

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING February 12, 2024

AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRESENT: Wayne Bartron, Kathleen Clohessey, John J. Friend
Erin Henry, Rachel Kabbash, Stephen Koger
Christopher Patterson, Stephanie Perna, James Saltzman
John R. Giacchi, Superintendent
Carlos Sarmiento, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

ABSENT: None

The Board President opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M., with the Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by the following statement read by the Board Secretary:

This meeting is being conducted in compliance with the “Open Public Meeting Act – Chapter 231 – Public Laws of 1975.” Advance written notice of at least 48 hours was given specifying the time, date and to the extent known, the agenda, and stating whether formal action may or may not be taken and has been properly posted at the school, mailed to the Clerk/Administrator, and mailed to the New Jersey Herald and the Star Ledger.

Approval of Regular Board Minutes

On motion by Mr. Friend, seconded by Dr. Saltzman, and carried by the following roll call vote, approved the minutes of the following meetings as presented:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. January 22, 2024 | - Regular Meeting Minutes | ATTACHMENT 1 |
| | Yes - 8 | |
| | No - 0 | |
| | Abstain - Mr. Bartron | |

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Mr. Giacchi summarized a thank you letter from Mrs. Harriet Panagakis regarding her being the recipient of the Governor’s Services Professional of the Year Award.

PRESENTATIONS:

- B. Student Presentation: **NA** – The students were at tournaments out-of-district.
- C. Dr. Lisa Vallacchi – Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Initiatives

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OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - AGENDA ITEMS

On motion by Ms. Henry, seconded by Mr. Koger, and carried unanimously by voice vote, opened the meeting to the public for comment on the agenda items.

The Board Secretary read the following statement:

At this time, members of the public are invited to address the Board. Please note that public comments on the agenda items will be made in accordance with Policy 0167 - Public Presentation at Board meetings. Each statement made by all participants may be limited to three minutes in duration. If you would like to address the Board, please raise your hand to be called upon. Once called, please come to the microphone and state your name, municipality of residence, and/or group affiliation, and the agenda item you will address.

Please let the record reflect that the Board of Education does not endorse comments, nor will the Board of Education be held liable for comments made by a member of the public about a staff member or any other individual that may be considered defamatory and/or libelous, as that individual retains all rights to pursue any legal remedies against you.

This public session is designed for members of the public to speak on issues for Board consideration. By law, the Board of Education is under no obligation to respond to public comment. Issues raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board at the conclusion of public participation. This portion of the meeting is meant to hear public comment, not to have a dialogue between the Board and the person speaking.

No one addressed the Board.

On motion by Mr. Friend, seconded by Ms. Henry, and carried unanimously by voice vote, closed the meeting to the public for comment on the agenda items.

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- A. Mr. Sarmiento reported that the interest rates with Lakeland Bank changed from a fixed rate of 0.15 to a variable rate of 5%.
- B. Mr. Sarmiento reported that the Capital Maintenance Emergent Project Grant for FY22, FY23, and FY24 (Item D in Finance/Buildings & Grounds) will provide \$32,706 to offset the window project.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Mr. Giacchi provided an update on school events:
 - Boys and Girls basketball teams are playing tonight.

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- Thanked the PTO for doing the Pre-K dance on Friday and a formal dance to conclude the 100 days of school that has already happened.
 - Over 400 boxes of cereal have been collected for the Kindness Fundraiser. They will be used as a part of the Kindness Assembly and donated to a local food pantry.
 - School is closed on February 19th and 20th.
- B. Mr. Giacchi reported that the Student Safety Data System (SSDS) report was submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJ DOE) for the period of July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.
- C. Mr. Giacchi reported that the following clinical practice student will be at Franklin Borough School as listed below:

Practicum Student	Cooperating Teacher	Subject/University	Dates
Brandie DeCarlo	Alison Hendershot, and other 3 rd Grade Teachers	K-3 - William Paterson University	Three (3) days per week from January 2024 - May 2024

- D. Mr. Giacchi reported that the fire and security drills held during the month of January were as follows:
- January 11, 2024 at 12:15 p.m. - Fire Drill
 - January 18 - 19, 2024 at multiple times - Safety Drill during Physical Education Classes

