

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA  
MARCH 19, 2014 – 7:36 PM**

Mr. Richard E. Arline - absent  
Mr. Delvin Burton  
Mrs. Christine Danielsen  
Mrs. Nancy LaCorte  
Mrs. Eva M. Nagy, Vice President

Dr. Julia M. Presley, President - absent  
Ms. Keisha Smith-Carrington – arrived at 7:41 PM  
Mrs. Betty Whalen

Ms. Eveny Pagán, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. John Calavano, Assistant Superintendent for Business/Board Secretary  
Ms. Lynne Crawford, Director of Pupil Personnel Services  
Mr. Orvyl Wilson, Director of School Management  
Mrs. Maureen Manning, Assistant Business Administrator  
Mr. Brian Bonanno, Manager of Administrative Services

And 10 Members of the Public

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Mrs. Danielsen led the Board in the pledge.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT**

Mr. Calavano read the following statement:

In accordance with the “Open Public Meetings Act” P.L. 1975, c. 231 (Sunshine Law), the schedule and notification of this meeting have been provided for on March 4, 2014 and March 14, 2014. Copies of this notice were faxed to the **Courier News**, the **Home News Tribune**, **The Star-Ledger**, **The Times of Trenton**, Franklin Township Clerk/Manager, WCTC Radio, District Schools, Offices and Associations, PTO Presidents, and posted on the Central Administration Building notice board.

Mr. Burton read the following statement:

**MISSION STATEMENT OF THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

The Mission of the Franklin Township Public Schools is to provide excellent educational opportunities that meet or exceed New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for every student; maintain an environment that engenders an appreciation of the value of every student; develop every student to his/her highest potential; and instill the attitudes, skills, and knowledge necessary to become independent, contributing members of a democratic, multi-cultural society.

**DISTRICT GOALS**

**CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:** *To develop and implement a comprehensive assessment program designed to meet the needs of all students through the use of formative and summative assessments aligned to the common core standards and integrated into instruction.*

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:** *To promote community engagement and effective communication to and from all stakeholders.*

**CULTURE AND CLIMATE:** *To continue the District’s efforts to safeguard students and staff, enhance the culture and environment of our schools and improve relationships among and between students; staff; parents/guardians; and the community that promote respect, motivation for learning and creativity in and for our students.*

**FACILITIES:** *Utilizing the District's 2011-2021 Long-Range Facilities Plan, finalize a building program (including application for state grants and outside funding sources) that will enhance and improve the District's delivery of education to all students; provide additional classroom space to address the projected enrollment growth over the next several years; address critical maintenance issues in all existing facilities and consider potential changes to the delivery of education.*

**PURPOSE: Adopt the 2014-2015 Preliminary Budget**

- I. Presentation of the 2014-2015 Preliminary Budget by Eveny Pagán, Interim Superintendent of Schools, and John Calavano, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Board Secretary

**II. Comments From The Public**

The meeting was opened for public comment at 8:18 PM on a motion by Mrs. Whalen, seconded by Mr. Burton. All board members were in agreement. Public comments were heard by the Board of Education. The following is a brief synopsis of comments made by the public.

Torrie Hurd requested to know how many of the current district substitute teachers are certified and if the new company will require certification.

Angela Barkley requested to know if any substitute teachers would get benefits. She expressed her concern with the ISS, CODA and behavioral positions being cut from next year's budget at Franklin Middle School. Ms. Barkley questioned how the ISS Program will be run and requested that the board look at the fat in the high school administrative team. She suggested not hiring a Vice Principal at Elizabeth Avenue School and hiring deans instead.

Myra Mitchell spoke about the Supervisor of Science, 7-12, and the Director of Accountability being cut from the budget. She requested to know where the funding came from to save the paraprofessionals, what cuts were made at the top and questioned the elimination of the Director of Personnel position. Ms. Mitchell questioned how the district measures efficiency in the Personnel Department.

Motion to close the public portion of the meeting at 8:30 PM by Mrs. Whalen, seconded by Mr. Burton. All board members were in agreement.

**III. Board Discussion of Preliminary Budget**

**A-1 Adoption of the 2014-2015 Preliminary Budget**

Moved: Mr. Burton

Seconded: Mrs. Whalen

Be it resolved, the Board of Education adopts the following preliminary budget for the 2014-2015 school year as follows:

**Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement**

WHEREAS, the Franklin Township Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$1,500 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of \$200,000 for all staff and board members.

#### **Adoption of Preliminary Budget**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the preliminary budget be approved for the 2014-2015 School Year using the 2014-2015 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:

	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>SPECIAL REVENUES</u>	<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<b>2014-15 Total Expenditures</b>	\$141,768,541	\$4,374,227	\$4,657,125	\$150,799,893
<b>Less: Anticipated Revenues</b>	<u>16,993,861</u>	<u>4,374,227</u>	<u>30,374</u>	<u>21,398,462</u>
<b>Taxes to be Raised</b>	<u>\$124,774,680</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>\$4,626,751</u>	<u>\$129,401,431</u>

And to advertise said tentative budget in the Courier News in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held in the Franklin Middle School, 415 Francis Street, Somerset, New Jersey on May 6, 2014 at 7:30 pm for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2014-2015 School Year.

<u>Absent</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Arline	Burton	Danielsen	LaCorte	Smith-Carrington	Whalen	Dr. Presley	Nagy

**Confidential Session - Library**

Moved: Mrs. Whalen

Seconded: Mr. Burton

Motion to adjourn to confidential session at 8:38 PM to discuss a candidate for the position of Interim Superintendent of Schools. Minutes of the confidential session meeting will be made public when the reason for confidentiality no longer exists.

<u>Absent</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Arline	Burton	Danielsen	LaCorte	Smith-Carrington	Whalen	Dr. Presley	Nagy

Returned to open session at 9:36 PM in the Cafeteria.

Reconvening roll call – All board members were present, with the exception of Mr. Arline and Dr. Presley.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved: Mrs. LaCorte

Seconded: Mr. Burton

Action to adjourn at 9:37 PM.

<u>Absent</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Arline	Burton	Danielsen	LaCorte	Smith-Carrington	Whalen	Dr. Presley	Nagy

Respectfully submitted,

John Calavano  
Board Secretary