

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL
NEW JERSEY 08868
Board of Education
REGULAR MEETING (Virtual)

January 19, 2021 - 6:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order – Mrs. Sutton, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Open Public Meeting Announcement

Pursuant to Executive Order #103, dated March 9, 2020, Governor Murphy declared a Public Health Emergency and a State of Emergency in New Jersey. On March 20, 2020, P.L. 2020 Chapter 11 amended the Open Public Meeting Act to allow local public bodies to conduct Remote Public Meetings by use of electronic communications technology during a period declared as a Public Health Emergency or a State of Emergency.

Adequate Notice and Electronic Notice of this meeting was given by:

1. Publication in the Hunterdon Democrat on January 14, 2021;
2. Advance written notice to the Franklin Township Clerk;
3. Advance written notice posted on the bulletin board of the Franklin Township School;
4. Posting of an electronic notice of this meeting on the district website which provided the time, date and instructions for: (a) access to the Remote Public Meeting, (b) how to provide public comment and (c) how to access the agenda.

During the business session portion of this Remote Public Meeting the audio of all members of the public attending the meeting will be muted. During the times of public comment indicated on the agenda, members of the public who desire to provide comment shall submit a written comment via the chat or text message section of the application. The Board Secretary or Board President will read the comments in the order in which they were submitted. Public comment shall be concise and to the point and shall not contain abusive, defamatory, or obscene language.

1.01 Roll Call – Patricia Martucci, SBA/BS, determined that a quorum was present.

Present: Mrs. Evans, Mr. Falcon, Mrs. Luciano, Mrs. Sutton, Mrs. Tomasini, Mr. Yasunas

Absent: Mr. Cama

Also Present: Mr. Diaz, Superintendent, Ms. Martucci, SBA/BS

1.02 Flag Salute – Mrs. Sutton led all assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Presentation - School Re Opening Plan – Mr. Diaz

An update was given on the following items:

- Bringing additional students back
- Intramural Sports (Spring Season)
- Inclement Weather Survey Results

3. Minutes

3.01 December 21, 2020 – Regular Meeting

Resolved, to approve the above listed minutes.

Motion Luciano Second Evans By Voice Vote

| Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----|----|---------|--------|
| 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

4. **Business Administrator Report - Patricia Martucci**

- SSO Breakfast/Lunch Program
- Budget Calendar / Meeting Schedule

5. **Superintendent's Report - Nicholas Diaz**

5.01 Restart and Recovery: School Reopening Plan

5.02 Security and Fire Drills 2020-2021

| Type of Drill | Date |
|---|-------------------------|
| Fire Drills | September 15 & 17, 2020 |
| Security Drill (Testing of Intercom) | September 22 & 24, 2020 |
| Fire Drills | October 5 & 9, 2020 |
| Security Drill (Lockout) | October 8 & 23, 2020 |
| Security Drill (Evacuation) | October 26, 2020 |
| Security Drill (Testing of Notification System) | November 13, 2020 |
| Security Drill (Shelter in Place) | December 8, 2020 |
| Security Drill (Lockout) | December 11, 2020 |
| Fire Drill | December 14, 2020 |
| Fire Drill | December 19, 2020 |
| Fire Drill | January 11, 2021 |
| Fire Drill | January 14, 2021 |

6. **Comments and Discussion on School Reopening Plan**

6.01 Public Comments - Privilege of the Floor (3 minutes)

There were questions from parents regarding the update on the reopening plan.

6.02 Board Comments & Discussion

The Board discussed bringing all of the students back in increments starting with grade 5. Mr. Falcon suggested bringing students back all at once. There was further discussion on having all students return in February.

6.04 **Motion** to revise the reopening plan to bring all students (K-8) back with a 1:00 p.m. dismissal as soon as possible.

Motion by: Evans

Seconded by: Falcon

Roll Call Vote:

| Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|---------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Mrs. Evans | X | | | |
| Mr. Falcon | X | | | |
| Mrs. Luciano | X | | | |
| Mrs. Sutton | X | | | |
| Mrs. Tomasini | | | X | |
| Mr. Yasunas | | | X | |
| Mr. Cama | | | | X |
| Totals: | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 |

7. **Correspondence** – nothing at this time.

8. **Subcommittee Discussion and Action Items**
All resolutions are upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

8.01 **Ad Hoc** (Board Goals, Supt Goals/Personnel)/**Strategic Plan** – Mr. Cama, Mrs. Luciano, Mr. Yasunas –
The committee did not meet.

8.02 **Facilities and Finance** - Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Sutton, Mrs. Tomasini – The committee met on 1/14/21.
Resolved to approve items 8.02.1 - 8.02.4:

8.02.1 CAFR and Corrective Action Plan

WHEREAS, the Franklin Township Board of Education has been presented the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 as prepared by Bedard, Kurowicki & Co., CPA's, PC; and

WHEREAS, a corrective action plan is not required as there are no audit recommendations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Franklin Township Board of Education, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that the Fiscal Year 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report is accepted, and may be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education.

8.02.2 Special Education Tuition Contract Agreement - Franklin Township (Warren County)

Resolved to approve a Special Education Tuition Contract Agreement between the Franklin Township Board of Education in Warren County (Sending) and the Franklin Township Board of Education in Hunterdon County (Receiving) for Student #9583918576 for the 2020-2021 school year at an estimated annual tuition rate of \$34,600.00, prorated from January 19, 2021 through June 11, 2021.

8.02.3 Aid-In-Lieu Payments 2020-2021

Whereas, when children do not attend their local public school, many school districts in New Jersey partially reimburse parents/guardians for their transportation costs. The reimbursement is \$1,000 per child, per school year for aid in lieu of transportation; and

Whereas, on June 17, 2020 Governor Murphy issued Executive Order #103 (2020), adopting an emergency temporary rule modification of the rules governing payments made in lieu of school transportation aid at N.J.A.C. 6A:27-2.1 and 3-4; and

Whereas, the \$1,000 transportation reimbursement is calculated on a 180 day in-person school year; and

Whereas, the 2020-2021 school year saw many public and non-public schools have all virtual instruction and/or a reduced number of in-person instruction days;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, the Franklin Township Board of Education hereby approves a reduction in the amount of aid-in-lieu reimbursements to reflect payment of \$5.56 per day for only those scheduled cohort in-person instruction days for the 2020-2021 school year.

8.02.4 2021 Meeting Schedule - Revised

Whereas, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of NJ (1975) known as, and hereinafter designated as, the "Open Public Meetings Act" requires notification of meetings of public bodies, as therein defined, in the manner herein set forth, and

Whereas, that for purposes of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the Board of Education of Franklin Township School hereby makes the following designations:

Notices of meetings shall be posted on the bulletin board in the main entrance of the school, sent to the Township Clerk, and posted on the district website.

Now Therefore Be it Resolved, to approve the annual board meeting calendar as follows:

The regular monthly meetings of the Franklin Township Board of Education in Hunterdon County will be held at 6:30 p.m. on the following dates, unless otherwise noted. Meetings will be held in the Media Center/Library at Franklin Township School located at 226 Quakertown Road, Quakertown, NJ 08868, or via Zoom.

- January 19, 2021
- February 08, 2021
- March 15, 2021
- April 27, 2021 (Tuesday 6:00 p.m.)
- May 17, 2021
- June 21, 2021
- July 19, 2021
- August 23, 2021
- September 20, 2021
- October 18, 2021
- November 22, 2021
- January 4, 2022 (Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.)

Motion by: Evans Seconded by: Luciano

Roll Call Vote:

| Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|---------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Mrs. Evans | X | | | |
| Mr. Falcon | X | | | |
| Mrs. Luciano | X | | | |
| Mrs. Sutton | X | | | |
| Mrs. Tomasini | X | | | |
| Mr. Yasunas | X | | | |
| Mr. Cama | | | | X |
| Totals: | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

8.03 **Curriculum & Education** – Mr. Falcon, Mrs. Luciano, Mrs. Tomasini – The committee did not meet.

8.03.1 Gifted and Talented Program

Resolved, to approve the Gifted and Talented program and criteria for identifying eligible students.

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|----------|---------|--------------|------------------|
| Motion Luciano | Second Evans | By Voice Vote | Yes 6 | No 0 | Abstain 0 | Absent 1 (CC) |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|----------|---------|--------------|------------------|

8.04 **Policy** - Mrs. Evans, Mr. Falcon, Mrs. Tomasini – The committee met on 1/13/21.

