

REGULAR SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, August 21, 2013

6:30 PM

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

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Salute to the Flag
3. Citizens Input
4. Sub-Committee Reports
5. Superintendent's Report
6. Approval of Minutes
7. Request for Executive Session
M.G.L. c30A Section 21 (a) (2) and (3)
 - To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with custodians, paraprofessionals, clerical, the FREA, and the FRAA and nonunion personnel, including Dr. Fran Roy, Chief Academic Officer.
8. Committee of the Whole
9. New Business: Topics for discussion that could not reasonably be anticipated by the Chairman forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting
10. Addendum

MINUTES

At 6:35 PM, Mayor Flanagan called to order the Regular Meeting of the Fall River School Committee for Wednesday, August 21, 2013.

A roll call for attendance showed all members were present.

A salute to the Flag followed.

CITIZENS INPUT

Mr. Nicholas Salmon, Durfee High School Parent

Mr. Salmon thanked Mayor Flanagan and School Committeeman, Paul Hart, for placing the issue of the Durfee baseball fields on the agenda. He explained that approximately a decade ago it was decided due to the deplorable conditions of the Durfee athletic complex the City and the School Department would overhaul that complex. Phase One encompassed two turf football/soccer fields, a track, six tennis courts and the parking lot and was completed in 2007. He added that this investment by the City has paid dividends to Durfee's students, the community, and has showcased Fall River in a positive light. It has been six years since Phase One of the athletic complex was completed and there has been no indication of when Phase Two, the baseball and softball fields, will be addressed. Due to the lack of investment and upkeep some major concerns have arose and there is a lot of disparity between the two sides of the complex which is a serious equity issue. "Our children who love the game of baseball and softball should be afforded the same facilities as their classmates." Mr. Salmon then listed the parents' concerns which included: drainage; irrigation; first-base does not line up with home plate; three of the four dugouts do not have any overhead cover; three giant wooden poles in the outfield of the varsity baseball field; the scoreboard on the varsity baseball field has not been operational in over a decade while the varsity softball team has no scoreboard; backstops for all fields need to be painted and the varsity softball backstop appears to be broken beyond repair; there are no lights like on the other side of the complex which puts them at a disadvantage as far as scheduling games. He closed by asking the Committee to take into account their deep concerns of the inequity and requested them to look at the allocation of funds for this project.

Mayor Flanagan thanked Mr. Salmon and asked him to stay for the discussion portion of the meeting when this item would be discussed.

Gerard Forcier, Morton Middle School Parent

Mr. Forcier expressed concern over the lack of communication regarding the decision for Morton to move to extended day. He had previously voiced some concerns about the extended day because he had a daughter who already experienced this at Kuss and she was someone who generally loved school but wasn't happy with the long hours. She now loves being at Durfee. He has another daughter at Morton who is not as dedicated as his other daughter and feels she is not going to do well with extended day. He has heard discussions about extended day and how it helped increase the MCAS scores at Kuss and Silvia but noted that Kuss and Silvia also have the GATE program. He added that he doesn't hear about Henry Lord who doesn't have the GATE program but does have extended day and how their MCAS scores are pretty stagnant. He added that having extended learning time is also taking away from family time and kids' after school activities who then struggle to get homework done. He discussed lack of communication again noting that they have yet to hear about the school bus schedule.

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When his daughter went to Kuss, she was one of the first students on the bus and one of the last off and on the first day she was on the bus for over an hour on the way home/didn't get home until after 5:30. He speculated that students who live at the other end of the City being bused to Morton are not going to enjoy having a 45 minute bus ride each way on top of having extended day. Mr. Forcier finished by explaining his other issue was stack ranking. He asked about it before and was told there would not be stack ranking so that students would have the same equal footing. His issue with this is that there is stack ranking by having the GATE program for less than 10% of the students in Fall River. He questioned why the other kids don't have that ability? He concluded by saying he just wanted to speak off-the-cuff because he has real concerns about the extended day at Morton.

Mayor Flanagan responded that he raised some good issues but didn't think they would be able to tackle all of them within citizens input time. He suggested Mr. Forcier make appointments to meet with the Assistant Superintendent or the Superintendent to discuss those issues further and hopefully there can be some resolution to them.

MINUTES

7/20/13 Use of Henry Lord Middle School Subcommittee Minutes
8/5/13 Use of Henry Lord Middle School Subcommittee Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Andrade: To approve minutes as listed.
All in favor None opposed Motion passed

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no subcommittee reports this evening.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Mayo-Brown introduced three new principals. She added that they were not new to Fall River but new to their roles. The Principal of the Letourneau School, Brian Raposo, formally at the Doran School; Mrs. Jean Facchiano, Principal of the Silvia School, formally a teacher at the Silvia School and most recently Dean of Teaching and Learning; and Dr. Nicholas Bretz, Principal of the Tansey School, formally the English Language Arts Department Chair at Durfee High School for the past three years.

DONATIONS

Director of Early Childhood and Parent Information Barbara Allard requests acceptance of \$20,000 from the Ludcke Foundation to provide Literacy-based Parent/Child Home Visits and another \$32,000 from PACE Childcare Works in New Bedford, Massachusetts to do the same work.

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Andrade: To accept all donations as listed.
All in favor None opposed Motion passed

TRAVEL

Mr. Brian Mikolazyk requests permission for staff travel:

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Destination	Newark, New Jersey
Class or Club	E-Rate Applicant Workshop
Date	October 8, 2013
Total Cost	\$391 total (\$141 Travel, \$200 hotel, \$30 parking, \$20 misc.)
Funding Source	Race to the Top

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Pavao: To accept all travel as listed.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Pavao asked if Mr. Mikolazyk was going to eat because it was not listed.

Superintendent: She believes that was listed under miscellaneous.

Mr. Martins: Asked how much is listed under source of funds. He thought it looked like \$289,000 was listed as the balance.

Superintendent deferred to Mr. Saunders.

Mr. Saunders: They don't have a source of funds of that magnitude. This is a small amount inside of Mr. Mikolazyk's operating budget for the travel. It is only for the MIS department. There is travel that is spread across all the departments, the majority of that being in the SPED budget.

Mr. Martins: It looks like this travel is being charged to the E-rate account.

Mr. Saunders: No, it cannot be charged to the E-rate. It is \$391 and will be charged to his operating budget.

Mr. Martins asked if it will go under FY14 operating budget?

Mr. Saunders: That is correct.

Mr. Martins: Then what is that line number that is checked as other stating \$289K as a balance.

Mr. Saunders explained that account contains more than just travel. It contains a number of technology items.

Superintendent asked if the travel is coming out of the contractual service line.

Mr. Saunders responded that was correct. The \$289K is not the travel itself; it includes software, equipment and contracted services.

There was further discussion between Mr. Martins and Mr. Saunders over the use of contracted services money.

All in favor None opposed Motion passed

CONTRACTS

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Martins: To accept all contracts as listed.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martins asked if they went out to bid for the box truck purchased from First Ford in the amount of \$34,313. He also asked how many bidders and what there amounts were.

Mr. Coogan: An RFP was used that was handled on the City side. There were several bidders and this was the low bid. He did not have who bid or how much in front of him.

Mr. Martins asked that Mr. Coogan provide that information to him.

Mr. Martins said his next concern was the contract for Dr. Deeney listed as helping to meet the School Improvement Plan (SIP) and District Improvement Plan (DIP) goals. He asked if those goals are the Composite Performance Index (CPI) targets.

Superintendent: She responded that the DIP and SIP do include the CPI but they also include PPI which CPI is a part of.

Mayor Flanagan asked the Superintendent to clarify CPI and PPI for the listening audience.

Superintendent: She explained that CPI is Composite Performance Index which measures the number of students progressing/meeting proficiency. PPI is the Performance Progress Index which includes CPI as well as student growth and increasing the number of students scoring in the advanced MCAS category and reducing the number of students who score in the warning category. PPI is a combination of all of those factors.

Mr. Martins said his concern is he feels most important is achieving the targets to which they have been assigned and this is how he views the purpose of the DIP/SIP. He understands there are other targets and goals but he feels that is where the gap reduction is to be achieved by 2017.

Superintendent responded that that is one measure of the State's accountability system.

Mr. Martins said they have a difference of opinion and his is that it is most important to achieve those targets because if you have achieved these targets, you have achieved all of your other targets but achieving all of the other targets does not necessarily mean you will achieve the CPI.

Superintendent agreed that they have different opinions about the weight of that. She considers both equally important which is why the State established PPI.

Mr. Martins said he is going to support the payment of Dr. Deeney; however, he is going to be looking to see if the assistance being given is meeting the goals of the SIP/DIP.

Mr. Martins said his next concern was the South Coast Hospital group for the Employee Assistance Program and asked if they were on retainer or per service basis with a budget of \$32,000.

Superintendent explained it was their annual contract. It is not per individual. Any number of employees can go and they are available 24/7.

Mr. Costa referred to the addendum where Youth Court was listed. He recalled Youth Court presenting their program to the Committee the previous year. At that time he thought they were seeking \$43K for a full year of programming and a referral was made to finance and readdress the issue of funding. They had a number of unanticipated expenses that prevented them from being able to allocate funds to them. At the end of last fiscal year, Youth Court came back before them and asked for a lesser amount in order to get them through the end of last fiscal year and then there was a request to fund them fully for FY14. That was his recollection of the motion that was made. He is noticing it is on the agenda for \$22,180. He said he would defer to his colleagues for further recollection but that was his understanding.

There was discussion between Mr. Costa and Mayor Flanagan regarding being able to amend the amount in the motion and Mr. Costa said he would take the Chair's lead.

Mayor Flanagan asked Mr. Maynard to amend his motion to include \$43K for Youth Court and Mr. Maynard agreed.

AMMENDED MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Costa: To accept all contracts as listed with Youth Court receiving \$43K.

All in favor

None opposed

Motion passed

GRANTS

Mayor Flanagan noted there was one grant listed (Career Academies-Planning) and asked if there was a motion to accept.

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Costa: To accept the grant as listed.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martins asked Mr. Marshall about the Career Academies Planning already being done in the summertime.

Mr. Marshall said that was the second part of the grant and that the first part had started sometime around February. They were invited to apply back in September. It was supposed to be a one-year grant but was compressed into about 6 months.

Mr. Martins asked what academies were being considered.

Mr. Marshall explained that they were partnered with National Academy Foundation (NAF) who took them through the process of looking at academies and then in doing it the proper way. It is a full one-year process but they had to condense that down into a shorter period of time. Part of the grant requirement was to send a team out to the NAF Academy which they did in July. As it turned out, part of their approved programs was the Project Lead the Way

(PLTW) program which they were already one-year in it in advance. The feedback that they received from the grant coordinators was that they were well ahead of the other gateway cities in this work. NAF just finished the last site visit and got the report back that the high school is well-positioned for the money they are anticipating. This was a planning grant and they are hoping for implementation money this September. Their goal is to take a look at the PLTW programs.

Mr. Martins: What is the status of advancing the career pathways to be Perkins approved?

Mr. Marshall: The last time this came up with the Committee there was talk about bringing it to the subcommittee to take a look at some of the areas identified. PLTW programs are certifiable in relation to Chapter 74 and they need to take a look at what is going to be the biggest bang for the buck.

Mr. Martins said he is looking forward to having those meetings at the subcommittee level because they are missing out on a considerable amount of money.

All in favor

None opposed

Motion passed

DISCUSSION ITEMS

#1: Status of Durfee High School Baseball Field.

Mayor Flanagan gave a brief background about the Phase One project that took place several years ago and how Phase Two, which included the baseball and softball fields, had not been done and was asked to be placed on the agenda.

Mr. Hart noted the inequities between the fields completed in Phase One and those that have yet to be completed for Phase Two. He noted drainage issues as being a big concern. He asked that the Committee seriously work to correct the inequity.

MOTION: Mr. Hart – Mr. Costa: To refer this item to the Facilities and Operations Subcommittee.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Maynard asked if there was funding for this project.

