

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FALL RIVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Monday, March 16, 2015

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. Sub-Committee 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 Scott Cabral, Network Technician; Steve Anctil, Computer Technician; Jessica Rodriguez, Family Support Specialist; Lauren Shibley, Behavior Therapist; Jennifer Mathews, School Administrative Manager; Jenna Fernandes, School Administrative Manager; Erika Dupuis, School Administrative Manager; and Tom Rose, Financial Manager.*
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 of the Regular Meeting of the Fall River School Committee
March 16, 2015**

At 6:49 PM Mayor Sutter read the Open Meeting Law and called the meeting to order.

Mayor Sutter then asked for a roll call for attendance which showed Mr. Andrade, Mr. Costa, Mr. Hart, Mr. Martins, Mr. Maynard, Mrs. Panchley and Mayor Sutter were present. Attorney Assad and Superintendent Mayo-Brown were also present.

A salute to the Flag followed.

Citizens' Input

No citizens signed up to speak this evening.

Subcommittee Reports

There were no subcommittee reports this evening.

Recognition Awards

Recognition awards were presented to the Facilities and Operations staff as well as the Silvia School staff for their efforts with snow removal and clean-up.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Mayo-Brown had nothing to report this evening.

Minutes

Mayor Sutter noted that the March 2, 2015 minutes listed on the agenda were erroneously omitted from the back-up binders and will be brought forward at the next meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To approve the Finance Subcommittee minutes as listed.

Discussion

Mr. Martins said he wanted to correct one issue on the first page so that the public is not thrown by what is said. In the last sentence "because those monies would be stripped away from Fall River Public Schools to the charter school" - charter school money is not stripped away from the host community school. Those students are not part of Fall River Public Schools and are part of the charter school and that money is given to the charter school. It does come through Fall River because the Department of Education needs to know how many Fall River students are being educated and where. Charter schools have students from other communities and as a result they too have a certain amount of charter school money that they have to account for because of their students; but it is not stripped away from the community. He thought the last sentence was ambiguous and thought it should be considered to be corrected.

There was no further discussion.

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

Addendum

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mrs. Panchley: To accept the addendum.		
<u>No Discussion</u>		
All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed

Travel Requests

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Andrade: To approve the travel.		
<u>No discussion</u>		
All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed

Superintendent Mayo-Brown asked to confirm that the travel included the two travel items on the addendum as well for the record.

Mayor Sutter agreed and asked if there was any discussion on that and there was none.

Mr. Martins asked if the addendum item for the Wiley School was intended to be part of the overall addendum approval or if there would be discussion.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown explained that the addendum was approved as it stands on its own and only the two items were incorporated into the motion for travel. The Wiley School has not come up yet and would be discussed during the discussion portion of the agenda under item number five.

Mr. Martins thanked Madame Superintendent.

There was no further discussion.

Donations

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To accept all donations as listed.		
<u>No discussion</u>		
All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed

Contracts

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mr. Hart: To accept all contracts as listed.		
<u>No discussion</u>		
All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed

Grants

MOTION: Mr. Hart – Mr. Maynard: To accept the two grants as listed.		
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Discussion

Mr. Martins said regarding the Perkins Grant stipends for \$7,500; he asked what teachers they were for and what they would be doing.

Madame Superintendent asked through the Chair that Mr. Robert Gadbois come to the podium.

Mayor Sutter asked Mr. Gadbois to come forward.

Mr. Gadbois explained that the \$7,500 is to be distributed amongst teachers to write some curriculum materials.

Mr. Martins asked for what purpose.

Mr. Gadbois explained it was to improve the curriculum.

Mr. Martins asked if they were re-writing their curriculum and Mr. Gadbois said they were.

Mr. Martins asked about the consultants for \$5,000.

Mr. Gadbois explained that was for the Coordinated Program Review and also for the new program application. Thus far they have not needed any consultants.

Mr. Martins said the Coordinated Program Review already happened and asked what else they were going to do.

Mr. Gadbois said it was for assistance for the new Environmental Science and Technology application.

Mr. Martins then questioned the travel for supervisory and instructional staff for \$11,000 and asked why they needed that amount of money for travel for the vocational programs.

Mr. Gadbois explained that over the summer an instructor or two would be attending Project Lead the Way (PLTW) training.

Mr. Martins said he supports PLTW but asked how many people would be going.

Mr. Gadbois said it was unclear but possibly two instructors.

Mr. Martins thought that was a high amount for two instructors and then questioned memberships and subscriptions for \$6,000 and asked what benefit they brought to the table.

Mr. Gadbois explained that they were software based subscriptions.

Mr. Martins asked what they would be used for.

Mr. Gadbois said the bulk of it would be in the engineering department/engineering software.

Mr. Martins asked if it was included in the \$6,000 because it was listed as memberships and subscriptions and not software.

Mr. Gadbois explained that some of the subscriptions are Cloud based now and would fall under subscriptions.

Mr. Martins said that this particular grant is dear to his heart and he finds there is a lot of money being given to stipends, consultants, travel, and subscriptions. He could understand the stipends for rewriting the curriculum and approves. He asked when the last time there was a review of the

vocational programs as far as state-of-the-art equipment and if programs such as cosmetology, carpentry, and culinary were up to current standards.

Mr. Gabois said they were and noted that there were a couple of pieces of new equipment listed for culinary arts and under notes there is a new safety slicer and fryolator coming into the program.

Mr. Martins said that Perkins money can be used much like a textbook – equipment for the vocational program which is just as important to that particular occupation to keep it up to date. He finds that every time he sees a grant, he sees stipends and consultants and wonders why they need all of the consultants. He thought the teachers that are in the program could design and run the program quite well. He yielded.

There was no further discussion on the topic.

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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Discussion Items

1. **First Read:** Policy revisions: (ADDA) Background Checks, (DJE) Bidding Requirements, (GCCD) Domestic Violence, (JH) Student Absences and Excuses, (JIC) Student Discipline, (JII) Student Complaints and Grievances, (JK) Student Conduct

Superintendent Mayo-Brown explained this was a first read on revised policies and no action was necessary on the items. The policies would be placed on the April agenda for action. School Committee members have information in their binders from the Mass Association of School Committees with proposed language changes when policies need revision and adoption. The purpose of the first read is to give Committee members an opportunity to review the material, ask any questions, or ask for revisions they may want to consider for the discussion.

MOTION: Mr. Hart – Mr. Costa: To accept the first read for the policy revisions.

