



**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL**  
**Board of Education**

REGULAR MEETING  
**February 15, 2022 - 6:30 p.m.**

1. **Call to Order**

**1.01 Pledge of Allegiance**

**1.02 Open Public Meeting Announcement**

*In accordance with requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notice has been given of tonight’s meeting in the Hunterdon County Democrat and have been posted on the bulletin board by the main office of the Franklin Township School, sent to the Township Clerk and to all Board of Education members and posted on the school website on January 13, 2022.*

**1.03 Roll Call**

K. Sutton, <i>Pres.</i>	<i>present</i>	V. Evans, <i>V. Pres.</i>	<i>present</i>	R. Falcon	<i>present</i>
A. Gilpin	<i>present</i>	J. Giordano	<i>present</i>	A. Luciano	<i>present</i>
E. Tomasini	<i>present</i>	N. Diaz, Superintendent	<i>present</i>	L. Tirone	<i>absent</i>

2. **Presentations**

2.01 Annual Audit Report – 2020-2021 – Laura Atwell, BKC Accountants  
Following the presentation, there were some questions and comments from Board members.

3. **Minutes**

3.01 January 18, 2022 – Regular Meeting  
3.02 January 18, 2022 – Executive Session

**Resolved**, to approve the above listed minutes.

Motion Luciano      Second Falcon      By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

4. **Business Administrator Report – TABLED**

5. **Superintendent’s Report - Nicholas Diaz**

- Our District is still accepting deposits for the proposed expansion of the preschool program through March 4th. Information is posted on our website under the preschool section and a flyer has been posted on our social media accounts.
- Congratulations to Ms. Gooditis and FTS for becoming a Kindness Certified School again. Kindness Certified School Districts are committed to creating a culture of kindness at their schools and within their communities.
- Students participated in the Scripps Spelling Bee this month. Congratulations to Oliver Tomasini who was the winner of the 2022 Spelling Bee. Thank you to all students who participated.
- Students in 5th grade are participating in the Empowered Schools Program. Three fifth graders provided an assembly to our entire school discussing the Empowered Program and conserving energy. The EmPowered program, seeks to help students become energy experts learning where energy comes from and the benefits of using it efficiently
- As many know, after many years of faithful service, Mrs. Ranae Pellegrino will be retiring as our school secretary at the beginning of March. She could not be here tonight, but we wanted to say a few words about Ranae and what she has meant to FTS. At this time Ms. Gooditis shared a few words about Mrs. Pellegrino, thanking her for her many years of dedicated service to the FTS Community and wishing her a happy retirement.



Totals:	3	4	0	0
<b>Motion did not Carry</b>				

**Motion** to amend Safe Return Plan to include 5 day mask wearing after return (not to exceed 10 days) and alternate activities for indoor P.E.

Discussion: None

Motion by: Luciano                      Seconded by: Giordano

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Evans	X			
Mr. Falcon		X		
Ms. Gilpin	X			
Mr. Giordano	X			
Mrs. Luciano	X			
Mrs. Tomasini		X		
Mrs. Sutton	X			
Totals:	5	2	0	0
<b>Motion Carried</b>				

7. **Correspondence**

8. **Subcommittee Discussion and Action Items**

**All resolutions are upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.**

8.01 **Ad Hoc** (Board Goals, Supt Goals/Personnel)/**Strategic Plan** – Mr. Falcon, Mrs. Luciano, Mrs. Tomasini  
The committee did not meet.

8.02 **Facilities and Finance** - Mrs. Evans, Mr. Giordano, Mrs. Sutton  
**Resolved** to approve items 8.02.1 - 8.02.4 :

8.02.1 **Waiver of Requirements for Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI)**

**Resolved** in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b), the Franklin Township Board of Education approves the filing of a waiver of participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) for the 2022-2023 school year, due to the district projecting an enrollment of less than 40 Medicaid eligible students per the October 15, 2021 ASSA report.

8.02.2 **Homebound Instruction Agreement**

**Resolved** to approve the homebound instruction agreement with Silvergate Prep to provide home instruction to student ID# 4145970710, 10 hours per week, \$35.00 per hour, for approximately 10-30 school days.

8.02.3 **ACFR and Auditor’s Management Report**

**Whereas**, the Franklin Township Board of Education has been presented the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and Auditor’s Management Report (AMR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 as prepared by Berard, Kurowicki & Co., CPA’s PC, and:

**Whereas**, a corrective action plan is not required as there are no audit recommendations;

**Now therefore be it Resolved** by the Franklin Board of Education, county of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and Auditor’s management Report are accepted, and may be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education.

