



FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL
Board of Education

REGULAR MEETING
March 21, 2022

1. **Call to Order – President Sutton called the meeting to order at 6:30 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 March 8, 2022.

1.03 Roll Call

K. Sutton, <i>Pres.</i>	<i>present</i>	V. Evans, <i>V. Pres.</i>	<i>present</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 - None**

3. **Minutes**

- 3.01 February 15, 2022 – Regular Meeting
- 3.02 February 15, 2022 – Executive Session

Resolved, to approve the above listed minutes.

Motion Falcon Second Giordano By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

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

Underground Storage Tank – Marcus from SSP spoke about the project. Contractors are required to have a LSRP. There were 2 bidders, T. Slack and DiSapio, with T. Slack being more efficient. There were \$70,000 in allowances and the lead time for the tank is 22 weeks which will take us to mid August. There will be a 24 to 48 period of time without oil to change over to the new tank. Several inspections will be conducted throughout the project by NJDEP, etc.

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

- **Academy students-** I am pleased to share that six of our 8th grade students applied to the Hunterdon County Vocational School District Academies, took an accuplacer test, in which they scored in the top 40 students. They then were interviewed and placed in the top 25 students that were accepted into each program. This was the first time in 3 years that all FTS students who applied to the programs were accepted. Congratulations to:
 - Chidera Emeaso- BioMedical Academy
 - Micah Varughese- BioMedical Academy
 - Natalie Loewenstein- BioMedical Academy
 - Melissa Guerra- BioMedical Academy
 - Ryland Hender- BioMedical Academy
 - Janet Medrano- Animal Science

SEL Day was held on March 11, 2022. This year for SEL Day we had students participate in activities during the school day to promote social well being. This day was organized with the help of the Student Council. During this

time, students were able to play kickball, basketball, read and complete activities with younger students, and play board games.

- **Read Across America Week-** FTS celebrated the annual Read Across America week by participating in classroom activities and a school wide spirit week. Some activities included graphing with fish, decorating socks, and writing opinion essays about their favorite book.
- At this time, I am going to transition into a slide presentation, to go over our updated Covid data and to discuss the new health program for next year, Health Smart.
- 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
Security Drill (Bomb threat)	1/27/22
Fire Drill	1/31/22
Security Drill (Bomb Threat)	2/15/22
Fire Drill	2/28/22
Fire Drill	3/4/22
Bus Evacuation Drill (see form attached)	3/8/22

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

Three members of the public had comments and questions about the new health program. One person praised the preschool program for children 3 and 4 years old.

7. **Correspondence – None**

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
No meeting this month.

8.02 **Facilities and Finance** - Mrs. Evans, Mr. Giordano, Mrs. Sutton
Resolved, to approve items 8.02.1 - 8.02.5.

8.02.1 **Adoption of the 2022-2023 Proposed Budget**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township Board of Education hereby adopts the following proposed budget for the 2022-2023 school year and approves it for submission to the Hunterdon County Department of Education Executive County Superintendent for required review and approval. The proposed budget includes sufficient funds to provide curriculum and instruction which will enable all students to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, and is compliant with N.J.S.A. 18A and N.J.A.C. Title 6 and 6A. The District has proposed

programs and services in addition to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards adopted by the State Board of Education.

REVENUE		APPROPRIATIONS	
<u>Fund 10: Operating Budget</u>		<u>Fund 10: Operating Budget</u>	
Excess Surplus/Fund Balance	\$ 104,739	Current Expense	\$ 7,133,910
Local Tax Levy	\$ 6,217,871	Capital Outlay*	\$ 1,043,044
Other Revenue	\$ 378,600		
W/D Capital Reserve	\$ 760,000		
W/D Maintenance Reserve	\$ 100,000		
E/O Aid (Est)	\$ 163,000		
State Aid	\$ 452,744		
<u>Fund 20: Special Funds</u>		<u>Fund 20: Special Funds</u>	
Grant Entitlements (Est)	\$ 87,000	REAP/ESEA/IDEA Grants	\$ 87,000
<u>Fund 40: Debt Service</u>		<u>Fund 40: Debt Service</u>	
Tax Levy	\$ 646,800	Repayment of Debt	\$ 646,800
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$8,910,754	TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS:	\$8,910,754

(*Capital Outlay includes the State Assessment for Debt Service on SDA Grant Funding, Lease Purchase Loan Principal, and the UST Project, Fire Violation, LEN II Project.)

As per N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3(a), the proposed budget provides for a maximum appropriation amount of \$20,000.00 that may be allotted for travel and expense reimbursement. The School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs ensuring the maximum amount is not exceeded.

The 2022-2023 budget includes the use of all automatic adjustments (i.e. enrollment and pre budget year tax levy), if applicable.

The 2022-2023 budget includes a withdrawal from the Capital Reserve in the amount of \$760,000. The use of these funds is for the UST replacement, Fire Violation, and LENS II Project, including architect and engineering fees. If all funds are not used by the end of the 2022-23 budget year, they must be returned to the Capital Reserve Fund by June 30, 2023.

The 2022-2023 budget includes a withdrawal from the Maintenance Reserve in the amount of \$100,000 for the purpose of required maintenance. If all funds are not used by the end of the 2022-23 budget year, they must be returned to the Maintenance Reserve Fund by June 30, 2023.

8.02.2 Contracted Services Agreement – Speech Therapist

Resolved, to approve the Amended Contracted Services Agreement between the Union Township Board of Education and the Franklin Township Board of Education for Speech Therapist Services.

8.02.3 NJCAP Program Application 2022-2023

Resolved, to approve the 2022-2023 NJCAP Grant Application, with estimated amounts as follows:

PreK – 6 \$948.00 of which \$284.40 is district funded.

Teen CAP - \$550.00 of which \$165.00 is district funded.

8.02.4 School Lunch Prices - 2022-2023

Resolved, to approve the increase of student and adult school lunch prices for the 2022-2023 school year. The new meal price will be \$3.75 for students and \$4.25 for adults. This price increase reflects the exorbitant price increases in food, supplies and labor.

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 February, 2022 bill list in the amount of \$1,144,651.31.

9.02 Education

9.02.1 Approve the following field trips:

Grade	Destination	Date
Grade 8	Dorney Park	May 2022
Grade 8	Free Fall Trampoline Park (Activity)	June 2022
Kindergarten	Bonacorsi Farm	June 2022

9.03 Personnel

9.03.1 **Approve** the following substitute personnel:

- Peter Frederiks – substitute teacher

9.03.2 **Approve** Nichole Sorge, a student attending Rowan University, to complete her Internship in School Psychology at Franklin Township School for the 2022-2023 school year, shadowing Erica Norris, School Psychologist.

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

Date	Employee	Name of Professional Development Program	Registration Cost	Mileage Exp.
4/6/22	Amelia Lamonde Jordan Simon Christina Kocsi	Wit & Wisdom Training	\$105.00 per person	N/A
5/4/22	Karen Brokaw Susan Rainaldi Jackie Nombre Trina Lahman	Wit & Wisdom Training	\$105.00 per Person	N/A
4/1/22	Karin Stumpf	NJSCA Spring Conference	\$0.00	.35/mile

9.04 Facilities

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

Name of Group	Purpose	Location	Days/Dates	Time
Franklin Theaterworks	Drama Classes	Library or Classroom (occasional use of stage)	Mon. & Wed. March 28 – June 3	6-9 pm
Franklin Township Committee	Committee Meetings	Theater or gym if capacity is maxed in the theater	Thursdays, 3/24, 4/14, 4/28, 5/12 5/26, 6/9, 6/23	7:00 – 10:30 pm
FTS PTA	Mother’s Day Plant Sale	Grassy area outside of the library	5/5/22 (Rain date 5/6/22)	7:00 am – 2:30 pm
FTS PTA/Class of 2022	Staff/Student Basketball Game	Gym Cafeteria	Friday, April 29, 2022	4:00 – 10:00 p.m.

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

Discussion: There was a question about the Free Fall trip and iFly trip. Free Fall is 8th grade activity and iFly is educational.

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
Motion Carried				

10. Board Matters/New Business

10.01 Discussion on letter to the Township regarding the potential Cannabis Ordinance.

Dr. Diaz talked about the letter and that the township may be cancelling the ordinance. Mrs. Luciano said to still send the letter.

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

A parent had a question about workbooks for the health program.

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

12.01 Leave of Absence – Employee ID# 10109

Resolved, to approve a request for paid Child Bearing Leave for Employee ID #10109 commencing on or about July 18, 2022 through September 30, 2022.

Be it further resolved, to approve a request for up to 12 weeks of unpaid Child Rearing Leave, to run concurrently with provisions of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), commencing on or about October 1, 2022 and terminating on or about December 23, 2022.

Discussion: None

Motion by: Evans Seconded by: Luciano

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 – 7:34 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 March 21, 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 30 minutes. Action will be taken.

Motion Falcon Second Evans By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

13.02 **Resolved, to return to Open Public Session at 8:03 pm.**

Motion Evans Second Luciano By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

14. **Other Business**

14.01 **Resolved**, to authorize the Board Secretary, to send the attached letter to the Franklin Township Committee regarding the potential Cannabis Ordinance.

Motion Luciano Second Gilpin By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

15. **Adjournment**

15.01 **Resolved to** Adjourn from the Public Meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Motion Luciano Second Evans By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Tirone, Business Administrator/Bd. Secretary