Discussion

Mr. Martins said while it was a first read it does give them an opportunity to either speak positively or to recommend some corrective action. Regarding the Domestic Violence Policy; he said he supported the domestic leave, however, thought *the employer shall have the sole discretion to determine whether this leave shall be paid or unpaid* should just read unpaid. In the situation of domestic leave, they could have two separate claims and the circumstances of one could be close to the circumstances of another yet they say that one can be paid and the other can be unpaid. He did not think the policy should be subject to interpretation and should be black and white. His recommendation is that the leave be unpaid. He supports the leave but does not support it being a paid leave and should be unpaid for everyone. He recommended that for change at the April meeting.

Mayor Sutter consulted sidebar with Attorney Assad.

Mayor Sutter asked if there was a second to Mr. Martins’ motion.

Attorney Assad said they had to dispose of the first motion first.

Mayor Sutter clarified that the motion was to accept the reading and Attorney Assad agreed.

Mayor Sutter asked if there was any further discussion.

Mrs. Panchley said in the red text it does say they should seek the Attorney's advice regarding what Mr. Martins was discussing. She wondered if Attorney Assad had direction on this.

Attorney Assad said this only a first read and it says that it is the Committee's determination as to whether or not it would be paid or unpaid; sole discretion of the employer.

Mrs. Panchley thought it did talk about seeking the advice of counsel if they wanted to change the language. She asked if changing the language was something they could do.

Attorney Assad said it was.

Mr. Andrade wondered if Mr. Martins had made that in the form or a motion or if he was just voicing his opinion.

Mr. Martins said he was voicing his opinion as to this going into a second read. That is his opinion on the Domestic Violence section and something to be considered in April.

There was no further discussion.

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

Mr. Costa asked for a point of clarification if Mr. Martins was seeking to make that in the form of a motion so that when it comes back to the Committee in April it has that language reflected.

Mr. Martins said he did not make a motion; just a comment that it should be removed so that instances weren't treated differently. When it comes to a second read, that is what he interprets as the time when they either accept that recommendation or not.

Mr. Hart agreed.

Mr. Costa stated for the record that unless there was a vote of the Committee to change what they have before them, the second read is going to come back in the exact same form.

Mr. Martins said in that case he would make it in the form of a motion.

MOTION: Mr. Martins – Mrs. Panchley: That the words in the domestic violence policy "paid or" be stricken to have it read "this leave shall be unpaid". Also, "unless the employer waives requirement" should be stricken as well.

Discussion

Mayor Sutter said the way he read it was that the person seeking domestic violence leave has to first exhaust all other ways of taking time off such as vacation, personal, and sick days before they would be seeking to receive paid leave for a domestic violence incident.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said as it reads, yes.

Mayor Sutter asked if Mr. Martins had an objection to that.

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Mr. Martins said they had to exhaust all of the leave they are entitled to and then apply for domestic violence leave. They could have the time but it is not paid because one circumstance may be similar to another circumstance and one was approved and the other was not.

Mayor Sutter said they would have to exhaust all of their paid leave before they could seek domestic violence leave.

Mr. Martins responded yes; after they receive all of the leave they would normally adhere to and then apply for the domestic violence. At that point they could have the time but not paid.

Mr. Costa gave a hypothetical scenario where an employee suffers a severe injury due to domestic violence that prohibits them from returning to work for an extensive period of time; he asked if Mr. Martins felt after they have exhausted whatever time they may have, even if it fell short of what they need in order to recuperate from such an act, they can do that but they are not going to pay them. He asked if that was correct.

Mr. Martins said yes, they could do that because that is what it says; they are entitled to up to 15 days of domestic leave.

Mr. Costa said he would not support the motion. He deals with domestic violence on a daily basis and he can tell him it is prevalent in the community and unfortunately there are many individuals who suffer very traumatic injuries as a result of the domestic violence that may keep them from being employed for months. He thought it was punitive on top of the violence that they have suffered that they, as an employer, would say they could take additional time out of work but not pay them; he could not support that.

Mayor Sutter said he was new to the protocol but, based upon his experience which is similar to Mr. Costa, thought it would be very hard for a person to abuse this because even if they were feigning an injury, they still would have to exhaust all of their personal, vacation, and sick time. He thought the only way that a leave could be justified that would exhaust all of that time would be if they had a bonafide injury of the kind Mr. Costa described which unfortunately do take place in domestic violence incidents. He agreed with Mr. Costa on this.

Mr. Hart asked for a point of order if the sick leave bank could come into play as well. He agreed it was going down a path that he would not support.

Mr. Maynard agreed with Mr. Costa that as long as the employee had a doctor's note stating they are not capable of coming back to work they should be paid.

Mrs. Panchley asked for clarification; if they exhausted all their time, would they have the right to go to the sick bank just like anyone who had been in a car accident, had cancer, etc. if they had exhausted all their leave.

Mayor Sutter asked Attorney Assad.

Attorney Assad said they would have a right to apply to the sick bank at any time. It would be a vote of the individuals in control of the sick bank to approve or disapprove. It is a maximum of 15 days and although it is not a legal testament he cannot think of anything being worse than someone suffering from domestic violence as opposed to having the flu and he thought it was the reason why the policy is presented this way.

Mrs. Panchley said she was referring more to cancer than the flu...

Mr. Andrade said they have been talking about accumulated sick leave but they had to keep in mind that a newly hired person would not have accumulated much sick, personal, or vacation time.

Mayor Sutter thought that would argue even more to have the domestic violence leave paid for.

Mr. Martins agreed with what was stated about the physical violence but thought that could be seen; emotional violence can last a long time and cannot be seen. That can be disabling for that individual but cannot be viewed so may not be paid. He thought as a result they should pay all of it all the time or none of it all of the time.

Mayor Sutter asked if his point was that they are going to create a disadvantage for the person with a striking blatant physical injury in order to protect against a person with an emotional injury that is more questionable. He did not see Mr. Martins' point.

Mr. Martins said the emotional is more questionable because they can't see it.

Mayor Sutter said the problem is that they are going to be sweeping into that ambit with the person with the clear physical injury and he thought they had to protect against that.

Mr. Maynard asked for a roll call.

A roll call showed:

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

1 was in favor

6 were opposed

Motion DENIED

2. Vote to Approve: Accelerated Improvement Plan quarterly report

MOTION: Mr. Maynard – Mrs. Panchley: To approve the AIP quarterly report.

