

FAYETTE SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, June 20, 2019 - 6:30 P.M. - FCS Library

Meeting Minutes

1. **Call To Order** – Chairlady Wilcox called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
 - 1.1 Pledge of Allegiance
 - 1.2 Roll Call – Present: Elaine Wilcox, Matt Charland, Diane Polky and Rachael Holland. Others present: Nancy Cronin, Nicole Bamford, Tara Blue, Crystal Rose, Elaine Swimm and Joe Mattos
2. **Additions/Changes to the Agenda**
 - 2.1 Supt. Mattos requested that the Executive Session for discussion of employment assignment be moved up in the agenda in place of Old Business. All agreed with request.
3. **Consideration of the Minutes**
 - 3.1 Approve the minutes of the May 9, 2019 regular meeting
Motion: Diane Polky Second: Matt Charland Vote: 4-0
4. **Communications/Public Comments**
 - 4.1 Supt. Mattos asked Nancy Cronin to briefly present her ideas for providing support and stability for future leadership for the Fayette School Department. Nancy briefly discussed some ideas as “starting points” for future discussion regarding how best to support leadership (school committee, supt, and principal) which will provide stability and continuity for future educational programming. Nancy stated there research that encourages small schools to create systems for supporting school leadership. Elaine stated that this topic will be on the agenda for the July school committee meeting when all five members of the school committee will be in attendance.
5. **Reports**
 - 5.1 Superintendent’s Report – Supt. Mattos informed the school committee of two staff resignations: Laura Church, as Music Instructor and Laura Lawrence, as the Pre-K Ed Tech II.
 - 5.2 Principal’s Report – Tara Blue reviewed her written Principal’s Report which included her summer work schedule, Playground Committee info, Staff Professional Development, future work, and status of staffing and vacant positions being advertised.
6. **Old Business**
 - 6.1 None
7. **Execution Session**
 - 7.1 Motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) to discuss employment assignment (6:48 pm)
Motion: Diane Polky Second: Rachael Holland Vote: 4-0
Exited Executive Session at 7:08 pm
No actions taken by school committee.
8. **New Business**
 - 8.1 *Review/Take Action on 2018/19 Fayette School Comm. Goals.* Supt Mattos distributed a copy of the 18/19 Goals which the school committee adopted in September 2018. He stated that it is important these goals be reviewed as to the progress that has been made to achieve the outcomes of these goals. Based on this progress, new goals would established for 19/20 as per school department policy. Supt. Mattos provided a few examples of work and/or activities that had been completed for each goal. Supt. Mattos requested that in the next two weeks each school committee member forward to him via email their comments as to the progress made for each goal. Supt Mattos will compile all comments, which will be reviewed at the July 11 school committee meeting.
 - 8.2 *Take Action on Revised Job Descriptions for Fayette School Dept. Bookkeeper and Admin. Assistant.* Supt. Mattos distributed copies of updated job descriptions for the positions of Administrative Assistant and Business Manager. Supt Mattos explained the process for updating these job descriptions, which began with Melody Jenkins (FCS Admin Assistant) and Crystal Rose (Business Manager) reviewing and editing the current job descriptions for their respective positions. Supt. Mattos requested that school committee members review these job descriptions and forward to him any questions, edits, additions, etc. He will present these revised job descriptions for approval at July 11 school committee meeting. In the

meantime, Supt. Mattos will work with Tara to complete written performance evaluations for these two positions.

- 8.3 *Take Action on 2019/20 Contract for Services with RSU 38.* Supt. Mattos explained that he recently received a copy of a proposed 19/20 Services Contract with RSU 38 for the following services: Technology, Special Education, Transportation, and the Food Nutrition Program. This contract contained different terms and costs as compared to the 18/19 Service Contract. These terms were also different than the terms discussed and agreed on in March and April when the Fayette school budget was being developed. Supt. Mattos provided copies of the proposed 19/20 Service Contract, the 18/19 Service Contract, and a chart comparing these two contracts and highlighting the increased costs and different services that changed based on the 18/19 contract. Supt. Mattos stated that he had met with the RSU 38 Supt. in mid-May, who informed him that changes would be made in the 19/20 contract, which would be different from the terms and costs previously discussed and agreed upon in March/April. In a follow-up email, Supt. Mattos told the RSU Supt that he realized contracts and costs need to be updated from time to time, but the timing of sending this proposal to Fayette in June was of concern since the Fayette school budget had been approved by the school committee on May 9 and the Town would be voting on the school warrant articles on June 15.

Questions and concerns raised by school committee members included:

- What prompted this significant change in terms and costs for the RSU 38 Service contract?
- What systems need to be put in place for managing the hourly work rates for Special Education services?
- Why did the costs for technology increase by almost \$12,000, a 66% increase?
- When does this service contract start? July 1, 2019?
- Are these new terms and costs negotiable?

The school committee asked that this contract not be signed until there were further discussions with RSU 38 to clarify cost and systems for monitoring expenditures associated with the service contract.

- 8.4 *Take Action on MSBA Resolution in Opposition to LD 240 (Negotiation of Educational Policies).* Supt. Mattos distributed a copy of a Resolution prepared by the Maine School Management Association in opposition to LD 240 An Act to Allow Public Employers of Teachers to Negotiate Regarding Educational Policies. He explained that the Maine legislature had recently voted to pass this bill. Nancy Cronin and others mentioned that Governor Mills has vetoed this bill and the legislature did not have enough votes to overturn the veto. No action was taken by the school committee.
- 8.5 *Discuss/Take Action on results from June 15 Fayette Town Meeting regarding approval of school warrant articles.* There was brief discussion regarding the approval of all school warrant articles. The school committee was pleased that all warrant articles were passed by a large margin of voters, even for the few warrant articles (School and System Administrations) that were debated. Supt. Mattos will follow up and provide MDOE with the information needed to join the Regional Service Center.
- 8.6 *Notification of Hiring of School Personnel.* Supt. Mattos stated that the Fayette School Department will be hiring Joshua Bickford as the Music Instructor to replace Laura Church. Principal Blue provided background information about Mr. Bickford's teaching experience.

9. **School Committee Comments**

- 9.1 Several school committee members made comments.

10. **Executive Session**

- 10.1 To enter into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D) to discuss contract negotiations with the Fayette Education Association (8:10 pm)
Motion: Rachael Holland Second: Diane Polky Vote: 4-0
Exited Executive Session at 8:25
No actions taken by school committee.

11. **Adjournment**

Without objection, Chairlady Wilcox declared the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Next regular monthly School Comm. meeting, **Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Fayette Central School library.

Respectfully submitted

Joe Mattos, Superintendent

Any individual, who needs special accommodations to enter the building or assistance to attend this public meeting, must contact the Superintendent's Office at least five (5) days in advance of the meeting. (A.D.A.)

Upcoming Events: