

APPROVED



Foxborough Regional Charter School

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time

Friday March 27, 2020 at 9:00 AM

Location

Virtual

Board meetings are open to the public. Members of the audience who wish to address the board may do so during the "Privilege of the Floor" portion of the monthly Board meeting. Forms for Privilege of Floor, for items other than those on the agenda, must be submitted by noon the day before the Board meeting in order to be heard during the meeting. Forms may be obtained from and submitted to the school's central office.

Trustees Present

Badawi Dweik (remote), Kathleen Crawford (remote), Matthew Yezukevich (remote), Reem Ozone (remote), Sergio Martin (remote), Susanna Girard (remote)

Trustees Absent

None

Trustees who left before the meeting adjourned

Badawi Dweik

Guests Present

Annie Azarloza (remote), Ben Dyer (remote), Christiana Benson (remote), Heidi Berkowitz (remote), Karen Calvert (remote), Kayla Leary (remote), Krisan Pope (remote), Lori Obenchain

(remote), Mark Logan (remote), Mary Quinlan, Matt Harrington (remote), Mike Cournoyer (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

The meeting was opened remotely and confirmed that all voting members were able to hear the meeting as well as be heard.

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Kathleen Crawford called a meeting of the board of trustees of Foxborough Regional Charter School to order on Friday Mar 27, 2020 at 9:31 AM.

II. Awards, Honors, and Recognitions

A. Thank you to Administration, school leadership and Staff

Both Mark Logan and Kathleen Crawford thanked the administration and school leaders for all of their hard work over the past few weeks as we adjust to the impact of COVID-19 on our community. The full board appreciated their patience and dedication to the students.

III. Committees

A. Enrollment

Nothing to report

B. Facility

The school has ~800 laptops that can be loaned to students & staff.

The board requested the administration look into the cost of purchasing/leasing additional laptops for student use to support in a virtual learning style in case COVID-19 or a new flu impacts the US next winter.

C. Finance

FY2021 BUDGET

We had developed a strong preliminary draft that included all department requests and numerous revenue and expense assumptions. This preliminary draft resulted in over a \$1.1M deficit. Throughout the past few weeks, we have revised dozens of accounts (purchasing using current year budgets, identifying lower cost options, and reducing/eliminating several items). We now present a draft budget with a deficit of \$167,299.

This budget represents a serious effort of evaluating the current year, the number of new students we enrolled, their diverse needs, and the needs of our staff. The draft FY21 budget reflects programmatic and staffing adjustments to support our teachers and students.

Highlights:

1. Enrollment projection is 1,660.

- Current enrollment is 1,638.

2. Per pupil projection is \$14,854.

- DESE projection o Deputy Commissioner indicates this the expected minimum.

3. 4% average salary increase

- This remains a priority to keep starting and existing salaries competitive.
- Each 1% increase is approximately \$134,147.29.

4. Health insurance had a decrease in rates yet we report a budget increase due to:

- FRCS is increasing their contribution to 70%.
- Reducing the employee contribution to 30%.
- Budget includes anticipated new hires.

5. We plan to re-focus on food service cost.

- We believe there is a cost savings available my implementing tighter controls on ordering and service.
- We plan on partnering with 3rd part consultants to do a comprehensive review and improvement plan to streamline our food service operations.

6. We plan to focus on exterior improvements campus-wide

- Replace fencing surrounding campus with upgraded product.
- Begin retrofitting main campus drive with granite curbing and new asphalt
- Slightly increase landscape budget to continue to improve aesthetics

7. We plan to focus on cleanliness and modernization in ES & MS:

- Begin replacing all carpet in ES hallways and classrooms with laminate tile
- Repairing ES bathroom plumbing and modernizing bathrooms
- Modernize ES elevator to accommodate for SWD students
- Removing remaining fabric walls in MS and replacing with drywall

8. Continue to modernize physical plant by better managing energy usage for heating, cooling and lighting – yielding cost savings and being more environmentally responsible.

9. As we continue to ensure we have programming, staffing, and a structure to support the evolving needs of our student population.

- Teaching & Learning Increase FTE by 8: Special Education (3.5), English Language Learners (1), High School (2), District (2), Elementary School (.5).
- An additional middle school substantially separate classroom will help us service two very different groups of students, currently in the same classroom. We have students with significant behavior challenges together with students who are lower cognitively, but without behavior challenges. It is challenging to meet the very different needs of these students if they are in one classroom. This will allow us to better meet the needs of all current students and continue to prepare for ES students who will transition to MS over the next few years.
- We currently have approximately 130 ELs enrolled in our district. Trends over the past few years indicate that this number continues to rise. The passing of the LOOK (Language Opportunity for Our Kids) has begun to put more regulations around ELE in schools. In order to remain in compliance with regulations, analyze our programmatic strengths and needs, and provide PD/coaching for our ESL teachers we need a director that with ELE knowledge and expertise on staff.
- Since June of 2019, the SLP caseload has gone from 58 hours of direct service per week to 73 hours of direct service per week according to service delivery times on IEPs. The current caseload is 88 students across the district (this is an increase of 19% since June of 2019). 28 out of 30 students in our substantially separate programs alone have speech services on their IEPs (services occur multiple times a week). Along with direct services, our SLPs also provide RTI services in K, conduct assessments, write reports and IEPs, and attend IEP meetings.
- See below and the attached for a list of positions/justifications.

Location	Position	FTE	Type	Annual
Salary (\$)				
DISTRICT	Speech	0.5	*	30,000
DISTRICT	Curriculum Specialist	1.0	New	75,000
ELEMENTARY	Nurse	0.5	New	35,000
ELE	Assistant Director	1.0	New	75,000
DISTRICT	BCBA Assistant	1.0	New	45,000
MIDDLE	SPED Teacher	1.0	New	60,000
HIGH	Science Teacher	1.0	New	50,000
HIGH	Spanish Teacher	1.0	New	50,000
DISTRICT	Dir. of School Climate & Culture	1.0	New	100,000

*Increase – current position is .5 FTE change to 1.0 FTE

In addition to the above, we need to fill positions that were not filled this year:

- 3 ESL Teachers (2 in ES; 1 in MS)
- 1 SPED Teacher (ES)
- MS Principal

Apart from our proposed additional FTEs, we have increased a few line items in our Teaching & Learning budget. For example, we:

- Increased our HS guidance budget from \$2k to \$12k in order for our College and Career Readiness Center to provide more services to our students in an effort to prepare them for life beyond high school.
- Increase MS resources. We are working with our MS math consultants, our MS Math Instructional Coach, and our MS STEM teachers to secure rigorous instructional materials aligned with MA standards that will support our push in providing students with real world learning experiences so that they are better able to apply their skills and think critically, as well as problem solve independently.

Matthew Yezukevich made a motion to secure the FY2021 Health Insurance bid by Tuff's Healthplan as submitted.

Badawi Dweik seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was recorded

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Susanna Girard Aye

Kathleen Crawford Aye

Matthew Yezukevich Aye

Reem Ozone Aye

Badawi Dweik Aye

Sergio Martin Aye

We are looking into transitioning the Extended Day program from being managed by the school to the Foxborough YMCA. These discussions have been on-going for a few years now. They would be able to offer a more robust program including using the YMCA facilities for some of the fitness programs. Families would contract with the YMCA directly instead of through the school although we would have the majority of the student programs on FRCS grounds. One staff member at FRCS would be identified as the liaison to the YMCA for this program.

It should be noted that Mark Logan does sit on the Managing Board at the Foxborough YMCA and been working with the state on all the appropriate disclosures.

Although the YMCA is a non-profit organization we will need to confirm with our bonds that this will not negatively impact them.

D. Foxborough Regional Charter School Foundation

Nothing to report

E. Governance

The school is moving to using BoardOnTrack to help manage / organize the Board of Trustees and various committees. It is being worked on by Susanna Girard and Kathleen Crawford. Kathleen shared with the staff that they should consider it as a low priority for them to have any need to utilize it's features at this time.

IV. Leadership Report

A. IT Status

SAN Equipment

An updated proposal was submitted by Hub Tech on March 13, 2020.

- The purchase price is \$307,414
- Lease to own price is \$342,705 (60 months)
- Lease & return price is \$332.877 (60 months)

The interest rate on the lease options were both 4.36%. We also received clarification on the terms of a lease. There would be no cancellation of the lease mid way through.

There was discussion on the price of the item and the current purchase price as well as the interest rate being higher than we would have liked to have seen given the world economic issues that are unfolding. The board recognizes we need this equipment as part of our strategy to protect the school's technology infrastructure and data from future hackers.

Susanna Girard made a motion to purchase the SAN from Hub Tech for up to \$307,414 with a request that the school obtain a newer bid from Hub Tech prior to purchasing.

Sergio Martin seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was recorded

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Kathleen Crawford Aye

Matthew Yezukevich Aye

Reem Ozone Aye

Susanna Girard Aye

Sergio Martin Aye

Badawi Dweik Aye

V. Community Reports

A. Partners In Education (PIE) Report

Nothing to report

B. English Learner Parent Advisory Committee (ELPAC) Report

Nothing to report

C. Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) Report

Nothing to report

VI. Old Business

A. Approval of Minutes: December 10, 2019

B. Approval of Minutes:January 14, 2020

Reem Ozone made a motion to approve the minutes as amended.

Sergio Martin seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was recorded

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Sergio Martin Aye

Matthew Yezukevich Aye

Susanna Girard Aye

Badawi Dweik Aye

Reem Ozone Aye

Kathleen Crawford Aye

C. Approval of Minutes: February 11, 2020

Matthew Yezukevich made a motion to approve the minutes as amended.

Susanna Girard seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was recorded

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Badawi Dweik Aye

Reem Ozone Aye

Matthew Yezukevich Aye

Sergio Martin Aye

Kathleen Crawford Aye

Susanna Girard Aye

D. Approval of Minutes: March 10, 2020

Reem Ozone made a motion to approve the minutes as ammended.

Sergio Martin seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was recorded

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Susanna Girard Aye

Matthew Yezukevich Abstain

Badawi Dweik Aye

Reem Ozone Aye

Sergio Martin Aye

Kathleen Crawford Aye

Badawi Dweik left.

VII. Items for the next Meeting

A. Items for the next Meeting

1. Discuss the purchase/lease of Additional Laptops for the school
2. Principal's summary of FY2021 budget requests
3. Update on Remote learning
4. Approval of the December 10, 2019 Meeting minutes
5. Vote on transportation costs for FY2021
6. Vote on the average salary increase for FY2021

VIII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susanna Girard

The motion to adjourn was made by Matthew Yezukevich and seconded by Reem Ozone which passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The listed matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.