

Regular Meeting: February 13, 2017

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FALL RIVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Monday, February 13, 2017

5:30 PM

**Kuss Middle School
52 Globe Mills Avenue
Fall River, MA 02724**

MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Correia called the meeting to order. A roll call for attendance showed at 5:34 p.m.:

Mr. Andrade: Present	Mr. Martins: Present
Mr. Coogan: Present	Mrs. Panchley: Present
Mr. Costa: Present	Mayor Correia: Present
Dr. Costar: Present	

Also present were Attorney Assad and Superintendent Malone.

Mayor Correia read the Open Meeting Law.

A salute to the flag followed.

Mayor Correia asked for a moment of silence for Christine Lomas, a teacher who recently passed away.

CITIZENS' INPUT

Mayor Correia announced that there were two individuals signed up for Citizens' Input.

Kate Arsenault and Wendi Bandi approached the podium together. Ms. Arsenault is a special education teacher at Henry Lord Community School for Grades 4 and 5. Ms. Bandi teaches 3rd grade math and science at Letourneau. They are both Teach for America alumni and are in support of the organization. They wanted to share their experience with the program. Ms. Bandi came to Fall River in 2011 and started at Doran Community School. She is originally from Pittsburg, PA. It is her hope that the Teach for America program expand so that more teachers will be able to come to the area they may not know about and have the same impact on the schools and that the schools will have an impact on them as well. Ms. Arsenault was a Teach for America core member in Revere, MA, for four years. She then became an instructional coach in Providence then she came to Fall River to teach. She would not be an educator if it were not for Teach for America. They are excited about the possibility of bringing more members and alumni to the City because of Teach for America's ideas around clustering new teachers in one or two buildings which would mean more streamlined teacher support from alumni and the organization. That would lead to a lot of success as well as teacher retention. Ms. Bandi knows that teacher retention has been a big issue of the district. She grew and developed not only because the partnerships at her school but because of Teach for America. The more people to support teachers, the better. Having an additional organization like Teach for America will hopefully help with the retention of teachers, which she knows is one of the goals of the Fall River Public Schools.

RECOGNITION AWARDS

Mayor Correia announced that there were no Recognition Awards to present but he introduced Coach Bear and said that there will be a ceremony with the 19 All-Star students that are on the Falcons football team.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- *Viveiros Letter*

Superintendent Malone began by saying that he appreciated the moment of silence for Ms. Lomas who was an amazing teacher who touched the lives of many. He attended the faculty meeting at Viveiros this morning. Ironically, as one of the items on the Superintendent’s Report he had the Viveiros Letter which was written by the administrator in Mattapoisett who was a part of the SMILES Program. In the letter, he mentioned how Viveiros reminded him of a school in the 1960s where the faculty and principal would be there every day with a bright, smiling face. People notice when a school is building relationships with their kids. When children know that people believe in them, they will exceed expectations. This teacher was an example of that.

- *RPA Re-Engagement Center*

Two weeks ago, they had an amazing grand opening of the Re-Engagement Center at Resiliency partnered with People, Inc. The work will be to connect young people with career pathways and to re-engage young people to the core work of success.

- *January 30 Professional Day*

Superintendent Malone gave a half-time talk about retention at Professional Day on January 30. He hopes that the faculty and staff will use that talk as motivation. The point of the talk was to let faculty and staff know how important they are. He also thanked Rebecca Cusick for being a big part of that day.

- *Creation of a Policy Subcommittee*

Superintendent Malone is currently working on a document that he will provide to the Committee at their next meeting about what the responsibility of the subcommittee is. A part of their responsibility will be to work on the development of policy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Andrade-Dr. Costar: To approve the meeting minutes from the January 9, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Fall River School Committee.
No discussion

A roll call showed:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Andrade: Yes | Mr. Martins: Yes |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes | Mrs. Panchley: Yes |
| Mr. Costa: Yes | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Dr. Costar: Yes | |

All were in favor None were opposed Motion passed

TRAVEL REQUESTS

MOTION: Dr. Costar-Mr. Andrade: To approve the travel requests for the NECA Cheerleading Competition and open it up to Henry Lord Community School and Morton Middle School if they choose to attend.

