

REGULAR SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, September 8, 2014

6:30 PM

Matthew J. Kuss Middle School
52 Globe Mills Avenue
Fall River, MA 02724

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Salute to the Flag
3. Citizens Input
4. Subcommittee Reports
5. Recognition Awards
6. Superintendent's Report
7. Approval of Minutes
8. Committee of the Whole
9. Request for Executive Session
M.G.L. c30A Section 21 (a) (2) and (3)
 - To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for all litigation or grievances, as well as negotiations with custodians, paraprofessionals, clerical, FREA, FRAA, and non-union personnel, including Helen Sowinski, National Navy Defense Cadet Corp Non Commissioned Officer; Maelynn Clarke, Behaviorist; Timothy McCloskey, Director of Engineering Services; and James Medeiros, Assistant Director of Environmental Services.
10. New Business: Topics for discussion that could not reasonably be anticipated by the Chairman forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting
11. Addendum

MINUTES

At 6:34 PM, Mayor Flanagan called to order the Regular Meeting of the Fall River School Committee for Monday, September 8, 2014.

A roll call for attendance showed all members were present.

A salute to the Flag followed.

CITIZENS' INPUT

Rebecca Cusick, FREA President

Topic: NEA Grant

Ms. Cusick said she was there to share some good news and to make them aware that she and the Superintendent recently applied for and were chosen to receive a grant from the National Education Association Foundation to participate in the NEA Institute for Innovation in Teaching and Learning. The NEA grant is for districts that wish to improve education through collaboration. Fall River was recommended by the MTA's former president, Paul Toner. The grant was very competitive but the selection team was impressed with the application and added them to the cohort for 2014-2016. She explained the focus of their application was on one of their struggling schools, Mary Fonseca. It is their hope to begin the process of transforming the school through collaborative problem solving as well as joint leadership and joint ownership. They want to explore a shared decision making model where teachers would have greater input in the running of the school. They would also consider the possibility of applying for innovation status. Coincidentally, last spring, a team of teachers from Fonseca independently met and discussed ways of improving their school. Over the summer this team met with the Superintendent and Ms. Cusick to share their ideas. Fonseca's teachers have taken the initiative to be pro-active and they believe they have the collective will to take the school in a new direction. This grant will allow a team from Fonseca to attend the meeting in Washington D.C. in October where they will meet with other teams and begin the planning process for the year ahead. The grant will also provide a facilitator to help them create an action plan, carry it out, and document its progress. They are not waiting for the grant to begin this work. The Committee will hear from some of her Fonseca colleagues later in the evening requesting the Committee's support for changes that they believe are essential in improving student learning and well-being. She looks forward to working with the District on the grant as they move forward.

Edward Alferos, Employee

Topic: Fingerprinting

Mr. Alferos said when he saw this come up he asked himself what purpose it has. He said the answer he would receive would be to check his criminal background. He was fingerprinted twice, once when going into the military for identification purposes and the other time was for the Treasury Department for a company he worked for. He also asked what if the information that is received back is incorrect; can he challenge it. Also, he was concerned if fingerprints would be kept when he retired. He had concerns of misidentification and misinformation. He can understand background checks but fears that there is a file on him somewhere even though he has never been convicted or charged with any crime where the administration would find that his activities even though not illegal, "rub you people wrong". He believes there is a file on everybody and questions how it can be corrected if it is misused.

RECOGNITION REWARDS

There were no recognition awards presented this evening.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Mayo-Brown provided the Committee with an update on the Summer Reading Program. She read the names of the businesses that partnered with the School Department. Last year when they did the initiative, the School Committee supported the purchase of over 3,000 books which were all distributed to students throughout the city to engage in summer reading. This year, close to 6,000 books were distributed to Fall River children to engage in summer reading. She thanked the Committee for their investment in students' literacy and looked forward to making it a tradition.

TRAVEL

Mayor Flanagan noted that the Superintendent had provided them with an addendum travel item as well.

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Andrade: To accept all travel including the addendum.

Discussion

Mr. Maynard asked if there was any cost to the school department for the travel items.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown responded that in some cases there were and went over the items.

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

CONTRACTS

Mayor Flanagan noted that there was a contract on the addendum as well.

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Andrade: To accept all contracts plus the addendum.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martins said that the original materials sent to them had seven contracts and he had the opportunity to review them but tonight there are two more contracts and it is the first instance of him knowing of the contracts. He questioned the contract description related to mentoring principals and asked what he could expect for the amount listed.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said it is an addendum which means they weren't able to place it on the agenda within 48 hours of its posting. The first one they could bring back in October if the Committee felt they wanted additional information on it. She summarized that it was a contract to support school improvement by one of their master principals who had retired but had done remarkable work at Viveiros School and the Superintendent asked her to continue to support Viveiros in its school improvement strategies as well as Fonseca and Tansey.

Mr. Martins said he does not doubt the qualifications of the person; however, he questions the need to having this when the money could be best spent in hiring additional paraprofessionals to help in the

classrooms. He then questioned the second contract on the addendum asking what the description meant and what that person would be doing.

Ms. Ivone Medeiros said they are required by regulations to do program reviews. Dr. Taft-Farrell is a retired special education director who has helped many districts do this work. They are going to coordinate a program review this year which Dr. Taft-Farrell would be doing.

Mr. Martins said he does not question the qualifications of the individual; however, lately he has received a rash of issues regarding special education, one being lack of communication between parents, the special ed. office, and the schools the children are in. He felt the money could be used to put three paraprofessionals into classrooms. He questioned what would be "defined and developed" to make the program more responsive to the needs of the students.

Ms. Medeiros explained that Dr. Taft-Farrell would be doing program review which they are obligated by law to do. She would be looking at their different programs to see how they can refine and improve them.

Mr. Martins said he would tend to think that the teachers themselves know what is needed. He said if the motion is to accept all contracts, then his answer is no. If it can be broken up to approve the contracts that were originally proposed, he will vote yes. He could not vote for the two addendum contracts. He noted concerns with the lack of paraprofessionals in some classrooms at Henry Lord.

Ms. Medeiros explained that most of the classrooms currently have three paraprofessionals or the third paraprofessional is in process of being hired.

Mr. Martins said that was at one school and asked about the other schools.

Ms. Medeiros said depending on the program, most of the classrooms have two paraprofessionals.

Mr. Martins said he appreciates having additional paras but thinks that the money would be best served to the students of those classes if there were additional staffing to provide assistance. He said again that he could not vote for the two addendum items.

Mayor Flanagan said they would do a roll call vote.

Mr. Martins asked if it was all or nothing.

Mayor Flanagan said at that time, that was correct.

Mrs. Panchley said she would like to amend the motion to take out the transportation contract. She explained that at their meetings with City Council, Mr. Coogan and the Superintendent stressed that Argosy was going to be looking for transportation, the amount of money was never added to allocate for transportation and if they approve the allocation, it would come out of the transportation contracts that they have already approved and make them \$140K short on their transportation. She felt they needed to refer it to finance and talk about going to City Council to have them give a special allocation for the Argosy transportation.

Mayor Flanagan asked Mrs. Caron who the maker of the motion was.

Mrs. Caron said it was Mr. Maynard.

Mr. Costa seconded Mrs. Panchley and said he was going to speak on the same topic.

Mayor Flanagan asked if there was a second on the motion.

There was discussion/confusion among the Committee regarding the motion and if it had been amended by Mrs. Panchley.

Mayor Flanagan said she was not the maker of the motion.

Mr. Costa did not think she had to be the maker of the motion in order to amend it and that she could ask through the Chair to amend the motion. If it was seconded, the Chair could take up the amendment first and if it passed, then they take up the original motion.

Mayor Flanagan asked for Attorney Assad's opinion.

Attorney Assad said it is Robert's Rules of Law that that is not the procedure they have used in the past; they usually ask the original maker of the motion if they wish to go along with an amendment.

Mayor Flanagan asked Mr. Maynard if he wished to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Maynard said yes.

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Andrade: To withdraw the motion.

Mayor Flanagan thought it would be best to take the contracts individually as Mr. Martins suggested.

MOTION: Mrs. Panchley – Mr. Andrade: To accept the Discovery Education contract.

No Discussion

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Maynard: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Hart: Yes	Mayor Flanagan: Yes
Mr. Martins: Yes	

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Maynard: To accept the Kelly Pelletier contract for ABA services.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martins asked if the individual from ABA services was licensed and experienced.

Ms. Medeiros said that the person is a board certified behavior analyst.

Mr. Martins asked if that equated to a DESE license.

Ms. Medeiros said that ABA services does not require a DESE license.

Mr. Martins asked what school the person would be going to.

Ms. Medeiros responded that she would be going to Morton, Silvia, and possibly Greene.

Mr. Martins said he would vote in the affirmative for this but explained that another concern that had been brought to his attention was that students have on their IEPs to have ABA services but the length of time for the services is not being adhered to.

Ms. Medeiros said she cannot respond to that because it is a team decision but she knows they have parents who reject frequently. She could not discuss that in open session.

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Maynard: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Hart: Yes	Mayor Flanagan: Yes
Mr. Martins: Yes	

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Martins: To accept the contract for Diane Parent, Legal Services for SPED.

DISCUSSION:

Mayor Flanagan asked how long the contract is for.

Ms. Medeiros said it is a fiscal year contract.

Mayor Flanagan asked if there was any language regarding termination within the contract.

Ms. Medeiros said the contract this year had not been generated yet because they needed approval.

Mayor Flanagan said based on past precedence with the City, it is important that they have had termination clauses especially when they deal with legal services and asked that they make sure it is put in.

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Maynard: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Hart: Yes	Mayor Flanagan: Yes
Mr. Martins: Yes	

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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MOTION: Mr. Martins – Mrs. Panchley: To accept the contract for Easter Seals.

No Discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Martins: To accept the contract for Futures Healthcore, LLC.

No Discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Martins: To accept the contract for Southcoast Translating Services.

No Discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mrs. Panchley: To refer the Fisher Bus, Inc. contract to finance.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martins asked if Fisher Bus was currently providing services.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said that that they were.

Mr. Martins asked if they anticipated having a contract for the providing of the services.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said yes.

Mr. Martins asked if the contract is for the entire school year.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said it is.

Mr. Martins asked if the cost of transportation was negotiated with Fisher Bus Company.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown responded yes.

Mr. Martins asked what the purpose was to refer it to finance when it is already done.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said this was to transport students to the Argosy Charter School which is transportation above and beyond what is appropriated to the school department for transportation services. If the Committee were to approve the contract, they would need to go into the operating budget and reduce it somewhere by \$140K in order to execute the contract.

Mr. Martins thought that if it went to the finance subcommittee, it would still be a non-net school spending (NSS) cost to the district.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said that was correct because transportation is not calculated into NSS but if they approved it, it would mean that the operating budget would be reduced by \$140K in services somewhere. The finance committee would need to make that determination of where they would reduce the operating budget by that amount. The suggestion to have it go to finance would be a strategy session to determine what the next step is.

Mr. Martins said that student transportation is not part of NSS.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said that was correct and that student transportation was never appropriated to the School Committee. The city did not allocate \$140K for Argosy in the transportation appropriation to the School Committee.

Mr. Martins said that was understood; however, the charter school is serving Fall River students and the community has an obligation to transport those students.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said that was correct but questioned if he wanted to take it out of the operating budget.

Mr. Martins said he did not but no matter where the money came from, it was not a NSS item.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said she does not disagree with him but if they approve the contract that evening, it would be coming out of the operating budget.

Mr. Martins asked where it would come out of if it goes to the finance subcommittee.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said that was the discussion that the subcommittee would have to see if it should come out of the operating budget or if they should talk to the city about an additional appropriation since the \$140K was not calculated into the transportation costs that were appropriated by the city.

Mr. Martins said he is not finding fault with the finance subcommittee but it seems to him that would just be a delay in coming to the same conclusion.

Mr. Costa asked the Superintendent through the Chair if that was the case, why they needed the School Committee and questioned why it was on the agenda for them to take action on. It sounded like the explanation was that it was done and it had to be approved. His understanding of the charge of the School Committee was that they are responsible for financial decisions for the district. He is not opposed to transporting students who are required to have it but this is the first time he is hearing of it. He felt this should have come to them beforehand. He asked who authorized the contract to go out to bid.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said she would have Mr. Coogan come up who also had the legal advisory. She had many of the same questions and since this was the first time as a district they are being required to pay for charter school transportation, it is new for them. They will see in the legal advisory that it is the School Committee that is responsible for that transportation. Her point to the Committee is that the \$140K, although they briefly spoke of it at the City Council meeting, was not part of their appropriation for transportation.

Mr. Costa said that was his next question; as part of budget deliberations they put together a budget that reflected the district's needs when it came to transportation outside of information from Argosy. He questioned when Argosy shared what their needs were going to be with the school department. He also questioned where the administration suggested they come up with the \$140K.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said she put it on the agenda because it is legally required but her point in flagging it for the Chair of the finance subcommittee was that they raised it at the City Council table that the appropriation by the city for transportation was way short because it did not include the amount necessary to transport the charter school students which they did not have an amount for at the time. She recalled Mr. Coogan getting estimates. She does not want it to come out of the operating budget and felt that it was an expenditure for city children and not part of NSS. Her recommendation to the Committee would be that the city - through the City Council process - provide a supplemental appropriation so that they do not have to go into the operating budget. They did raise it in June that they needed to consider an appropriation for Argosy Charter transportation.

Mr. Costa did not think the city would agree but they could see how it played out. He noted that if the School Committee had to take action to reduce the operating budget to come up with the money, they would be taking an expense that is not net school related and potentially increasing the shortfall they already have in NSS because they are going to be dipping into a line item that does count for NSS.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said that was correct.

Mr. Costa felt that the city would not have the money to provide to them but said he would let them make that decision on their own. He thought referring it to finance is the right place for it to be so that they can continue to have the discussion. There are a number of issues he is not sure the administration is prepared to discuss that evening that he would like answers to. For instance, are these Fall River students because Argosy could have accepted students from out-of-district as well?

Mr. Coogan said they did show several students from out-of-district; however, none of those students are being transported under the contracts. They are all in-district Fall River students and the bulk is regular education transportation along the same guidelines that the Committee has set by policy of 1.5 miles for middle school students. They drew a pin map study of the 104 enrollees and forecasted the number of students that would be eligible for transportation knowing that some of those students may opt not to take the transportation. When the final poll was taken by Argosy over the summer, it did require two buses and a small number of special education students.

Mr. Costa asked when Mr. Coogan received Argosy's total need for transportation.

Mr. Coogan said it was an ongoing discussion beginning mid-July to around the end of July.

Mr. Costa asked if they went out to bid.

Mr. Coogan said they went out and got pricing on buses as well as vans the same way they do for regular transportation.

Mr. Costa asked if an RFP went out.

Mr. Coogan said it was just regular bids because they did not anticipate the need for an additional bus; however, the bidding was done among the same participants of the original bid.

Mr. Costa asked how many vendors bid on this particular service.

Mr. Coogan said he did not have that number with him but knew it circulated among the five bidders that had bid on their other bus contracts for the district.

Mr. Costa asked when they went out for bid.

Mr. Coogan said it was discussed with all their bidders as part of the original RFP for a term of five years for the district and they talked about Argosy in terms of one year because of the uncertainty on the number of vehicles that would be used.

Mr. Costa said the Committee determines the parameters for contracts and asked who gave the administration authorization to agree to a one year contract for Argosy.

Mr. Coogan said he does not recall a specific vote for that.

Mr. Costa responded that that was an issue he has because a lot of it went on without the input and approval from the Committee and now they are being asked to take votes to expend money that eventually may have to come out of an operating budget that would increase the deficit in NSS for this fiscal year.

Mr. Coogan said while he does not recall the actual meeting that it was discussed at; they had estimated the cost of transportation knowing that this particular contract was a wild card.

Mr. Costa said that the conversations were occurring at the end of July and they had a meeting in August and none of the information was provided. This was the first time he was seeing an expense for Argosy transportation.

Mr. Coogan said that was because it was the first time the amount was determined. He also noted that Argosy is using a rolling enrollment process and will build to eighth grade so the number will change going forward.

Mr. Costa asked in the form of a motion that Attorney Assad review the advisory they received to determine the timeliness of the request that was made by Argosy and whether or not the Committee, given the timeliness of their request, is required to make that payment.

Mayor Flanagan asked that they dispose of the motion on the floor and then he will call back to Vice Chair Costa.

Mr. Costa yielded.

Mayor Flanagan asked if the students of Argosy were being transported currently.

Mr. Coogan said yes.

Mayor Flanagan asked if Fisher Bus was transporting them for free.

Mr. Coogan said no.

Mayor Flanagan asked who was incurring the cost for the students to be transported.

Mr. Coogan said the district was incurring the cost.

Mayor Flanagan said if they stay on track and don't transfer any funding, they are going to run a deficit again.

Mr. Coogan said that was correct.

Mrs. Panchley said while the amount might not have been known she appreciates what Mr. Costa is saying and this should have come up for discussion in August. However, the city knew they were going to be liable for this money. Based on the conversations last spring with the City Council and the fact that they wished the School Committee would have gone to them earlier to tell them about the transportation issues so that they would not be in the position they were, she thought it was time to go to them now that they have a hard number and ask them what they are going to do. She also thought when they find out what the number of the deficit was and it was certified toward the end of the month, they were all going to see they are hovering around 96% NSS and are not going to want to play games with numbers that are going to make that go lower. She thought they needed to get in front of the City Council as soon as possible and explain to them the situation.

Mrs. Panchley said if there was no motion on the floor, her motion would be that they ask the President of the City Council to go in front of them to discuss the matter right away.

Mayor Flanagan asked Mrs. Caron what the motion on the floor was.

Mrs. Caron said it was to refer to finance.

Mayor Flanagan asked for a roll call to refer to finance.

Mr. Martins had a question first that Mayor Flanagan allowed.

Mr. Martins asked Mr. Coogan if the document said that charter school transportation is an expense to the community in which those children live.

Mr. Coogan said yes.

Mr. Martins said they have a motion to go to finance. He asked if it was possible to do something different.

Mayor Flanagan said the motion on the floor was to refer to finance unless Mr. Costa wanted to amend his motion.

Mr. Martins said Mrs. Panchley made a motion to consider this item and he did not know what the disposition of that was but if it is within parliamentary procedure, the Superintendent stated something just prior to the discussion with regards to referring the matter over to the City Council to come up with funds and he liked that.

Mayor Flanagan said the motion on the floor was to refer it to finance and they will see where that motion goes.

Mr. Andrade asked if there was a possibility of the maker of the motion withdraw it.

Mr. Costa asked where he would like it to go.

Mr. Andrade said the suggestion was to bring it to the City Council. If they are going to send it to finance to have them decide the same thing, they are talking about pushing it back another week and felt they should make the decision that night.

Mr. Costa understood the rationale but questioned if it would be done in the form of a motion to refer to City Council because he did not know if the School Committee could refer it.

Mayor Flanagan offered help in what the motion should be based upon the discussion he was hearing.

AMENDED MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Andrade: To request from the subcommittee on finance from the City Council that they place this on as an agenda item for an operating transportation budget of \$140,700 for the Argosy Charter School from Fisher Bus Company.

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Maynard: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Hart: Yes	Mayor Flanagan: Yes
Mr. Martins: Yes	

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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Mayor Flanagan asked Madame Superintendent to write to President Joe Camara asking him to call a special meeting of the subcommittee on finance to discuss the issue of Fisher Bus Company for the Argosy Charter School

Mr. Costa said as a point of order, he withdrew his motion to refer to finance.

MOTION: Mr. Hart – Mr. Costa: To accept the contract for Meg Christ for mentoring principals and strategies for school improvement.

No discussion

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: No	Mr. Maynard: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Hart: Yes	Mayor Flanagan: Yes
Mr. Martins: No	

5 were in favor	2 were opposed (Mr. Andrade/Mr. Martins)	Motion passed
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MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Andrade: To accept the contract for Rhonda Taft-Farrell for developing and refining systems in Special Education; professional development around systems and compliance.

Discussion on file

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Maynard: Yes
Mr. Costa: No	Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mr. Hart: Yes	Mayor Flanagan: No
Mr. Martins: No	

4 were in favor	3 were opposed (Mr. Costa/Mr. Martins/Mayor Flanagan)	Motion passed
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MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Andrade: To approve the minutes as listed.		
<u>No Discussion</u>		
All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed

Mr. Costa asked through the Chair as a point of order or if he wanted to take it during new business; he was prepared to make a motion with respect to the guidance they receive for transportation.

Mayor Flanagan said he could bring it up now.

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To refer the opinion that was received tonight by the Committee to Attorney Assad to review its content and also whether or not, given the timeliness of the request made by Argosy for transportation, that the Committee and/or the City are responsible for payment of that contract.		
<u>No Discussion</u>		
All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Attendance Awareness Month Proclamation

Mayor Flanagan explained that it was Attendance Awareness Month and they had a presentation with a proclamation. There were students in attendance along with Christian McCloskey and his staff. He asked that they join them at the podium.

Mayor Flanagan and Superintendent Mayo-Brown were asked to join and Mayor Flanagan asked the whole Committee to join them as well.

Ms. Marcia Picard, a community member from the Mayor's and Superintendent's Task Force on Absenteeism, introduced herself and explained that she would be doing the presentation in place of Christian McCloskey. She was there with fellow Task Force members to launch a year-long campaign aimed at reducing the alarming rate of absenteeism in the city's schools. She noted that 1 out of every 3 Fall River students was absent 18 days or more last year which translates into precious time lost on sequential learning, to time - as well as subject matter - very difficult to recoup, and to struggling students falling further behind in their studies. Good attendance translates to increased graduation rates and far better prepared students ready to enter the outside world as resourceful, confident, and productive citizens. "Teachers cannot teach an empty chair and so as a symbol of Fall River's year-long campaign to reduce absenteeism, a bright red empty chair (shown on stage) has been placed in the lobby of each of Fall River's public schools as well as at numerous agencies, organizations, and businesses throughout the city. These empty chairs will serve as a constant visual reminder to all that it does indeed take a village; so we all need to do our part to help fill that empty chair." To kick off the year-long campaign, they have called upon four of their Fall River students to assist the Mayor and Superintendent in the reading of a proclamation acknowledging September as National Attendance Awareness Month. It begins from the office of Mayor William Flanagan and Superintendent Meg Mayo-Brown.

The students, along with the Mayor and Superintendent, read the proclamation.

Ms. Barbara Allard then introduced herself. She explained that she, along with Siobhan Ryan, are co-chairs of the Task Force on Attendance. Representatives from more than thirty agencies and organizations sit on the task force and have committed themselves to helping school staff significantly reduce absenteeism in the city's schools. They also need the commitment of parents and ALL community members. "Good attendance matters to us all. It matters not only for the future of each individual student but for the future of the city as well. We challenge each and every one here tonight as our logo states, *What will you do to fill the Empty Chair?*"

2. Save the Bay Presentation

Ms. Prescott introduced herself as the Education Director at Save the Bay in Providence, Rhode Island. She explained that Save the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization whose headquarters are in Providence. Their roots are in advocacy but they have been providing a hands-on environmental education for students across the Narragansett Bay watershed for over 35 years. They consider themselves a partner with teachers because they develop their program in alignment with the needs they have in their classroom as well as all of their programs being linked to National Science Standards as well as the Common Core. She continued to give information about their programming and noted there was additional information in the packets she handed out to the School Committee. She welcomed the opportunity to meet with teachers at their schools to discuss possible programming opportunities, grants, and funding opportunities to open up this type of hands-on experience.

