

**MINUTES
WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA
NOVEMBER 12, 2015 – 7:30 P.M.**

CALL OF ROLL

Mrs. Christine Danielsen	Ms. Patricia E. Stanley
Mrs. Nancy LaCorte, Vice President	Mrs. Margaret E. Steele
Mr. Edward Potosnak, III, President	Ms. Latee E. Walton-McCleod - absent
Dr. Julia Presley - absent	Mrs. Betty Whalen
Mr. Richard Seamon	

Dr. John A. Ravally, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. James H. Strimple, Jr., Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business/Board Secretary
Dr. Jeffrey Charney, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction - absent
Mr. Orvyl Wilson, Director of School Management
Dr. Brenda Sofield, Director of Pupil Personnel Services

And 20 Members of the Public

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Mrs. Whalen led the Board in the pledge.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

Mr. Strimple 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 5, 2015. 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.

Ms. Steele 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 2015-2016

- ***To establish the Superintendent as the Educational Leader of Franklin Township Public Schools.***
- ***To utilize data analysis in reviewing our educational programs and make recommendations for subsequent years to improve college and career readiness for all students.***
- ***To recruit and retain high quality staff and re-energize current staff through continued support and professional development.***
- ***To continue progress on our facilities projects with the least amount of disruption to the educational process.***

I. Action to Adopt the Agenda

Moved: Mrs. LaCorte

Seconded: Mr. Seamon

Motion was approved by voice vote with no opposition.

II. Presentations

Jeanne Perantoni and Tammy Stouchko from SSP Architectural Group spoke about the Claremont School Design Plan

Harold Dunsavage, Superintendent of the Somerset County Educational Services Commission Career Center, spoke about their program.

III. Public Hearing

Mr. Orvyl Wilson, Director of School Management, spoke about the Violence, Vandalism, Substance Abuse and District Student Discipline Report

IV. Comments From The Public *(3 minutes per speaker – Public Hearing on Violence, Vandalism, Substance Abuse & District Student Discipline Report only)*

The meeting was opened for public comments at 9:12 PM on a motion by Mrs. LaCorte, seconded by Mrs. Danielsen. All board members were in agreement. Public comments were heard by the Board of Education, and the following is a brief synopsis of comments made by the public.

John Felix commented on the presentation and the statistics, specifically at Sampson G. Smith School and Franklin Middle School.

Ardaman Singh spoke about bullying at Franklin Middle School.

Motion to close the public comment portion of the meeting at 9:16 PM by Mrs. LaCorte, seconded by Mr. Seamon. All board members were in agreement.

V. Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent's Report was deferred to the November 19th Action Meeting.

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

The meeting was opened for public comments at 9:27 PM on a motion by Mrs. LaCorte, seconded by Mrs. Danielsen. All board members were in agreement. Public comments were heard by the Board of Education, and the following is a brief synopsis of comments made by the public.

Skip Schaeffer requested to know if incidents of HIB are tracked by gender.

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

VII. Committee/Liaison Reports

Ms. Stanley, School Safety & Security Ad Hoc Committee Chair, reported on the November 11th meeting.

Mrs. LaCorte, Policy Committee member, reported on the November 5th meeting.

Mrs. Whalen, Communications Ad Hoc Committee Chair, reported on the November 11th meeting.

Mrs. Danielsen, Facilities Committee Chair, reported on the November 9th meeting.

Mrs. Danielsen, Personnel Committee Chair, reported on the November 10th meeting.

VIII. New Business

1. The Board reviewed the November 19, 2015 Action Meeting Agenda
2. Action Items for November 12, 2015

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

Moved: Mrs. LaCorte

Seconded: Ms. Stanley

Acknowledge receipt of the HIB Investigation Report for the period October 7, 2015 through November 2, 2015 as detailed in the exhibit attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. (Exhibit R-01)

Motion was approved by voice vote with no opposition.

Administration**A-01 American Education Week**

Moved: Mrs. Whalen

Seconded: Ms. Stanley

Whereas, public schools are the backbone of our democracy, providing young people with the tools they'll need to maintain our nation's precious values of freedom, civility, and equality; and

Whereas, by equipping young Americans with both practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, schools give them hope for and access to a productive future; and

Whereas, education employees, be they custodians or teachers, bus drivers or librarians, work tirelessly to serve our children and communities with care and professionalism; and

Whereas, schools are community focal points, bringing together adults and children, educators and volunteers, business leaders and elected officials in a common enterprise;

Now, Therefore be it Resolved, the Franklin Township Board of Education hereby proclaims November 16-20, 2015 as the observance of American Education Week.

Motion was approved by voice vote with no opposition.

A-02 Educational Support Professionals Recognition

Moved: Mrs. Whalen

Seconded: Ms. Steele

Whereas, the Franklin Township Public School District relies on a wide variety of dedicated support staff in the Paraprofessional, Secretarial/Clerical, Maintenance, Grounds, Custodial, Security, Technology, Transportation, and Cafeteria departments; and

Whereas, the educational support professionals employed in the Franklin Township Public School District make vital contributions to the health, safety, security, comfort, and education of more than 7,000 students, teachers, and other school personnel each day; and

Whereas, the education of Franklin Township's children, along with the protection of the capital investment of the community's public school facilities, could not be maintained without the dedicated service of these educational support professionals; and

Whereas, the Franklin Township Board of Education, the Superintendent of Schools, and the entire school district community wish to recognize the contributions and accomplishments of the men and women who provide these support services in our district;

Now, Therefore be it Resolved, that the Franklin Township Board of Education joins the nation and hereby proclaims Wednesday, November 18, 2015, Educational Support Professionals Day throughout all of the public schools, buildings, and facilities in Franklin Township; and

Be it Also Resolved that a copy of this Resolution shall be distributed to school personnel, PTSO/PTO leadership, and the community at large to give public thanks and appreciation for the dedication and effort of these important public servants.

Motion was approved by voice vote with no opposition.

The Board took action on Resolutions A-03 and B-01.

Moved: Mrs. LaCorte

Seconded: Mrs. Whalen

A-03 Annual District Report of Vandalism, Violence and Substance Abuse

Accept the 2014-2015 Vandalism, Violence and Substance Abuse Report as detailed in the exhibit attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. (Exhibit A-03)

Business**B-01 NJ Department of Education Submission**

Authorize the submission of the following project to the New Jersey Department of Education for the purpose of a Final Educational Adequacy approval:

Claremont Road Elementary School

New Building

NJDOE #1610-NO2-14-2000

<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Danielsen	LaCorte	Presley	Seamon	Stanley	Steele	Walton-McCleod	Whalen	Potosnak

Board Discussion

Mrs. Whalen announced two upcoming fundraisers.

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

The meeting was opened for public comments at 9:57 PM on a motion by Mrs. LaCorte, 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. LaCorte, seconded by Mrs. Whalen. All board members were in agreement.

Adjournment

Action to adjourn at 9:57 PM.

Motion was approved by voice vote with no opposition.

Respectfully submitted,

James H. Strimple, Jr.
Board Secretary