Mayor Flanagan said there were several possibilities noting a bond as one possibility. He also explained that they had submitted a letter of intent to the Massachusetts School Building Authority looking to do a major reconstruction at Durfee High School which they may be able to include Phase Two as part of that reconstruction. He added that all options would have to be discussed and all options have a price tag to it.

Mr. Andrade said it would not be a project that could be completed this year but wondered if the smaller items that Mr. Salmon had referenced (i.e. removal of poles) could be taken care of in-house in the meantime.

All in favor

None opposed

Motion passed

#2: Request for the Fall River School Committee to Approve the Partnership with uAspire, presented by Adam C. Reinke, Director, and Gabrielle King Morse, Executive Director.

Ms. King Morse gave a brief description of uAspire explaining that they are an organization that focuses specifically on college affordability, working one-on-one with high school seniors to make sure that they get every penny that is available to them no matter what type of post-secondary schooling they are looking at. Last year they served 4,100 high school seniors across Massachusetts and were able to leverage \$90M for them in financial aid and scholarships. She feels they could probably leverage close to \$5M in the first year for Durfee High School students.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martins questioned that uAspire was looking for \$225K for a 3-year commitment.

Mayor Flanagan responded that there was a clarification on that.

Superintendent explained that she was recommending that the Committee launch the partnership this year with a \$50K investment out of grant funding and the business community has agreed to match the School Committee's investment to reach the amount needed in order to bring financial advising to Durfee High School.

Mayor Flanagan said it is a public/private match.

Mr. Martins asked if the financial aid had to be paid back.

Mr. Reinke: He said the figure Ms. King Morse quoted was strictly grant aid, free money that they help leverage for students and does not include government backed loans.

Mr. Andrade said he would be interested to see any baseline information in terms of what a particular school had achieved prior to uAspire stepping in with their services.

Mr. Reinke thought by working with the District and Durfee's Guidance Department Head they could work together to get some baseline data from 2012 to bring back to the Committee after partnering with Durfee.

Mr. Costa thanked uAspire as well as the business community for allowing this partnership to take place and feels that this is going to be a very successful program.

Mr. Martins asked the Superintendent which grant the \$50K would be coming from.

Superintendent: She responded that they are identifying funds from Race To The Top where there are two projects that would be applicable; the college and career readiness component as well as the wrap-around service.

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Costa: To approve the Partnership between uAspire and the Fall River Public Schools.

All in favor

None opposed

Motion passed

#3: Presentation of the Accelerated Improvement Plan (AIP) and Governance Monitoring Report from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as presented by Dr. Joan Connolly, Monitor, and Lynda Foisy, Senior Associate Commissioner.

Dr. Connolly explained that she would be reading two reports: the Quarterly Progress Report on progress the School Department has made on the goals of the Accelerated Improvement Plan; the second report is on progress that the School Committee has made on the goals they have voted to work on.

Dr. Connolly noted that the first report on the four goals of the AIP of the Fall River Public Schools will cover the period between March and May. She emphasized this because there have been a lot of things that have transpired in June-August which will be covered in a subsequent report.

Dr. Connolly proceeded to read both reports to the Committee.

Mayor Flanagan asked to discuss the next steps for the Fall River School Committee which led to a discussion regarding the scorecards. He felt that since the scorecard reflects performance, preparedness, and character they should be discussed in Executive Session and not during the public meeting.

Dr. Connolly said the outcome of this activity is for the School Committee to assess how it is working as a board. The areas identified during self-evaluation are believed to be rolled into some kind of action steps. She felt that the discussion could take place in both venues if they fit the requirements of Executive Session under the law.

Mr. Costa said he understands the importance of the scorecard but also didn't see the purpose of reporting publicly and thought it could be detrimental, breeding animosity or grandstanding. He also noted that their role is to conduct the work of the public and didn't think the public wanted to hear this as much as having the work before them completed.

Dr. Connolly said it is really about how they function as a School Committee. It is not about individuals. What went well and didn't at the last meeting and what might they work to do to get better? She noted this is her fifth year coming to Fall River and for some reason the Committee is having difficulty reflecting on how they are doing. "These are goals that you developed for yourselves. When we look at evidence provided by you on your progress and goals that you voted, you are noting you did not make progress in this piece. So I would just ask that you reflect on what the problem is."

Mr. Costa: "If you are looking for evidence of minutes from meetings where we sit and say okay let's talk about how well or not so well last meeting went, you are not going to find that. That's why it's been a

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reoccurring issue. But that doesn't mean that members haven't taken the input of the scorecards and implemented it in future practice. You just don't see it outlined in minutes. We adopted the operation protocols which all of us agreed we would adhere to so I don't think when you talk about us wanting to become a stronger body or working towards that end, I think that is happening, I just don't think you see it in minutes because we don't formally talk about it at meetings." He added that he feels the Committee functions far better than it did in 2009.

Dr. Connolly said what has been missing is acknowledgement that there was reflection on the last meeting and a very short report out that is regularly on the agenda.

Mr. Costa said he feels the way that she has evaluated the Committee is through a very narrow lens and as to whether or not there is documented evidence that this occurred rather than looking more at it as evidence in terms of their collective ability to work with the administration to implement policy and changes in the District that are positive for the educational climate they are trying to achieve. He said they can formalize it but assured that there is a commitment by the Committee to take the results that they have, look at them, and take note to the areas in which they feel they have all done well in and areas where they need to improve.

Dr. Connolly suggested formalizing a very brief report out regularly on the agenda which should flow easily from the work that you have been doing.

Mr. Costa suggested to Mayor Flanagan that he instruct the School Committee secretary or the Superintendent to make note of the areas in which they all have done well in at the previous meeting and areas which don't go so well so that they can capture that for the next review.

Ms. Foisy made an observation that the conversation that just happened is one kind of evidence showing the School Committee is trying to be transparent in the way they do business. She also felt Dr. Kelly could help them think about how they could get more concrete in their evidence.

Mr. Pavao asked to clarify with Dr. Connolly that part of their meeting discussion was on the scorecard and she stated that it was not to be looked at on an individual basis but on a collective basis as a School Committee. "I believe we came up with an example such as "do members come prepared for the meeting?" If 50% or more of the School Committee were in the red on that particular item, that would be an area that the School Committee collectively would have to work on. No names, no identification. It would then be brought to the Committee as a Whole in a recommendation to improve that - and that would be through the Subcommittee on Evaluation who would look at that particular section, discuss it and then refer it back to the Chair for an item on the agenda to be discussed publicly." He added that he would be calling an Evaluation Subcommittee meeting to look at the procedure the Committee should take in getting out that information and then work on a strategy to improve that particular area."

MOTION: Mr. Andrade – Mr. Costa: To accept the reports.		
All in favor	None opposed	Motion passed

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Foisy had a couple more items for discussion, one being the Superintendent's Evaluation. The School Committee has not completed a formal evaluation for the 2012-13 School Year. She noted that they are not the only School Committee in the State that is caught in the transition with the shift to the

new evaluation process. She said it was good news that they have formally adopted the State's new superintendent evaluation system and timelines and participated in the training. She is aware they are on their way to completing Step 1 which is the Superintendent's self-evaluation and once that is in place they should be on track and on schedule for completing the evaluation in the coming school year using the new process.

Ms. Foisy said her second topic was that the Commissioner had asked her to raise the issue of the School Committee's decision to not approve the early college innovation school proposal. He asked her to note that he has the utmost respect for the School Committee's authority in that kind of a situation and he understands that the School Committee's approval of a final innovation school proposal is required and that this was not the source of his commentary when he was interviewed and noted his disappointment. He was concerned that this School Committee had made three important decisions relative to this issue – voting to close the Henry Lord Middle School, supporting the reassignment of Henry Lord students to other district schools, and that the Committee, at least preliminary, approved the early college innovation plan – so when decision was made to not support the final proposal, he felt disappointed by that. He asked Ms. Foisy to be clear that he hopes that going forward, the Committee as a governing body will continue to engage with the Superintendent and others in meaningful discussions and build better understanding and clear communication about the kinds of opportunities the students in Fall River need.