8.04.1 **Resolved**, to approve the following regulation:

6146.2 Promotion and Retention

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|----------|---------|--------------|------------------|
| Motion Luciano | Second Evans | By Voice Vote | Yes 6 | No 0 | Abstain 0 | Absent 1 (CC) |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|----------|---------|--------------|------------------|

8.04.2 **Resolved**, to approve the first reading of the following policy:

4119.24/4219.24 Staff/Volunteer Conduct with Students

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------|---------|--------------|------------------|
| Motion Evans | Second Luciano | By Voice Vote | Yes 6 | No 0 | Abstain 0 | Absent 1 (CC) |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------|---------|--------------|------------------|

8.05 **Negotiations** - Mr. Cama, Mrs. Sutton, Mr. Yasunas – The committee did not meet.

9. **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.

9.01 **Budget and Finance**

9.01.1 Secretary/Treasurer’s Report

Approve the Secretary/Treasurer’s Reports submitted for the months ending December 2020, which agree with each other and the bank.

9.01.2 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 December 2020 after review of the monthly reports (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.

9.01.3 Transfer of Funds

Approve the transfer of uncommitted funds within the 2020-2021 school year budget as per the attached list.

9.01.4 Bill Lists

Approve the December, 2020 bill list in the amount of \$511,528.86.

9.02 **Education**

9.02.1 Approve the following student interns from Hunterdon County Polytech to observe teachers 2 hours per week, beginning on January 29 through March 26, 2021:

- Jackie DiPaolo
- Ashlee Miller
- Ava Dressendofer
- Zoe Lincoln

9.03 **Personnel**

9.03.1 Approve the following course applications:

| Employee Name | Name of Course | College/University | Session | Amount of Reimbursement |
|-----------------|---|----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| David Giantisco | The Role of Literacy Across the Content Areas | University of Delaware | Spring 2021 | \$1,672.80 |
| Michael Licata | Spanish Heritage Learner | Montclair State University | Fall 2020 | \$1,680.00 |

9.04 **Facilities**

No consent Items

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Mr. Nicholas Diaz, to approve the above stated consent agenda items.

Motion by: Luciano

Seconded by: Evans

Roll Call Vote:

| Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|---------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Mrs. Evans | X | | | |
| Mr. Falcon | X | | | |
| Mrs. Luciano | X | | | |
| Mrs. Sutton | X | | | |
| Mrs. Tomasini | X | | | |
| Mr. Yasunas | X | | | |
| Mr. Cama | | | | X |
| Totals: | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

10. **Board Matters/New Business**

Mr. Diaz on behalf of Mr. Cama:

- Change of Leadership at Bethlehem Township School District – are we interested in talking about shared services?

11. **Personnel - All resolutions are upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.**

11.01 **Leave of Absence (Non-Tenured) – Employee ID #10224**

RESOLVED, to approve a request for paid (use of accrued sick time) Child Bearing Leave for Employee ID #10224, pursuant to Article XIII of the Agreement Between the Quakertown Education Association and the Franklin Township Board of Education, commencing on or about April 19, 2021 and terminating on or about May 9, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to approve a request for 12 weeks of unpaid Child Rearing Leave, to run concurrently with provisions of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), commencing on or about May 10, 2021 and terminating on or about October 18, 2021*. (Pursuant to Article XIII, no credit is given towards salary increase or accruing tenure during such Child Rearing leave.)

*Summer break does not count towards the 12-weeks of FMLA.

Motion by: Luciano

Seconded by: Falcon

Roll Call Vote:

| Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|---------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Mrs. Evans | X | | | |
| Mr. Falcon | X | | | |
| Mrs. Luciano | X | | | |
| Mrs. Sutton | X | | | |
| Mrs. Tomasini | X | | | |
| Mr. Yasunas | X | | | |
| Mr. Cama | | | | X |
| Totals: | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

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

There were no comments from the public.

13. **Other Business**

There was a board discussion regarding the 1837 Schoolhouse Repairs.

Some of the suggestions include:

- Eagle Scout Project
- Sponsorship/Donation of time
- Contact Polytech/High School
- Boy Scout Fundraiser
- PTA Donations
- Hahr Construction

14. **Adjournment**

14.01 **Resolved to** Adjourn from the Public Meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Motion Luciano Second Falcon By Voice Vote

| Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----|----|---------|--------|
| 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Martucci, SBA/Board Secretary