



FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL
Board of Education

REGULAR MEETING
January 18, 2022

1. **Call to Order – President Sutton called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.**

1.01 Pledge of Allegiance

1.02 Open Public Meeting Announcement

In accordance with requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notice has been given of tonight’s meeting in the Hunterdon County Democrat and have been 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 and posted on the school website on January 13, 2022.

1.03 Roll Call

K. Sutton, <i>Pres.</i>	<i>Present</i>	V. Evans, <i>V. Pres.</i>	<i>Present (remote)</i>	R. Falcon	<i>Present</i>
A. Gilpin	<i>Present</i>	J. Giordano	<i>Present</i>	A. Luciano	<i>Present</i>
E. Tomasini	<i>Present</i>	N. Diaz, Superintendent	<i>Present</i>	L. Tirone	<i>Present</i>

2. **Presentations**

2.01 State of the District

Nicholas Diaz, Superintendent, Laura LoPiccolo, Curriculum Coordinator, and Lindsay Gooditis, Principal, gave a presentation on the state of the district.

3. **Minutes**

- 3.01 November 22, 2021 – Regular Meeting
- 3.02 November 22, 2021 – Executive Session

Resolved, to approve the above listed minutes.

Motion Luciano Second Tomasini By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
5	0	2 (A.G., J.G.)	0

3.03 January 4, 2022 – Reorganization Meeting

Resolved, to approve the above listed minutes.

Motion Luciano Second Tomasini By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

4. **Business Administrator Report – Lori Tirone**

There was a presentation by Dan Spanton, of SSP Architects as follows:

- Underground Storage Tank
- Above ground tank
- Propane conversion

Following the presentation, Mr. Spanton answered questions from board members on different options and costs related to the project. The recommendation from Mr. Spanton is to convert to propane.

5. **Superintendent’s Report - Nicholas Diaz**

5.01 Security and Fire Drills – 2021-2022

Type of Drill	Date

Fire Drill	9/10/21
Security Drill (Evacuation)	9/20/21
Security Drill (Testing of Intercom)	10/19/21
Fire Drill	10/28/21
Security Drill (Lockdown)	11/29/21
Fire Drill	11/30/21
Fire Drill	12/22/21
Security Drill (Lockdown)	12/23/21

6. **Public Comments - Privilege of the Floor (3 minutes) – Agenda Items Only**

Mrs. Frondorf had a question on testing and was also inquiring about the mental health of the children during the pandemic. Mr. Diaz addressed her concerns.

Mrs. Tomasini asked if morning counseling meetings were still taking place. Ms. Gooditis replied that meetings are well attended.

Mrs. Seiple made a comment about mask mandates.

Mr. Witkowski stated that he is against the use of propane due to the lack of efficiency of propane vs. oil to heat the school.

7. **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence at this time.

8. **Subcommittee Discussion and Action Items**

All resolutions are upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

8.01 **Ad Hoc** (Board Goals, Supt Goals/Personnel)/**Strategic Plan** – Mr. Falcon, Mrs. Luciano, Mrs. Tomasini
The committee did not meet.

8.02 **Facilities and Finance** - Mrs. Evans, Mr. Giordano, Mrs. Sutton
Resolved to approve items 8.02.1-8.02.6:

8.02.1 Professional Services Contract – Behavioral Consultation

Resolved, to approve the contract with Catherine Taylor-Santa, Ph.D., BCBA-D, to provide Behavioral Consultation Services for the 2021-2022 school year at the hourly rate of \$110.00.

8.02.2 Contracted Services Agreement – Speech Therapist

Resolved, to approve the Contracted Services Agreement between the Union Township Board of Education and the Franklin Township Board of Education for Speech Therapist Services for the period of January 3, 2022 through June 30, 2022.

8.02.3 Contracted Services Agreement - Substitute Personnel

Resolved, to approve the Contracted Services Agreement between the Union Township Board of Education and the Franklin Township Board of Education for Substitute Personnel Services for the period of January 3, 2022 through June 30, 2022.

8.02.4 Agreement - Gian Paul Gonzalez, LLC

Resolved to approve the agreement with Gian Paul Gonzalez, LLC, for a student presentation, ALL IN, for grades 7 and 8 on January 24, 2022.

8.02.5 Resolution - Coordinated Transportation Services - Warren County Special Services School District Resolved, to approve the agreement between Warren County Special Services School District and Franklin Township Board of Education for participation in coordinated transportation for the 2022-2023 school year, with an administrative fee of services in the amount of 4%.

8.02.6 Professional Services Agreement - H2N Architects

Resolved to approve H2N Architects for Professional Services to address the Fire Violation in the basement Multipurpose Room/Theater.

Motion by: Evans Seconded by: Luciano

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Evans	X			
Mr. Falcon	X			
Ms. Gilpin	X			
Mr. Giordano	X			
Mrs. Luciano	X			
Mrs. Tomasini	X			
Mrs. Sutton	X			
Totals:	7	0	0	0
Motion Carried				

8.02.7 Professional Services Agreement – LSRP - administratively removed from the agenda.

8.03 **Curriculum & Education** – Ms. Gilpin, Mrs. Luciano, Mrs. Tomasini

8.03.1 Presentation of Self-Assessment – Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act

Resolved to approve the Franklin Township School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021.

Motion Luciano Second Falcon By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

8.03.2 Nursing Services Plan – 2021-2022

Resolved to approve the Franklin Township School 2021-2022 Nursing Services Plan.

Motion Luciano Second Falcon By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

8.04 **Policy** - Mrs. Evans, Ms. Gilpin, Mrs. Tomasini
The committee did not meet.

8.05 **Negotiations** – Mr. Falcon, Mr. Giordano, Mrs. Sutton
The committee did not meet.

9. **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.

9.01 **Budget and Finance**

9.01.1 Secretary and Treasurer Report

Approve the Secretary and Treasurer Reports submitted for the months ending November, 2021 and December 2021, which agree with each other and the bank.

9.01.2 Financial Reports Certification

Approve the following resolution:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3(c)3, the Board Secretary certifies that no line account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10(a) and; pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3(c)4, we certify that as of November 2021 and December 2021 after review of the monthly reports (appropriation section) and upon consultation with the appropriate officials, to the best of our knowledge no major line account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the entire fiscal year.

9.01.3 Transfer of Funds

Approve the transfer of uncommitted funds within the 2021-2022 school year budget as per the attached list.

9.01.4 Bill List

Approve the November, 2021 bill list in the amount of \$671,977.86.

Approve the December, 2021 bill list in the amount of \$600,592.94.

9.02 Education

9.02.1 **Approve** the following field trips:

Grade	Destination	Date
Grade 5	New Jersey State Museum	May 2022
Grade 1	Whispering Pines Alpaca Farm	June 2022
Grade 8	iFly	May 2022
Grade 3	Adventure Aquarium	May 2022
Grade 7	Franklin Institute (Updated to reflect change of restaurant for lunch.)	May 2022

9.03 Personnel

9.03.1 **Approve** the following substitute personnel applications:

- Mark Mandelberg
- Karine Ferreira
- Noelle Decowski

9.03.2 **Approve** the following professional day requests:

Date	Employee	Name of Professional Development Program	Registration Cost	Mileage Exp.
March 20-23, 2022	James Schwar	2022 NJ School Building & Grounds Association Conference	\$300.00 plus Hotel – \$97.00 per night plus Parking/Tolls	.35/mile
January 14, 2022	Trina Lahman	Bridges Intervention Remote K-5 Workshop	\$75.00	N/A
February 24 & 25, 2022	Emily Kastner	NJ Music Educators Association State Conference	\$180.00	.35/mile

9.03.3 **Approve** the following course applications:

Employee Name	Name of Course	College/University	Session	Amount of Reimbursement
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David Giantisco	Designing Professional Development	University of Delaware	Spring 2022	\$1,350.00
David Giantisco	Promoting Equitable Schools	University of Delaware	Spring 2022	\$477.20

9.04 **Facilities**

9.04.1 **Approve** the following use of facility applications:

Name of Group	Purpose	Location	Days/Dates	Time
PTA This item has been tabled.	Snowflake Ball Tricky Tray	Gym Cafeteria	March 4, 2022	3:00 – 9:30 p.m.

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Dr. Nicholas Diaz, to approve the above stated consent agenda items.

Discussion: There was a discussion about the Snowflake Ball. There were concerns with the event being held indoors and not know if things will improve with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Ideas of having the event in the spring with the possibility of it being held outdoors was discussed. **The use of facility request was tabled.**

Motion by: Luciano Seconded by: Falcon

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Evans	X			
Mr. Falcon	X			
Ms. Gilpin	X			
Mr. Giordano	X			
Mrs. Luciano	X			
Mrs. Tomasini	X			
Mrs. Sutton	X			
Totals:	7	0	0	0

10. **Board Matters/New Business**

10.01 – Discussion – Covid Protocols

The following was discussed:

- Covid Data
- Current Exclusion Guidelines (changed on 1/10)
- Additional Guidelines/Requirements
- Test to Stay (FTS/UTS)
- Policy needs to be developed for Test to Stay for staff and students.
- Board members were polled on Test to Stay.

Resolved, to approve Test to Stay and update the reopening plan with explanation to set expectations and that it is optional.

Motion by: Evans Seconded by: Tomasini

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
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Mrs. Evans	X			
Mr. Falcon	X			
Ms. Gilpin	X			
Mr. Giordano		X		
Mrs. Luciano	X			
Mrs. Tomasini	X			
Mrs. Sutton	X			
Totals:	6	1	0	0
Motion Carried				

11. **Public Comments- Privilege of the Floor**

There were comments and questions from the public regarding vaccines, masks, and testing requirements. Questions were answered by Dr. Diaz.

12. **Personnel - All resolutions are upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.**

Resolved, to approve items 12.01 - 12.05.

12.01 **Resolved**, to approve Stephani Stephens to be compensated for additional time to assist in the health office with COVID-19 contact tracing requirements at the hourly rate of \$30.00 not to exceed \$1,200.00.

12.02 **Resolved**, to approve Kristen Andreychak to be the National Junior Honor Society Advisor for the 2021-2022 school year at the stipend amount of \$1,275.00.

12.03 **Resolved**, to accept with regret, the resignation of Ronald Larsen, Custodian, effective January 31, 2022.

12.04 **Resolved**, to appoint Christine Torres as School Secretary at the annual salary of \$42,750.00 to be prorated from the start date of February 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022.

12.05 **Resolved**, to accept with regret, the retirement of Janet Prassl, Fourth Grade Teacher, effective July 1, 2022.

Discussion: None

Motion by: Falcon Seconded by: Tomasini

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Evans	X			
Mr. Falcon	X			
Ms. Gilpin	X			
Mr. Giordano	X			
Mrs. Luciano	X			
Mrs. Tomasini	X			
Mrs. Sutton	X			
Totals:	7	0	0	0
Motion Carried				

13. **Executive Session – 9:34 p.m.**

13.01 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 January 18, 2022 for the purpose of discussing personnel. It is expected that the results of the discussion undertaken in closed session will be made public at the time official action is taken. The board expects to reconvene into public session in approximately 20 minutes. Action will be taken.

Motion Luciano Second Gilpin By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

13.02 **Resolved, to return to Open Public Session at 9:59 pm.**

Motion Tomasini Second Luciano By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

- 14. **Other Business**
Nothing at this time.

- 15. **Adjournment**
15.01 **Resolved to** Adjourn from the Public Meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Motion Tomasini Second Luciano By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Tirone
SBA/Board Secretary