

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING February 09, 2026

AT 7:01 P.M. AT THE FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRESENT: Kathleen Clohessey, John Friend, Erin Henry,
Stephen Koger, Christopher Patterson,
John R. Giacchi, Superintendent
Carlos Sarmiento, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

ABSENT: Wayne Bartron, Rachel Kabbash, Stephanie Perna, John VanKampen

The Board President opened the meeting at 7:01 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 Ms. Henry, seconded by Mr. Friend, and carried by roll call vote, approved the, approved the minutes of the following meeting:

January 12, 2026 – Regular Meeting Minutes
YES – 4
ABSTAIN – 1 (MR. PATTERSON)
NO – 0

ATTACHMENT 1

PRESENTATIONS

- A. National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) Students provided school updates.
- B. Student Recognition - PBSIS RAM Champions through the PBSIS Program – Dr. Giacchi, Superintendent and Dr. Vallacchi, Principal, presented the awards.
 - Second Grade
 - Aylin Lopez
 - Hayley Maguire
 - Third Grade
 - Keniah Cruz Contreras
 - Nirvana DeLoache
- C. District Goals Update - Dr. Giacchi, Superintendent
 - We are halfway through our District Goals Update.
 - Dr. Giacchi reported that we have a well-rounded educational program.
 - Dr. Giacchi spoke about our Social and Emotional Program, PBSIS.
 - It was discussed that we need to provide a nurturing and safe environment.

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CORRESPONDENCE – N/A

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – Agenda Items

On motion by Ms. Henry, seconded by Mr. Patterson and carried unanimously by voice vote, opened the meeting to the public for comment on 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 comments. 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 comments, not to have a dialogue between the Board and the person speaking.

- Close the meeting for public comments on agenda items.

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

- The board was asked to complete the personal disclose statement.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. School updates – February 16th & 17th our school will be closed for winter break.
- B. To report zero deficiencies on the 2025-2026 Sussex County Department of Health Audit of the School Health Office.

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- C. To report the following William Paterson University Clinical Experience student (Practicum) will be at Franklin Borough School one day per week from January 22, 2026 through May 13, 2026:

Teacher Candidate	Teacher Assigned	Grade	Placement Requested
Hannah Posser	Analee Felix	P-3	Preschool

- D. To report that the fire and security drills held during the month of January 2026 were as follows:

- January 13, 2026 at 1:29 p.m. – Fire Drill
- January 29, 2026 at 9:44 a.m. – Bomb Threat Drill (Shelter-in-place)

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Stephanie Perna, Chair – Committee Report

Discussion:

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

- A. Resolved that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following substitutes for the 2025-2026 school year pending completion of required paperwork, where applicable. Compensation upon submission of timesheets. *(Note that benefits are not included for the substitutes listed below.)*

Name	Position	Compensation
Suzanne Billgert	Substitute Teacher	\$150 per day, not benefit eligible, pending completion of required paperwork
Antonia Terranova	Substitute Paraprofessional	\$115 per day, not benefit eligible, pending completion of required paperwork
Nitoshia Young	Substitute Teacher	\$150 per day, not benefit eligible, pending completion of required paperwork

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

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Staff Member	Professional Development	Cost	Dates
Amy Maurin	Live Online Seminar – Accelerate Progress for Students with IEPs by Making the Best Use of Differentiation, Accommodations, and Modifications	Registration: \$295.00	February 12, 2026
Amy Maurin	Live Online Seminar – Helping Students with High Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorder	Registration: \$295.00	March 26, 2026
Amy Maurin	Live Online Seminar – Helping Students Who Have or May Have ADHD	Registration: \$295.00	April 21, 2026

C. Resolved that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the first reading of the following policies and regulations:

Number	Title	Attachment
Bylaw 0142.1	Nepotism	ATTACHMENT 2
P 1220	Employment of Chief School Administrator	ATTACHMENT 3
P & R 1552	Sexual Harassment – Staff	ATTACHMENTS 4 AND 5

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Stephen Koger – Chair

Discussion:

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

- A. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the submission of the Student Safety Data System (SSDS) report to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJ DOE) for the period of July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- B. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the following updated Curricula:

Curricula	Attachments
Math	ATTACHMENT 6
Science	ATTACHMENT 7
Social Studies	ATTACHMENT 8

C. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the first reading of the following policies and regulations:

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Number	Title	Attachment
P & R 2530	Resource Materials	ATTACHMENTS 9 AND 10
P & R 2535	Library Material	ATTACHMENTS 11 AND 12
P & R 9130	Public Complaints	ATTACHMENTS 13 AND 14

FINANCE/BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Erin Henry, Chair

Discussion:

- Public statement - Ms.Henry.
- Mr. Friend asked if everything is contingent on State Aid.

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

- A. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the vendor payments dated January 13, 2026 - February 9, 2026. **ATTACHMENT 15**

Fund 10	Charter School/ER FICA Share	\$1,713,842.70
Fund 11	General Expense	\$1,092,513.96
Fund 12	Capital Outlay	\$58,808.54
Fund 20	Special Revenue	\$89,136.38
Fund 30	Capital Projects	-
Fund 60	Cafeteria	\$21,694.18
Fund 95	Student Activities	\$1,749.84
	Total	\$2,977,745.60

- B. Resolved that the Board of Education accepts the attached Board Secretary’s Report and Treasurer of School Monies report for December 2025.

Resolved pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3, the Board Secretary does certify that as of December 2025, 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 December 2025, the Board Secretary Monthly Financial Report, did not reflect an over expenditure in any Major Account or 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 16**

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- C. Resolved that the Board of Education approves between line-item transfers as required by State rules and regulations for the month of December 2025. **ATTACHMENT 17**

- D. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the purchase of cafeteria equipment from MAP Restaurant Supplies, CO OP #34HUNCCP, for the new salad bar at a cost not to exceed \$4,403.91.

- E. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the submission of the Local Recreation Improvement Grant in the amount of \$75,000.00.

- F. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the 2026-2027 Sussex County Educational Services Commission (SCESC) Tuition Rates. **ATTACHMENT 18**

- G. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the generous donation of \$250.00 from Ronetco Supermarkets for the Franklin Borough School Music Program.

- H. Resolved that the Board of Education approves participation in the Joint Transportation Agreement with Sussex County Regional Transportation Cooperative for school year 2026-2027 with the following administrative fees: **ATTACHMENT 19**

Transportation Service	Administrative Fees
Special Education Routes	4.5%
Public Routes	2.0%
Non-Public Routes	2.0%
Field Trips/Athletic Trips	5.0%

- I. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the following staff salaries to be charged to the ESEA Title 1 Grant:

Name	Amount	Percentage of Salary
Diana Heteyi	\$20,082.30	100%
Mary Ann Monteperto	\$17,952.30	100%
Angela Gonzales	\$20,311.05	100%
Natasha Gonzalez	\$20,771.42	100%
Diane Healy	\$17,952.30	100%

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Matthew Bove	\$17,952.30	100%
William Frye	\$3,334.33	18.5%
Total \$118,356.00		

J. Resolved that the Board of Education accepts the donations for the school library listed in **ATTACHMENT 20**.

K. Resolved that the Board of Education approves the disposal of the following items:

Disposal of Obsolete/Surplus/Disposable Equipment/Materials		
Items	Date	ATTACHMENTS
Library Items	January 2026	ATTACHMENT 21

OLD BUSINESS

A. Ms. Henry asked if we could fix the timers on the outside. There are no lights in the bus lane.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Dr. Giacchi updated the Board regarding the Salt update. We take 10 to 12 buckets each year.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – VISITORS ADDRESS THE BOARD

Discussion – N/A

On motion by Mr. Friend seconded by Mr. Patterson, 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:

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Discussion: n/a

On motion by Ms. Henry, seconded by Mr. Patterson and carried unanimously by voice vote, closed the meeting to the public for visitors to address the board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: N/A

On motion by Ms. Henry, seconded by Mr. Friend, and carried unanimously by voice vote, adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlos Sarmiento
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary