

**MINUTES
WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA
MAY 8, 2014 – 7:30 P.M.**

CALL OF ROLL

Mr. Richard E. Arline – arrived at 8:05 PM	Mr. Edward Potosnak III – arrived at 7:36 PM
Mr. Delvin Burton – arrived at 7:36 PM	Dr. Julia M. Presley, President
Mrs. Christine Danielsen	Ms. Keisha Smith-Carrington - absent
Mrs. Nancy LaCorte	Mrs. Betty Whalen
Mrs. Eva M. Nagy, Vice President	

Dr. LeRoy E. Seitz, 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

And 50 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 January 6, 2014. Copies of this notice were faxed to the **Courier News**, the **Home News Tribune**, **The Star-Ledger**, **The Trenton Times**, Franklin Township Clerk/Manager, WCTC Radio, District Schools, Offices and Associations, PTO Presidents, and posted on the Central Administration Building notice board.

Mrs. Nagy 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.

I. Action to Adopt the Agenda

Moved: Mrs. Whalen Seconded: Mrs. Danielsen

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

II. Interim Superintendent's Update

Dr. Seitz discussed the recent Regional Achievement Center assessments of Sampson G. Smith School and Franklin Middle School. He indicated that reports would be received shortly and that Mr. Wilson and he are arranging separate meetings with the parents and staff at both schools to report out on the findings and solicit suggestions on how we can work together to improve our schools and increase student achievement. It is expected that the meetings will take place in May or early June.

III. Comments From The Public *(5 minutes per speaker – agenda items only)*

The meeting was opened for public comments at 7:35 PM on a motion by Mrs. Nagy, seconded by Mrs. Danielsen. All board members were in agreement. There were no public comments at this time.

Motion to close the public comment portion of the meeting by Mrs. Nagy, seconded by Mrs. Danielsen. All board members were in agreement.

IV. Committee/Liaison Reports

Mrs. Whalen, Communications Ad Hoc Committee Chair, reported on the April 29th meeting.

Mrs. Whalen, Curriculum Committee member, reported on the April 7th and 28th meetings.

Mr. Burton, Finance Committee Chair, reported on the March 12th and April 21st meetings.

Mrs. Nagy, Policy Committee Chair, reported on the February 24th and April 10th meetings.

Mrs. Nagy, Facilities Committee Chair, reported on the April 23rd meeting.

Mrs. Nagy announced the agenda items for the Somerset County School Boards Association's final meeting on May 20th and the May 17th meeting of the Delegate's Assembly.

V. New Business

1. Review of May 22, 2014 Action Meeting Agenda
2. Action Items for May 8, 2014

Action Item**HIB Investigation Report****R-01 HIB (Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying) Investigation Report**

Moved: Mrs. Nagy

Seconded: Mrs. Daniels

Acknowledge receipt of the HIB Investigation Report for the period March 14, 2014 through April 30, 2014 as detailed in the exhibit attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. (Exhibit R-01)

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

Business**B-01 Contract Award – MacAfee Road School Roof Replacement**

Moved: Mrs. Nagy

Seconded: Mr. Burton

Award bid received and opened on April 23, 2014 to Arch Concept Construction, Haledon, NJ for the roof replacement work at MacAfee Road School in the amount of \$628,711, as detailed in exhibit attached hereto and made part of the minutes. (Exhibit B-01)

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

Confidential Session - Library

Moved: Mrs. Nagy

Seconded: Mr. Burton

Motion to adjourn to confidential session at 8:00 PM for the purpose of discussing confidential personnel matters. 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>	<u>Yes</u>
Arline	Burton	Danielsen	LaCorte	Nagy	Potosnak	Smith-Carrington	Whalen	Dr.Presley

Returned to open session 9:26 PM.

Reconvening roll call – All board members were present with the exception of Ms. Smith-Carrington.

Personnel**P-01 Increment Withholdings****P-02 Personnel Report No. 17, dated May 8, 2014**

Moved: Mrs. Nagy

Seconded: Mr. Burton

P-01 Increment Withholdings

As recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, approve the following increment withholdings:

1. Whereas, the Board of Education has received a recommendation from the Interim Superintendent of Schools relating to district employee 6758; and

Whereas, the Interim Superintendent has recommended that the employee's employment and adjustment increments (including longevity increment, if any) be withheld for the 2014-2015 school year, and that the salary of such employee be maintained at the same amount as the salary level for such employee for the 2013-2014 school year; and

Whereas, specific grounds for recommendation are set forth in the attachment hereto (which shall be held confidential by the Board) and have been submitted to the Board and considered by it in connection with this action; now, therefore, be it

Whereas by the Board of Education, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:29-14, as follows:

The employment and adjustment increments (including longevity increment, if any) shall be withheld from district employee 6758 for the 2014-2015 school year and that the employee's salary for the 2014-2015 school year shall be the same as received by such employee during the 2013-2014 school year (\$61,320).