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Discussion:

Dr. Costar noticed that for the NECA Cheerleading Competition travel Talbot and Kuss would be attending but he wondered if the cheerleading squads at Henry Lord and Morton were aware of the opportunity. He would like to make them aware that an opportunity like this exists in case they wanted to go.

Superintendent Malone suggested that the School Committee make a motion to approve this travel and open it up to the other two schools if they choose to take this trip.

All were in favor None were opposed Motion passed

MOTION: Mrs. Panchley-Mr. Andrade: To approve all other travel requests.
No discussion

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Martins: Yes
Mr. Coogan: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mayor Correia: Yes
Dr. Costar: Yes	

All were in favor None were opposed Motion passed

DONATIONS

Superintendent Malone read the donations out loud.

MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Andrade: To accept all donations.
No discussion

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Martins: Yes
Mr. Coogan: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mayor Correia: Yes
Dr. Costar: Yes	

All were in favor None were opposed Motion passed

CONTRACTS

Dr. Costar requested to take the Edward J. Collins, Jr., Center for Public Management contract separately.

MOTION: Mr. Martins-Mrs. Panchley: To approve all other contracts.
Discussion:

Mr. Andrade asked if the Teach for America contract was to help with recruitment due to the shortage of teachers and the number of teachers leaving.

Superintendent Malone stated that this was a renewal of a contract that sunset in December. Previously, there was a three-year contract that the Fall River Public Schools used and was able to attract and retain some high-quality educators. This is to allow the School Department to continue that contract for another three years. There is no cost unless they use it. The contract agreement is that they'll look to employ a number of Teach for America teachers for two years. For each teacher there's a \$4,000 professional development cost and they can fund up to 10 teachers. They had 120 openings last year and they had a very hard time attracting some of their tough to fill positions.

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Mr. Andrade said that he has read some positive and negative things about Teach for America. One of the positives is that the quality of individuals who are recruited is very high. Also, they are individuals who didn't initially think about teaching. The negatives are the turnover rate.

Mrs. Panchley said that she is on the board of the United Way and knows that they give \$25,000 towards Teach for America so it's not just money from the Fall River Public Schools.

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes

Mr. Martins: Yes

Mr. Coogan: Yes

Mrs. Panchley: Yes

Mr. Costa: Yes

Mayor Correia: Yes

Dr. Costar: Yes

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

MOTION: Mrs. Panchley-Mr. Coogan: To approve the Edward J. Collins, Jr., Center for Public Management contract.

Discussion:

Dr. Costar pointed out that the School Department is currently hiring for a central administration position in Human Resources. He asked if the study should come before they hire for HR or are they expecting to hire someone in a senior position in HR and have them look at the study.

Superintendent Malone said that it was not likely that he would hire someone before this study. He is going to use the study to drive his decision around the reorganizing. This was also a part of the strategic goals in looking at human capital. The job posting does not close until the end of February. He will probably hire someone in April or May.

Mr. Costa said that he understands the need to take a look at departments from time to time. He is not sure that he can support this. He knows that there are people in that department who come to work every day and have a good handle on what's expected. If there are things that are going on or not happening as they should be, it has not been brought to the School Committee's attention. This is a large contract to have someone assess a certain department. He has a lot of confidence in the people in HR. He can't support a contract that has an outside person come in and essentially tell them what may or may not be wrong with a department that has been in existence for a number of years and is working very well. If there's areas that need to be revamped or changed, he would expect whomever is hired for the HR Director position to know what needs to be changed and move forward with a plan to fix that.

Mr. Martins looked at this as a way to determine what the HR needs are for the district. In the past, he has been opposed to the number of staff in that office. It was excessive. He is happy to see a professional organization come in to assess what staffing they need in HR for the size of the district.

Dr. Costar said, in reading the background information for the contract, he saw that one of the people who would be assessing with this is Dr. Ray Shurtleff. Although he has been retired for a number of years, he worked very closely with the past two superintendents in the HR Department. He was the HR Department until they got an HR Department going. His expertise is knowledge of Fall River which is valuable to them going forward. He was more concerned about the sequence of hiring someone then having someone come in and do an evaluation. If they're going to do a study with someone who knows the system then he is in favor of that.

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Martins: Yes
Mr. Coogan: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Costa: No	Mayor Correia: Yes
Dr. Costar: Yes	

Six were in favor

One was opposed (Costa)

Motion passed

GRANTS

MOTION: Mr. Martins-Mr. Andrade: To approve all grants.

Discussion:

Mr. Martins expressed his concern with all the grants. The Department of Ed posts the grants in advance but the School Committee always gets the information after the fact. Since the grants have already been approved by the Department of Ed, it would be very cumbersome to make any changes to them if need be. He feels that there should be ample time for administration and grant writers to inform the School Committee that they're applying for a grant and inform the School Committee what they are planning to use the grant for.

Mayor Correia said that Superintendent Malone will be sending an email going forward on the application process instead of just getting it on the agenda. Superintendent Malone added that it will not just be an email but a formal memo to the Committee every time they are getting ready to submit a grant that contains what they are doing and they'll be able to know and understand it and ask questions.

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Martins: Yes
Mr. Coogan: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mayor Correia: Yes
Dr. Costar: Yes	

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

DISCUSSIONS

1. **Vote to Approve:** Election of Vice-Chairperson of the Fall River School Committee. (Policy BDA: Nominations for the office of Vice-Chairperson will be made from the floor. The Vice-Chairperson will be elected by a majority roll-call vote of the members present and voting.)

MOTION: Mrs. Panchley-Mr. Coogan: To nominate Mark Costa as Vice-Chairperson of the Fall River School Committee.

Discussion:

Mr. Costa thanked the Committee which he has served on for 12 years. He is happy with the cooperative spirit of the Committee and their focus on delivering education to the students in the district. Mayor Correia thanked Mr. Costa and let him know that he has been able to rely on him for the past year.

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Martins: Yes
Mr. Coogan: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mayor Correia: Yes
Dr. Costar: Yes	

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

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2. **Presentation:** Comprehensive District Review, *as presented by Mr. Robert Curtin, Associate Commissioner for Data and Accountability, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education*

Superintendent Malone asked if the Committee could step off stage to view the presentation on the screen behind the stage.

Mr. Curtin began by extending his condolences on the loss of one of their teachers. He announced that he was there to share the findings of the comprehensive district review that was conducted in the district in the fall. He began by reviewing the process to give them an idea of what his team reviewed. He would then discuss the findings and what the recommendations were. Then he would take questions at the end of the presentation.

He stated that the district reviews mandated by statute required that they conduct 20 district reviews. They have a methodology that recommend districts they'd like to review. They try to make sure that it does not interfere with other reviews. They nominated Fall River to be reviewed last spring. With the new superintendent coming in, it was a good time because it gave the superintendent a baseline on a comprehensive way of looking at a school district. They were looking at program quality. Their goal was to also provide evidence to the public to back up the claims that were made in the report. They sent in a team of independent reviewers comprised of former superintendents, assistant superintendents, and school finance officials.

The district review process is a series of interviews where the team sits down and meets with school leadership, district leadership, School Committee members, Fall River Educators Association, and a focus group for parents. They try to get into every school in the district and do classroom observations. They review randomly selected educator evaluation files. In addition, Fall River's district administration does a good job of preparing documentation and sending it to them ahead of time to review. The only time ESE comes in is during the editing process. A draft of the report was sent to the Superintendent on November 30 and the report was published on December 29.

