



City of Franklin
316 Central Street
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Committee: Mayoral Committee on Designing Franklin's Education for the 21st Century

Meeting Date: September 20, 2018

Location: City Hall (Blue Room) 316 Central St, Franklin, NH

Members:

Chair: Jo Brown, City Council

Chris Kneeland, School Board

Sandra Burney, Retired Teacher/Administrator, Merrimack Valley/Hopkinton School Districts

Carol Hodgdon, Retired Teacher, Franklin High School

Present:

Jo Brown

Carol Hodgdon

Sandra Burney

Chris Kneeland

Agenda:

- Approve Minutes of August 10 Meeting
- Public Comments
- Discussion of Colby -Sawyer Mentoring Opportunity
- Extended Learning Opportunity Visit to Hinsdale NH
- Moving Forward-Next Steps
 - o Consolidation of Operations between City and SAU
- Adjourn

Public Comment:

There was discussion about Youth Government Day and that there should be more involvement from the students. In years past there has been good participation – it was stressed that this is a good program for the participating students. There was also discussion about what can be done to help make our students proud to be in the Franklin schools and that maybe if students had more projects to work on, this might help instill some pride. Another issue was the status of the school bathrooms as the start of school – why were they not fixed over the summer. A subsequent follow up with the school board determined that the toilets had been fixed and that

vandalism was part of the problem. A suggestion was made to move the school board meeting to different schools each month but the handicapped access at the Middle School made it, in the school boards' opinion, the best location for their meeting on the third Monday of each month. There continues to be interest in reviving the culinary arts program that, in essence, was a catering business out of the high school cafeteria. This was mentioned to the school board in a city council meeting but funding still remains an issue. The program ended due to the loss of funding. However, there are some culinary programs available at the school and at the HUOT Center, so at least the skills are still being taught.

It was brought up that an after-school music program was no longer available due to the loss of \$1000 of funding. The DFE committee followed up on this and was able to secure \$1000 from a private donor who had contacted the City Manager with the donation. The City Council approved release of the \$1000 to the school and the Middle School is working out the details. There was also discussion about the upcoming LEAN process that all the City departments, the City Council and the School will be undergoing in the coming months. It is hoped that there will be opportunities to consolidate and possibly free up needed funding for school priorities.

Discussion of Colby-Sawyer Mentoring Opportunity:

Professor Jen White from Colby-Sawyer College met with the Superintendent on Oct 16 to discuss intern and learning opportunities for all of our high school students. The hope is to have some students visit the campus yet this semester and look at some of the majors offered and then possibly set up internships in the spring semester.

Extended Learning Opportunity Visit to Hinsdale NH:

Sandra Burney and Jo Brown from DFE and Jule Finley from FHS visited with Karen Thompson. The ELO Coordinator at Hinsdale Middle/High School. It was a very good visit as Ms. Thompson provided a roadmap on how the program developed at Hinsdale. She and 2 of her students will be visiting Franklin November 29 to participate in a Designing Franklin's Education program that will be at the Opera House from 9-3.

Moving Forward-Next Steps/ Consolidation of Operations between City and SAU:

As part of moving forward, the committee reviewed the list of comments received from various populations over the past several months. As the school will be looked at as part of the city-wide LEAN process improvement process, many of the actions, such as consolidation, will likely be addressed as part of the process. The excel list has been annotated with comments.

Committee Action:

Last month we talked about how the committee must begin to prioritize areas where measurable improvements can begin to be seriously studied by the appropriate staffs. I believe the DFE committee has a good feel for the concerns of the public based on our meetings and other input. Now we need to take those concerns and put together a plan to begin to design our 21st Century Education in Franklin. Two committee members did meet with the ELO Coordinator at

Hinsdale Middle and High School have invited them to present a discussion on their program at a Designing Franklin Education presentation on Thursday Nov 29 from 9-3 at the Franklin Opera House. The DFE committee will be working with the High School on developing some Extended Learning Opportunities specifically focusing on Manufacturing. The DFE Committee will also be providing a mid-year status report at the Nov 29 meeting.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Our next meeting will be October 18, 2018 at Bessie Rowell Community Center Meeting Room at 6:00 pm. All future meetings are planned to be the third Thursday of each month.

Respectfully submitted Jo Brown, Chair

See Atch Spreadsheet of Comments

All future meetings will be public meetings posted by the City Manager's office.