Ms. Foisy stated that the final issue she wanted to put on the table is relative to the Fall River AIP. Dr. Kelly, in his role as technical support to the Fall River School Committee and Dr. Connolly in her role as the District monitor, will continue to work with the Committee, Ms. Foisy and her staff at the Department, to ensure that the AIP is seamless and covers all the critical areas that Dr. Connolly reported on tonight - four that have been identified as part of the District's plan and now incorporating the School Committee's goal of becoming an effective governing body that proactively supports the District's AIP work. They are looking to integrate those things and call this AIP a single document that is guiding the work going forward in the District. The Commissioner had asked her to be clear in sharing his encouragement that they continue to be focused on their stated vision to improve the quality of education across all schools in Fall River and keep moving forward.

Mayor Flanagan explained for point of clarification, that they did not miss the Superintendent's Evaluation due to neglect or intent but because they were actually formulating the new tool to go by and that tool has been adopted and the evaluation will be taking place.

Ms. Foisy said that was understood and her point that they were not the only School Committee that has been struggling with this transition.

#4: Fall River ReCreation Request for Use of Facilities

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To approve the request of Fall River ReCreation's use of facilities.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Pavao asked if alcohol is going to be provided and the legal opinion.

Attorney Assad replied that with respect to the statutes, there is no prohibition as long as the appropriate permit is obtained from the City. His understanding is that there will be ample insurance

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with respect to that particular night and there is no restriction in the statutes that would indicate that beer or wine could not be served on that specific occasion.

Mr. Martins questioned the liability insurance.

Mayor Flanagan explained that this group has done these types of events at other venues in the past and they go through the licensing board for a one day permit. At that time they indicate who will be providing the alcohol - usually an outside vendor. That vendor does have all the current insurance policies and riders that are required from a licensing commission to serve alcohol in the City of Fall River.

Mr. Martins asked what security precautions will be in place.

Mayor Flanagan explained that Fall River police officers are hired as a detail whenever a one day license is pulled which is standard protocol.

Mr. Martins commented that this will open the door for other alcohol-served venues.

Mayor Flanagan responded that they have the recently remodeled Nagle Auditorium and noted that Zeiterion Theater and PPAC have similar models which help support the causes. Here it is the cause of youth programs in the City. He feels they can take it on a case by case basis as requests come in.

Mr. Maynard asked if there was going to be any cost to the School Department.

Mayor Flanagan said no but there would be money coming into the School Department for the rental of the auditorium.

All in favor	None opposed	Motion passed
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#5: FY13 Fourth Quarter Budget Transfers present by Michael Saunders, Chief Financial Officer

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Andrade: To approve the FY13 fourth quarter budget transfers.		
All in favor	None opposed	Motion passed

#6: School Administrative Manager Position for the Viveiros School as presented by Dr. Fran Roy, Chief Academic Officer.

Motion: Mr. Maynard - Mr. Hart: To approve the School Administrative Manager Position for the Viveiros School.		
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DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martins: He noted that the School Department was somewhere in the vicinity of \$1.4M deficit for student transportation. He added that there is the potential of having additional student transportation expenditures depending upon what happens next month. He said he thought it was nice to train your own and that this was done a couple years ago but he didn't think back then that it was going to be something carried forward.

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Mayor Flanagan asked for clarification and explained the motion was on item number six which is the administrative position at the Viveiros School. He asked if Mr. Martins was on six or seven, the apprenticeship positions.

Mr. Martins replied that it applied to both but he was speaking about the administrative manager...

Mayor Flanagan: "...so we are on six?"

Mr. Martins responded "absolutely so" and proceeded to go through the list of duties and responsibilities and added who he thought should be performing those duties:

- *Serves as a school liaison to support all core school practices* - Principal
- *Manage all systems within the school, including but not limited to arrival and dismissal* - VP
- *To manage and oversee the school facility* - Mr. Coogan and his staff
- *Manage the student information data base system* - SIMS office
- *Oversee weekly communication with parents* – teacher/Principal/VP
- *Coordinate and document parent meetings* – Principal/VP
- *Plan and coordinate with teachers and outside agencies* – Principal/VP/Guidance

"This is another layer of administrative bureaucracy while still piling increasing demands on teachers without providing the assistance they need and the time they need to do the work. I cannot support a School Administrative Manager. This is supposed to go to the Carlton Viveiros School and it seems like when one quasi administrator gets put in then there appears to be next year another one and another one and another one going forward. I think we have enough administrators to do the work that we need to do. I don't think, however, that we have sufficient staff within the classrooms to be able to teach those students who are struggling. If there is money available, my recommendation is to place it into having extra paraprofessionals and also to have dual teaching in classrooms where there is student need. I cannot support this endeavor."

Superintendent: She explained that she did not want the Community to think they are in a \$1.4M deficit because they are not. "Secondly..."

Mr. Martins interrupted "...then how much is the transportation?"

The Superintendent responded that that had not been resolved yet. "We are not in a deficit. I do not want the community to think the School Department is in a deficit."

She continued that the School Administrative Manager, although the title implies that it is an administrator position, it is not. She shared that it is specific to Viveiros school as a pilot. "As the new evaluation system has come into play, the expectation is that all administrators - principals, vice principals, department heads - are evaluators. As evaluators, their primary role is to support and provide feedback to teachers. As we look at the duties of a principal it's well documented that upwards of 70% of their time is spent on management within the building. We are trying to pilot and determine a way where the buildings can run smoothly the management and operations of the building thus allowing the administrators to work more closely to support teachers. I noted in my memo to the School Committee that there is actually a national model of School Administer Managers (SAM) that focus on the operations. The salary we are talking about is between \$30-35K for this position. It is clearly not an administrative position. For the Viveiros, as noted in my briefing to the Committee, Principal Christ had converted one of her positions from a School Adjustment Counselor to a Behavior Therapist which

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saved some funding. She would like to apply the funding that was saved in that conversion to pilot the School Administrative Manager position. Again, the overall objective of this is to ensure that administrators are in classrooms, are providing teachers with feedback, determining ways we can better support teachers and students under the new system.” She added that she thinks it is an interesting model to pilot and reiterated it is not an administrator position.

Mr. Martins responded that the help/assistance that teachers need is not necessarily having another evaluator coming in. “You have 28+ little kids in a classroom. What they need is assistance of trained people in that classroom to help. This position would do what is already being done or should be being done by administrators and those administrators are well paid and the fact that they have to do these tasks, so be it. How is this going to be paid?”

Superintendent: She answered that she already indicated that it is the cost savings from a position conversion.

Mr. Martins apologized but added if there was a cost savings, whether its \$30-\$35K, that is two paraprofessionals and pretty close to another teacher.

Mayor Flanagan said there was a motion made and seconded on the approval of item number six (SAM) and asked if there was further discussion.

Mr. Maynard: He asked how many hours this person would work.

Superintendent: Full-time/all day long.

There was no further discussion.

A roll call showed: 4 yays 3 nays (Andrade/Martins/Pavao) Motion Passed

#7: Two Administrator Apprenticeship Positions, 2 FTEs

Motion: Mr. Costa - Mr. Maynard: To approve the two Administrator Apprenticeship Positions.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Andrade asked the Superintendent if this was paid for from grant money.

Superintendent: Yes, Title I.

Mr. Andrade asked if they can justify paying this out of Title I funds.

Superintendent: She responded that they could.

Mr. Martins: Said he had the same comments as item number six. Title I funds can be used for other activities. They have met net school spending so, therefore, Title I monies can be used for other activities, not necessarily activities that are currently being funded by it. There are other items that can be included under Race to the Top funds and Title I funds for students that need help. This was fine

back a few years ago. When this was done it was his understanding then that they would allow for administrative interns because there were schools without VPs but now all schools have a VP. “To now have administrative interns, we don’t need them and as a result I think this is money ill expended and if the money is readily available it can fund student learning and paraprofessionals and another teacher in classrooms that are really hurting. I cannot support this motion.”

A roll call showed: 5 yays 2 nays (Andrade/Martins) Motion Passed

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Costa: To place the For Your Information portion of the agenda on file.