Discussion

Superintendent Mayo-Brown explained that the Accelerated Improvement Plan (AIP) is contained within the School Committee binders. At the time the Department of Education released the district from any further state monitoring or oversight, the representatives made it clear that the district was responsible for self-monitoring. The AIP lends itself to self-monitoring through a benchmarking system and along with the work that Mr. Andrade is leading in terms of evaluation and the AIP, this is complimentary to that in terms of what the district's work is and engaged with on the instructional side as well as social-emotional. She asked through the Chair for Dr. Roy to provide a brief overview of what is in the packets so they could have a discussion as needed.

Mayor Sutter asked for Dr. Roy to come forward.

Dr. Roy presented the information contained in the Committee's binders explaining that the AIP has four strategic objectives and throughout the year they have set some mid-course goals to see if they are on track so when they look at the data it helps them determine whether they are on track meeting

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the annual goals. For the academic performance piece of it they have provided some recent benchmark data which shows which of their schools are on track to meeting their annual goals and is also how they make mid-course corrections if they see there are certain schools that are not on track. They provide differentiated support to schools which is written out in strategic objective one. In strategic objective three, they have a couple of measures they use. One is an annual Conditions for Learning survey which tells them about the culture and climate of the building. She cited examples and said they are in their second year of administering that survey and have shown the results. In addition to that, other SEL indicators that they look at are the chronic attendance as well as out of school suspension data. The last strategic objective is the educator quality piece and using the ed. eval system to improve instruction as well.

Dr. Roy said she could answer any questions they may have.

Mr. Martins asked if the data sheets for benchmarks one and two were locally designed testing.

Dr. Roy said yes; they use MCAS release items so they are really a predictor of MCAS.

Mr. Martins said the next column says ELA MCAS 2014 and he had a hard time trying to understand the material and asked if it was proficiency.

Dr. Roy responded no and explained that the way they are looking at their benchmarks, they have to set a cut off. She noted it is more rigorous than MCAS but they, along with the principals, decided the student is doing okay with anything 81 or above. Their goal was to improve the percentage of kids on their internal benchmarks that are scoring 81 or above. They are looking at it more like a regular test when they are comparing to their internal benchmarks.

Mr. Martins said she has used the term proficient several times and on that very first column it says proficient 81 or above.

Dr. Roy explained they define that as a group of educators. On MCAS they could average 75 perhaps and still be proficient but they are trying to see what makes sense based on the assessment that they are giving to see who they are going to worry about. At this point they are pretty confident that kids who are scoring an 81 or above on their internal benchmarks are going to be proficient on MCAS or they are solid on their skills or standards that they are learning. Kids below that, they are going to be concerned with and want to give them the supports they need. It is a way for schools to prioritize who is doing well and who is still struggling and needs more support.

Mr. Martins asked if the first column with 81 or above was equivalent to the graph of warning, needs improvement, proficient, advanced; he asked if that was the lowest value of proficient and advanced combined.

Dr. Roy said no; it is actually a little bit more rigorous. That value changes by grade level the way MCAS does. MCAS takes a raw score and then it converts that and has different cutoffs to advanced, proficient, needs improvement, and warning and those change every year slightly.

Mr. Martins asked if she could tell him where the ELA MCAS 2014 data comes from.

Dr. Roy responded that in the security portal she can get an average of the kids scoring 81 or above. That isn't the proficiency rate but a different measure. When they look at MCAS – it is just a test – they can take an average. It is different than the proficiency.

Mr. Martins said, therefore, that data/whole column is not in there.

Dr. Roy said it was not.

Mr. Martins said he sees their goal is a 10% increase. He asked who determined that number.

Dr. Roy said they are internal benchmarks so they are looking for accelerated growth at every school. She explained that the way PPI works, each year the bar moves and each year the schools need to go to a higher level. A 10% gain within the school year is on average accelerated growth. It is not an exact calculation because there are too many factors and variables involved. If schools are shooting for accelerated growth they would expect them to grow about 10% in the number of kids that they continue to move. They are trying to use it to figure out which schools are on track, which schools continue to improve, and which schools need more support. They hope classroom teachers can tell them the same – which students are doing well and which need more support. It is a way to help them target their support to schools and to kids.

Mr. Martins asked Superintendent Mayo-Brown if they had received a response from DESE with regards to what the goal is for 2017.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said they had not.

Mr. Martins asked if they were expecting to and if there had been any communications with DESE.

Madame Superintendent said the letter was submitted but there had not been response yet from the Commissioner.

Mr. Martins said with lack of direction from the Department of Education, he can only go by what he sees as far as written goals and there is a difference of opinion between them with regards to the goal for 2017. The PPI is a measure of growth but it does not indicate the goal. If the Department of Education is going to change that, that is for them to determine but he would like to know what the rule of the game is when 2017 comes around. They are getting closer and closer to it and already doing 2015 MCAS testing.

Mayor Sutter asked about the numbers in the first column – benchmark one.

Dr. Roy it reflects the percentage of kids getting 81 or above on that given assessment.

Mayor Sutter thought it was a reflection of improvement.

Dr. Roy said no and explained that benchmark one is given in the fall but they use end of year MCAS release items. They start assessing kids on their progress on a 5th grade MCAS early in the fall. They have a whole year to get the kids ready so they take a dipstick in the fall to see where students are and differentiate their support. Then they do benchmark two and three and as he can see the numbers are improving. They just got data back from benchmark three which she will get to them. They gave last year's MCAS items and every school showed growth compared to last year. They have two schools that the growth was a little bit weak but the rest of the schools had the strongest growth in ELA that she has seen in terms of internal district benchmarking. They were actually able to compare it to the actual MCAS release items that the kids took last year. Right now the data is showing that in general all schools – two are a little bit stagnant – the kids are performing a little bit higher than they did last year. That is what the data is telling them right now and they just finished analyzing that data.

Mayor Sutter asked if the chart was an improvement chart or if it is a hard numbers chart.

Dr. Roy said it is hard numbers.

Mayor Sutter noted that benchmark one at the Letourneau School, 7.33% were proficient or above.

Dr. Roy said scored 81 or above. They can determine how they define proficient. On benchmark two they had 12% and she does not have the number for benchmark three but she knows it vastly improved. For MCAS in the elementary they do not need an 81 to be proficient; it is probably closer to 70 to be proficient. The district sets the bar higher.

Mayor Sutter assumed it was all public in some fashion.

Dr. Roy said this data is internal for teachers to use with students and families and it is to help them identify their tiered system of support for kids which are strategic object two and/or three around a tiered system. The goal is that after a benchmark, teachers take the data and really differentiate their support for kids.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown clarified that it is a little confusing because the goal for SY 2015 is 22% so it sounds like the expectation is that only 22% of the students at Letourneau will be proficient.

Dr. Roy said those are not their MCAS goals; the goal in the last benchmark that the kids take before MCAS is an internal goal and what they would like to see. If they see that then there is a very good chance that those schools will meet their PPI targets. These are not MCAS goals; those are written elsewhere. These should predict MCAS goals.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said as they look at the ELA MCAS 2014 column for Letourneau it says 12%.

Dr. Roy said that does not mean 12% were proficient or advanced and it was probably much more than that.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown thought that is where there could be some confusion. It looks very low but what they are trying to convey in the benchmarking system is somewhat of a chart for improvement because they want to see those numbers jump from benchmark one to two to three. Most importantly, this is their system to differentiate support which is really what the chart is all about. They are deploying additional resources to the schools that are flagged as off track because they know as MCAS approaches, those schools need additional support.

Mayor Sutter questioned why they would set the proficiency benchmark higher than it needs to be set. He asked if they are looking to put the school in the best light, why they would set the proficiency standard at 81 instead of what it is.

Dr. Roy said it is not about presenting the school in the best light.

Mayor Sutter thought maybe a light that is optimistic. He thought the first benchmark was a staggeringly low statistic.

Dr. Roy said that is the reality of where kids are.

Mayor Sutter thought anyone watching the meeting and looking at the numbers would be concerned.

Dr. Roy said she would agree with him on that and perhaps during this kind of meeting they may present the data in a different way. The data is for them internally and is not for the general public so it is not the best way to present data to the public. It is about them being able to differentiate their support and not necessarily presenting to the public and she apologized for that. They are monitoring themselves so that if there is a school that is not on track they can go there and the same for teachers, they can identify those kids who are not on track and provide the support.

Mayor Sutter asked her to describe the differences between on track, met target, and almost.

Dr. Roy said there is some subjectivity to it. She explained this was a December benchmark and sort of mid-year and they used end-of-year assessment items. Looking at Letourneau they are at about 51% away towards their data. They are almost there but not as strong as if they look at Viveiros where 75% have already met their goal and they are only mid-way through the data. Letourneau is improving and getting there but has a long way to go. Dr. Roy noted that it is mid-year so anything below 50%, they are off track.

Mr. Costa noted on the Grade 3 ELA they have three schools that are off track. Also, benchmark one for Tansey is 20 so they saw a jump in benchmark two which is 28 which is great because they are seeing growth.

Dr. Roy said that was correct.

Mr. Costa said Grade 3 ELA is 15 and the goal is 5.

Dr. Roy said it should have been 25 and thanked him for pointing that out.

Mr. Costa said that was good because he was wondering how their goal is 5 ...

Dr. Roy apologized and said it was 5 because in the chart he is referring to, it is warning and they want the numbers to be smaller. This is the percentage of kids in warning in Grade 3.

Mr. Costa asked if she was saying that 5 students in the warning is the goal. He understood that they were trying to reduce the number of students in warning.

Dr. Roy said that was correct and that they picked that for Grade 3 because if they are not reading at grade level by Grade 3 there is a higher likelihood that they will drop out later on. In part of their AIP, one of the measures they are looking at in their differentiated system of support is Grade 3 warning. They have been spending a lot of time focusing on that so that they can get kids to reading at grade level.

Mr. Costa said that was the number of students actual.

Dr. Roy responded percentage noting that Tansey is a small school so it can get tricky.

Mr. Costa said he was misreading it because he was looking at the two prior graphs with proficiency and then that one went to warning.

Dr. Roy said that was correct.

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Mr. Martins said she was basically using her own goals for these charts and they have their own definitions for those goals.

Dr. Roy explained that they are progress monitoring themselves. They have decided on benchmarks/targets that will help them identify who is on target to reaching their end of year PPI goals and who is not. These are predictive of end-of-year PPI goals.

Mr. Martins asked if the faculty fully understood her goals and the definitions for those goals.

Dr. Roy said their end-of-year goals are defined as the PPI targets which include CPI and she would say that every principal understands and that is communicated to the teachers through Common Planning Time.

Mr. Martins asked again if the PPI target was locally identified.

Dr. Roy said no; that was set by the state.

Mr. Martins questioned that noting that the 75 was but from last meeting they indicated a PPI of 50.

Dr. Roy asked for whom.

Mr. Martins said for her goals.

Dr. Roy disagreed and said for the majority of their schools, depending on what their annual PPI was, the target is 75 PPI.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said they had two schools that they set for 50.

Dr. Roy said that was correct; there were only two schools. It's a rate of improvement so if their PPI was 75 or above, they want them to maintain it.

Mr. Martins said that was correct. DESE has determined if your PPI is 75 or above you are making progress toward achieving your goal. He asked what the goal is.

Dr. Roy said for 2015 it is that all of their schools are on track to meeting the PPI.

Mr. Martins said the CPI target goal for that particular year.

Dr. Roy said that is a piece of the PPI formula.

Mr. Martins asked where the Durfee, Resiliency Preparatory School, and Resiliency Middle School data was.

Dr. Roy said that for RMS they sometimes don't have enough data to actually get to an average and they don't always take the same district benchmarks. They have internal benchmarks that they are using. Durfee has redesigned a lot of their assessments this year and because of that there is no comparative data. She can get them internal benchmarks from Durfee but she can't present it as a trend at this point in time.

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Mr. Martins said he is glad that Durfee is taking steps to look at where they are and where they need to be and making some changes but he questioned where they were and what they intend to achieve.

Mrs. Panchley said she thought they had talked enough about those goals but was a little stricken by the attendance. She knows how much effort the school system and the city has put into the attendance effort and she was not overly impressed with a lot of the numbers and wonder what their thoughts were on that and if there were further plans.

Dr. Roy said about 50% of their schools improved their chronically absent (students who are absent 10% or more of the school year). They have pockets of success and have a lot more consistency now but it is a work in progress. She noted that Doran is doing an incredible job going from 19.39% to 15% which is just about where Tansey and Spencer Borden are even given that there is 90% free and reduced lunch in that population. Principal Pontes is in the audience and could talk more about what they are doing. She also noted that Barbara Allard is leading the Mayor's Attendance Task Force and they keep digging a little bit deeper and try to be creative in getting kids to school. All schools are attending to it and they are trying to take the successes and learn from each other so that it is more consistent across the schools.

Mrs. Panchley didn't think they needed to hear from Principal Pontes that evening but as long as the other principals are hearing from her she is happy.

