

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL
NEW JERSEY 08868
Board of Education

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
March 26, 2012

A G E N D A

I. Call to Order : 8:00

Open Public Meeting Announcement

"In accordance with requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notices have been given of tonight's meeting in area newspapers, which include the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Express-Times and posted on the bulletin board by the main office of the Franklin Township School, sent to the Township Clerk, and to all Board of Education members on May 9, 2011.

II. Roll Call - Dr. Carol Fredericks, SBA/BS

J. Foran, <i>V. Pres.</i>	<u>absent</u>	G. Burdick	x	C. Crielly	x
C. Ewing	x	K. Lundgren	x	R. Masino	x
T. Schultz	<u>absent</u>	K. Weiss	<u>absent</u>	C. Piparo, <i>Pres.</i>	x

A quorum was established.

III. Flag Salute- Attendees present saluted the flag.

Comments on Budget:

Mr. Dahan approved the emphasis on the academics of the district.

Mr. Sharp asked if the retiring teacher will be replaced? Dr. Davis responded that right now, yes; If we find that we can do internally what we want, we may make some other changes.

Board comments:

Mr. Burdick asked if the i-pad 3s go home? A: The board would have to develop a Policy.

The action items from the budget presentation were moved to the agenda for approval, as follows:

VI. Budget Resolutions

- A. **RESOLVED**, that the Franklin Township School District Board of Education, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey approves the 2012-2013 school district budget as follows:

General Fund	\$ 5,354,938
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 105,400
Debt Service Fund	\$ 658,747

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there should be raised for the General Fund \$5,027,551 and Debt Service \$658,747 for the ensuing School Year (2012-2013); and

WHEREAS, the district has a taxing authority which is composed of \$26,230, cap adjustment for health benefits available to the district for the school budget for 2012-2013 in addition to the 2% cap increase over the prior year which totals \$98,065 resulting in a maximum district tax levy available of \$5,027,551.

WHEREAS, the Board has approved that there should be raised for the General Fund a tax levy of \$5,027,551 for the ensuing School Year (2012-2013).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Franklin Township School District Board of Education, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey approves that the unused taxing authority of \$26,230 be used in the 2012-2013 years.

J. Foran, <i>V. Pres.</i>	<u>abs</u>	G. Burdick	<u>x</u>	C. Crielly	<u>x</u>
C. Ewing	<u>x</u>	K. Lundgren	<u>x</u>	R. Masino	<u>x</u>
T. Schultz	<u>abs</u>	K. Weiss	<u>abs</u>	C. Piparo, <i>Pres.</i>	<u>x</u>

Motion: Ewing/Second: Burdick. Motion carried 6-0-0.

B. **WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A:5.2 (a) mandates boards to establish annually prior to budget preparation, for public relations and each type of professional service a maximum level of spending for the ensuing school year; and

WHEREAS, the tentative budget includes the following appropriations

Legal	\$39,700
Accounting	\$16,000
Prof Development	\$ 4,000

WHEREAS, the Administration needs to notice the board if there arises a need to exceed said maximums. Upon which the board may adopt a dollar increase in the maximum amount through formal board action; and

WHEREAS, the Board and Administration wishes to minimize the amount of paperwork involved in this area;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Franklin Township School District Board of Education, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey establishes maximums for professional development in the areas listed above at a level of 120% of the amounts listed for the 2012-2013 school year.

J. Foran, <i>V. Pres.</i>	<u>abs</u>	G. Burdick	<u>x</u>	C. Crielly	<u>x</u>
C. Ewing	<u>x</u>	K. Lundgren	<u>x</u>	R. Masino	<u>x</u>
T. Schultz	<u>abs</u>	K. Weiss	<u>abs</u>	C. Piparo, <i>Pres.</i>	<u>x</u>

Motion: Ewing/Second: Masino. Motion carried 6-0-0-.

IV. Presentation - Curriculum Update Current/Future - Sophia Van Ess (handout)

Mrs. Van Ess discussed the Study Island program in detail, and introduced the new “Raz Kids” program which is a home-school intervention. With Raz Kids, parents can monitor student progress, and letters will be going home to alert parents to the new software improvements.

NJ ASK testing will be during the week of April 16 and make-ups the week of April 23, 2012. We are using data driven instruction to prepare for testing throughout the year. We will review new programs which utilize technology to determine if all programs are valuable to our children.

Next year we will be extending our instructional periods into block scheduling for middle school, to lessen the interruptions to learning.

Technology may be utilized to expand enrichment programs or may be used for remediation.