Mayor Flanagan thanked her for being there and said that Save the Bay is an outstanding organization. He asked how many students from Fall River currently go on field trips with Save the Bay.

Ms. Prescott said there aren't any at this current time. In the past they have worked with Atlantis Charter School.

Mayor Flanagan asked for a brief overview of some of the educationally-based field trips they offer and Ms. Prescott gave a brief description of their programs and vessels.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown thanked her for coming and for the Mayor for arranging it for an agenda item. She had no idea about the opportunities that were available through the program and there were fifteen principals present who were hearing it as well. She thought it looked like a terrific opportunity for their students and would be well aligned to the common core standards. They look forward to creating a partnership with Save the Bay and thanked her again for bringing the resource to their attention.

Mr. Martins asked Ms. Prescott a few programming questions and said he saw this as being very valuable and an area where it could bring something real into science classes.

Mayor Flanagan thanked Ms. Prescott again and said he hoped the children of the FRPS have an opportunity to partner with Save the Bay and have some hands on educational learning.

3. Background Check and Fingerprinting Policy

Mayor Flanagan asked Ms. Jocelyn LeMaire to join them at the podium to give an update for the second read for the background check and fingerprinting policy.

Ms. LeMaire said the second read was just for the Committee's review. They are doing some research on investigating possibilities for alternatives to the fingerprinting process that would be less costly to volunteers. They have found one resource and are looking at other options.

Mr. Martins said he would like to make a motion.

MOTION: Mr. Martins – : That the Committee absorb the CHRI cost for current employees as of October 1, 2014 and new hires, thereafter, will be required to provide a CHRI check as a condition of employment.

Mayor Flanagan said before he called for a second, he would allow Madame Superintendent to speak.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said she wishes they could pick up the cost for employees but is sorry to report that they have an advisory, which they have shared with their bargaining groups, that the state auditor ruled that employers could not pick up the cost for the new fingerprinting requirement.

Mr. Martins asked who the opinion was rendered by.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said it was the state auditor, Susan Bump, and she would get a copy to the Committee.

Mr. Martins said he questions that but if it is what was ruled, he stands corrected and withdraws his motion.

Mayor Flanagan asked Superintendent Mayo-Brown if they needed a motion to accept the second read.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said they did not. Their plan is to bring back to the Committee, for discussion and vote, a couple of options to consider on how they can continue to support school volunteers so that they don't turn any away because of the cost of the fingerprinting. She thinks there are some viable options for the Committee.

Mr. Martins asked if the Superintendent had the ruling on file.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said she did and would have Mrs. Caron get it out to all Committee members.

Mr. Martins said as long as it is on file in case she is challenged.

4. Superintendent's 2013-2014 Evaluation

Mr. Andrade explained that the Evaluation Subcommittee met twice to put the composite together. He explained the process the subcommittee used and then read over the composite that was put together by section. He noted that the overall evaluation was rated as proficient. Comments were required if the

Superintendent received either an exemplary or needs improvement or below. He said he would not read any of the comments but they would be a public record following the meeting. The charge of doing the composite was not an easy one and they had to take into account all School Committee members and try to be fair and balanced in presenting it. He felt the problem with the comments was that members did not need to comment on proficient ratings, so there were not many favorable comments.

Transcriber's Note: Mayor Flanagan stepped out during Mr. Andrade's presentation and Mr. Costa assumed the role of Chair. He re-entered at the point of the motion being made.

MOTION: Mr. Martins – Mayor Flanagan: That the Committee suspend the rules, allow discussion on the Superintendent's evaluation, and then any motions that people wish to make.

Discussion

Mrs. Panchley said she apologized but didn't understand the motion and wondered what rules they were suspending.

Mr. Costa said he thought they were suspending the Committee's rules on discussing the Superintendent's evaluation in open session. It is listed on the agenda as a Vote to Approve and discussion could have been had once that motion was made. He said if it is the will of the Committee to suspend the rules, they can do that.

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Maynard: No
Mr. Costa: No	Mrs. Panchley: No
Mr. Hart: No	Mayor Flanagan: Yes
Mr. Martins: Yes	

3 were in favor 4 were opposed (Costa/Hart/Maynard/Panchley) Motion DENIED

Mr. Costa asked if there was a vote to approve the Superintendent's 2013-2014 evaluation as discussed and referred to the Committee by the Evaluation/AIP Subcommittee.

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Andrade: To approve the Superintendent's 2013-2014 evaluation as discussed and referred to the Committee by the Evaluation/AIP Subcommittee.

Discussion

Mr. Hart spoke about the process of the Evaluation Subcommittee and thanked everyone involved in the process. He thought when this was done; they could meet at some point afterwards to find out what they could do better and how the process could be better.

Mrs. Panchley said she also wanted to thank Mr. Andrade and the subcommittee for their arduous task. She is not on the subcommittee so she wanted to give a couple of her thoughts for when they discuss this again.

- The State does not require comments when there is a proficient rating. She thought the School Committee could consider being responsible to each other and if they rank proficient, they make comments. "Proficient is not exemplary or exceeding and there are always things to be learned and

there could still be constructive feedback for the Superintendent and it will help them have comments that reflect what their ratings are.”

- Her other recommendation would be agreeing to the artifacts ahead of time. Some of the needs improvement ratings were because of a misunderstanding of the artifacts or a feeling that the artifacts didn't really represent benchmarks and action steps so it was difficult to put more than a needs improvement.
- Finally, she felt there was a lot to consider and that more time would be helpful.

Mr. Andrade said he seconded everything Mrs. Panchley said which was absolutely true. Comments for proficient scores would make it easier to write a better balanced report. The time element was something they did struggle with and sometimes it wasn't absolutely clear that she had accomplished all her goals with the artifacts submitted. He felt this was something they could discuss with the Superintendent at the mid-year meeting or before. He thought that the Committee didn't respond too much to what was being given because this was the first time going through the process and didn't know. Having gone through it once, they are a little better prepared to go through it a second time.

Mr. Costa thanked Mr. Andrade and his subcommittee for the work they put in. He also apologized for the delay in getting his evaluation in due to a surgery. He said he did not want to slow up the process because it is an important task and in fairness to the Superintendent, she should know where she stands. The Committee as representatives for the district owe it to her to give her some honest feedback about how her performance has been over the past year. He is not prepared to discuss his comments publicly that evening because he had not given the Superintendent the respect to discuss them with her first but he can say that there should not be any surprises. He is a firm believer that an evaluation is something that should be an ongoing discussion and if they want to put some faith and credibility behind the evaluation then they owe it to those they are evaluating to have those discussions on a frequent basis. He ended by saying that he looks forward to meeting with the Superintendent to discuss the areas in which he thinks they need improvement but he is prepared to vote for the overall evaluation because he thinks it does reflect the work that is being done. His hope is that she will consider the comments that have been made by the Committee and use them to improve how she leads the district.

Mr. Martins said that he agreed that the Evaluation Subcommittee worked hard and did a good job in their efforts. However, he felt the grading is subject to interpretation. He urged the Superintendent - as Mr. Costa said - to look closely at the individual ratings and not simply go by the composite. He said he will accept the evaluation but questioned why the rating on *Student Learning* was listed as *not applicable*.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown explained that in the cover letter that she provided to the School Committee with the binder of artifacts, she indicated that for this year the impact on student learning does not apply to any educator in the district. It will apply next year; but the Commissioner had issued guidance that it does not apply to educators this year.

Mr. Martins accepted that response and said it is his understanding that Principals have a similar evaluation and asked if the teacher evaluation was similar or if it was still in collective bargaining.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said the teacher evaluation tool and process was completed and ratified by the Association as well as the School Committee. They just finished year two of using the teacher evaluation tool.

Mr. Martins said he would expect the same liberalism given to others as given here.

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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5. School Committee Goals for the AIP

Mr. Andrade said this was a follow-up to the School Committee’s self-evaluation that was done toward the end of the school year. Based on the School Committee evaluation, they had a few areas that were shown as weaknesses that they had to work on. He received direction from Dr. Kelly in coming up with several goals that the School Committee would be attempting to meet over the course of the next year. They are general goals but they relate to several items from the self-evaluation.

Mr. Andrade read over the goals. He noted that he felt Goal II was a very important and exciting one being that “the School Committee and the Superintendent will collaborate in developing a vision for the future of the school district. Perhaps through the creation of an Ad Hoc committee meeting regularly with the Superintendent and seeking input from staff and parents.” He added that in their discussion, it was indicated that it did not have to be an Ad Hoc committee and that the Committee as a whole could choose to delegate this to one of the existing standing committees. That decision could be made some time in the future.

MOTION: Mr. Hart – Mr. Maynard: To accept the School Committee goals for the AIP as presented by Mr. Andrade.

Discussion

Mr. Martins asked if the School Committee’s responsibility was to not only develop a vision in conjunction with the Superintendent but also to give direction and the Superintendent then carries out that direction. He also would like to change the wording in reference to where it references the Ad Hoc subcommittees to indicate that the meetings that could be tied into the subcommittees already in existence as an additional duty or have it as another subcommittee with two members in each. One subcommittee would be to meet with the Superintendent and leadership team for what was stated. A second subcommittee of two members would meet with the faculty and staff for what was intended and then a third subcommittee of two members would meet with parents for what was stated. On a quarterly or semi-annual basis the report from each of these committees could be brought to the full Committee for discussion and implementation if necessary.

Mr. Andrade said it seems Mr. Martins believes in a division of labor and has it broken out pretty well. He thought it sounded okay and that he essentially was taking a few people to handle one portion of the job and then to report back. He did not have a problem with that.

Mr. Hart asked Mr. Martins to go over his proposal again and he did so.

Mr. Hart said he did discuss the Ad Hoc committee at their evaluation subcommittee meeting and he felt they need to be inclusive in the vision. He felt it would be better to have a committee selected by the Mayor or Superintendent and invite faculty, staff, and parents as well. He said it was only his opinion and they could discuss it at a later date but he felt they would be better off having one committee and involving more representatives.

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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6. Appointment of Rebecca Caron as Administrative Assistant for School Committee Services

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To approve the appointment of Rebecca Caron as Administrative Assistant.
No discussion

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes	Mr. Maynard: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes	Mrs. Panchley: Abstained
Mr. Hart: Yes	Mayor Flanagan: Yes
Mr. Martins: Yes	

6 were in favor	None were opposed	1 abstained (Mrs. Panchley)	Motion passed
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7. Appointment of the Henry Lord School Nurse

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To approve the appointment of the Henry Lord School Nurse as requested by Director of Nursing, Karen Long.
No discussion

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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8. Conversion of Fonseca Elementary School Art Teacher position to Classroom Teacher to support Social Emotional Learning

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To convert the Fonseca Elementary School music teacher position to a classroom teacher position to support social-emotional learning.

Discussion

Mr. Andrade asked what would happen to the Art Teacher.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said there was a correction and the vacant position was actually a music teacher. She asked through the Chair that the Fonseca teachers be invited to the podium to address the Committee. She has had the opportunity to meet with the Fonseca teachers and gather their input in terms of what was necessary for school improvement and they have done some terrific thinking and strategizing around staffing. This was their idea to convert a vacant music position to a position that would support social emotional learning of the Fonseca students.

Ms. Erin Shurtleff explained that they had an additional music period last year and since there is an open music period, they thought that a social emotional teacher would be a better fit to deal with the students' needs. Many are lacking coping skills, conflict resolution, and they thought it would be a better suit for their students so they can focus more on learning.

Mr. Andrade asked if it was a general feeling among the staff and not just of the few people proposing it.

Ms. Brenda Boudreau said that some of them worked over the summer on a committee and she sent out an email to all staff at that time. The majority of the staff that responded said they would prefer another social emotional type of position.

Mr. Martins said there seems to be a growing number of people being hired for that purpose and asked what they do in regards to social emotional learning; how many students they are working with; and what their measure of success for keeping those students in school is?

Ms. Shurtleff said that many of those students have had a lot of trauma in their lives and some of the things they would learn are coping skills, mindfulness, and how to be present now instead of worrying about what happened in the past or will happen in the future. This would be an additional time period in addition to the responsive classroom initiative that they are already doing. During that time students would do things like role play, meditation, and Steps to Respect program which are things that they do not have time for right now. As a staff they also decided that if it would be possible, they would like to add in an extra ½ an hour to their school day to fit everything in because they find they are lacking a lot of time to meet all of the needs of the students.

Mr. Martins asked how many students they are working with.

Ms. Shurtleff said this teacher would have a whole class. Last year they had two music periods. Instead of one of the music periods, this person would come in as a specialist and work with the entire class doing various activities with the kids. Each of the K-5 classes would have one period a week with this particular teacher.

Mr. Martins said it seems there is more social emotional staff than just having one period a week.

Ms. Shurtleff responded that they have over 800 students and only one adjustment counselor and one behaviorist. They are not sufficient to meet the needs of the students. In addition to the Responsive Classroom initiative, this teacher would also push in and give additional support to all of the kids instead of pulling individual students out.

Mr. Martins said he believes in supporting a student and understands the issue of social emotional adjustments; however, what he does not understand the results of it. He asked if the whole class needed this.

Ms. Shurtleff responded that there have been studies and different programs throughout the country that have done work with children in a whole class setting and it has shown an increase in their academic performance. Even the kids who have not had trauma in their lives learn different coping skills to help deal with test anxiety or life's stressors in a way that is more positive. They feel that it is a need their students have.

Mr. Martins asked if much of that role should be a guidance counselor.

Ms. Shurtleff said they only have one currently for all students.

Mr. Martins said he just sees a growing number of hires for social emotional and questions the result of it. "How many students are they turning around versus having that same amount of money put in to having another teacher in a classroom even if it is dual teaching?"

Ms. Shurtleff said there have been studies that show if kids have a negative outlook of school or too much stress in their lives, they are not going to reach them as easily as those who have coping skills for their mind to be there at school.

Ms. Boudreau said it is not a new position. They contractually have six prep periods during the week. Last year, they had art, two music, two physical education, and technology. They only have one music class this year so they have an open position and they wanted to change it from a music position to a wellness type position to give their kids support instead of giving them two music or art classes.

Mr. Martins thought that was instruction that was relevant to the students.

Ms. Boudreau said they would still have all of the classes but this would take the place of one of the two musics.

Mr. Martins said he understands their arguments and is looking at what the return is on this investment and how can it be measured.

Ms. Donna Frazier said the return will be more learning time because at Fonseca they have so many behaviors that take away from learning time that they are constantly trying to redirect students. She had the opportunity to be in the class when the wellness teacher was in there and she was teaching them a game but she was going through the rules and what was fair and not fair. The class was quiet and learning how to behave and she felt she could feel the tension in the classroom subside.

Mr. Martins asked if it would be to that person's advantage to have dual teaching and another teacher in the classroom.

Ms. Frazier said that she is covering for their prep. They have a very unique school where they have a lot of issues and there are very few people who are qualified to deal with them.

Mr. Martins said he did not want to belabor the issue. He is highly in favor of providing staffing for the benefit of students if a class is exhibiting certain disabilities.

Ms. Frazier and Mr. Martins had more discussion regarding dual teaching versus a social emotional teacher.

Mr. Costa said he is in support of the initiative and thanked the Fonseca staff. They often look to educators to inform them of what their needs are. They came up with this on their own and he hoped as a district they start relying more on the input of the teachers who are in the classroom to go to them and make these types of requests. He is happy to see it came from the faculty and will support it. They have a very unique population at Fonseca and part of getting a child ready to learn is being able to get through to that child. He added that even with dual teaching, if the students aren't ready to cope with what is going on in that classroom or socially or emotionally ready to deal with the lessons being delivered, they are never going to make any progress. He thought this was a creative way of using resources within their own building to address a need that is very specific to what they deal with on a daily basis. He is not opposed to giving it a shot and hopes that it makes an impact. He thinks they need to be looking throughout the district for more initiatives that are driven by faculty.

A roll call showed:

Mr. Andrade: Yes
Mr. Costa: Yes
Mr. Hart: Yes
Mr. Martins: Yes

Mr. Maynard: Yes
Mrs. Panchley: Yes
Mayor Flanagan: Yes

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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9. D’Ambrosio and Gaw Dedications

Discussion

Mayor Flanagan asked Mr. Coogan to explain the dedication requests.

Mr. Coogan said that the first dedication that was suggested was in honor of Mr. D’Ambrosio who worked for the school department from 1976 to 2008. They received a request to name a part of the facility at Morton after Mr. D’Ambrosio. Mr. Coogan explained that Rock Street used to continue and circle down behind the old facility and end up on the end of Brownell Street as they crossed North Main. That street was a public way. As part of the Morton construction project, that road was decommissioned and the Carroll School and the Morton campuses were merged. The road way from President Avenue to North Main Street is now private and part of the school facility. Naming that road in honor of Mr. D’Ambrosio would be a way of commemorating his service and work with all the facilities and construction projects that have taken place along with the school department over the last 12-13 years. He believed that 10 of the current 16 schools that are in operation were a direct result of Mr. D’Ambrosio’s oversight and work on those projects. He added that Mr. D’Ambrosio has been retired for some time and he thought it would be a nice way to honor him if the Committee so desires.

Mayor Flanagan asked about Mr. Gaw.

Mr. Coogan said Mr. Gaw is a fascinating story. He was a principal in the system for 21 years. In addition, he had some remarkable accomplishments; he was a WWII veteran; a war hero, his ship was sunk in the D-Day action; he rescued a ship mate; he served as part of the committee to bring the Battleship to Fall River; he was the President of the Fall River Purple Heart Veterans; he received a medal for heroism. Mr. Coogan said he is a terrific story and a Fall River native. He added that he grew up across the street from and attended the Slade School. The letter that he forwarded to the Committee was written by a family member that wished to see him honored in some way. He continued by explaining that with the recent schools that they have built, they took the schools that were absorbed into those campuses and had parts of the new buildings named after them. At the Viveiros School, the main office suite would be available for naming if the Committee felt that was an appropriate motion to recognize Mr. Gaw’s contribution to the City and the School Department.

MOTION: Mr. Maynard - Mr. Costa: To approve the dedications for Mr. D’Ambrosio and Mr. Gaw.		
All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed

10. Middle School Baseball and Softball Proposal

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To approve the proposal for middle school baseball and softball as presented by Mr. Victor Pereira.		
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Discussion

Mr. Costa said the only suggestion he would make was that the request for four helmets be amended to have six for safety reasons.

AMMENDED MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To approve the proposal for middle school baseball and softball as presented by Mr. Victor Pereira, with the number of helmets amended to six.

Mrs. Panchley asked when the season would fit into what they already have.

Mr. Victor Pereira said they are looking to start it this upcoming spring.

Mrs. Panchley asked if that is when soccer takes place.

Mr. Pereira said yes; they were going to try it with soccer and then maybe move soccer to the fall for the next middle school season.

Mrs. Panchley asked if they would have three seasons in the intramural sports.

Mr. Pereira said that was correct and they have had that since he has taken the position. Football and field hockey in the fall; boys and girls basketball in the winter; soccer and track and field in the spring.

Mrs. Panchley asked if the money that is entailed in the report would be a swap for what they are already doing.

Mr. Pereira said with soccer, the equipment is already there. With this, they are starting a new program and to get it off its feet, they need the items listed to get started.

Mrs. Panchley asked Madame Superintendent if they had identified where the money would come from.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said they would do that with the finance subcommittee at the next meeting but it would be out of the operating budget.

Mrs. Panchley asked if there were recommendations that they have looked at. She wants to make sure they have an idea of how they will fund it if it is approved.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said Mr. Saunders could address that specifically either now or at finance.

Mrs. Panchley said if he could just give a nod to her that there is a recommendation on how to fund it she would feel comfortable to approve it. Mr. Saunders gave a nod in the affirmative.

Mr. Pereira thanked the Committee for supporting the middle school program and said it is a huge success and great for the city.

Mr. Hart said that he thought it was very good that the softball programs in the middle schools were going to happen because they don't have that particular league in Fall River for that age group.

Mr. Pereira said that was correct; the PAL started again but was more for the younger kids. There is not really anything for girls' softball in the city at the middle school level and he thinks it is very important to incorporate it into the middle school program.

Mr. Hart agreed and thought it was a good move. He wondered if they could look to start programs in elementary schools.

Mr. Pereira said he knows that PAL is starting in the 3rd/4th grade and he can see the interest is there.

Mr. Hart said he has heard from a lot of parents that they don't have their daughter's competing in Fall River at the middle school age group and have to go out of town. He thought they might still do that but thought to have it in the middle schools is a good move.

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

11. Continuation of the Administrator Apprenticeship Program

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Maynard: To approve the continuation of the Administrator Apprenticeship Program.

Discussion

Mr. Martins noted there was an error in the dates of the job description.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said she would have that corrected.

Mr. Martins said that the Committee just approved having a mentor for principals. Here they have an administrative apprenticeship program which he supports in general. However, he said the principal is the mentor for the administrator apprentice and now would have a mentor for a mentor.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said it would not be for the schools that she is proposing to host the two apprentices this year. They would like to place their apprentice candidates in schools that are doing well or have a strong/master principal. This year, they would like to continue the program at Kuss as they did last year. They had Taylor Brown who served as the apprentice there under Mike Procaccini and he is now the Vice Principal at Spencer Borden. The other site would be Doran which is another school that has made terrific progress with Ms. Pontes being a great mentor to both their middle level managers and aspiring administrators.

Mr. Martins asked if she was looking to have five candidates.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said no, they are looking to continue as they did last year with two candidates. This past year they had Taylor Brown and Richard Leeman who became the apprentice at Viveiros under Meg Christ. He is now the Vice Principal at Viveiros. They are seeing that the program is enabling the candidates who are Fall River teachers to receive their administrator licensure through the program.

Mr. Martins asked what the proposed salary was for the 2014-15 school year.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said that had not changed and will continue to be the salary range listed \$55K-60K. They put a range because sometimes they have teachers who are interested in the program and they are making that much or more so they like to have a range where there is not a loss of income.

Mr. Martins said he supports the range.

Mr. Andrade said he knew they have had the program for several years and asked if it is a program promoted by the state.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown responded yes and that it was considered an alternative pathway to the administrator licensure in lieu of enrolling in a higher ed preparation program.

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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MOTION: Mrs. Panchley – Mr. Maynard: To accept the FYI portion of the agenda and place on file.

Discussion

Mr. Martins said he sees an issue he spoke of earlier that evening. There are two people being hired for special education, social emotional. He asked how many they are going to hire for social emotional and will they have full classes just like a regular teacher.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said the social emotional teacher that he is citing under the appointments is a special education teacher for students with social emotional needs largely delivered in a self-contained classroom, different from what the Fonseca teachers were describing.

Mr. Martins asked if those two people would have a class like a special education teacher would.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said yes.

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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Mayor Flanagan asked if there was any new business before adjourning that evening.

Mr. Hart asked that they think about the possibility of air conditioning in some of the schools. He had visited the schools and felt it would be a lot more comfortable for the staff and students in the late spring and summer months. He said he also went to RMS and RPS and they are doing a very good job but wondered if there was a way to stagger the release time to avoid any potential problems.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said they would take a look at it.

Mayor Flanagan asked if there was any other business.

Mr. Martins asked if he could get a copy of all the individual evaluations of the Superintendent.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said she would get them out to all Committee members.

Mr. Martins said he also recently sent Madam Superintendent an email with a concern from a parent and had not received a reply and asked that she look into it.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said she would. She had requested the RPS handbook in putting together a memo to the Committee based on his question.

There was no further business.

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Andrade: To adjourn.

No Discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion approved (9:55 PM)

Respectfully submitted,



Interim Administrative Assistant for
School Committee Services

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