Dr. Roy said they are sharing through a variety of networks. The attendance task force has representation from all schools and they share the data at principals' meetings. They ask certain principals to share based on what they are learning from them. She noted that Watson was doing some good work as well. They will get there but she thought they need a little more time.

Mrs. Panchley said she did not mean to sound critical because she has visited some of the schools and knows how much work is going into it and that is why she was disappointed when she saw that data. It is not because she does not think people are not doing what they should be doing; but she does think they are doing it and is sad that the results aren't a little better. She hopes they will see some more improvement.

Dr. Roy agreed and thought that was why it is smart that it is a community effort because it really is a community issue not just a school issue.

Mr. Hart asked at the schools that are successful, could they articulate exactly how their making it in terms of the attendance and how that is improving. Is it the parents' involvement or is there more? What exactly is the reason?

Dr. Roy asked if they could bring up Mrs. Pontes who really has done the work and knows it better.

Mr. Hart agreed and Superintendent Mayo-Brown asked if they could invite Principal Pontes through the Chair.

Principal Pontes explained that they have done a lot of work with their attendance and had an uphill battle. Every Sunday they do a phone call home to families to report the weekly attendance average; they also instituted a walking school bus to get kids to school on time and for students who may not be coming to school because they don't have someone to walk with them. At the beginning of the school year they targeted their kids who were chronically absent and did some home visits. They do a lot of

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phone calls and conversations with parents about instilling that value of being in school and reminding parents that every single week if they are not in school they are missing out on learning.

Mr. Hart asked how long it took to get the attendance to where she wanted it which is about state average.

Principal Pontes said it is not where they want it and their goal is to be under 10% but when they were declared a level 4 they got a piece of data from the state that said they had a 53% chronic absenteeism so they have been working at it since then. Even though they were meeting their AYP at the time, they didn't realize that it was the same kids over and over again being absent and they decided to target chronic absenteeism. They meet every week and talk about it and look at it and involve their families. She also noted that their truant officer is outstanding.

Mr. Hart asked if they follow that kind of model across the district. He understands they try to do the best they can but also thought the truant officer was a key to absenteeism in the schools. He wondered if they should look at hiring more attendance officers and wondered how much they help.

Principal Pontes thought it was a team effort and knowing their kids and families and really working with them. She thought their truant officer is valuable but is only there part of the time so it is their responsibility. Every single day she is on her attendance and knows who the kids are that are out and as soon as their attendance starts creeping up, she is the one making that call because they need to be in school. They cannot do their job if the kids are not in school.

Mr. Hart thanked her for speaking. When he heard there were pockets of success he was glad she could come up and explain.

Mayor Sutter said he is intrigued by the home visits and wondered if there was any data on how many she does in a month as far as truancy.

Principal Pontes said she did not have the data with her but they do have it. They make quite a few home visits and she thinks that sometimes...

Mayor Sutter asked if it would be as many as ten in a month.

Principal Pontes said at least noting there was a month where they made 25.

Mayor Sutter thought they must be individualistic but wondered if she could generalize how they went. He assumed they phoned ahead.

Principal Pontes said not always and that sometimes if they have not heard from a student or parent in few days they will go find out what is going on and what they need. Their parents are very receptive. If she makes a phone call home she usually explains that they are concerned and want to know what they can do to support them in getting the child to school. It is just a matter of being able to communicate with the family.

Mayor Sutter asked what time of day they are made.

Principal Pontes said during the school day.

Mayor Sutter asked who makes them.

Principal Pontes said she has a parent outreach worker as well sometimes a counselor will go; whoever is available will go and it is usually two people.

Mr. Maynard asked what would happen if a child were to stay out for three weeks and they don't respond.

Principal Pontes explained they would have picked that child up/noticed before three weeks but if a child is absent for a week and they haven't heard from the parents they will call home. If they can't get in touch with them, a lot of times she will call the truant officer who will swing by the house to see what it is going on. Sometimes it is a situation where they have moved and have not notified them or there is a situation at home. It doesn't get to three weeks before they would check.

Mr. Maynard asked if they have taken any students or parents to court for absenteeism.

Principal Pontes said absolutely. It is a law that they have to be in school and the parents are very well aware and they talk about that all the time. A letter is sent home first that they are monitoring and concerned about missing school and then the parent will set up a meeting and come to the school to discuss why. If they have been sick, they will produce a doctor's note and if not they will take it from there. They have many students that they file on.

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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3. **Vote to Approve:** One-year follow-up studies

MOTION: Mr. Hart – Mr. Andrade: To approve the one-year follow up studies.

Discussion

Mr. Martins said on the local derived results it shows that the graduation rate for those students who take at least one CVTE course, the graduation rate is higher and consistently higher. In the material today looking at Durfee High School CVTE, the rate of students continuing on to post-secondary education for 2013 was 58.5% versus the state average of 54.5% and that is consistent showing in 2012 those students that took at least one CVTE program and went on to post-secondary education and remained in post-secondary education for at least 16 months after graduating from high school was 59.8% versus the state which was 58.6%. However, when they look at the students that have not taken any CVTE programs at all for 2013, of the students that went on to college 55% remained in college 16 months after graduation versus the state average of 75.1% which is considerably below state average. He reviewed the data for 2012 as well which was considerably below. He feels they need to have more CVTE programs at Durfee High School so that students see a relationship between what they are learning academically to what they might want to do upon graduation. The students who are interested in school come to school. They have high absenteeism when the classes are boring and the students do not see a relevance to what they think they want to do. He is disappointed in the rate of responses noting that over 500 calls were made - which he appreciates - but the return responses are relatively poor. He would tend to think that those that do not respond have more of a tendency of not going on to college or being in the workforce so they do not respond out of embarrassment. Those that are in college one-year after graduation or are working one year after graduation are very proud to say it. He thought the data was extremely important and the greatest piece of information they can use in monitoring where they are for the education of their students.

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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4. **Update:** Massachusetts School Building Authority application

Mayor Sutter asked that Mr. Coogan give them an update.

Mr. Coogan explained that the first step in the application process was the filing of a document called the Initial Compliance Certificate (ICC) that was submitted on time and shipped to the MSBA authority. The next step will be the building committee which is selected largely by the Mayor who is in possession of that document which will be finalized. The deadline for that is at the end of the month. Then there is also a document which is essentially a review of their operation of the high school due in mid-April and is being worked on. The key first three steps are well under way.

Mr. Andrade said he knows they are ahead of the game right now and construction of a new school would probably not take place for another two years but it may be timely to consider whether they may want to look at installing solar panels on a new high school. He understands that there is a six year payback of the cost of installing solar panels; however, if that is reimbursable at an 80% rate then they are talking about a much quicker payback plus the savings they would have on electricity over time. Some years ago, Mayor Correia had a very extensive plan for efficient energy and it has been shelved. He thought that they should be looking into.

Mr. Coogan responded that they currently have solar plants located at Talbot, Silvia and the new Morton. Those plans were not a great return the first couple of years but with the spike they have seen this year in electric rates they have been a terrific addition and supplement the electricity that they already buy from the grid. They are in operation and a great help. He is sure if the new construction goes forward at the high school they will have to pass the energy efficiency study and he thought the solar would be part of that project.

Mr. Maynard asked if they could eventually get solar panels at all their schools.

Mr. Coogan explained that would be a function of two things; one being the amount of square footage of flat space available on the roof of the building and second would be the condition of the roof that is there now and how long before it might be due for replacement.

5. **Discussion:** Recommendation to consider the use of a portion of the \$3.3M appropriation towards the opening of the Wiley School

Mr. Coogan said as they approach the budget season there has been a lot of talk about the possible rehab of the Wiley facility on North Main Street. The facility is approximately 25,000 square feet and would help with some of the issues they have such as looking for additional space within the district. The first and most prudent step for the Committee to consider would be an engineering and architectural study which would give them a really firm number on what the costs associated with bringing that building back into service would be. There are some issues, mainly the plumbing needing to be serviced due to some vandalism in the building while it has been offline. The heating system would need to be done as well as some ADA compliance issues they would face because the building was under one set of regulations when it retired and would have to be brought up to current code which would involve some expensive items such as elevators and handicap accessible ramps. While they would seem to be high cost items depending on the total cost of the project it would be something for the Committee to consider. They spoke with an architectural firm and for under \$10,000 they could get an engineering study that would give them some hard numbers to consider and then the Committee could make a more informed decision at that point.

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To approve the \$9,500 feasibility study for the Wiley School.

Discussion

Mr. Martins asked the status of Westall School.

Mr. Coogan explained the Westall School has been unresolved and the insurance company has not reached a final settlement with the city that would impact whether or not that building is brought back up to code and could be re-occupied by the school department.

Mr. Martins asked if it was already approved to be the early child center.

Mr. Coogan did not think there was any final disposition of that building settled yet.

Mr. Martins wondered what the Wiley School would be used for.

Mr. Coogan said that would be up to the Committee to decide once it came back online. The major issue is that if a building is in operation it is essentially grandfathered in to the regulations that were in place when the building came online. However, if it has been decommissioned, before it can be brought back online it needs to be brought up to current building code and some of those costs would be expensive.

Mr. Martins understood that but wondered how long the Wiley School had not been in use.

Mr. Coogan thought it had been six years and it is used as cold storage. The heating system has been disabled and the building is running on limited utilities.

Mr. Martins said he was torn and wondered if they should use the money for the Wiley School or for something else. He asked if they had any indication as to when the Westall would be available. He thought that would take some monies other than the insurance to occupy.

Mr. Coogan said that was correct in terms of some technology, furniture, staffing.

Mr. Martins felt the earlier that they could get a student into a formal education the better that that student will be with regards to going into future grades. If they can have a building that will support early childhood education as they had discussed previously, that would be money better spent because it would then help the elementary grades which would build the foundation and would help the middle and high school. He read the information from Finance Subcommittee and he thought some of what he read indicated having the Durfee Academy at the Wiley School. He wondered what the pros and cons were of such a thing and if there was room at Durfee. When they approved the Durfee Academy they indicated that there was space for it. He asked for more points of view in regards to space for the Durfee Academy and also about the Westall.

Mrs. Panchley thought until they found out exactly what is happening at Westall it would be hard to make a determination as what Mr. Martins is referring to. One of her priorities would be an early childhood education center. She thought going ahead and having the Wiley study done puts them in a position where if they find out that Westall is not going to come to fruition economically they have the Wiley as a resource. The better option would be the city coming to terms with the insurance company and they can reopen Westall and be able to service the needs that she thought many of them on the Committee would like to do; but also have the option of Wiley if they feel that is an option for the

alternative high school programming. As of right now she feels going forward with the study to see what is what with Wiley is the most prudent course of action.

Mr. Hart said that was exactly what he was going to say. It was discussed at Facilities and Operations and then at the Finance Subcommittee and he thought it was a good move to see what the costs would be for the Wiley. He thought the \$9,500 for a feasibility study would be money well spent.

Mr. Costa agreed and his hope was that it was not an either or proposition. The way he understands it is that there is still some work that needs to be done regarding the final agreement for Westall to open up but he, too, would like to see that reopen and occupied. He could support an early education type of setting there. With respect to the Wiley, he thought that rather than having the Committee appropriating funds or chase down contractors to provide a cost analysis, they have a reputable group who has done work for the district before and to have them do the study to give the Committee some concrete guidance as to what may be an option for them is a prudent way to go. It would be the full Committee that would make the decision, but there has been discussion about the Wiley opening up and potentially having the Durfee Academy in there.

He continued that it was his understanding that as it stands now, having the Durfee Academy population at the high school presents a particular set of challenges to the administration and faculty. Having it at a smaller, more contained location may be a better option. This information was received from staff at the high school. The suggestions he is getting indicate that if the Committee did have the means to reopen Wiley and use it for the Durfee Academy, it would give the high school a few more options that they don't have now in terms of servicing a very particular and challenging population. He knows the Superintendent has been meeting with the faculty along with the FREA president to try to hear the concerns of the staff and he knows that one of the concerns is trying to make the school more manageable for the faculty and adults there. Part of this would be to attempt to reutilize the Wiley in that fashion. They were not there yet and are just discussing the possible uses.

Mr. Costa said again that he thought it was a good start before they go on a path of trying to identify funding for this project to start with a feasibility study which would then present the Committee with very detailed information about the scope and costs. He would support the use of the funds for that purpose because he felt that it would be able to enlighten the Committee as to the potential costs to reoccupy that building.

Mr. Coogan pointed out that the group has done work with the district before and they promised him a very short turnaround time. His proposal is to get them on board and get some concrete numbers before the Committee so that they can make a better informed decision to see if it is an option they would like to explore or something they should move on from.

Mr. Maynard asked about the Wiley being broken into.

Mr. Coogan said it was approximately four years ago.

Mr. Maynard asked how much damage there was.

Mr. Coogan said at that time copper was at a high price so they went in and damaged the piping inside the school which caused damage to the plumbing. They do not know how extensive it is within the walls of the school. The shell of the building is okay but there is quite a bit of plumbing work that will need to be done along with the code compliance issues and they need to get a better handle on what those numbers represent.

