

# MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

## SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

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

PRESENT: Kevin Blondina, Kathleen Clohessey  
F. Cliff Graham, Ronald Neal  
Jeanine Paszkiel, Suzanne Ross  
Sarah Zydon  
J. R. Giacchi, Superintendent  
8 Members of the Public

ABSENT: Louise Murphy, Michael Payton

Mr. Blondina, 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:

The Board Secretary has advised me 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, sent to the Clerk/Administrator, sent to the N.J. Herald, the Sunday Herald, and the Star-Ledger. Said notice was undertaken by reason of publication of the annual notice.

On motion by Mrs. Zydon, seconded by Mr. Graham, and carried by the following roll call vote, **approved the Minutes of the 28 August 2017 Regular Meeting.**

Yes	-	6
No	-	0
Abstain	-	Mrs. Clohessey

On motion by Mrs. Ross, seconded by Mrs. Zydon, and carried by the following roll call vote, **approved the Executive Minutes of the 28 August 2017 Regular Meeting.**

Yes	-	5
No	-	0
Abstain	-	Mrs. Clohessey, Mr. Payton

### CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Blondina summarized a letter from Shannon Zaremba [teacher] informing the Board of her maternity leave beginning on or about 22 December 2017, utilizing 24 sick days and then utilizing New Jersey Family Leave until 4 May 2018.

On motion by Mr. Payton, seconded by Mr. Graham, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, after a brief discussion, **approved the request from Shannon Zaremba [teacher] for**

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**maternity leave beginning on or about 22 December 2017, utilizing 24 sick days and then utilizing New Jersey Family Leave until 4 May 2018.**

Mr. Blondina summarized a letter from Holly Sollitto [aide] requesting an unpaid leave of absence until 30 June 2018. [Note: The Franklin Education Association has provided a letter stating that if this request is granted, it would not be precedent setting].

On motion by Mrs. Paszkiel, seconded by Mrs. Ross, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **approved the request from Holly Sollitto [aide] for an unpaid leave of absence until 30 June 2018. [Note: The Franklin Education Association has provided a letter stating that if this request is granted, it would not be precedent setting].**

Mr. Blondina summarized a letter of resignation from Lisa Werdann [aide] with her last day being 10 November 2017.

On motion by Mrs. Ross, seconded by Mrs. Paszkiel, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **accepted the resignation of Lisa Werdann [aide] with her last day being 10 November 2017.**

Mr. Blondina summarized a letter from Ms. Justin Lynn, Wallkill Valley Junior Football Cheer Coordinator, requesting the use of the zoom room for practice Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. from September through December 2017.

On motion by Mr. Graham, seconded by Mrs. Ross, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, after some discussion, **approved the request from Ms. Justin Lynn, Wallkill Valley Junior Football Cheer Coordinator, for the use of the zoom room for practice Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. from September through December 2017.**

### OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – NON-AGENDA ITEMS

On motion by Mr. Graham, seconded by Mr. Payton, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **opened the meeting to the public for non-agenda items at 7:05 p.m.**

Mr. Blondina 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.

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



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staff member that the staff member may consider defamatory and/or libelous, as that staff member retains all rights to pursue any legal remedies against you.

Ms. Molley McHose and Ms. Shannon VanTassel addressed the Board on changing the name of the school mascot; on having a school uniform and; on installing air conditioners in the school.

Mr. Blondina thanked Ms. McHose and Ms. VanTassel for coming to the board meeting.

On motion by Mrs. Ross, seconded by Mr. Graham, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **closed the meeting to the public for non-agenda items at 7:12 p.m.**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Finance/Building & Grounds Committee**

On motion by Mr. Graham, seconded by Mr. Payton, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **approved, accepted, announced and/or certified the following:**

- a. **Approved the bills for August 2017 in the amount of \$437,985.88.**
- b. **Approved the bills for the Cafeteria Account in the amount of \$1,945.92.**
- c. **Accepted the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports as of *31 August 2017*.**
- d. **Approved the Transfers made by the Superintendent, after the 28 August 2017 Regular Meeting, with Fund 10 debits totaling \$6,600 [DOCUMENT A] and the Board acknowledges that this/these transfer(s) may increase/decrease the maximum dollar limit established as part of the 2017-18 budget process for various professional services.**
- e. **Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10, the Board Secretary certifies that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

31 August 2017  
Date

- f. **Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16:10, the Franklin Board of Education certifies that no major account or fund has been overexpended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10.**

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Mr. Graham reported that all locations that were tested for lead in water have been remediated and the remediated areas were re-tested and are below the action levels, as depicted on **[DOCUMENT H]**.

Mr. Graham updated the Board on the Room 202 Restroom Project, stating that the architect is finishing the drawings for the Department of Education submittal and further on-site investigation is being scheduled for the tying in of proposed plumbing to the existing system.

### **Education Committee**

Mrs. Ross discussed the Wallkill Valley Regional High School hosting a STEAM contest for its sending districts and on the coordination of curriculum with the Wallkill Valley Region.

### **Personnel Committee**

On motion by Mrs. Paszkiel, seconded by Mr. Graham, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **approved/appointed the following:**

- **Amanda Huffman as Art Advisor for the 2017-18 school year at a contractual stipend of \$3,690 per annum.**
- **The following teachers as Homework Club Advisors for the 2017-18 school year at a contractual stipend of \$33.33 per hour for each teacher appointed:**
  - **Danielle Emery**
  - **Natalie Lewis**
  - **Karen LoPorto**
- **The following teachers as Morning Duty Advisors for the 2017-18 school year at a contractual stipend of \$2,400 per annum for each teacher appointed:**
  - **Michele Fuzia**
  - **Karen LoPorto**
- **Courtney Savino as Play Director for the 2017-18 school year at a contractual stipend of \$2,617 per annum.**
- **Increasing of the hours for Sherrie Douglas [Aide] from 19.75 hours per week to 25 hours per week effective 1 October 2017.**

On motion by Mrs. Paszkiel, seconded by Mr. Graham, and carried by the following roll call vote, **approved the FY 2017-18 contract for Carolyn Ryder, Supervisor of Instruction, at a contractual salary of \$96,730 [pro-rated] and other benefits per contract as depicted on**

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**Document B. [Note: Mrs. Ryder is being increased from a ten (10) month position to a twelve (12) month position effective 1 September 2017.]**

Yes	-	6
No	-	0
Abstain	-	Mr. Payton

On motion by Mrs. Paszkiel, seconded by Mr. Graham, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **approved the FY 2017-18 contract for Donna Mangine, Secretary to the Superintendent, at a contractual salary of \$47,000 [pro-rated] starting 1 October 2017 and other benefits per contract as depicted on Document C. [Note: Mrs. Mangine is being promoted from the Principal's Secretary.]**

On motion by Mrs. Paszkiel, seconded by Mrs. Zydon and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **appointed Michael Higgins as a part-time custodian at a salary of \$14,000 per annum prorated [10 month position September through June], with no medical benefits, upon the completion of all necessary new-hire paperwork, effective on or about October 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.**

### OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Ross updated the Board on the recent Sussex County Educational Services Commission meeting stating that their administrative offices are being relocated to a building next door to the Northern Hills Academy.

Mrs. Zydon updated the Board on a recent New Jersey School Boards Association conference she attended on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math [STEAM]. A discussion ensued.

Mr. Blondina updated the Board on his attendance at a Strategic Planning Session at the New Jersey School Boards Association. Mr. Blondina asked Mr. Kurt Rebovich, Labor Relations Consultant for the New Jersey School Boards Association, to speak to the Board on this process. Mr. Rebovich reviewed the Strategic Planning process with the Board and a discussion ensued between Mr. Rebovich and various board members.

### NEW BUSINESS

*No New Business.*

### BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

On motion by Mrs. Paszkiel, seconded by Mr. Payton, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **approved the following equipment purchased as no longer needed and to dispose of them as electronic waste:**



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- **ARRA-IDEIA #1-SMART Table 230i**
- **ARRA-IDEIA #2-SMART Table 230i**

On motion by Mrs. Zydon, seconded by Mr. Graham, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **approved the FY 2017-18 Staff List as depicted on Document D.**

On motion by Mr. Graham, seconded by Mrs. Ross, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **approved the final payment for the Bleacher Replacement Project at the Franklin School in the amount of \$79,942, to the Nickerson Corporation and accepted the project as complete.**

On motion by Mrs. Paszkiel, seconded by Mr. Graham, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **approved the following FY 2017-18 Agreements with the Northern Region Educational Services Commission for providing temporary (on an as needed basis) secretary, financial clerk and/or technology personnel, as depicted on Document E.**

