

1 **FRAMINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**
2 **Nevins Conference Room – Memorial Building – May 7, 2015**
3

4 **Present**

5 Beverly Hugo, Chair
6 Heather Connolly, Vice Chair
7 Don Taggart III, Clerk
8 Michelle Brosnahan
9 Jim Kelly
10 Jim Stockless
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12 **Absent**

13 Dr. Eric Silverman
14 Dr. Stacy Scott, Superintendent
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16 **Also Present**

17 Dr. Ed Gotgart, Chief Operating Officer
18 Richard Weader, Chair, Standing Committee on Education
19 Tricia Simeone, Administrative Assistant
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21 **AGENDA**

- 22 I. Discussion of FY'16 Budget
23 II. Adjournment
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26 **ACTION**

27 The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Beverly Hugo convened the School
28 Committee with six members present. Ms. Hugo reviewed the items on the agenda for this
29 evening. She stated that tonight is a result of two meetings between the SC executive board
30 (Ms. Connolly, Ms. Hugo and Mr. Taggart), the Board of Selectmen (Mr. Sisitsky and Mr. Bower),
31 the Finance Committee (Betty Funk), the Standing Committee on Ways and Means (Harold
32 Geller and Audrey Hall), the Superintendent, Town Manager, Town Chief Financial Officer, and
33 the School's Chief Operating Officer.
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35 **I. DISCUSSION OF FY'16 BUDGET**

36 Ms. Hugo said that the Town CFO originally proposed an FY'16 budget of \$114.9M and the
37 school proposed \$116.5M. At the meeting on Monday, May 4, 2015 the Board of Selectmen
38 asked the SC to meet between the two numbers. Ms. Connolly said that they also discussed
39 Chapter 70 funding and scheduling a monthly financial summit.
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41 Ms. Hugo read a memorandum from Bob Halpin, Town Manager, which states that the Town is
42 recommending an FY'16 school budget of \$115,731,953. The letter continued, "The School
43 Committee would be expected to adopt the same recommendation and to actively support it at
44 town meeting". Ms. Hugo said this is \$900K less than what they asked for and Mr. Taggart
45 added that it is between the two originally proposed numbers. (A copy of the memorandum is
46 on file in the School Committee office with the records of this meeting.)
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48 Mr. Stockless said that if they accept, they need a caveat which states that any additional funds
49 awarded as a result of Chapter 70 funding will be used in the CFO's baseline moving forward.
50 Dr. Gotgart agreed with Mr. Stockless and said they were shorted this year, as it was not added
51 to the base. Dr. Gotgart noted that last year's budget was set prior to the state setting theirs
52 and the town is looking to recapture the money they spent.

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54 Dr. Gotgart said they need to revisit the state budget in the fall and if they are awarded
55 additional Chapter 70 money, the first \$420K will go to the Town and anything additional will be
56 added to the school's base. Ms. Brosnahan said that these additional funds are traditionally
57 split 60/40 and Ms. Hugo said the town cannot promise anything as it goes through Town
58 Meeting. Ms. Connolly said they will recommend that the Town support sending the full
59 monies to the school. Dr. Gotgart recommended that they invite Senator Spilka to the fall town
60 meeting so she can speak up and say that the money is intended for the schools.

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62 Dr. Gotgart said that between October 1, 2014 and May 1, 2015 they added 152 new students,
63 half of whom was language learners, and one third was SPED. Mr. Kelly said he supported the
64 idea of monthly summits. Mr. Kelly asked if anything will be left over for this FY and Dr. Gotgart
65 said he doubts it but anything will be carried over for SPED as no other line items can be carried
66 over.

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68 **MOTION: Moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Taggart that the Framingham**
69 **School Committee accepts the proposed FY'16 school budget of \$115,731,953 with the**
70 **understanding that any received funds will be added to the base of the FY'16 budget,**
71 **with the exception of the first \$420K of any net increase in Education Aid. It is also**
72 **agreed that both the School Committee and the Town/Board of Selectmen would**
73 **adopt the above and actively support it at Town Meeting, including opposing efforts**
74 **to decrease it by amendment. Discussion: None. Vote: Ms. Brosnahan, Ms. Connolly,**
75 **Ms. Hugo, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Stockless and Mr. Taggart voted in favor; 6-0-0.**

76
77 Ms. Brosnahan asked about the budget summit and if they are going to include a list of
78 employees that left and came, and look at titles of line items to make sure they are correct.
79 Ms. Connolly said that this will be a part of it. Dr. Gotgart said they will come up with a joint
80 agreement for how the meetings will be run. Ms. Hugo said the summits will be held in the
81 Board Room at the Perini building. Ms. Hugo said they expect the FY16 to be voted on
82 Thursday, May 14, 2015.

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84 **II. ADJOURNMENT**

85 The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn.

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87 **MOTION: Moved by Ms. Connolly and seconded by Mr. Stockless that the School**
88 **Committee adjourn the meeting. Discussion: None. Vote: Ms. Brosnahan, Ms.**
89 **Connolly, Ms. Hugo, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Stockless and Mr. Taggart voted in favor; 6-0-0.**

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91 The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

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93 *These minutes were approved, with amendments, by the Framingham School Committee at the*
94 *Special Meeting of May 12, 2015.*

96 *A copy of the minutes was forwarded to the Office of the Town Clerk on May 13, 2015.*

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98 **MEETING DOCUMENTS**

99 Memorandum from Bob Halpin, Town Manager