

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL
NEW JERSEY 08868
Board of Education

REGULAR MEETING
May 24, 2010- 7:30 p.m.

A G E N D A

**I. Call to Order 7:32 PM
Open Public Meeting Announcement**

"In accordance with requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notices have been given of tonight's meeting in area newspapers, which include the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Express-Times and posted on the bulletin board by the main office of the Franklin Township School, sent to the Township Clerk, and to all Board of Education members on April 26, 2010.

II. Roll Call - John A. Gomez, SBA/BS

K. Weiss, V.Pres.	P	P. DiGiambattista	P	C. Ewing	P
J. Foran	P	K. Lundgren	P	R. Masino	P
T. Schultz (7:38 PM)	P	L. Vail	P	C. Piparo, Pres.	P

III. Flag Salute

IV. Motion to approve the minutes of the following meetings:

- May 4, 2010 - Special Meeting
- May 10, 2010 - Regular Meeting

Moved Mr. Foran

Second Mr. Weiss

Motion Carried 6- 2 (Abstained)

V. Construction Update

- Construction Manager Update

Mr. Foran gave the construction update. A request had been made by the town's building official that the board employs a full time masonry inspector. There is a question concerning the need for a full time inspector and the issue was to be addressed at a meeting with the township building official. The cost of a full time inspector would be between 7,000 and 9,000 dollars. There will be a report on this matter by Mr. Tillou the construction manager in June. It was reported that the windows for the project have been approved by the building and grounds committee. It was also reported that the perimeter drainage system had been repaired. The DCA is working on plans submitted for the electrical room. The application with the Hunterdon County soil conservation district has been approved along with a verbal approval from the township. At this point Mr. Piparo read the response letter to the Franklin Township Land Use Board. A question was raised about how many change orders had been approved by board so far. The board will be given an update on the change orders at the June 7th regular board meeting. It was asked if construction funds could be transferred to the general fund Mr. Gagliardi board attorney answered that fund 30 cannot be transferred to the general fund.

- Subcommittee Update
- Letter to Land Use Board
- A. **Motion** to approve the purchase of 4 additional fire extinguishers and cabinets from Dependable Fire Equipment Co. for \$891.00 as quoted.
 Moved Mr. Foran Second Mr. Schultz Motion 9-0
- B. **Motion** to approve the change order from Dumont Mechanical for a water cooler in the amount of \$1713.00.
 Moved Mr. Foran Second Mr. Schultz Motion 9-0

VI. Correspondence

- North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School

A letter from North Hunterdon regional high school indicating a change of venue for there next board meeting had been received.

VII. Communication Update

- Subcommittee report
- Discussion on "Managing the Message"

No sub committee update.

VIII. Budget Update

Mr. Piparo read the resolution adopted by the Franklin Township Committee to the board reviewing the exact amount that was cut from the budget. A question arose concerning the legality of the reductions, but since the reduction was from the general fund tax levy it was a legal reduction. There was a review of what options were available to the board. The two options were to either accept the reductions as adopted by the townships resolution or initiate an application to the state for restoration. The superintendent explained that if the board decided to go for restoration it would open the entire budget for review by the New Jersey Department of Education. Mr. Piparo discussed negotiations with the QEA and stated that at this point discussions with the teachers had concluded. At this point Dr. Harttraft went over her recommended cuts they were to combine two grades, and reduce programs previously discussed with the board. At this point it was announced that Mrs. Donna Browning would be remaining as a first grade teacher, Mrs. Browning had made a request in writing to the board secretary that she be discussed in public session. Dr. Harttraft was asked if everyone had received a Rice notice and she stated that everyone except for the aides had been. Mr. Piparo discussed the next steps in the budget process, and what decisions would need to be made. There was a request that at the next public meeting a full report be given on specific cuts and there impacts. Dr. Harttraft was asked how the situation in the building was unfolding. The board continued asking questions about what programs are mandated. Dr. Harttraft ran down a list of those programs that are required and at what grade levels. Mr. Piparo stated that the board should establish a committee that would be comprised of board members, community members, Parent Teachers Association, and school administrators to develop new strategies to deal with the budget reductions. The committee would meet once a month over the next three months.

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

All comments should be directed to the board president. The Board will not entertain personal complaints from and to school personnel unless the chain of command has been followed, without satisfaction. Furthermore, the Board cannot respond to any complaints from the public directed at any district employee or student, as the Board must protect each employee and each student's right to privacy.

Those wishing to share comments during this portion of the meeting are asked to state their name and address. Each speaker will be given three minutes.

Minga Cullen (president QEA)

Reported that she had attended a rally in Trenton to demand restoration of public funds. Mrs. Cullen reported that there were over 35,000 people in attendance. Mrs. Cullen asked if it is not legal for employees to lobby for the budget why it is ok for the governor to lobby against the budget.

Paul Dahan:

Stated that all involved in contract talks need to do their best going forward. Mr. Dahan was concerned over student field trips being cut and wanted to know if the board could accept donations from the community to restore the field trips. Mr. Dahan wanted to make sure that any funds donated would only go towards student and not teaching staff.

Nancy Reed:

Inquired how much of the accumulated interest money earned on the referendum funds remained. Mrs. Reed also asked why the meeting agendas were no longer being sent out via e-mail.

X. Executive Session

Adopt the Following Resolution

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED *by the Franklin Township Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4 -13 and 10:4 -12 that said public body hold a closed session on Monday, May 24, 2010 for the purpose of discussing the 2010-2011 budget and reduction in force (personnel matters). It is expected that the results of the discussion undertaken in closed session will be made public at the time official action is taken.*

Moved Mr. Schultz Second Ms. Vail Motion 9-0

XI. Motion to return to Open Public Session at 10:30 PM.

Moved Mr. Schultz Second Mr. Masino Motion 9-0

XII. Budget Resolutions

**Resolution
Franklin Township Board of Education**

WHEREAS, the Franklin Township Board of Education submitted the 2010-2011 budget to the legal voters of Franklin Township on April 20, 2010 for approval, and

WHEREAS, the budget was defeated at the polls by 230 votes, and

WHEREAS, the Franklin Township Board of Education met with representatives of The Franklin Township Committee to review the budget and agree on budget reductions, and

WHEREAS, The Franklin Township Committee has met and passed resolutions to decrease the 2010-2011 budget by \$ 398,514.00 and certified the general fund tax levy to be collected for the 2010-2011 school year in the amount of \$ 4,807,114.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Franklin Township Board of Education will reduce its budget in the amount of \$ 398,514 as follows:

Account	Description	Amount
11-120-100-101	1-5 Salaries	\$258,619
11-130-100-101	6-8 Salaries	\$37,982
11-213-100-100	Salaries of Teachers SPE Instruction/Resource Room	\$19,795
11-000-219-104	Salaries Other Prof Staff CST (Additional)	-\$3,135
11-000-216-320	Purchased Professional Educational Services (Additional)	-\$6,647
11-000-251-100	Salaries Central Services	\$3,848
11-000-230-100	Salaries General Administration	\$5,656
11-000-221-104	Salaries Other Professional Staff	\$2,089
11-190-100-270	Benefits Reg Program	\$63,363
11-000-219-270	Benefits CST	\$16,944
		\$398,514

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education directs the Business Administrator to make the necessary adjustments in the 2010-2011 budget and forward the revised documents to the proper agencies.

Moved Schultz

Second Foran

K. Weiss, <i>V.Pres.</i>	Y	P. DiGiambattista	Y	C. Ewing	Y
J. Foran	Y	K. Lundgren	Y	R. Masino	Y
T. Schultz	Y	L. Vail	Y	C. Piparo, <i>Pres.</i>	Y

XIII. 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.

A. EDUCATION

1. **Approve** the following field trip application:
 - Kindergarten, Hunterdon County Soil Conservation, June 16, 2010 (rain date 6/17)

B. PERSONNEL

No consent items

C. FACILITIES

1. **Approve** the following use of facility application:
 - Quakertown Fire Company, Memorial Day Ceremony, Front Lawn, May 31, 2010,

- c. **Motion** to adopt the resolution for participation in coordinated transportation with the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission for the 2010-2011 school year.

Moved Mr. DiGiambattista Second Mrs. Ewing Motion Carried 9-0

- d. **Motion** to approve Children Therapy Services to provide occupational therapy services to 2 out-of-district placements one to two hours per week per student at an hourly rate of \$88.50 for the 2010-2011 school year.

Moved Mr. Schultz Second Mrs. Lundgren Motion Carried 9-0

- e. **Motion** to authorize the Board Secretary to enter into a lease agreement with Henry Verity to lease 18 acres for the purpose of farming at an annual rate \$400.00.

Moved Mr. DiGiambattista Second Mrs. Lundgren Motion Carried 9-0

D. TRANSPORTATION
No action items

E. POLICY

- 1. **Discussion Item:**
 - a. Use of Facility Revisions

F. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. **Discussion Item:**
 - a. Community recommendation to develop ball fields.

A community group had approached the board with interest in using the school playing fields and that discussions would be opened with that organization.

It was reported that the class of 2010 had purchased new gymnasium mats and would be donating them to the school.

The potential sale of the 20.8 acres of land owned by the school was discussed. It was decided that it was not a good time to be selling the property and to close the matter.

The board would be having a planning session prior to the regular board meeting on June 21st 2010.

It was also determined that Mrs. Ewing can be present at all personnel discussions and that her membership in the NJEA only excludes her from collective bargaining negotiations.

XV. Board Matters

- A. Discussion Items:
 - 1. Property Sale
 - 2. Board Planning Session

XVI. Personnel

- 1. **Action Item:**
 - a. **Motion** to accept, with regret, the resignation of Jane Ries, Reading Specialist, to begin her retirement on July 1, 2010.

Moved Ms. Vail Second Mr. Foran Motion Carried 9-0

XVII. Public Comments

XVIII. Motion to Adjourn from the Public Meeting at 11:05 PM.

Moved Ms. Vail Second Mr. Foran Motion Carried 9-0

Certified by:

Board President

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Gomez
SBA/Board Secretary