student need and site level decision making
- Includes 30 FTE conversions, reduction of 8.5 FTEs and addition of 12.5 new program improvement FTEs. There is a net gain of four new positions.
- Sustained progress for reduced class sizes K-3 capping student enrollment at 26 or under per class by building an additional three class size reduction positions into the budget
- Expanded programming for EL/SEI students to service an increasingly expanding population
- Created new line items for Preventative Maintenance while continuing to support line items in Technology and Contingency
- Reduced operating expenses across departments by \$378,163 re-allocating savings to build budget
- Continued new budget development protocols increasing face-to-face facilitative meetings between site-level and central office leaders. Budget was built to protect human capital assets.
- Proposing a transparent budget where every dollar is accounted for and granularity of detail is accessible for all
- Built trust, transparency, and teamwork between school sites and central office

*FY19 Concerns*

- Charter school/School Choice expenses have increased by \$3.3 million
  - Current cap of charter schools in Fall River is 15.3%
  - As of December, Fall River is at 12.03%

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- Health Insurance has increased by 4.4% over FY18 totaling \$23.2 million
- Step and Lane increases have gone up \$2.4 million
- Transportation
  - FY18 budget at \$8.4 million with additional \$300,000 that they took for McKinney-Vento appropriation. Added \$700,000 to that line and budgeted \$9.1 million.
- Out-of-District SPED tuition – level funding
  - Goal is to build more programming in the system
- Overtime - increasing the operating budget by \$250,000
- Grant Reductions
  - The federal grants have all been reduced over the last two years. They've taken positions off of grants this year and put them in the operating budget.
  - They are moving \$277,000 from grants in anticipation of loss

*Important Budget Planning Dates*

- Presentation to School Committee – March 12, 2018
- Schedule School Committee Finance Subcommittee Meetings – March-April 2018
- School Committee Budget Deliberation – March-May 2018
- School Committee Budget Hearing – May 2018
- Submit final budget to City Council – June 1, 2018

Superintendent Malone explained that in the binders they had the Superintendent's Recommended Budget Summary which includes all the conversions, program improvements, and articulates the cost containments. He also included a document that contains all the additional instructional support services of each school. He included new dashboards for each school, which explains all the indicators and achievement results of the school and school goals and then zero-based budget. The good news is that with this budget they are able to maintain all of their positions and add four more positions. He does not anticipate any FREA or FRAA lay-off notices. There are, however, positions that will move. For example, a social studies position at Talbot will move to Kuss because there is a need. They've added the ELL Director and ELL Coordinator into the budget. Those positions were previously on a grant. They have three classroom reduction positions. They have an unassigned SPED inclusion position district wide. They also have a half time music percussion position added to the half time they already have. They also have a nurse in this budget as well as a safety officer for K-5. They also added a marketing teacher at Durfee, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Henry Lord, and they have an EL split teacher at Henry Lord. RPA is getting a SPED self-contained classroom teacher as well as a 0.5 school adjustment counselor that is a split with Spencer Borden. Silvia is getting a teacher interventionist coach. Tansey is getting one paraprofessional at the kindergarten level. Those are the program improvement positions. The conversions are mostly around ELL. At Talbot, they're converting a whole strand. At Talbot the figures have grown from 15% two years ago to 30% of students at Talbot being second language learners. They will convert math, ELA, science teacher positions to teachers that teach those same subjects to second language learners. There were a lot of conversions between paraprofessionals and interventionists. There are a couple of positions that they don't need. At the end of the year, these positions won't be filled. Instead of eliminating a couple of positions, he's funding the line items at zero in order to help them balance the budget and show that they're making transitions. The Director of Data and Assessment is retiring. That position will be converted into a Director of Research, Assessment, and Analysis.

Mayor Correia explained that tonight would not be a deep dive into the budget. They will have budget meetings and budget hearings where they will discuss this in further detail.