The review team looked at six standards: Leadership and Governance, Curriculum and Instruction, Assessment, Human Resources and Professional Development, Student Support, and Financial and Asset Management. Overall, he found this report to be really positive both in terms of the school's cooperation and the findings. The main takeaway was the collaborative work between the Superintendent and his team and the School Committee and across the district. The idea of collaboration and forming a culture of collaboration across the district was evident to the team. That was the #1 strength in the entire report. One of the challenges was initiatives related to finance and personnel. Also, there was no comprehensive actionable strategic plan at the time. Their recommendations for Leadership and Governance was that they continue to stabilize the district and maintain that stability and develop a strategic plan and aligning other planning documents to that plan.

In the area of Curriculum and Instruction, the department noted ongoing curriculum review and revision is embedded in district practice. The challenges on Curriculum and Instruction was around turnover of personnel. The team also conducted 20-minute observations in the classroom. They found a level of instruction across the school district; however, there was a lower quality at the high school in comparison to the middle school and elementary school levels. The team recommended that the district work to articulate a comprehensive district instructional model.

Around Assessment, all schools have teams that collect and analyze various data. When schools can properly use data, it allows them to provide interventions to students. The challenge with that is whether or not that

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effort is coordinated throughout the district. The recommendation is that the district create a district-led data team to make sure that best practices are established.

Around Human Resources and Professional Development, the strength was around professional development. The district provides professional development for educators on an ongoing basis and used professional development to promote ongoing learning opportunities and to support all educators, not just new ones. The challenges were around educator evaluations which have not been consistently implemented within the school district. While the team found that evaluations of teachers were consistently implemented in the 2015-2016 school year, evaluations of administrators were not consistently implemented. The team also found that the district was not in compliance on the educator evaluation system, mainly around using multiple sources of evidence, primarily staff and student feedback. They also found that professional development was largely decentralized. The district needs to make sure that all professional development is tied back to the comprehensive strategies of the school district. They recommend that the district implement all components of the state Educator Evaluation Framework to adhere to state regulations to make sure that they are done in a timely way. They also recommend that the district develop a district-wide professional development plan that is aligned with district goals and priorities.

Around Student Support, the report was very complimentary around the practices of elementary and middle schools for identifying and supporting struggling students. One of the challenges was whether or not the resources that are being deployed to the school level are being done equitably. The team found that certain schools had a lot of different resources in certain programs but those resources were not equitably distributed across the program. Another concern was around student attendance. Fall River had a high percentage of students who were chronically absent (about 30%). This means that students miss more than 10% of their days in a school year, which means that they missed more than 18 days in a school year. The report also noted an issue with educator attendance. The recommendation for this area was to make sure that all students across the district were able to receive rigorous targeted interventions.

Under Financial and Asset Management, the team found that the budget process is participatory. The documents that the board provided to the public were clear and comprehensive. Challenges were that the City has not met net school spending requirements in the last three years. Also, the City needs to take a look at the capital investments within the district. There is no long-range capital plan for building repairs or maintenance. It's recommended that the City not only fund the district at an acceptable level but do so in a timely manner. The earlier you know you have the dollars, the earlier you can plan. It was also recommended that the district develop a capital facilities master plan to deal with some of the long-range effects of older buildings in the school district.

Mayor Correia said that he believed that they had met net school spending at the beginning of the year and they are going to continue to make that commitment ongoing. He would like to get to the point where they exceed net school spending and they're looking at different ways they can do that. The Mayor also said that they do have a capital plan on the city and the school side. Superintendent Malone added that they will be presenting that in March or April to the Committee.

Mr. Costa stated that, in regards to the actionable strategic plan, they've had a number of plans. They had a district improvement plan and are currently on the accelerated improvement plan. He asked if these comments were directed toward that particular issue or was it a different actionable strategic plan that the group was looking for.

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Mr. Curtin clarified that it was important for the School Committee and the Superintendent to have an established one-vision document that the public can go on to the website and see where the School Department is headed. Mr. Costa asked if that would be their accelerated improvement plan. Mr. Curtin explained that accelerated improvement plans are more detailed than a strategic vision of where they want the district to head.

Mr. Martins said that he was concerned with the data. He said that they test students every week but wondered what they use the data for. When he was a teacher, he knew all of his students and which students needed improvement. He thinks that the teachers today know which students need help. He wondered why he didn't see anything in the report about having additional teachers to help the struggling students.

Mr. Curtin said, in terms of data, there are multiple ways they use data. At the state level, it's used as a summative approach. In this case, they are talking about using data as a diagnostic tool. There are plenty of indicators that can come from data that might be available to all teachers, whether they're talking about attendance patterns to how students do with certain types of test questions and how they're doing in their courses. It's making sure that the expectations and data are available to all teachers in a consistent way so that they are all using the same practices and implementing them.

Dr. Costar said that he read in the report that the services were inconsistent or uneven. He thinks that some of the unevenness has come from one school needing more resources than another school so it appears that one school has more than the other school but it was based on the needs of the school. Mr. Curtin said that it was a matter of making sure that there is alignment with the vision that School Committee and Superintendent are setting forward for the district so that there is vertical alignment from the School Committee down to the district office down to each one of the schools in the policies and practices and the expectations that are being set.

Dr. Costar noticed that, in sitting in on the Superintendent search, that everyone struggled with the evaluation instrument. He said that, according to teachers and administrators, the instrument is very time consuming. Mr. Curtin pointed out that the evaluations that were done and the way that they were done was noted as a positive in the report. He thinks that the recommendation was due to the fact that there were no administrator evaluations that were done in 2015-2016. He said that this is not an issue that is unique to Fall River Public Schools.

Mr. Coogan said that he thinks that there is some confusion between administrators and principals. He said that administrators were evaluated but principals were not. Mr. Curtin acknowledged his mistake. Mr. Coogan admitted that the evaluation process was time consuming. He said that principals spend the same amount of time evaluating teachers who were Proficient or Exemplary as they did with first-year teachers who were struggling.

Superintendent Malone said that, because of the School Committee's work, they were able to work with both unions on retooling some of the language to make it more user-friendly for the evaluation.

3. **Update:** Code of Conduct Task Force, *as presented by Dr. Matthew Malone, Superintendent of Schools, and Rebecca Cusick, FREA President*

Superintendent Malone said that he worked with Rebecca Cusick on the code of conduct. He provided the Committee with a memo. They will be coming back to the Committee with a first draft read of a new and improved code of conduct in March or April.

Ms. Cusick stated that, in the fall, the Superintendent convened a task force that was charged with looking at the code of conduct for the purpose of determining where they could make revisions in order to make it more user friendly and less wordy to ensure that everyone who is implementing it has an understanding so that there is consistency across the district. It is a diverse task force with many teachers on the committee, two School Committee members, and administrators. They broke up into subgroups: K-5, middle school, and high school for the purpose of looking at student conduct within those areas. The committee reconvened in January with some recommendations but they want to continue their work and refine it some more. The subgroups were guided by three questions: 1) how can they improve the code? 2) How can they improve the SEL climate within their buildings to better support students? and 3) What are possible alternatives to suspension? Other consequences that may result for behaviors that don't necessarily lead to suspension. They hope by April to bring forward a more streamlined, user-friendly code of conduct.

- 4. **Second Read and Vote to Approve:** Durfee Program of Studies, *as presented by Ms. Maria Pontes, Principal of Durfee High School*

MOTION: Mr. Coogan-Dr. Costar: To approve Durfee's Program of Studies.

Discussion:

Mrs. Panchley expressed her gratitude to the Durfee team for listening to her feedback. She noticed that they incorporated some feedback as far as timing of classes being offered.

Dr. Costar was also very happy with the changes that they instituted with algebra. He is glad that they made updates based on School Committee feedback. He had expressed his concern about algebra during an Instructional Subcommittee meeting. He felt that that was a really productive meeting. Mr. Coogan agreed that it was a very positive subcommittee meeting. He is glad that they are starting to target the group of at-risk math students.

Mr. Andrade also expressed his gratitude that the Durfee team took the School Committee's feedback into consideration and it showed in the changes that were made to the Program of Studies.

