

**MINUTES
WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY/CAFETERIA
MARCH 20, 2014 – 6:07 PM**

CALL OF ROLL

Mr. Richard E. Arline - absent	Dr. Julia M. Presley, President
Mr. Delvin Burton	Ms. Keisha Smith-Carrington
Mrs. Christine Danielsen – departed at 7:21 PM	Mrs. Betty Whalen
Mrs. Nancy LaCorte – arrived at 7:34 PM	
Mrs. Eva M. Nagy, Vice President	

Ms. Eveny Pagán, Interim Superintendent of Schools – arrived at 7:34 PM
Mr. John Calavano, Assistant Superintendent for Business/Board Secretary
Ms. Lynne Crawford, Director of Pupil Personnel Services – arrived at 7:34 PM
Mr. Orvyl Wilson, Director of School Management – arrived at 7:34 PM

And 40 Members of the Public

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mr. Burton 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 and March 3, 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.

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.

I. Action to Adopt the Agenda

Moved: Mrs. Nagy Seconded: Mr. Burton

MOTION TO AMEND

Moved: Mrs. Nagy Seconded: Mr. Burton

Motion to amend agenda to include the Personnel Addendum (Resolutions P-01, P-02 and P-03) after the presentations.

Vote on Amendment

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

Vote on Original Motion with Amendment

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

Confidential Session – Library

Moved: Mrs. Nagy Seconded: Mr. Burton

Motion to adjourn to confidential session at 6:15 PM to interview superintendent search firms. 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>Absent</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Arline	Burton	Danielsen	LaCorte	Nagy	Smith-Carrington	Whalen	Dr. Presley

Returned to open session 7:34 PM in the Cafeteria.
Reconvening roll call – All board members were present with the exception of Mr. Arline and Mrs. Danielsen.

II. Presentation

Mr. Orvyl Wilson, Director of School Management, spoke about New Jersey Department of Education School Self-Assessment HIB Grades

Franklin High School students spoke about the Alternative Education Programs: Road to Success and Option II Projects

Personnel

- P-01 Appoint Interim Superintendent of Schools**
- P-02 Approve Terms of Employment Agreement**
- P-03 Approve Terms of Consultant Agreement**

Moved: Mrs. LaCorte Seconded: Mr. Burton

P-01 Appoint Interim Superintendent of Schools

Approve resolution to appoint Dr. LeRoy Seitz to the position of Interim Superintendent of Schools for the term March 29, 2014 through June 30, 2014.

P-02 Approve Terms of Employment Agreement

Approve terms of employment agreement for Dr. LeRoy Seitz as Interim Superintendent of Schools for the term March 29, 2014 through June 30, 2014, on a per diem basis at the rate of \$682.00 per day, as detailed in the exhibit attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. (Exhibit P-02)

P-03 Approve Terms of Consultant Agreement

Approve terms of agreement for the services of Dr. LeRoy Seitz as a consultant to the District beginning March 21, 2014 and ending on March 28, 2014, on a per diem basis at the rate of \$682.00 per day, not to exceed six (6) days, as detailed in the exhibit attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. (Exhibit P-03)

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

Mrs. LaCorte abstained on Resolution P-01.

Motion for a short recess by Ms. Smith-Carrington, seconded by Mr. Burton. All board members were in agreement.

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

The meeting was opened for public comment at 8:40 PM on a motion by Ms. Smith-Carrington, 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.

Bill Connell spoke about the school productions of Guys & Dolls and In the Heights and about the landscaping work at Sampson G. Smith School by parent volunteers.

Phil Kramer, Town Councilman, expressed his frustration with the delay in holding a meeting between Township Officials and members of the Board of Education and administration to discuss matters pertaining to sidewalks, the transportation trailer and significant financial savings.

Al Levine announced that eight Franklin Middle School students will read their own poetry at the Franklin Township Library on March 30th at 1:30 PM.

Motion to close the public portion of the meeting at 8:55 PM by Mrs. LaCorte, seconded by Mr. Burton. All board members were in agreement.

IV. Committee/Liaison Reports

There were no Committee Reports.

V. New Business

1. Review of March 27, 2014 Action Meeting Agenda
2. Action Items for March 20, 2014

Action Item

HIB Investigation Report

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

Moved: Mrs. Nagy Seconded: Mr. Burton

Acknowledge receipt of the HIB Investigation Report for the period February 13, 2014 through March 12, 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>Absent</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Arline	Burton	Danielsen	LaCorte	Nagy	Smith-Carrington	Whalen	Dr. Presley

Business

B-01 Contract Approval (All contracts are LEA-funded, unless otherwise noted.)

Moved: Mrs. Nagy Seconded: Mr. Burton

A license agreement with Global Spectrum, L.P., for the use of the Sun National Bank Center and its facilities, Trenton, NJ in the amount of \$8,000 for the purpose of holding and presenting the Franklin High School commencement exercises on June 27, 2014, as detailed in the exhibit attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. (Exhibit B-01)

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

VI. Comments from the Public (5 minutes per speaker – any items)

The meeting was opened for public comment at 9:00 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.

John Felix congratulated the students that spoke tonight. He welcomed the new Interim Superintendent of Schools and congratulated the board leadership.

Eddie Webb expressed his concern with the board working together. He urged people to become engaged and told the board they have to convince the community to vote for the referendum. He wished Dr. Seitz the best in his new position.

Myra Mitchell congratulated the FHS girls' basketball team. She welcomed the new Interim Superintendent of Schools, but indicated she was not impressed with what she read about him on Google. Ms. Mitchell indicated her mind is open and she looks forward to getting to know him better.

De Sanders requested that the board look at Myra Mitchell's record and consider placing her back as a substitute teacher. She spoke out against outsourcing the substitute teachers and expressed her support of Mr. Grippo as Interim Superintendent. Ms. Sanders asked about the length of the Interim Superintendent's contract and his per diem rate.

Bill Connell spoke about Eva Nagy's suggestion of a grant writer and, in the context of budgeting, how anyone can guarantee we won't be left holding the bag.

Jessie Lindsay requested clarification on how outsourcing the substitute teachers will save \$416,000. She believes that outsourcing will cost the district money.

Christina Roche requested to know the length of Dr. Seitz renewal contract. She spoke about being in the group that Mr. Connell spoke about and requested that more parents participate. Ms. Roche also spoke about the grant writer position.

Angela Barkley indicated she has seen a difference, for the better, in the board's relationship with one another. She requested an explanation to the community of the board's powers.

Motion to close the public portion of the meeting at 9:33 PM by Mrs. LaCorte, seconded by Mrs. Whalen. All board members were in agreement.

Adjournment

Moved: Ms. Smith-Carrington

Seconded: Mr. Burton

Action to adjourn at 9:33 PM.

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

Respectfully submitted,

John Calavano
Board Secretary