### **CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

On motion by Mrs. Zydon, seconded by Mr. Payton, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **approved professional visitations and related travel for professional staff as depicted on DOCUMENT F and approved the following professional visitation:**

- **Sandy Bargiel, NJ Association of School Librarians (NJASL) Annual Conference, Long Branch, NJ, 16-17 November 2017, \$189 plus mileage and related travel expenses.**

On motion by Mr. Graham, seconded by Mrs. Paszkiel, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **approved the 2017-18 Annual Facilities Checklist [DOCUMENT G].**

On motion by Mrs. Zydon, seconded by Mr. Payton, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **accepted tuition students as follows:**

- **H.T. 17-18.1 beginning September 7, 2017 at a tuition cost of \$12,586 plus Resource Center tuition of \$14,398.**
- **H.T. 17-18.2 beginning September 7, 2017 at a tuition cost of \$12,569 per annum**
- **H.T. 17-18.3 beginning September 7, 2017 at a tuition cost of \$12,569 per annum**
- **H.T. 17-18.4 beginning September 7, 2017 at a tuition cost of \$12,569 per annum**
- **H.T. 17-18.5 beginning September 7, 2017 at a tuition cost of \$11,859 per annum**
- **H.T. 17-18.6 beginning September 7, 2017 at a tuition cost of \$12,569 per annum**

On motion by Mr. Payton, seconded by Mrs. Paszkiel, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **approved the following field trip requests:**

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- **Mrs. Fedynich to visit the Atlantic City Convention Center for the STEAM Tank Finals with a total of 9 people and the cost of transportation [Note: The Franklin Education Foundation is contributing up to \$300 for the meals for this trip].**
- **Mrs. Fedynich to visit Wayne Hills High School to attend a Passaic County School Boards meeting from 4:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on 12 October 2017 with a total of 8 people and the cost of transportation.**
- **Mrs. Symons for the 8th graders to visit New Amsterdam Theatre, New York NY [Aladdin] from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on 30 May 2018 with a total of 65 people at a cost of \$4,654.00 plus the cost of transportation.**

It was the consensus of the Board that our students/staff members who go to present at workshops/meetings have a school supplied shirt.

On motion by Mrs. Clohessey, seconded by Mrs. Paszkiel, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **approved Home Instruction for Student #H.I. 17-18.1 from 9/12/17 to 6/30/18 at a rate of \$44 per hour plus \$14.52 per hour [33%] for administrative/preparation time while the student is in the hospital with Education, Inc.**

### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – VISITORS ADDRESS THE BOARD**

On motion by Mrs. Paszkiel, seconded by Mr. Graham, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **opened the meeting to the public at 7:42 p.m.**

Mr. Blondina 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.

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 that the staff member may consider defamatory and/or libelous, as that staff member retains all rights to pursue any legal remedies against you.

Ms. Molley McHose and Ms. Shannon VanTassel addressed the Board on the showers in the Girls Locker Room.

On motion by Mr. Graham, seconded by Mrs. Ross, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, **closed the meeting to the public at 7:45 p.m.**



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### EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Mrs. Ross, seconded by Mrs. Paszkiel, and carried unanimously by voice vote, **the following resolution was adopted:**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), the Board of Education may exclude the public from that portion of a public meeting at which the Board discusses any of the matters described at N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(1)-9;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education shall forthwith enter into closed session to discuss the following matter(s) concerning:

- [X] Matters rendered confidential by state or federal law – Student LS regarding break-in**
- [X] Personnel – Business Administrator Contract**
  - ☐ Appointment of a public official
  - ☐ Matters covered by the attorney-client privilege
  - ☐ Pending or anticipated litigation
- [X] Pending or anticipated contract negotiations – Proposed FY 2018-23 Inter-local Agreement with the Hamburg Borough BOE, NJSBA regarding teacher bargaining unit contract negotiations.**
  - ☐ Protection of the safety or property of the public
  - ☐ Matters which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy
  - ☐ Matters in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the United States Government
  - ☐ Matters concerning collective negotiations and/or the negotiation of terms and conditions of employment of employees of the Board of Education
  - ☐ Possible imposition of a civil penalty or suspension

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that said discussion may be disclosed to the public when the reasons for discussing and acting upon it in closed session no longer exist.

*The Board returned to regular session at 9:09 p.m.*

On motion by Mr. Graham, seconded by Mr. Payton, and carried unanimously by voice vote, **adjourned the meeting at 9:09 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Sabo  
Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary