

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FACILITIES/TECHNOLOGY/TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE AGENDA**

Middlebush Conference Room

January 26, 2016

7:40 PM

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.

In Attendance: Christine Danielsen, Chair
Nancy LaCorte – Board Vice President
Richard Seamon – Board Member
Ed Potosnak - President
Dr. John Ravally - Superintendent of Schools
James H. Strimple, Jr. – Interim Asst. Superintendent for Business
Maureen Manning – School Business Administrator
Connie Coriell – Energy Efficiency Coordinator
Steve Bach – Pinnacle Consulting

Absent: Rick Goetz

1. Update on Referendum and ESIP projects

Connie Coriell provided a written and verbal update on the ESIP projects. The Lighting & Lighting Controls project is substantially complete at all buildings. The punch list has been issued.

Boilers are operating in all buildings. The CO-Gen at the Middle School is nearly completed.

The controls contractor is nearly complete except for graphics. Contract completion date is 3/1/2016.

There are several outstanding change orders which have yet to be presented for approval.

Connie then reviewed with the Board the annual Energy Saving Progress Summary Report for the time period of November 1, 2014 to October 31, 2015. The district realized avoided energy costs of \$416,241. She then provided the cumulative avoided energy costs for the five year period of November 1, 2010 through October 31, 2015. The cumulative avoided energy costs for the five year period were reported as \$2,010,785. This information will be sent to the Township.

Jim Strimple distributed to the Committee an update on the status of all construction projects provided by the two architectural firms DRG and SSP.

2. Review of Budgets for the Referendum Projects

The Facilities Committee then spent considerable time reviewing the budgets for the following projects – Claremont Road Elementary School, Elizabeth Avenue, Hillcrest School and Sampson G. Smith School.

As a basis for the discussion, Steve Bach, of Pinnacle Consulting and the district's Construction Management firm, provided the Committee with their firm's analysis of the status of the construction budgets versus the projected costs for the design of the schools and improvements. There was concern as the proposed improvements have been preliminarily estimated to cost more than the budget allocated for the construction program.

Much discussion ensued, as the committee worked to gain a better understanding of the reasons for the cost discrepancy between the budget and projected actual construction costs. Much of the Committee's discussion then focused on how to best reconcile the cost estimates. The Committee directed the administration to meet with the architectural firms and to direct both firms to revise their drawings to bring the projects within the allocated budget. The architectural firms are to propose alternates to reduce costs and to discuss these proposals with the district's construction management firm.

After this process has been completed the administration will report back to the committee with recommendations.

Mr. Strimple did indicate that it is possible to increase the funding of the referendum projects by allocating money from the district's Capital Reserve Account to the referendum budget. This would have to take place during the budget process. He also indicated that the district has the flexibility of moving funds within the referendum from project to project if a particular project's actual costs are less than was budgeted.

3. Local Code Review of Projects

The Administration discussed with the Committee the local code review process of the projects for the Elizabeth Avenue, Hillcrest and Sampson G. Smith Schools. There is concern regarding the length of the approval process. The Committee directed the administration to reach out to township officials to determine how the process might be expedited and if the district needs to provide additional information.

Once the code review is completed the district will be able to go out to bid for the projects.

4. Security Measures for Construction Projects

The administration provided information to the Committee regarding steps that will be taken to ensure safe and secure construction sites. Included in the bid specifications will be requirements that the contractors will have to provide identification tags to their employees which will have to be displayed. Additionally, all sporadic or part-time workers will not be allowed on the job site unless they go through a background check through the Lobby Guard sign-in and sign-out security program. Workers will have to swipe their driver's license through the machine, which has a direct connection to the federal sex-offenders data base. It will be able to determine if an individual should be allowed on site.

Workers that will be on the job site longer than six weeks will have to go through the Lobby Guard program, but will have to go through the more rigorous finger-printing program that all employees of a school district must complete. This program is run by the state and provides information on employees on a constant basis.

5. Facility Use by Outside Organizations

The Committee discussed a proposed resolution that would provide direction to the administration regarding the availability of district buildings to outside community organization. It was recommended that clarifying language be provided to the resolution. It was agreed that the Policy Committee needs to revisit both the existing policy and regulations.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

James H. Strimple, Jr.
Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business