2. Whereas the Board of Education has received a recommendation from the Interim Superintendent of Schools relating to district employee 5965; and

Whereas the Interim Superintendent has recommended that the employee's employment and adjustment increments (including longevity increment, if any) be withheld for the 2014-2015 school year, and that the salary of such employee be maintained at the same amount as the salary level for such employee for the 2013-2014 school year; and

Whereas, specific grounds for recommendation are set forth in the attachment hereto (which shall be held confidential by the Board) and have been submitted to the Board and considered by it in connection with this action; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Board of Education, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:29-14, as follows:

The employment and adjustment increments (including longevity increment, if any) shall be withheld from district employee 5965 for the 2014-2015 school year and that the employee's salary for the 2014-2015 school year shall be the same as received by such employee during the 2013-2014 school year (\$84,325).

3. Whereas, the Board of Education has received a recommendation from the Interim Superintendent of Schools relating to district employee 8204; and

Whereas, the Interim Superintendent has recommended that the employee's employment and adjustment increments (including longevity increment, if any) be withheld for the 2014-2015 school year, and that the salary of such employee be maintained at the same amount as the salary level for such employee for the 2013-2014 school year; and

Whereas, specific grounds for recommendation are set forth in the attachment hereto (which shall be held confidential by the Board) and have been submitted to the Board and considered by it in connection with this action; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Board of Education, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:29-14, as follows:

The employment and adjustment increments (including longevity increment, if any) shall be withheld from district employee 8204 for the 2014-2015 school year and that the employee's salary for the 2014-2015 school year shall be the same as received by such employee during the 2013-2014 school year (\$47,000).

P-02 Personnel Report No. 17, dated May 8, 2014

As recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, approve Personnel Report No. 17, as detailed in the exhibit attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. (Exhibit P-02)

MOTION

Moved: Mrs. Danielsen

Seconded: Mr. Burton

Motion to amend Resolution P-02 to include Addendum #17.

Vote on Motion

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

Vote on Original Motion with Amendment

<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Burton	Danielsen	LaCorte	Nagy	Potosnak	Smith-Carrington	Whalen	Arline	Dr. Presley

Mrs. Danielsen voted no on Attachment D, First Page, Last Name

Mrs. LaCorte voted no on Personnel Report #17, First Page, Second Name from Bottom and Attachment D, First Page, Last Name

Mrs. Whalen voted no on Attachment D, First Page, Last Name

VI. Comments From The Public (5 minutes per speaker – any items)

The meeting was opened for public comments at 9:30 PM on a motion by Mrs. LaCorte, 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.

Terrain Hodges expressed her concern about her son and the freshman baseball team. She indicated that she feels shocked and appalled with this year's baseball season and feels uncertain about their future in the school district.

Ardaman Singh congratulated the teachers and expressed her disappointment with the resignation of James Bever. She believes it may be time to move her children out of the school district and for Mrs. Nagy to move on as well. Mrs. Singh requested that the community not support Mrs. Nagy at the November election.

John Felix expressed his disappointment with tonight's vote regarding James Bever and is dismayed at Dr. Seitz for recommending the non-renewal. Mr. Felix requested to be updated on various matters at the next board meeting.

Jennifer Dars, Franklin High School student, spoke positively about the high school and Mr. Bever and questioned why her chemistry teacher will not be back next year.

Bill Connell spoke about a project at Sampson G. Smith School last week and expressed his disappointment with Mr. Bever's non-renewal.

Lana Fuller spoke about Mr. Bevere's accomplishments and her disappointment that the board did not bring him back. She also pointed out many issues at Franklin Middle School and that Mr. Adams has not returned one of her phone calls. Ms. Fuller indicated that the wrong principal is being looked at and that Mr. Adam manhandles many students.

Linda Powell welcomed new board member, Ed Potosnak, and thanked all the teachers. She spoke about the interview committee that she was part of for the last high school Principal search and indicated she is not in favor of letting go Mr. Bevere.

Sean Maggio, Franklin High School student, spoke in support of Mr. DeVito, his chemistry teacher.

Nick DiMeglio read a letter from Lavora Bascome Rose regarding issues at Franklin Middle School.

Anthony Francese spoke about the difference between now and two years ago is like night and day.

Motion to close the public comment portion of the meeting at 10:05 PM by Mrs. Nagy, seconded by Mr. Burton. All board members were in agreement.

Adjournment

Moved: Mrs. Nagy

Seconded: Mr. Burton

Action to adjourn at 10:06 PM.

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

Respectfully submitted,

John Calavano
Board Secretary