All in favor None opposed Motion passed

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martins asked what has happened to the Exit Survey that they were supposed to have.

Superintendent said they are still putting it together and that her hope is to get it to the Committee in September.

REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Attorney Assad: “With respect to Mass General Law c30A Section 21 (a) subsections (2) and (3) for purpose of conducting strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with custodians, paraprofessionals, clerical, FREA and FRAA and non-union personnel including Dr. Fran Roy, Chief Academic Officer. We would reconvene and there may not be statements at that time.”

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To Convene in Executive Session.

A roll call showed: All in favor None Opposed Motion Approved

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To reconvene in open session.

All in favor None Opposed Motion approved

Open session resumed at 9:10 PM, with a roll call that showed all Members were present.

Mayor Flanagan asked if based on discussions in Executive Session there were any motions.

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To approve the MOA between the Fall River Educators Association and the Fall River School Committee for the Doran and Morton Schools.

All in favor None Opposed Motion approved

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To accept the contract negotiated with the custodial union July 1, 2010 through July 30, 2013 pending ratification.

All in favor

None Opposed

Motion Approved

NEW BUSINESS

#1

Mr. Maynard said that last year they had a tough time with supplies and he received a lot of calls including from City Councilors that teachers and principals were not getting their supplies. So this year he wants to be sure they can get the supply situation settled. Mr. Coogan showed him 4-5 rooms of supplies that had been ordered. He asked for the cost of those supplies.

Mr. Coogan updated the Committee that he didn't have a cost of what has been received so far this year but that typically the first load of deliveries is in the area of 40-50% of the budgeted line item for the year. He promised Mr. Maynard that once they had the new warehouse space - which was being moved from Kuss to Henry Lord - up and running, he would be able to come and look at it and invited other members as well. He added that the first load of supplies has been sent out to schools and Mr. Lewis is in business and filling orders based on principal's requests. He had gone through the supply chain with Mr. Maynard explaining that schools and departments fill in their supply order. It goes through the School Dude program to Mr. Lewis and he then picks the order and ships it to the school where it is then distributed to the individual teachers. The teachers don't order their supplies; it goes up through a single point of contact through the school and back down.

Mr. Maynard asked how many times a year supplies are ordered.

Mr. Coogan said they try to time it so that the warehouse doesn't get so full that it can't function smoothly. Usually 40% and then the remaining 60% is broken up and done every 3-4 months.

Mr. Maynard reiterated that he expects the supplies arrive on time and that teachers are not buying their supplies.

Mayor Flanagan asked Mr. Coogan if he saw anything abnormal about the procedure so far or if everything is going on scheduling.

Mr. Coogan responded no and that there is a single point of contact on either end and he is sure they can trace back any issues Mr. Maynard brings up.

Mr. Costa asked if there was a way to get a quarterly report from each point of contact regarding how many requests have been made and filled.

Mr. Coogan said they could provide that to the Committee.

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#2

Mr. Hart said he has spoken with Mr. Coogan in the past regarding the use of Durfee's fields and courts by citizens. He has been getting a lot of calls and would like to bring it up at the F&O Subcommittee to find a way to make them accessible to citizens.

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Maynard: To refer the use of recreational facilities to the F&O Subcommittee.

All in favor

None Opposed

Motion Approved

#3

Mr. Martins: Talbot Middle School was made into an Innovation Middle. He asked to have a report/agenda item next month as to what was accomplished during the course of last year and how did this collaboration work out for the improvement of students.

Mayor Flanagan asked the Superintendent if she could have an analysis of this themed school by September or if she would need more time.

Superintendent: She could target that date. Under the law, the Superintendent needs to provide an annual report to the School Committee on an innovation school. She sent the template for that report to Principal Coogan last week so the school needs to complete that together. As long as it fits their timeline and she can get it to the School Committee a week before the September meeting, she should be able to provide the information in September or at the very latest, October.

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

All in favor

none opposed

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Interim Administrative Assistant for
School Committee Services

Reviewed by:

Meg Mayo-Brown
Superintendent of Schools

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