Mr. Costa asked if the Chapter 70 aid was the House One number and if they were proposing \$118,464,225. Mr. Almeida stated that that was correct. Mr. Costa asked how they set the net minimum contribution of \$29,653,676. Mr. Almeida stated that the State sets the foundation formula and the net school spending requirement. Mr. Costa asked if that was DESE's number. Superintendent Malone stated that that was the number on the Hill. Mr. Costa stated that the Chapter 70 number from the State could not be the same number DESE provides. The House One number isn't going to be the House One number at the end of all of this so he wondered how that could be the DESE number. Mr. Almeida stated that these were the preliminary calculations based on House One. As of right now, the required 100% of net school spending is the \$148 million figure. Mr. Costa asked where the \$29,653,676 factored in. Mr. Almeida stated that it was the difference between Chapter 70 and the required net school spending. Mr. Costa said that the required net school spending is \$148 million. He asked if that's what DESE is saying they will need to spend. Mr. Almeida said that it was, based on the preliminary numbers. Mr. Costa asked if \$148,117,901 was the proposed net school spending number right now. Mr. Almeida confirmed that it was. Mr. Costa asked, if Chapter 70 doesn't come in at \$118.4 million, if the City's contribution is going to have to go up. Mr. Almeida said that it would. Superintendent Malone added that this was the municipal growth factor that the State uses to assign. Mr. Costa stated that the issue that he had with this number is that, when he starts breaking it down, it doesn't account for the charter. Mr. Almeida said that it does. Mr. Costa stated that that was going to change the City's contribution because their contribution is toward public schools. Mr. Almeida stated that the charter is a part of the \$148 million. Mr. Costa stated that they didn't account for charter net school spending. Mr. Almeida stated that the School Department reported the expense on their side. Mr. Costa stated that the net school spending obligation was the City's contribution to the Fall River Public Schools education minus the tuition for charter. Mr. Almeida said that that was correct but the expense gets reported as part of the \$148 million. Mr. Costa stated that if they multiplied their per pupil expense by 68 students, that lowers the School Department's operating budget and it changes the net school spending number. Mr. Almeida stated that this was the figure they were currently working with. The \$148 million is the current required net school spending and part of the net school spending is a pass through for the charter schools. Just under \$19 million of the reimbursement from the charter schools gets reported on the School Department's side. Mr. Costa thinks that they are going to have to have further conversations about that because that's going to change dramatically. Superintendent Malone stated that it was his understanding that House One was the floor of what the Chapter 70 appropriation is. Chapter 70 will increase with the House and the Senates' input. They build their budget off of House One. If things get better, they're going to have to add more positions back. At the next meeting, he's going to bring forward proposed suggestions that will consist of additional resources that they have. He's feeling good that there is going to be an increase on the House and Senate side that will help them.

Mr. Costa asked for a Finance Subcommittee meeting to discuss this further. He doesn't think they can take the House number and subtract the net minimum contribution and come up with their net school spending. Mr. Almeida stated that, each year, when the budget gets built, once House One is approved, that information goes to DESE. DESE then calculates their preliminary foundation formula for all the districts in the state. They're the ones who come up with the Chapter 70 amount and they set the City's contribution and the overall net school spending amount. The House One is the floor and they typically don't see decreases in House One. Mr. Costa asked if they were going to reconcile the two numbers if the Senate comes out with their number. Mr. Almeida said that they would. Superintendent Malone pointed out on the first page of the executive summary it shows that their total operating budget is \$106 million. Mr. Costa asked if that included the charter tuition in the net school spending number. Mayor Correia stated that it was one of the chargebacks.

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Superintendent Malone said that their net school spending is built off of the \$149 figure not the \$106 million. This is the way it's always been. Net school spending is calculated with those costs including their total increase at the operating budget from year to year is \$3.5 million which includes the salary increases and expense increases but not the charter. Their net school spending percentage is calculated with that in it.

Mr. Aguiar pointed out that \$7.7 million increase from last year to this year and asked how that broke down. He sees where they have \$3.5 million but asked where the other \$4 million was. Mr. Almeida stated that in the section "FY19 Budget Summary – Explanation of Expense Charges" it shows the breakdown of the costs. The charter school is \$3.3 million of the total; Insurance is \$1 million; Retirement is \$554,952; and Administrative cost is \$118,000. The city side of the ledger is about \$5 million. The \$3.5 million is the cost on the school's side.

Mr. Aguiar stated that he would like to see a one-pager on how some of these items are funded such as the charter schools. This will allow them to look at what is happening in the future. Superintendent Malone stated that there was 3% growth left to go on the cap so they can continue to grow. Mr. Aguiar said that he would also like to see a list of vacancies for the current year so that they can get an idea of how many positions are vacant. He asked if the transportation was going up to \$9 million. Superintendent Malone said that it was and that was the actual cost. Mr. Aguiar thinks that that number has to get lower. Whatever decision has to be made or policies have to be made, that number can't stay that high. Superintendent Malone stated that right now they have ELL strands at Letourneau and Viveiros. Next year, because of the growth in numbers, they will have ELL strands at Letourneau, Viveiros, Lord, and Greene. That will be a huge savings in transportation costs. The new accountability system will be based on growth. Instead of being penalized, the new accountability system would behoove principals to want EL strands in their building because those kids learn English at a quick rate with good programming and the school results will go up high.

Mr. Khoury stated that he was also concerned about the transportation number. He asked if it would be feasible if the School Department had their own buses and if that would help consolidate costs or increase costs. Mr. Almeida stated that Mr. Coogan did some of that work a couple of years ago and they found that it was pretty costly to do in house. Most communities that had buses in house actually went back to an outside vendor because it was cheaper. Mr. Khoury asked if they went in-house if they could write off the cost of operation. Mayor Correia said that they wouldn't want to do that because it would be less money for the School Department. Mr. Khoury asked, with the growth in the transportation budget and the discussion of flexible zones, if there was going to be consolidation with that. Mr. Almeida stated that, through the budget process, they looked at their students and they looked at where they lived specifically the ELL populations and what they found was that they were busing a lot of their ELL kids that they didn't need to if they had the programs in proper places. With the addition of Henry Lord as a strand they're better to accommodate the kids so that they could stay in their home schools. Mr. Khoury asked, with all the moving demographics going on in the City with House Two, if there would be a potential increase to cover some of the demographics and the SEI students and all the transportation costs that go along with it. Mr. Almeida said that, if there was a growth, it will grow because the State decides to provide more money. They take the student count and student enrollment as of October 1 of this year and that's what they'll base the figures on. Mr. Khoury said that he was still concerned about transportation. Mr. Almeida stated that next year was the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the 5-year contract.

Mayor Correia agreed that transportation was a big problem. He recommended when they go out to bid to go out for one contractor. He encouraged the School Committee members to let him or Superintendent Malone know if they are interested in being a part of the bidding process.

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Unfortunately, they may have to wait until FY20 to see savings. They could still consider how to save costs in the meantime. There was a chart that was brought up during the presentation that showed the communities that fulfilled above 100% of net school spending. He felt that that was a misleading chart. He would like to see a chart that breaks down the median average income for those communities. He imagined that those communities that can afford 130% net school spending were places like Wellsley and Newton where the average median income is \$98,000 and the average home price is \$750,000 which means more property taxes are collected. Those students have an advantage over Fall River students where the median average income is \$32,000 per year. On the City side, they would like to increase opportunities for people to achieve higher incomes and they are working on that through economic development. They should be encouraging the State to re-do the Chapter 70 formula to make it more equitable for gateway cities.

Superintendent Malone stated that on the Hill there was a bill that Senator Chang-Diaz sponsored for the Foundation Budget Review Commission that Governor Patrick put into action in 2014. They released a report in the Baker Administration that calls for a whole bunch of changes to get equity and fairness. The Foundation Budget was designed by the McDuffy v. Brockton case in 1993 which led to Chapter 70. It's underfunded by a couple of billion dollars. The Foundation Budget Review Commission released a bunch of recommendations and employing them each year to get them up in Chapter 70 but they're not there yet. They have huge unforeseen costs like health insurance. They're supposed to be spending money in the classroom but they're spending money on all the other things that do not have to do with the formula. Cambridge funds their schools at 288% of net school spending. They get \$20,000 per pupil. He asked that the School Committee talk to their local delegation about supporting the Foundation Budget Review Commission's recommendations and the bill that Senator Chang-Diaz is supporting. There is currently debate about a lawsuit stemming out of Brockton similar to McDuffy v. Brockton. Brockton is travelling the state speaking with other school committees to get on board. If this is something that this committee would be serious about, he recommended that the vice chair talk to their vice chair. If they did agree to be a part of this, they would need to put in some finances in the game. For the last seven years, Brockton has eliminated at least \$30-\$40 million out of the budget because of underfunding. The true cost is \$45 million.

Mr. Costa said that these communications have already begun. After the MASC meeting, they were put in contact with that group of school committees that were looking to wage a second lawsuit regarding the inequity and how the formula is broken down. Mayor Correia stated that the City was doing whatever they could to put as much money as possible in education. A few years ago, they were struggling to meet 100% net school spending. He doesn't want people to see that chart and see that other communities can fund their schools well over 100% net school spending and question why Fall River couldn't. He thinks that the State needs to do a better job at closing the inequity gaps in education. He thinks this budget is a good step for students and teachers.

Mr. Aguiar stated that he served on this Committee when they were fighting for 95% net school spending so he complimented the administration and City Council for funding them at 101%. He wanted to make sure that everyone was on board with the 101%. If they go down to 100%, he thinks that there will be massive cuts so they need the 101% to continue to progress.

Mr. Martins asked if the 11,796 Foundation Enrollment was all Fall River Public School students. Mr. Almeida said that that included the charter schools. Mr. Martins said that the foundation budget is determined by a complex formula that takes into consideration property values, median incomes, and a whole host of other things. There is a foundation review which he hopes passes. He asked if the foundation budget was determined by the House of Representatives. Mr. Almeida stated that it was not. Mr. Martins said that he has never seen House One decrease their funding. They either

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keep it the same or increase it. The House One budget basically determines the Chapter 70 aid. Mr. Almeida confirmed that that was correct. Mr. Martins said that from the Chapter 70 aid and foundation budget determines the amount of City contribution and the required net school spending.

5. **Vote to Approve:** Year-to-Date Budget Report, *as presented by Mr. Kevin Almeida, Chief Financial Officer*

**MOTION: Mr. Aguiar-Mr. Khoury: To approve the Year-to-Date Budget report.**

Discussion:

Mr. Aguiar asked, if they're at \$9 million for next year in transportation and the revised budget is only \$8.1 million, how they get to the \$9 million. He asked if they should expect a big transfer. Mr. Almeida said that they've seen a big uptick in transportation due to mostly the McKinney-Vento and the students from Puerto Rico. The State has set aside an appropriation for monies related to those students. They did a submission to the State and the State approved an additional appropriation of \$15 million. They will disperse that money to cities and towns. They're waiting to see what the appropriation will be in order to give the School Committee the exact amount. Mr. Aguiar asked if they were going to be way over. Mr. Almeida said that they would be. He added that they had 145 kids over the course of time this year that have come over from Puerto Rico and the U. S. Virgin Islands. This was not anticipated when the budget was prepared last year. Mr. Aguiar asked if they were all getting transported. Mr. Almeida said no but the majority were. Mr. Aguiar stated that, when they know that the number is going to be over-projected, he thinks that they need to have a transfer. Mr. Almeida said that the problem with that was that he could have 100 kids riding one day and the next day have zero kids. Mr. Aguiar said that he thinks if they have a fair estimate, it wouldn't be \$8.1 million in a year. He suggested that Mr. Almeida put something in the transfer memo next month regarding transportation.

**A roll call showed:**

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes  | Mr. Khoury: Yes    |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes  | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Yes   | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes |                    |

**All were in favor**

**None were opposed**

**Motion passed**

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Hetzler: To place the FYI portion of the agenda on file.**

No discussion

**A roll call showed:**

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes | Mr. Khoury: Yes  |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes | Mr. Martins: Yes |

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Mr. Costa: Yes

Mayor Correia: Yes

Mr. Hetzler: Yes

**All were in favor**

**None were opposed**

**Motion passed**

### **REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION: Mr. Martins-Mr. Costa: To enter into executive session.**

Attorney Assad read items that were requested for Executive Session.

- M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining relative to ALL Administrators and Employees represented by the Fall River Administrators' Association.
- M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining relative to ALL professional teaching employees of the Fall River School System including coaches, Title I, teachers, nurses, occupational behavioral and physical therapists, Physical Therapy Assistant, Licensed Practical Nurses, Certified Occupational Therapy Assistants, School Administrative Managers, and specialists in the teaching profession represented by the Fall River Educators' Association.
- M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining relative to ALL maintenance employees of the Fall River School System represented by the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees Council 93, Local 1118.
- M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining relative to ALL custodial employees of the Fall River School System represented by American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees Council 93, Local 1118.
- M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining relative to ALL cafeteria employees of the Fall River School System represented by American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees Council 93, Local 1118.
- M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining relative to ALL school safety/security officers of the Fall River School System represented by American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees Council 93, Local 1118.
- M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining relative to ALL paraprofessional employees of the Fall River School System represented by the Fall River Federation of Paraprofessionals.
- M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining relative to ALL civil service clerical employees of the Fall River School System represented by The Fall River Department of Civil Service Clerical Employees Association.

