

**FRANKLIN BORO BOARD OF EDUCATION
 ORGANIZATION MEETING AGENDA
 Wednesday, January 2, 2025
 7:00 p.m.**

I. Call to Order – *Carlos Sarmiento, Board Secretary*

Time: _____

II. Statement of Compliance – Open Public Meeting Act

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, notice of this meeting has been properly advertised in the NJ Herald and the Star Ledger, its agenda has been posted at the appropriate locations, and a copy has been filed with the Franklin Borough Clerk.

FLAG SALUTE

III. Report of the November 5, 2024 Annual School Board Election – *Carlos Sarmiento, Board Secretary*

CANDIDATE	VOTES RECEIVED
Three (3) Three-Year Full Terms	
Erin Henry	1,620
Christopher Patterson (write-in)	17
John VanKampen (write-in)	22
Total write-in votes	204
TOTAL	1,863

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

Mr. Sarmiento administers the Oath of Office to newly elected Board members:

- Ms. Erin Henry
- Mr. Christopher Patterson
- Mr. John VanKampen

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Bartron	Mrs. Clohessey	Mr. Friend
Ms. Henry	Mrs. Kabbash	Mr. Koger
Mr. Patterson	Mrs. Perna	Mr. VanKampen

Terms of Office:

Board Member	Term Expires
John Friend	2025
Stephen Koger	2025
Stephanie Perna	2025
Wayne Bartron	2026
Kathleen Clohessey	2026
Rachel Kabbash	2026
Erin Henry	2027
Christopher Patterson	2027
John VanKampen	2027

IV. Organization Action

ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT:

The Board Secretary opens the floor for nominations for Board President:

NOMINEE

NOMINATED BY:

Board Secretary closes nominations for the Board President.

Discussion

Roll call vote to elect the President of the Board:

Mrs. Clohessey	Mr. Friend	Ms. Henry
Mrs. Kabbash	Mr. Koger	Mr. Patterson
Mrs. Perna	Mr. VanKampen	Mr. Bartron

President of the Board is: _____

MEETING IS TURNED OVER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

ELECTION OF BOARD VICE PRESIDENT:

The Board President opens the floor for nominations for Vice President:

NOMINEE	NOMINATED BY:
_____	_____
_____	_____

President closes nominations for Board Vice President.

Discussion

Roll call vote to elect the Vice President of the Board:

Mr. Friend	Ms. Henry	Mrs. Kabbash
Mr. Koger	Mr. Patterson	Mrs. Perna
Mr. VanKampen	Mr. Bartron	Mrs. Clohessey

Vice President of the Board is: _____

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

- A. Open the meeting for public comment on agenda items.

Motion: _____ **Second:** _____

Discussion

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Henry	Mrs. Kabbash	Mr. Koger
Mr. Patterson	Mrs. Perna	Mr. VanKampen
Mr. Bartron	Mrs. Clohessey	Mr. Friend

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.

- B. Close the meeting for public comment on agenda items.

Motion: _____ **Second:** _____

Discussion

Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. Kabbash	Mr. Koger	Mr. Patterson
Mrs. Perna	Mr. VanKampen	Mr. Bartron
Mrs. Clohessey	Mr. Friend	Ms. Henry

Approval of action items:

ORGANIZATION – Items A – K

Motion: _____ **Second:** _____

- A. Resolved that the Board of Education adopts the existing bylaws and policies of the Franklin Borough Board of Education through the next organization meeting in January 2026.
- B. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent to serve as alternate Custodian of Records.
- C. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the Vice President of the Franklin Borough Board of Education to serve as alternate board secretary when necessary.

- D. Resolved that the Board of Education adopts the Code of Ethics for School Board Members to include:

CODE OF ETHICS FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

N.J.S.A.18A:12-24.1

I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.

I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.

I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.

I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.

I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.

I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.

I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.

I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendations of the superintendent.

I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.