Mr. Maynard asked if there was insurance on the building.

Mr. Coogan said they have insurance on all of their buildings but it does have a high deductible and would not cover the amount of damage done.

Mr. Martins said he wouldn't object to see how much it would cost to put the Wiley School online for whatever purpose the Committee decided. However, he would not be very supportive of expending money to rehab a building that has not been used for six or more years if the Westall is going to be made available to them within a reasonable period of time. He thought they had a much better use of funds if they apply it toward educating early childhood. He would not make a motion because he thought it would be the prerogative of the Finance Subcommittee to make some recommendations.

Mayor Sutter thought the Vice-Chair did make a motion to have the feasibility study done. He asked if there was a second.

Mr. Hart said he had seconded it.

Mayor Sutter asked if there was any further discussion.

All were in favor	None were opposed	Motion passed
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6. Report: Progress of the Committee addressing its goals

Mr. Andrade explained that the Evaluation Subcommittee met last Thursday and once again at 5:30 PM prior to this meeting and the full Committee had not had a chance to look over any of the material that was discussed. He gave a brief synopsis explaining that on Thursday they discussed the School Committee Vision Statement which was required based on the analysis of the School Committee self-evaluation. They also discussed the Superintendent's goals and the benchmarks that they would be evaluating her on so that there would be specific items that they could examine so she could be more easily evaluated. The third item was discussed that evening which was the survey also based on the School Committee self-evaluation. It was a survey to be done of faculty and staff of the Fall River Public Schools to measure a few items that came up as problem items such as respect, vision, trust, and collaboration. They felt the survey was well done by Mike Goodman and his staff in the Public Policy Center at UMass Dartmouth. They were briefed on that that evening and that will be available to the Committee of the whole next month.

He read the draft Vision Statement which was drawn up from items raised by members of the Committee in collaboration with the Superintendent. He would discuss the Vision Statement more in depth in April and noted that three of the four goals that the Superintendent had submitted for her evaluation actually reflect what the Committee had thought was important in terms of its own vision and goals

The last item was the Superintendent's evaluation and they got an assist from an ad hoc member of the subcommittee, Mrs. Panchley, who submitted some information to them prior to the meeting. They looked at the goals and the activities and tried to match it up with some tangible way of measuring how the activities had been accomplished by the Superintendent. That will talk about more in depth at the next meeting.

As an aside, based on items from the Superintendent's goals; one of the items that was included in one of the goals was to give support to the Fonseca School. The last time they discussed the Fonseca

School at the School Committee meeting it was very positive. The school had pursued an NEA grant and the teachers were very involved in petitioning the Committee for an extra half hour. Unfortunately, from what he hears they have hit a little bit of a bump which he discussed briefly with the Superintendent last week. He suggested the Superintendent take a look at what is going on there and that she may also want to involve Ms. Cusick, FREA President.

Mr. Martins asked if it was possible for Mayor Sutter to call DESE to see if they are going to respond to what the goals of 2017 are. He thought they would be more responsive to him.

Mayor Sutter said he would be happy to do that.

7. Update: Overview of the FY16 budget projections

Mr. Saunders said last week the Governor's budget was put forward. His budget is then handled by the Department of Education and they allocate the funds to the individual districts. The handout shows that the foundation budget for Fall River Public Schools is going to be \$130,963,260 which is a \$4,100,000 increase over FY15 (3.24% increase). The state's share of that has gone up from \$102,929,032 to \$105,744,811 while the state is going to put in Chapter 70 an additional \$2,800,000 for a 2.74% increase. The remaining monies would have to come out of the city and they are looking at a 1.3% increase on the city side to hit the foundation budget of \$130,963,260. The foundation budget's calculation is enclosed in their binders. The history of the foundation budget and required contributions are also included in the handout as well as the cherry sheet numbers that would back into the \$130,963,260. The Chapter 70 is the update. On March 19, the Finance Subcommittee would start reviewing the individual schools and the proposed FY16 budget.

Mr. Martins asked if that was the minimum school spending (\$130M).

Mr. Saunders said that was correct.

Mr. Martins said that is what is required by law.

Mr. Saunders responded that that is the requirement by law.

Mr. Martins asked what the budget is that the school department would be asking for.

Mr. Saunders said that there is going to be a booklet handed out and they are looking right now at a \$101,700,000 budget for the school department. That number would also include some transportation but that would be from last year to this year.

Mr. Martins said that transportation is not part of net school spending.

Mr. Saunders said it is not but it is included in their budget so when they get into the budget handout there will be an actual calculation of what their operating budget is, the adjustments, and then there will also be adjustments made for their charter schools to get down to the request in relationship to the total net school spending number.

Mr. Martins said what he is seeking is they have the minimum school spending of almost \$131M which includes Chapter 70 aide and the local contribution.

Mr. Saunders said that was correct.

Mr. Martins asked what the school department’s operating budget towards net school spending was.

Mr. Saunders said he would have to go back to the sheet which he did not have in front of him. He did know the Committee would be getting their budget books that evening and that calculation is in it.

Mr. Martins said in the past they have looked at level service budget versus a net school spending budget...

Mr. Saunders said he thinks what happens is that they have been trying to keep it at a level service and in relationship they also know the city’s finances is their level services to try to sit within the net school spending number. They have not been above net school spending. They went through that process last year and do know there is an issue in the current year with net school spending and when they get into FY16 it will probably be the third year of this kind of financial stress. Their proposed budget might be marginally (less than \$1M) above net school spending. The responsible budget that they are always trying to get is to provide level service and stay within the net school spending knowing the city’s financial obligations.

Mr. Martins thought \$1M was a significant figure.

Mr. Saunders said it would be less than 1%. They have not proposed a budget that has been over 101% in a long time.

Mr. Martins said one of the things he has heard over quite a few years he has been on the Committee is that they will hope for the next year to be a financially better year and it goes on and on and unfortunately it isn’t what they hoped for. He felt they needed to look at the grants and how they are expended and how they can support the faculty in teaching and having direct face-to-face instruction or interaction with students and for the staffing based on the needs of the students in the classroom. If the classroom needs to have two teachers then that is what it should be and they can find ways to fund it by utilizing some of the grants once they have met net school spending.

8. Vote to Approve: The addition of \$2,000,000 into object code 53200 and \$188,000 into object code 584800

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mrs. Panchley: The addition of \$2,000,000 into object code 53200 and \$188,000 into object code 584800.

No Discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

9. Vote to Approve: February’s monthly expense report

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Andrade: To approve February’s monthly expense report.

No Discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

For Your Information

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Hart: To place the FYI portion of the agenda on file.

No Discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

New Business

Mr. Costa asked that they take new business before Executive Session.

Mayor Sutter agreed.

Mr. Costa said this past Wednesday, March 11th he had the opportunity to sit on a steering committee for the Fall River Youth Violence Prevention Task Force along with Ms. Marcia Picard. That group is chaired by Michaela Gagne-Hetzler and Christian McCloskey, the Youth Services Coordinator for the City of Fall River. Beginning the week of March 23 through March 27 it is the National Youth Violence Prevention Week and it was asked of him and he suggested he would bring it to the Committee’s attention to take a vote to be in support of a proclamation that proclaims March 23-March 27 National Youth Violence Prevention Week in the City of Fall River. He will also be forwarding to the Superintendent some information and ask for her cooperation in disseminating it to principals for their morning announcements to make students aware that March 23-March 27 is National Youth Violence Prevention Week and also draw their attention to some events that may be occurring throughout the city in conjunction with it.

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Maynard: That the Committee go on record to declare March 23 through March 27 in recognition of National Youth Violence Prevention Week in the City of Fall River.

No Discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion approved

New Business

Mr. Maynard asked Mayor Sutter how long the South End Fire Station would be closed for.

Mayor Sutter thought approximately one month but he was not entirely sure.

Mr. Maynard said he received calls from parents wanting to know if their children are safe in school. There are four schools in the South End including the Henry Lord which is almost on the Rhode Island line. He went to the fire station and saw the floor was caving in and needs new plumbing. He was told it would be done within 30 days. He was hoping after that time line it would be open because a rumor is going around that they want to keep it closed.

Mayor Sutter explained that that was not exclusively his decision and there are two separate issues. One being how long it would take for the repairs to be done and he heard the same as Mr. Maynard which was approximately one month and the second issue is the staffing. He noted the fire department is substantially over its overtime budget and a document was released that day by the transition team which discusses the needs for all department heads to stay within the budgets that are allotted to them at the start of the fiscal year. This is an ongoing issue. He thought there would be a better forum to debate it. Right now they have the station closed for repairs and when it reopens they can discuss staffing issues in the fire department.

Mr. Maynard said he would appreciate it if it is reopened after the 30 days as the parents are upset about it.

Mayor Sutter understood and thought it would be an opportunity to close the discussion on this issue by saying it is clear from the document released that day that the city has been living beyond its means and there will have to be changes made and those changes will be the subject of debate over the next few months before the FY16 budget is due.

New Business

Mr. Martins said in a few days the Parent Academy meeting will be taking place at BCC and he had previously asked – that is the cost of \$40,000+ dollars – while he supports the concept of the academy he had asked what the projected operational costs would be. He thought it was a good issue; however, it is only a good issue if it is financially feasible to make it work. He asked for some information with regards to just how much it is intended to cost, is it going to require a director, an assistant director, staffing of some form such as clerical, etc. It is more than \$40,000+ and he would like to know the actual cost of it to determine if it is something they can really afford. He put that as a request of the administration to provide the information.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown explained that the Committee had voted and approved the contract for School and Main Institute to assist with the development of parent academies. In their budget book that they will receive that evening they will note that they have not requested any additional staff to support the academies. She believed he raised the question at the March 2nd meeting and she had indicated at that point they are not coming forward asking for any additional staff to support the parent academies. She thanked him for the reminder that the Parent Academy scheduled for the last week of March they are going to need to reschedule because they are in conflict with MCAS administration since they are taking advantage of the Commissioner’s offer to extend. They will be getting that notification out to the Committee with a change in date.

Mr. Martins asked if she was telling him that there would be no additional costs other than the \$40,000 that they already approved.

Madame Superintendent said she has not put in a request through the budget process to increase staff for parent engagement.

Mr. Martins said whether the money comes from grants or budget the Committee is in control of all finances.

Superintendent Mayo-Brown said she did not dispute that. The beauty of the School and Main consultants that they are hiring is that it is organically grown within the community. It is taking an assessment of the resources that are already in the community and schools working on this and pulling it all together. She hears his concerns and is not seeking additional funds beyond the \$40,000 which she said at the last meeting it is very unlikely they would even spend that this fiscal year giving the timing of it all.

There was no further new business.

Mayor Sutter asked Attorney Assad if there was a need for executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Attorney Assad said there was a need for executive session and cited the following:

“In accordance with Chapter 30a, section 21a, 2 and 3 to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for all litigation or grievances, as well as negotiations with custodians, paraprofessionals, clerical, FREA and FRAA as the Chairman has determined that an open session may have a detrimental impact on the bargaining and litigating position of the Committee and to conduct strategy with respective non-union personnel including Scott Cabral, Network Technician; Steve Anctil, Computer Technician; Jessica

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Rodriguez, Family Support Specialist; Lauren Shibley, Behavior Therapist; Jennifer Mathews, School Administrative Manager; Jenna Fernandes, School Administrative Manager; Erika Dupuis, School Administrative Manager; and Tom Rose, Financial Manager.”

MOTION: Mr. Hart – Mr. Maynard: To convene in Executive Session.

No Discussion

A roll call showed:

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

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion approved 9:08 PM

At 10:36 PM the Committee reconvened. A roll call for attendance showed all members were present.

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mrs. Panchley: To accept the contract between Scott Cabral, Network Technician, as negotiated with the Fall River School Committee.

No Discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion approved

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Andrade: To accept the contract as negotiated between Steven Anttil, Computer Technician, and the Fall River Public Schools.

No Discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion approved

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mrs. Panchley: To approve the contract as negotiated between Lauren Shibley, Behavioral Therapist, with the Fall River School Committee.

No Discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion approved

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Andrade: To approve the contract as negotiated between Jennifer Mathews, School Administrative Manager, with the Fall River Public Schools.

No Discussion

A roll call showed:

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

6 were in favor

1 was opposed

Motion approved

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mr. Maynard: To approve the contract between Erika Dupuis, School Administrative Manager, with the Fall River School Committee as negotiated.

No Discussion

A roll call showed:

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

6 were in favor

1 was opposed

Motion approved

MOTION: Mr. Costa – Mrs. Panchley: To adjourn.

No discussion

All were in favor

None were opposed

Motion passed

The meeting adjourned at 10:38 PM

Respectfully submitted,



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 Administrative Assistant for School Committee Services.