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- M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2): To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel and/or to conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel including Eddie Jewel, School Administrative Manager, and Kevin Vorro, Community Field Coordinator.
- M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(7): To review and approve Executive Session Committee Minutes for the February 12, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Fall River School Committee.

Mayor Correia asked for a roll call to enter into executive session.

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes  | Mr. Khoury: Yes    |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes  | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Yes   | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes |                    |

|                          |                          |                                  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>All were in favor</b> | <b>None were opposed</b> | <b>Motion passed</b> (8:22 p.m.) |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|

At 9:26 p.m. the meeting reconvened. A roll call for attendance showed:

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Present  | Mr. Khoury: Present    |
| Mr. Coogan: Present  | Mr. Martins: Present   |
| Mr. Costa: Present   | Mayor Correia: Present |
| Mr. Hetzler: Present |                        |

**MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Hetzler: To approve the executive session minutes from the February 12, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Fall River School Committee.**

No discussion

**A roll call showed:**

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes  | Mr. Khoury: Yes    |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes  | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Yes   | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes |                    |

|                          |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>All were in favor</b> | <b>None were opposed</b> | <b>Motion passed</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|

**MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Hetzler: To approve the contracts for Eddie Jewel, School Administrative Manager, and Kevin Vorro, Community Field Coordinator.**

No discussion

**A roll call showed:**

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes  | Mr. Khoury: Yes    |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes  | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Yes   | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes |                    |

Regular Meeting: March 12, 2018

**All were in favor                      None were opposed                      Motion passed**

**MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Coogan: To adjourn with a moment of silence in memory of Beatrice Martins, School Committeeman Martins' wife.**  
No discussion

**A roll call showed:**

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Aguiar: Yes  | Mr. Khoury: Yes    |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes  | Mr. Martins: Yes   |
| Mr. Costa: Yes   | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Mr. Hetzler: Yes |                    |

**All were in favor                      None were opposed                      Motion passed (9:29 p.m.)**

Respectfully submitted,



Administrative Assistant

**Documents Referred to:**

- Minutes
  - Policy Subcommittee Meeting – 1/29/2018
  - Finance Subcommittee Meeting – 1/29/2018
  - Regular Meeting of the Fall River School Committee Minutes – 2/12/2018
- Travel Requests
  - David L. Lawrence Convention Center – Pittsburgh, PA
  - Providence Career Academy – Providence, RI
  - National Art Association Conference – Seattle, WA
  - Mystic Aquarium
  - TESOL 2018 International Convention and English Language Expo – Chicago, IL
  - Thomas College – Waterville, ME
  - Cooperstown, NY
  - Urban Collaborative – San Antonio, TX
  - Rhode Island Philharmonic – Providence, RI
  - Roger Williams Park Zoo – Spencer Borden
  - Roger Williams Park Zoo – Letourneau
  - McCoy Stadium – Pawtucket, RI
  - AP Literature Reading/Scoring – Kansas City, MO
  - Philadelphia, PA
- Donations

Regular Meeting: March 12, 2018

- Michael Nawrocki
- Table Talk Pies
- Contracts Memo
- Grants
  - Mass Grad Promising Practices
  - Systems for Student Success Initiative
  - Title III: English Language Acquisition
  - Early Childhood SPED Program Improvement
  - IDEA Discretionary Federal Special Education Program Improvement
- Memo re: Durfee Program of Studies
- Durfee 2018-2019 Program of Studies Executive Summary of Changes
- Durfee High School 2018-2019 Program of Studies (Proposed)
- Memo re: Parent Information Center and Flexible School Boundaries
- Kindergarten Registration brochure
- Parent and Community Engagement Center policy
- Proposed job description for the Director of Parent and Community Engagement Center
- Memo re: Explanation of Account Overages
- Year-to-Date Budget Report

ADA Coordinator: Gary P. Howayeck, Esq. - 508.324.2650

Please note: A videotape/DVD of this meeting is on file in the School Committee Office and is available for review by contacting the Administrative Assistant for the School Committee Services