

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE

Middlebush – Main Conference Room

Report – March 7, 2016

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.

Committee Members Present

Laurie Merris, Committee Chair

Dr. Julia Presley, Committee Member, Present by Telephone

Edward Potosnak, Board President and Ex Officio Member of the Committee

Dr. John A. Ravally, Superintendent

Mary L. Clark, Coordinator of Policies & Regulations, Committee Liaison

The Committee was given an update on our Focus on Franklin Videos. The Conerly Road School video was playing on district television and posted on the district website in late February. We had received several positive emails regarding the video from the students' family, who were featured, as well as the Rutgers staff who were interviewed. The next school to be featured will be Elizabeth Avenue School.

The Committee was given an update on the One Less Move Referendum implementation. The chairpersons of the transition subcommittees have been designated. Their names will come to the Board for approval at the March 22, 2016 meeting. District administrators have been made aware of the subcommittees and asked to join one or two which correspond to their interests. Following Board approval of the subcommittees, an all staff email will be sent asking those who have an interest in serving on a subcommittee, to contact administration. There will be a larger meeting of these subcommittees on May 11, 2016 in the Franklin High School cafeteria.

The Committee was updated on recent press coverage and on recent community events such as the special performance of the Lion King, Jr. at Sampson G. Smith School for our adult community members and senior citizens. Invitations to the Franklin High School Art Show were also extended to these groups.

Upcoming events include the Teacher/Educational Support Professional of the Year Breakfast on May 13, 2016 and a Realtor Bruch at Franklin High School on May 18, 2016. Upcoming Board presentations include a student recognition and budget presentation at the March 22, 2016 meeting.

The committee was updated on the district's communication regarding our preschool application process. This included informational sessions which were held at each of the elementary schools as well as an evening session at Sampson G. Smith School.

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The Committee members were given draft policies in the area of communications and public engagement to review in anticipation of a full Board review later this year as part of the Policy Manual conversion process.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Merris
Committee Chair

Mary L. Clark
Coordinator of Policies, Regulations and
Communications