We plan to articulate the transition to high school with the Voorhees Regional district staff. One of the programs the HS has offered to us is their Accellus program for remediation and acceleration.

V. Presentation - School Funding - Frank Yasunas, parent and community member, presented his research on state aid. Some of his concerns addressed property taxes, home valuations, and student enrollment. His presentation encouraged the district to promote all of the positive achievement in the district.

- Board Discussion - Follow-up to Presentation: Mr. Piparo commented that we can use information to market the positive aspects of the district.

VI. Executive Session

Adopt the Following Resolution

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED *by the Franklin Township Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4 -13 and 10:4 -12 that said public body hold a closed session on Monday, March 26, 2012 for the purpose construction contracts. It is expected that the results of the discussion undertaken in closed session will be made public at the time official action is taken. Estimated time is 30 minutes.*

Motion: Crielly/ Second: Masino. By voice vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to return to regular session: Ewing/Second: Crielly. By voice vote, all in favor. Motion carried.9:30 p.m.

VII. Resolved, to return to Open Public Session at 9:30.

Motion to return to regular session: Ewing/Second: Crielly. By voice vote, all in favor. Motion carried.9:30 p.m.

VIII. Acting Superintendent’s Report –

A. Informational/Discussion Items:

1. Construction Update - Dr. Davis/Dr. Fredericks. Our project is not over expended at this point, but we have not closed out all final invoices. The Fund 30 reports require account expenditure redistributions to accurately reflect Fund 30 status.
2. PTA Update - Vivian Paulter
 - Education, community, and cultural arts committee is planning gallery night and auction in June and raffle and tricky tray.
 - A committee has been put together for the 5k run.
 - Gertrude Hawk raised \$1100.
 - The Book fair was held during a busy time, so it will likely be moved to the fall for next year.
 - Beautification committee has had a cleanup last Saturday.
 - Most committees are filled for next year.
 - The nominating committee will announce the officers for 2 years at the next meeting.
 - The PTA budget presentation will be Wednesday April 18th at 7:00, by Dr. Fredericks and Dr. Davis.
3. Enrollment- Dr. Davis reported that enrollment is stabilized at 303. (gold enclosure)
4. Future Board Meeting Dates –Annual Reappointment meeting will be April 23, the April 2 meeting is cancelled.

Dr. Davis stressed that all budget initiatives are about kids, kids, kids. He mentioned that another initiative will be to create grade level curriculum brochures for new families and choice students.

Dr. Davis wants to focus upon providing information to all community members.

Dr. Davis is looking at the cost of special education to plan for restructuring the special programs. One of the strategies will be to plan on creating new programs and bringing children back. We must keep the focus on moving forward. Dr. Davis questioned the wisdom of having CST support members off all summer, and he felt some cost savings can be realized.

IX. Resolved, to approve the following minutes:

- February 25, 2012 - Special Meeting
- March 12, 2012 - Regular Meeting
- March 12, 2012 - Executive Session
- March 15, 2012 - Special Meeting

(cherry enclosures)

Moved : Crielly/Second: Ewing

By voice vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

X. Public Comments - Privilege of the Floor (3 minutes)

All comments should be directed to the board president. The Board will not respond to complaints from and to school personnel unless the chain of command has been followed, without satisfaction. Furthermore, the Board cannot respond to any complaints from the public directed at any district employee or student, as the Board must protect each employee and each student's right to privacy.

Those wishing to share comments during this portion of the meeting are asked to state their name and address. Each speaker will be given three minutes.
None at this time.

XI. Subcommittee Updates

- A. Negotiations- discussions continue, to be updated in executive session.
- B. Policy-no update

Mr. Piparo, felt that the building use policy might be revisited to address religious organizations. Mr. Masino felt that Policy might be able to be delegated to the Superintendent. The Administration was directed to review the use policy.

- C. Finance—we will request a meeting after spring break.

XII. Correspondence

- North Hunterdon - Voorhees Regional High School (blue enclosure)
- Mr. Piparo read that Dr. Davis' exemption from residency requirement was approved. There is no time limitation on the exemption.

XIII. Consent Agenda

The matters listed below have been referred to the Board for reading and studying and are to be considered routine. They will be enacted with one motion. If separate discussion is desired, an item may be removed by Board assent.

A. BUSINESS

1. SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORTS

Secretary/Treasurer's Reports submitted for the months ending February, 2012, which agree with each other and the bank, be approved and filed.

(white enclosure)

2. FINANCIAL REPORTS CERTIFICATION

Approve the following resolution:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3(c)3, the Board Secretary certifies that no line account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10(a) and; pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3(c)4, we certify that as of February 29, 2012, after review of the monthly report (appropriation section) and upon consultation with the appropriate officials, to the best of our knowledge no major line account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the entire fiscal year. FUND 30 is not certified, and has been pulled from the report.

3. TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Approve the transfer of uncommitted funds within the 2011-2012 school year budget as per the attached list.

(white enclosure)

- 4. **Approve** the March 2012 bill list in the amount of \$610,252.17, which includes \$0.00 out of the capital projects account.

(white enclosure)

B. EDUCATION

1. **Approve** the following field trips:

- Grade 6, Camp Bernie, May 31 & June 1, 2012
- Grade 2, Green Meadows Native Lands, June 6, 2012 (rain date 6/7/12)
- Grade 3, Franklin Institute, April 25, 2012

(green enclosure)

C. PERSONNEL

No consent items

D. FACILITIES

1. **Approve** the following use of facility applications:

- Franklin Township Recreation, Summer Program, July 16 - 27, 2012, New APR, 3 Classrooms, Gym, Fields, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.
- Cherryville Baptist Church, Softball Field, Mondays and Thursdays, 6-8 p.m.
- Cub Scouts, New APR, Pack Meeting, April 20, 2012 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

(purple enclosures)

E. Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, Dr. Broadus Davis, to approve the above stated consent agenda items.

J. Foran, <i>V. Pres.</i>	<u>abs</u>	G. Burdick	<u>yes w ex</u>	C. Crielly	<u>x</u>
C. Ewing	<u>x</u>	K. Lundgren	<u>x</u>	R. Masino	<u>x</u>
T. Schultz	<u>abs</u>	K. Weiss	<u>abs</u>	C. Piparo, <i>Pres.</i>	<u>x</u>

Yes with the exception of A3 and A4, Burdick.

Motion: Ewing/Second: Crielly. Motion Carried, 6-0-0, with the exception of A3 and A4, 5-0-1.

XIV. Discussion & Action Agenda

A. FACILITIES

No Action Items

B. BUSINESS

No Action Items

C. TRANSPORTATION

No Action Items

D. POLICY

No Action Items

E. OTHER MATTERS

F. NEW BUSINESS—Ms. Lundgren requested a presentation of the i-pad 3 and technology on the 23rd. Ms. Lundgren will be resigning as of April 23; the board will need to advertise for the vacancy.

XV. Board Matters--

- A. Bethlehem/Franklin Alliance—the public forum was held. We have asked for written opinion on the best way to share the BA position.
- B. We need to discuss the Superintendent moving forward and the BA contract proposal.
- C. We need to develop more of a strategic plan. Since the re-org plan is changed, we need to develop a more formalized plan. By the next agenda, we will plan to have an item on the agenda for a new meeting schedule.
- D. We can invite the reporter to the April meeting.

XVI. Personnel

No action items

XVII. Public Comments- Privilege of the Floor (3 minutes)

All comments should be directed to the board president. The Board will not respond to complaints from and to school personnel unless the chain of command has been followed, without satisfaction. Furthermore, the Board cannot respond to any complaints from the public directed at any district employee or student, as the Board must protect each employee and each student's right to privacy.

Those wishing to share comments during this portion of the meeting are asked to state their name and address. Each speaker will be given three minutes.

Mrs. Paulter would like to have a PTA welcome package for all new families, and asked if the administration will present to the PTA membership on April 18, 2012 at 7 p.m. The Administration responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Sharp asked if out-of-district SE students may be required to come back. Dr. Davis informed her that is not necessarily the case.

Mr. Connor felt the budget was worthwhile. He felt that the data was reflective of a declining enrollment trend, and felt that another demographic study is warranted.

XVIII. 2nd Executive Session

Adopt the Following Resolution

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED *by the Franklin Township Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4 -13 and 10:4 -12 that said public body hold a closed session on Monday, March 26, 2012 for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations with the QEA. It is expected that the results of the discussion undertaken in closed session will be made public at the time official action is taken. Estimated time 10:05-10:30.*

Motion: Masino/Second: Burdick. By voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

XIX. Resolved, to return to Open Public Session at 10:32.

There being a lack of quorum, due to recusal of 2 members, board members adjourned to regular session.

XX. Resolved, to Adjourn from the Public Meeting at 10:33 p.m.

There being a lack of quorum, due to recusal of 2 members, board members adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Witnessed,

Carol A. Fredericks
Board Secretary/Interim Business Administrator

Mr. Chris Piparo
Board President