

**DRAFT**



**Teaching and Learning Subcommittee  
Remote  
May 17, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m.  
Open Meeting Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Beverly Hugo (Chair), Priscila Sousa, Tiffanie Maskell, Scott Wadland

**ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education Amy Bright, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education Anne Ludes, Framingham Principal Carolyn Banach, Framingham High School Department Heads Cheryl Flaherty, Cynthia Villanueva, Glenda Espinoza, Matthew Corcoran, Mary Fitterer, Michael Foley, Peter Eliot, Peter Erbland, Ellen Makynen, and Erin Powers, Executive Assistant to the School Committee Joanna Hastry

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Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. She noted all in attendance and said that the meeting was being held remotely, was being broadcast live on Facebook, and was also being recorded.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Update of Back-to-School Plan-Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education Amy Bright and Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education Anne Ludes

Ms. Bright and Ms. Ludes shared a presentation on Return to In-Person Learning with the return by the numbers and broken down by elementary, middle and high school, additional information, and key reminders. Mr. Wadland asked if there was as much variation with the amount of students returning to in-person learning in other levels as there was in elementary schools, and asked if there was a known reason for the variation within the elementary schools, as it seems that there may be some geographical trending. Ms. Ludes said that it was pretty consistent across the middle schools, generally 24%, and in the High School the variance was mostly seen in the Thayer Campus for students who have found success learning remotely and opted to continue doing so. Ms. Bright said that it is pretty evenly spread out in the elementary schools with up to 8 students in a given classroom who remained remote, and the reasons varied on why they opted to stay remote. She said that they are looking at trends on a regular basis, working with Principals, and checking in families who opted to remain remote.

Framingham High School Curriculum Review with Equity Lens

Framingham Principal Carolyn Banach and Department Heads Cheryl Flaherty, Cynthia Villanueva, Glenda Espinoza, Matthew Corcoran, Mary Fitterer, Michael Foley, Peter Eliot, Peter

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Erbland, Ellen Makynen, and Erin Powers shared a presentation on Curriculum through the lens of Racial Equity with information from the English Department, Mathematics Department, History and Social Studies Department, Physical Education and Health Department, Science Department, World Languages Department, Family and Consumer Science Department, information on the encouragement of community and embracing of diversity, the Fine and Performing Arts Department, and the Technology/Engineering Department.

Ms. Sousa asked if there was any effort or area within the curriculum within history classes for an emphasis on the countries students are coming from, and asked if there is any training for teachers who may take offense when students are speaking to each other in another language, as that is not creating an environment that is honoring students' cultures and languages. Ms. Powers said that they have a focus on various places throughout the world in World History, and are making it less Eurocentric such as by focusing on Latin America and Asia, and are renewing the focus in Africa by less of a focus on imperialism and instead more on the achievements of people from Africa. She said they are making a concerted effort and this is a work in progress. Ms. Villanueva said that in her classrooms students are encouraged to speak in both languages, it could be frustrating for monolingual teachers but there is an English Language Coach who speaks about sensitivity and how to approach those types of things. Members spoke in appreciation of the length of tenure for most of the department heads, the importance of the work, and being intentional in the work. Mr. Wadland said that he had a question regarding selecting shows within the Fine and Performing Art Department as there was a cancelled production of Fame due to concerns of cultural appropriation, and if in the future there are concerns about limits on choices of performances if trying to match ethnically or racially.

### Review of Goals

Discussion if the review of the goals should be from the Rules and Administration Report or the School Committee Goals of 2020-2021, with the decision to continue the discussion on this topic at the next meeting.

### Approval of Minutes of February 1, 2021

The Chair noted that there was one correction to be made to add Ms. Sousa in a roll call vote.

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of February 1, 2021.

**Moved:** Ms. Sousa                      **Seconded:** Mr. Wadland                      **Roll Call Vote:** Unanimous (4-0-0)  
(Yes: Hugo, Wadland, Sousa, Maskell)

### Adjournment

The next meeting was decided to be held on June 14th from 5:00-6:45 p.m.

**Motion:** To adjourn.

**Moved:** Mr. Wadland                      **Seconded:** Ms. Maskell                      **Roll Call Vote:** Unanimous (4-0-0)  
(Yes: Hugo, Wadland, Sousa, Maskell)

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

### Meeting Materials

Agenda

Return to In-Person Learning Presentation

FHS Curriculum Racial Equity Lens Presentation

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