Personnel Committee – Wayne Bartron, Chair

Discussion: NA

On motion by Ms. Henry, seconded by Mrs. Perna, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, approved the following resolutions:

- A. Resolved that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the following resignation:

Employee	Position	Effective Date
Jennifer Carrelo	Part-time Paraprofessional	Last day worked was January 22, 2024, <i>pending an agreement with the Franklin Education Foundation (FEA) stating that early release is not precedent setting</i>

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- B. Resolved that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following unpaid days:

Employee	Unpaid Day
Jesse Arteaga	1 Day: 1/22/2024

- C. Resolved that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, appoints the following staff member to the extra-curricular stipend position listed below for the 2023-2024 school year:

Extra-curricular Position	Staff Member	Stipend
Assistant Yearbook Advisor	Amanda Huffman	\$2,500

- D. Resolved that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, appoints the following personnel for the 2023-2024 school year as follows, pending receipt of required paperwork where applicable:

Staff Member/Appointment	Dates	Compensation
Wendy Awuah (.71 FTE) – Part-time Paraprofessional	Beginning on or about February 12, 2024	\$16.30 per hour, not benefit eligible, pending completion of required paperwork <i>Plus \$1.00 differential for providing a higher level of care.</i>
Angelica Muniz (.71 FTE) – Part-time Paraprofessional	Beginning on or about February 12, 2024	\$16.30 per hour, not benefit eligible, pending completion of required paperwork

- E. Resolved that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following substitute for the 2023-2024 school year, compensation payable upon completion of timesheets. *(Note that benefits are not included for any substitute position listed below, and all approvals are pending receipt of required paperwork, where necessary.)*

Name	Substitute Position	Compensation
Delaney Forziati	Substitute Teacher	\$150 per day, no benefits, pending completion of required paperwork

- F. Resolved that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following professional development day:

Staff Member	Professional Development	Cost	Dates
Rebecca Szymansky	Live Online - Catching up Students Who Have Fallen Behind in Math	Registration: \$279.00	March 5, 2024

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EDUCATION COMMITTEE – James Saltzman – Chair

Discussion:

Mr. Giacchi reported that the language has changed in the Franklin Borough School Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services from requiring the use of masks to may require the use of masks after quarantine.

On motion by Mr. Koger, seconded by Mrs. Kabbash, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, approved the following resolutions:

- A. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the Franklin Borough School Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services. **ATTACHMENT 2**
- B. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the revised Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials for the 2023-2024 school year. **ATTACHMENT 3**
- C. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the following psychiatric evaluation for the student below:

Student	Provider	Dates	Cost
#*****3875	Dr. Lee Suckno 170 E Main St #202 Rockaway, NJ 07866	February 22, 2024	Cost: \$1,000.00

- D. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the following service provider for the 2023-2024 school year:

Provider	Service(s)	Cost
Mountain Lakes Board of Education 96 Powerville Road, Suite 1 Mountain Lakes, NJ 07046	Itinerant Services for a Student with Hearing Loss	Two (2) 50-minute sessions per month, not to exceed \$3,600.00

- E. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the following services for the 2023-2024 school year:

Provider	Student ID	Cost
Mountain Lakes Board of Education Itinerant Services for a Student with Hearing Loss	#*****4147	Two (2) 50-minute sessions per month at \$360 per month, not to exceed \$3,600.00

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F. Resolved that the Board of Education amends the following transportation costs for the 2023-2024 school year:

Amended Transportation Information
Beginning January 23, 2024 through June 30, 2024, Route HRS-2301 for student #*****4147 increased from \$27,900.00 to \$28,363.14, plus a 5% administrative fee, for the 2023-2024 school year to add the students below:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student #*****1025 • Student #*****8567

Student	Amended Transportation Dates and Costs
Student #*****4998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From \$197.50 per day from January 8, 2024 to January 22, 2024 • To \$395 per day from January 23, 2024 to January 25, 2024 • To \$239 per day from January 26, 2024 through June 30, 2024. <p><i>(Note that this transportation request was originally approved at the January 22, 2024 BOE meeting.)</i></p>

G. Resolved that the Board of Education amends the 8th grade field trip to include the additional sites listed below. The cost of the additional sites is anticipated to be defrayed by the Franklin Education Foundation. (Note that the 8th grade field trip to the Winter Garden Theater on May 29, 2024 was previously approved at the Board of Education meeting on January 22, 2024.)

Destination	Estimated Cost
Madame Tussauds Wax Museum New York, NY	\$1,285.76
Dallas BBQ New York, NY	\$1,319.50

H. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the following field trip:

Grade	Location	Date	Cost
6	Medieval Times Lyndhurst NJ 07071	May 22, 2024	\$2,748.80

FINANCE/BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – John J. Friend, Chair

Discussion: NA

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On motion by Mr. Koger, seconded by Mr. Bartron, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, approved the following resolutions:

- A. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the vendor payments dated January 23, 2024 - February 12, 2024. **Attachment 4**

Fund 10	Charter School/ER FICA Share	48,604.82
Fund 11	General Expense	631,037.24
Fund 12	Capital Outlay	0.00
Fund 20	Special Revenue	44,194.68
Fund 60	Cafeteria	46,079.06
Fund 95	Student Activities	5,772.06
	Total	775,687.86

- B. Resolved that the Board of Education accepts the attached Board Secretary's Report and Treasurer of School Monies report for January 2024.

Resolved pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3, the Board Secretary does certify that as of January 31, 2024, no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1;

Therefore be it resolved that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 4 the Board of Education does certify that as of January 31, 2024, the Board Secretary Monthly Financial Report, did not reflect an over expenditure in any Major Account for Fund, and based on the Appropriation Balances reflected on this report and on the advice of District Officials, that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

ATTACHMENT 5

- C. Resolved that the Board of Education approves between line-item transfers as required by State rules and regulations for the month of January 2024. **ATTACHMENT 6**
- D. Resolved that the Board of Education submits and accepts the Capital Maintenance Emergent Project Grant for FY22, FY23, and FY24 for a total amount of \$32,706.
- E. Resolved that the Board of Education accepts two \$250 donations from RoNetco Supermarkets, Inc. (ShopRite) for students who participated in the Annual Holiday Music Program. The total amount received was \$500.
- F. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the following as a State-approved vendor:

State-approved Vendor
West Chester Machinery & Supply 278 Old Ledgewood Rd Roxbury Township, NJ 07836

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- G. Resolved that the Board of Education approves purchasing a truck salter from West Chester Machinery & Supply at a cost of \$7,970 from Capital Outlay.
- H. Resolved that the Board of Education approves replacing portions of the fence in the bus lane as listed below using Maintenance Reserve Funds:

Vendor	Cost
National Fence Systems, Inc.	\$4,051.77

- I. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the following facility use request pending receipt of required paperwork and providing there are no conflicts with school events. *Note that when the school closes for the day or for early dismissal due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, all evening activities are canceled.*

Organization	Time/Date	Space/Cost
The Franklin Band	Sunday, May 19, 2024 from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. inclusive of set-up and clean-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Auditorium: <i>fee waived</i> ● Custodial overtime: <i>fees TBD</i>

OLD BUSINESS: NA

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussion of budget specifically the use of banked cap.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – VISITORS ADDRESS THE BOARD

On motion by Mr. Friend, seconded by Mr. Koger, and carried unanimously by voice vote, opened the meeting to the public for visitors to address the board.

The Board Secretary read the following statement:

At this time, members of the public are invited to address the Board. Please note that public comments on non-agenda items will be made in accordance with Policy 0167 - Public Presentation at Board meetings. Each statement made by all participants may be limited to three minutes in duration. If you would like to address the Board, please raise your hand to be called upon. Once called, please come to the microphone and state your name, municipality of residence, and/or group affiliation.

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No one addressed the Board.

On motion by Dr. Saltzman, seconded by Mr. Friend, and carried unanimously by voice vote, closed the meeting to the public for visitors to address the board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: NA

On motion by Ms. Henry, seconded by Mr. Koger, and carried unanimously by voice vote, adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlos Sarmiento
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary