FAYETTE SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, November 8, 2018 - 6:30 P.M. - FCS Library

Meeting Minutes

1. **Call To Order –** Chairlady Wilcox called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
   1.1 Pledge of Allegiance
   1.2 Roll Call – Elaine Wilcox, Tammy Maxwell and Matt Charland present - Diane Polky and Rachael Holland absent

2. **Additions/Changes to the Agenda:** None

3. **Consideration of the Minutes**
   3.1 Approve the minutes of the October 11, 2018 meeting
   Motion T. Maxwell Second M. Charland Vote 3/0
   With the revision under 6.1 Motion, "to have the beams and bug removed before winter".

4. **Communications/Public Comments:**
   4.1 Heather Peel, parent and community member, and Brian and Bailey Smith, non-resident parents of a Pre-K student, expressed concern over the Fayette Sch. Comm.'s decision at their October 11, 2018 meeting to establish a daily rate of $25.00/day for a non-resident Pre-K student to attend the FCS Pre-K program. Specifically, their concerns were based on their belief that this rate should have been established prior to the school year and not two months into the school year, and that this rate was considerably higher than the $5./day rate that had been charged in the past for non-resident students.

   Fayette Sch. Comm. Member, Tammy Maxwell, stated that the establishment of a daily rate was discussed and approved as Policy IDA (Pre-K Program), in June, 2018. This information about the daily rate was communicated to all parents requesting enrollment of non-resident students into the Pre-K program.

   Supt. Mattos stated that the daily tuition rate was supposed to be established at the September 13, 2018 Fayette Sch. Comm. mtg. but was postponed to the October, 2018 mtg. in order to compile more information on tuition rates. At the October Fayette Sch. Comm. meeting Supt. Mattos presented information regarding daily tuition rates for K-8 students and childcare centers. These rates ranged from $60./day to $28./day. The $25. daily rate was deemed to be a fair amount.

   Community member, Joel Swimm voiced concern that a $25./day tuition rate was fair in respect to tuition rates the Fayette community pays for tuition students to attend other schools. He stated that community members are concerned that we are subsidizing and/or paying for the education of non-resident students. Since Fayette is a minimum subsidy receiver, it is critical that there is reciprocal fairness in tuition amounts.

   Brian and Bailey Smith also stated that they had received a signed Supt. Transfer Agreement in mid-September signed by Supt. Mattos allowing their daughter to attend the Pre-K program without paying tuition. Supt. Mattos explained that he did not sign this document but that the school secretary had mistakenly approved it and stamped with the superintendent's signature stamp and mailed to the Smith family. Supt. Mattos stated he was unaware of this stamped Supt.'s Transfer Agreement document. He was made aware of this document via a October 29, 2018 email from Brian Smith, at which time he expressed concerns about the unfairness of the tuition change and in implementing Policy IDA. Supt. Mattos stated that this stamped document is not a valid or legal document since he did not approve it.

   Supt. Mattos recommended that due to the delay and confusion in establishing the tuition rate for non-resident Pre-K students as per Policy IDA, the school administration would delay implementing the tuition rate until November 8, 2018, the last day of the first trimester. The Fayette Sch. Comm. approved that motion 3-0.

5. **Reports**
   5.1 Superintendent's Report –
   - Supt. Mattos reported that he recently attended the MSMA Fall Conference and offered notes and handouts to the Sch. Comm. regarding the clinics he attended at the conference.
   - He recommended that a board member attend the Collective Bargaining for School Board Members program coming up on November 30th.

- Supt. Mattos reported that there would be a State visit of our Food Service site on Dec. 19, 2018. We will need to work on two policies prior to the audit: 1) Wellness program and, 2) a solution for those who don't pay their lunch bills.
- We also had a situation that created the need to search a backpack to look for stolen materials, so we will need to look at the policy regarding searches, as well as review our student bus transportation policies. The Policy Comm. should meet before the end of November so that any policy changes will be ready for a 1st reading at the December, 2018 mtg.
- Supt. Mattos reported that we did hire a guidance counselor, and he offered a bio on Heidi Lachance, our new counselor.
- Prin. Blue offered that she is very pleased with our new guidance counselor and she is already making strides in the needs of guidance for our students.

Joel Swimm, community member, offered that when the guidance internship is completed, he thinks the Sch. Comm. and staff should look at hiring a guidance counselor for a full day per week.
Prin. Blue and Supt. Mattos noted that they plan to keep records and assess the need for a full day guidance counselor over the course of this SY for that purpose.

- Supt. Mattos reviewed the MSMA safety report regarding the playground, reiterating that we need to remove the wood beams and remove the bug prior to winter. The bug was removed and moved to the Town Office by town worker, P Wheeler. He suggested that we could keep it at the town office. Somehow there was a misunderstanding that the school was getting rid of it, so it ended up at the Baptist Church. Supt. Mattos noted that it will be transported it back to the school and put it in an area where the students cannot access it for safety purposes. In the spring, determination will be made as to where it will finally be placed. The Sch. Comm. agreed to bring it back to the school.

5.2 Principal's Report - Prin. Blue gave an overview of her Blue Bulletin.

6. **Old Business - None**

7. **New Business**

7.1 Review and Take Action on the Comprehensive Needs Assessment – Supt. Mattos gave an overview of the process that has taken place to create the assessment.

7.2 To enter into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D) to discuss labor contract negotiations
Motion T. Maxwell Second M. Charland Vote 3/0

8. **School Committee Comments**

9. **Adjournment**

Without objection, Chairlady Wilcox declared the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Next regular monthly School Comm. meeting, **Thursday, December 13, 2018 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:

Monday -Tuesday, November 19-20th – Parent-Teacher Conferences (after school, evening)
Wednesday, November 21st – Comp Day – No School
Thursday-Friday, November 22nd – 23rd – Thanksgiving Recess
Friday, December 7th – ER Day
Monday, December 24 – Tuesday, January 1st Christmas Break