I will refer all complaints to the superintendent and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

- E. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the evaluation instrument established by the New Jersey School Boards Association for their annual self-evaluation.
- F. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the evaluation instrument established by the New Jersey School Boards Association for the superintendent's annual evaluation.

- G. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the notice of annual meetings of the Board of Education through the next organization meeting in January 2026 and directs the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to advertise and post the notice in accordance with policy. The meetings will be held in the auditorium of Franklin Borough School.

Regular Monthly Meetings	
January 13 , 2025	Regular Meeting
February 10 , 2025	Regular Meeting
March 10, 2025	Regular Meeting
April 14, 2025	Regular Meeting
May 5, 2025	Regular Meeting - Public Hearing 2025-2026 Budget
June 9, 2025	Regular Meeting
July 14, 2025	Regular Meeting
August 11, 2025	Regular Meeting
September 15, 2025	Regular Meeting
October 13, 2025	Regular Meeting
November 17, 2025	Regular Meeting
December 8, 2025	Regular Meeting
January 5, 2026	Organizational Meeting

- H. Resolved that the Board of Education approves The New Jersey Herald and The Star Ledger as the official newspapers for advertising and for public notices.

Resolved that the Board of Education approves the following banks to be designated as official depositories with the signatories for all accounts in accordance with the following summary:

PROVIDENT BANK ACCOUNT	SIGNATORIES
General Fund	Board President, Vice President, Treasurer, Board Secretary
Payroll	Treasurer, Board Secretary
Agency	Board President, Vice President, Treasurer, Board Secretary
FSA	Board President, Vice President, Treasurer, Board Secretary
Student Activities	Board Secretary, Superintendent
Food Service	Treasurer, Board Secretary
Summer Savings	Board Secretary, Superintendent

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- I. Resolved that the Board of Education adopts any existing contracts and agreements to which the Board is a party and where continuation is not authorized by law.

- J. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the annual appointments listed below effective January 2, 2025 through December 31, 2025:

ORGANIZATION	DELEGATE
Sussex County School Boards Association	
New Jersey School Boards Association	
Sussex County Educational Services Commission	

Discussion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Koger	Mr. Patterson	Mrs. Perna
Mr. VanKampen	Mr. Bartron	Mrs. Clohessey
Mr. Friend	Ms. Henry	Mrs. Kabbash

PRESENTATIONS

- A. School Boards Ethics Presentation by Kelly Mitchell, New Jersey School Boards Association.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discuss Board committee assignments
- B. Discuss Board committee availability

BOARD SECRETARY’S REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – VISITORS ADDRESS THE BOARD

A. Open the meeting for public comment on non-agenda items.

Motion: _____ **Second:** _____

Discussion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Patterson	Mrs. Perna	Mr. VanKampen
Mr. Bartron	Mrs. Clohessey	Mr. Friend
Ms. Henry	Mrs. Kabbash	Mr. Koger

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B. Close the meeting for public comment on agenda items.

Motion: _____ **Second:** _____

Discussion

Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. Perna	Mr. VanKampen	Mr. Bartron
Mrs. Clohessey	Mr. Friend	Ms. Henry
Mrs. Kabbash	Mr. Koger	Mr. Patterson

EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), the Board of Education may exclude the public from the 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:

- Matters rendered confidential by state or federal law
- Personnel
- Appointment of a public official
- Matters covered by the attorney-client privilege
- Pending or anticipated litigation
- Pending or anticipated 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.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. VanKampen	Mr. Bartron	Mrs. Clohessey
Mr. Friend	Ms. Henry	Mrs. Kabbash
Mr. Koger	Mr. Patterson	Mrs. Perna

OPEN EXECUTIVE SESSION: Time: _____

RESUME OPEN SESSION: Time: _____

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING: Time: _____

Motion: _____ **Second:** _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Bartron	Mrs. Clohessey	Mr. Friend
Ms. Henry	Mrs. Kabbash	Mr. Koger
Mr. Patterson	Mrs. Perna	Mr. VanKampen

**FRANKLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
JANUARY 2, 2025, 7:00 P.M.**