



**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL
Board of Education**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 19 , 2022 - 6:30 p.m.

A G E N D A

1. Call to Order - President Sutton called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

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, Pres.	Present	V. Evans, V. Pres.	Present	R. Falcon	Present, 6:33pm
A. Gilpin	Present	J. Giordano	Present	A. Luciano	Present
E. Tomasini	Present	N. Diaz, Superintendent	Present	L. Tirone	Present

2. Presentations - None

3. Minutes

3.01 August 22, 2022 Regular Meeting

Resolved, to approve the above listed minutes.

Motion Luciano Second Evans By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
6	0	0	1

4. Business Administrator Report – Lori Tirone - NONE

5. Superintendent’s Report - Nicholas Diaz

5.01

Thank you - I want to begin by thanking the Board of Education and the school community for all of your support to our school family during the recent tragic loss of our student and child of one of our beloved staff members. We appreciate the prayers, well wishes, and other support offered to the family and to the school.

Sustainable New Jersey- Franklin Township School has achieved silver certification with 435 points. Our school will be honored at the 2022 Sustainable Jersey for Schools Awards Ceremony during the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) Workshop in October.

- As a reminder to the community, under Dr. Gooditis leadership, FTS has achieved silver certification for it's sustainable efforts for two certification cycles in a row. FTS was also awarded Digital School Star Status in 2021. We are looking forward to the awards ceremony in October.

Security Update- Lori Tirone and I reached out to the Clinton Township Police Department to gauge their interest in potentially partnering with FTS for the purpose of supplying an armed officer (either Class III or school resource officer). Unfortunately, they are unable to take another school on right now as they are entering into shared agreements with Clinton Township SD for officers.

However, we did speak to the Franklin Township Police Department again, they are willing to discuss the possibility of eliminating their requirement of the BOE purchasing a police vehicle, if we move forward with an officer. They do not believe they are in a position to outsource a school resource officer to us, but they would like to explore the possibility of entering into an agreement for a Class III officer. Lori and I would like to meet with the FTPD again and perhaps invite Karen and Ginger to sit in on the meeting.

Cell Phone Policy - This week we will be sending out a reminder to our school community in regards to our cell phone policy. Right now, as per our BOE policy, students are to keep their phones off and not on their person during the school day. Separate from the policy has been our practice highlighted in the Parent-Student Handbook. Currently the handbook states:

- The use of a cell phone during drills, lock downs and other emergencies may hamper emergency communication and may warrant suspension. Any violations of the cell phone policy will lead to the phone being confiscated. The following steps will be taken:
 1. A warning will be issued upon the first incident.
 2. The teacher will confiscate the device from the student upon the second incident. The parent or guardian will be able to pick up the device at the end of the day.
 3. After the third incident, the device will be held by the administration until the last day of school in June.
 Photographs, videos, and any other camera features used or taken of other students is strictly prohibited.

What we would like to implement is:

1. Hold an assembly with the student body, and explain the new procedures to all students (this will serve as the traditional warning). Any students who are absent, we will address separately upon their return. Then we would send a mass communication out to families highlighting the new practice. These would be the updated consequences.
2. First offense, If the cell phone procedure is violated, The teacher will confiscate the device from the student. The student will be able to pick up the device at the end of the day.
3. Upon the second incident (and the subsequent incidents thereafter), the device will be held by the administration until a parent or guardian retrieves the device.

The reason for this desired change is due to teacher feedback. Teachers are reporting a large uptick in the number of students using their cell phones during the school day. Teachers are concerned that if this is not addressed swiftly, it will begin to interrupt classroom instruction and/or lead to an unwanted recording of a student/staff member.

- **Covid Process-** On tonight’s agenda is a DOE required virtual plan should we have to have a prolonged closure (3 days or more). In addition, we are looking to finalize our Covid procedures document (this one does not need BOE approval). I will read the [current plan](#) to see if any BOE members would like us to consider any additional items or tweak any of our current practices.

5.02 Security and Fire Drills – 2022-2023

Type of Drill	Date
Shelter-in-Place (security)	9/1/22
Fire Drill	9/16/22

6. **Public Comments - Privilege of the Floor (3 minutes) – Agenda Items Only**
Mr. Metelski commented on the removal of books

9.02 **Education**

9.02.1 Resolved, to approve the Franklin Township Virtual or Remote Instruction Plan 2022-2023 for submission to the County Office for approval.

9.03 **Personnel**

9.03.1 Approve the following professional day requests:

Date	Employee	Name of Professional Development Program	Registration Cost	Mileage Exp.
10/7/22	Karin Stumpf	NJSCA Annual Fall Conf.	\$0	.47/mile

9.03.2 Approve Tregoed, Inc. to provide professional development to the Leadership Staff for Building Leader Capacity for Collaborative Problem Solving and Decision Making at the cost of \$12,000.00. To be expended from the SRSA grant funds.

9.03.03 Approve GoMo Educational Services, LLC to provide professional development training to the staff for Relationships the Difference Maker at a cost of \$2,500.00. To be expended from professional development.

9.04 **Facilities**

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

Name of Group	Purpose	Location	Days/Dates	Time
PTA	School store	Cafeteria	10/12/22 11/30/22 1/25/22 3/8/22 4/19/22	Lunch periods

9.04.2 **Approve** Northeastern Interior Services LLC to work on the Old School House at the new quote of \$26,383.50.

9.04.3 **Approve** T. Slack Environmental Services to perform maintenance on the Sand Filter at the cost of \$23,975.00.

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

Discussion: None

Motion by: Luciano

Seconded by: Evans

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 - None**

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

Two community members asked about the status of security.

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

12.01 **Resolved**, to appoint Joseph Amatelli as full-time custodian beginning on September 12, 2022 through June 30, 2023 at an annual salary of \$44,000, to be prorated from the start date.

Motion by: Evans

Seconded by: Luciano

Discussion: None

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				

12.02 **Resolved**, to appoint Michael Lucas as part-time custodian at an hourly rate of \$18.00 for the 2022-2023 school year.

Motion by: Luciano

Seconded by: Evans

Discussion: None

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				

12.03 **Resolved**, to approve Karin Stumpf to be compensated for CPR training on August 23 and 27, for a total of 5.25 hours at \$30.00 per hour.

Motion by: Luciano

Seconded by: Gilpin

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Evans	x			
Mr. Falcon	x			
Ms. Gilpin	x			
Mr. Giordano	x			
Mrs. Luciano	x			