Mr. Martins appreciated the work that they had done especially in regard to CVTE. He feels that these programs need to be implemented and the benefits of the program need to be advertised. A higher percentage of students who have taken one or more CVTE-type programs graduated at a higher rate than those that did not.

A roll call showed:

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|------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Andrade: Yes | Mr. Martins: Yes |
| Mr. Coogan: Yes | Mrs. Panchley: Yes |
| Mr. Costa: Yes | Mayor Correia: Yes |
| Dr. Costar: Yes | |

All were in favor None were opposed Motion passed

- 5. **Second Read and Vote to Approve:** Homeschool Policy, *as presented by Dr. Matthew Malone, Superintendent of Schools*

MOTION: Dr. Costar-Mr. Coogan: To approve the changes to the Homeschool Policy.

Discussion:

Dr. Costar said that his knowledge of homeschooling is that the rules and laws that apply to homeschooling are based on one particular legal case known as the Charles Decision, which has some specific things that schools

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may or may not ask. He said that two of the things in the policy are misleading. On #2, it is stated "...may look at the competency of the parents to teach the children." The Charles Decision legally states that there are no legal requirements as to the certification or education of the parents. Also, #4 states "...may look at periodic standardized testing of the children to ensure educational progress." The legal decision says that standardized testing is only one of several possible choices. He recommended that they have their attorney look this over to see if it is legal.

Superintendent Malone said that Attorney Joyce, who does Student Law, was the one who wrote this. Dr. Costar said that he cannot support this because it's misleading. He knows several parents who homeschool their kids and they would find this as an obstruction to homeschooling their kids.

Superintendent Malone said that this is the language that is currently in the policy. What is highlighted in yellow is what they changed. What is highlighted in green is what has been removed. Dr. Costar said that he has no problem with the changes. He has a problem with what's stated under 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, especially 2 and 4.

Superintendent Malone recommended that the Committee vote to approve the changes so that they have a policy in place because they get homeschool requests all the time. He will bring this back to the Committee once he has ensured that their attorney has approved this current language.

Mrs. Panchley stated that, if the Committee votes No, then it's just going to be that the information highlighted in yellow isn't going to go in and the information highlighted in green isn't going to come out. Superintendent Malone suggested that the Committee vote the changes that were recommended with the request that he come back and review the other items on the policy.

Mr. Martins said that Dr. Costar brings up valid points. This might be the current wording but they need to look at what the law says and incorporate it in here. Dr. Costar asked if they could approve the policy as is with the stipulation that it be reviewed by the Policy Committee and the Policy Committee bring back whether or not it passes all legal requirements.

Mr. Costa suggested if the policy does pass, another motion can be made to refer this to the Policy Subcommittee where they can review it again with Attorney Joyce and any language that needs to be changed can be brought back. In the meantime, they will still have the current language in the policy.

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: No	Mr. Martins: No
Mr. Coogan: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mayor Correia: Yes
Dr. Costar: Yes	

Five were in favor

Two were opposed (Andrade and Martins)

Motion passed

MOTION: Dr. Costar-Mrs. Panchley: To refer the Homeschool Policy to the Policy Subcommittee for any changes that need to be made.

No discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

6. **Vote to Approve:** MSBA Timeline Filing Requirement/CVTE Course Recommendations, *as presented by Mr. Kenneth Pacheco, Chief Operating Officer; Ms. Maria Pontes, Principal of Durfee High School; and Mr. Ray Medeiros, CVTE Director*

MOTION: Mrs. Panchley-Mr. Coogan: To approve the MSBA Timeline Filing Requirement/CVTE Course Recommendations.

No discussion

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Martins: Yes
Mr. Coogan: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mayor Correia: Yes
Dr. Costar: Yes	

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

7. **Vote to Approve:** MSBA Statement of Interest for Tansey and Watson, *as presented by Mr. Kenneth Pacheco, Chief Operating Officer*

MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Coogan: To approve the MSBA Statement of Interest for Tansey and Watson.

Discussion:

Mrs. Panchley asked if this was for renovations. She said that she has never been through this process before so she asked for a brief summary of what this is.

Mr. Pacheco stated that this was the MSBA Accelerated Repair Program. It's for the City of Fall River at an 80/20 split as the City has done with other buildings. This is specific for only certain items like roofs, windows, boilers, and some electrical. For the Tansey School, it will be windows and one boiler. For Watson, it will be a roof, one boiler, and windows. It's a very competitive grant through MSBA. They are in good shape due to the age of Watson and Tansey, due to the fact that the windows are single pane, extremely drafty, and some are inoperable.

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Martins: Yes
Mr. Coogan: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mayor Correia: Yes
Dr. Costar: Yes	

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

8. **Vote to Approve:** ELL Newcomer at Viveiros, *as presented by Dr. Matthew Malone, Superintendent of Schools*

MOTION: Mrs. Panchley-Dr. Costar: To approve the ELL Newcomer at Viveiros.

No discussion

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Martins: Yes
Mr. Coogan: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes

Mr. Costa: Yes

Mayor Correia: Yes

Dr. Costar: Yes

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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9. **Vote to Approve:** Conversion of Redesign Coach to Math Department Head at Doran Community School, *as presented by Ms. Jocelyn LeMaire, Executive Director of Human Resources*

MOTION: Mr. Andrade-Mr. Coogan: To approve the conversion of Redesign Coach to Math Department Head at Doran Community School.

Discussion:

Dr. Costar asked where the Redesign Coach was now. Principal Bradley stated that this position has been at the Doran School since the turnaround effort and has been in place through the academic year; however, they are requesting that this be converted to a department head position. Dr. Costar asked if anyone has filled that position for the year. Principal Bradley answered that the position had been filled up until just before the winter break. Superintendent Malone added that they had someone in the Redesign Department but the person resigned. The position is funded through the end of the year on grant funds. What they are asking is to convert it to a math department head since they no longer need a redesign coach.

Dr. Costar asked if they decided that Doran School was more in need of a math department head than any other school. According to the benchmark data, the 8th grade scores had gone up. Superintendent Malone explained that the person who was filling the role as a redesign coach was really supporting the math work at Doran for many years. The original intent was to make this happen at the beginning of the year but it wasn't organized properly. One of the benefits of the zero-based budgeting process is that they're really able to look at position by position. It was brought to his attention that this was something that they would do no matter what, meaning whether this person resigned or not, they were going to request this. They have the funding available.

Mr. Martins asked what other department heads they had at Doran. Principal Bradley answered that they have an ELA Department Head. Mr. Martins asked if they were planning on hiring for a Science Department Head. Principal Bradley said that he did not see a need for a standalone Science Department Head. Their vice principal currently takes on some of these responsibilities and the Math Department Head would also be responsible for taking on some of this work. As a Pre K-8th grade school, one of the challenges that they have is that, of their 11 classroom teachers who teach math at Doran, five of these teachers are in their first year or two of teaching, four of them are in their first year or two of teaching at their grade level and one teacher is set to retire at the end of the school year. They have a need to build their young teachers and retain them.

Mr. Martins said that he will support this but what he expects in return is for the math scores to go up. Principal Bradley promised that they will do everything that they can to move their students forward. They've had strong SGP in the past four years in the area of math, which is above the state average. Mr. Martins clarified that he would like to see a measureable goal as to what they are wanting to achieve. Principal Bradley stated that they have CPI targets and they are eager to get back to Level I status.

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes

Mr. Martins: Yes

Mr. Coogan: Yes

Mrs. Panchley: Yes

Mr. Costa: Yes

Mayor Correia: Yes

Dr. Costar: Yes

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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10. **Vote to Approve:** Second Quarter Revolving Funds, *as presented by Mr. Kevin Almeida, Chief Financial Officer*

MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mrs. Panchley: To accept the Second Quarter Revolving Funds.

No discussion

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Martins: Yes
Mr. Coogan: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mayor Correia: Yes
Dr. Costar: Yes	

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

11. **Vote to Approve:** January's Budget Report, *as presented by Mr. Kevin Almeida, Chief Financial Officer*

MOTION: Mrs. Panchley-Mr. Andrade: To approve January's Budget Report.

Discussion:

Mayor Correia asked if they were going to be able to absorb some of the costs of the Transportation deficit along the way. Mr. Almeida confirmed that they would.

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Martins: Yes
Mr. Coogan: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mayor Correia: Yes
Dr. Costar: Yes	

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

12. **Discussion:** FY 18 Projected Budget Forecast, *as presented by Dr. Matthew Malone, Superintendent of Schools, and Mr. Kevin Almeida, Chief Financial Officer*

Superintendent Malone stated that he hoped to bring forward the Superintendent's recommended budget at the School Committee meeting in March. They are currently knee-deep in zero-based budgeting. They are trying to develop a budget that brings forward something that's fiscally sound but also educationally responsive. The principals are finalizing their zero-based, site-level budget and they're going to come forward and rationalize and defend their budgets over the next two weeks to Superintendent Malone's team and then they're going to put it all together. Last year's operating budget was \$135 million. If they take everything they have in that budget, all of their fixed costs increase and carry them forward one year, that budget grows by about \$6 million to \$141 million. The Government's House numbers and net school spending numbers came out favorably, about south of \$140 million. They are trying to get it as close to net school spending as possible. The next month will involve these trade offers internally. They are going to be fiscally conservative.

Mr. Martins commended the Superintendent for this briefing. He stated that this comes out to be 100.924% of net school spending. This is doable and conservative.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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

No discussion

All were in favor None were opposed Motion passed

REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Coogan: 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 including grievances 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 and physical therapists, 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 civil service clerical employees assigned to the Fonseca Elementary School represented by the Fall River School Department Clerical Employees Association.
- 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 Clotilde Cabral, Occupational Therapy Assistant; Kerry Camara, License Practical Nurse Instructional Assistant; Vanessa Desousa, Occupational Therapy Assistant; Christine Donovan, Physical Therapy Assistant; Mary Ann Donovan, Occupational Therapy Assistant; Jose Filipe Rodrigues, Occupational Therapy Assistant; Cynthia Silva, Physical Therapy Assistant; Kelly Travis, Occupational Therapy Assistant; Dana Feit, Behavior Specialist; Deborah Pelletier, Behavior Specialist; and Chou Tang, Data Technician.
- M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(7): To review and approve Executive Session Committee Minutes for the January 9, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Fall River School Committee.

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

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Martins: Yes
Mr. Coogan: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mayor Correia: Yes
Dr. Costar: Yes	

All were in favor None were opposed Motion passed (7:28 p.m.)

At 7:47 p.m. the meeting reconvened. A roll call for attendance showed:

Mr. Andrade: Present	Mr. Martins: Present
Mr. Coogan: Present	Mrs. Panchley: Present
Mr. Costa: Present	Mayor Correia: Present
Dr. Costar: Present	

MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mrs. Panchley: To approve the MOA between the Fall River School Committee and the Fall River Administrators Association for the Fonseca School Level 4.

No discussion

All were in favor None were opposed Motion passed

Regular Meeting: February 13, 2017

MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Andrade: To approve the MOA for the Fonseca School Level 4 clerical staff.

No discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mrs. Panchley: To uphold Grievance 02-16 between the FRAA and Fall River School Committee.

No discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Andrade: To approve Dana Feit's contract.

No discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Andrade: To approve Deborah Pelletier's contract.

No discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Andrade: To approve Chou Tang's contract.

No discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Andrade: To approve the Executive Session committee minutes from the January 9, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Fall River School Committee.

No discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

MOTION: Mr. Costa-Mr. Andrade: To adjourn.

No discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed (7:50 PM)

Respectfully submitted,



Administrative Assistant

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