**8.02.4 Approve sending UST Drawings to NJDOE for review and approval**

**Resolved** that the Franklin Township Board of Education approve SSP Architects to send documentation and drawings for the UST Removal and Replacement to the NJDOE for review and approval, on their behalf.

Motion by: Evans

Seconded by: Luciano

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Evans	X			
Mr. Falcon	X			
Ms. Gilpin	X			
Mr. Giordano	X			
Mrs. Luciano	X			
Mrs. Tomasini	X			
Mrs. Sutton	X			
Totals:	7	0	0	0

**8.03 Curriculum & Education – Ms. Gilpin, Mrs. Luciano, Mrs. Tomasini**

**Resolved**, to approve items 8.03.1 - 8.03.2.

**8.03.1 School Calendar 2022-2023**

**Resolved**, to approve the 2022-2023 school calendar.

**8.03.2 Rosetta Stone Subscription**

**Resolved**, to approve the subscription to Rosetta Stone for grades K-8 in the amount of \$12,000, for the period of January 26, 2022 through January 26, 2023.

Motion by: Luciano

Seconded by: Gilpin

Discussion: There was a discussion on the calendar regarding moving conferences and proposing to have the 23<sup>rd</sup> off. It was decided to leave it as is.

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Evans	X			
Mr. Falcon	X			
Ms. Gilpin	X			
Mr. Giordano	X			
Mrs. Luciano	X			
Mrs. Tomasini	X			
Mrs. Sutton	X			
Totals:	7	0	0	0

**8.04 Policy - Mrs. Evans, Ms. Gilpin, Mrs. Tomasini**

**8.04.1 Resolved**, to approve the first reading of the following policies:

5141.10	Face Coverings
5141.11	Vaccination and Testing for Staff

Motion Evans      Second Falcon      By Voice Vote

Yes 7	No 0	Abstain 0	Absent 0
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8.05 **Negotiations** – Mr. Falcon, Mr. Giordano, Mrs. Sutton

9. **Consent Agenda**

The matters listed below have been referred to the Board for reading and studying and are to be considered routine. They will be enacted with one motion. If separate discussion is desired, an item may be removed by Board assent.

9.01 **Budget and Finance**

**9.01.1 Secretary and Treasurer Report - TABLED**

**Approve** the Secretary and Treasurer Reports submitted for the months ending January 2022, which agree with each other and the bank.

**9.01.2 Financial Reports Certification – TABLED**

**Approve** the following resolution:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3(c)3, the Board Secretary certifies that no line account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10(a) and; pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3(c)4, we certify that as of January 2022 after review of the monthly reports (appropriation section) and upon consultation with the appropriate officials, to the best of our knowledge no major line account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the entire fiscal year.

**9.01.3 Transfer of Funds - TABLED**

**Approve** the transfer of uncommitted funds within the 2021-2022 school year budget as per the attached list.

**9.01.4 Bill List**

**Approve** the January, 2022 bill list in the amount of \$648,999.41.

9.02 **Education**

No consent items

9.03 **Personnel**

9.03.1 **Approve** the following professional day requests:

Date	Employee	Name of Professional Development Program	Registration Cost	Mileage Exp.
March 25, 2022	Karin Stumpf	NJACAC Training	\$0	N/A
March 16, 2022	Amelia Lamonde Jordan Simon	Webinar - Zones of Regulation	\$95.00 ea.	N/A
March 2, 2022	Vicki Marcine	Practical Early Intervention Strategies that Work – (Bureau of Education & Research)	\$279.00	N/A

9.04 **Facilities**

9.04.1 **Approve** the following use of facility applications:

Name of Group	Purpose	Location	Days/Dates	Time
PTA	Fun Fair	Playground/Lawn and Driveway	June 10, 2022	8:00 am - 3:00 pm

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Dr. Nicholas Diaz, to approve the above stated consent agenda items.

Discussion: None

Motion by: Evans                      Seconded by: Gilpin

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Evans	X			
Mr. Falcon	X			
Ms. Gilpin	X			
Mr. Giordano	X			
Mrs. Luciano	X			
Mrs. Tomasini	X			
Mrs. Sutton	X			
Totals:	7	0	0	0

**10. Board Matters/New Business**

10.01 Discussion - Township Cannabis Ordinance

There was a discussion on the impact to the school district. It was agreed for the district to draft a communication in regard to concerns but not to take a stance.

**11. Public Comments- Privilege of the Floor (3 minutes)**

There were comments from the public regarding their concerns with the Cannabis Ordinance and the effects on the township as far as safety, air quality, etc.

Other questions and comments from the public included the following: construction updates, curriculum standards, and opting out of health classes.

**12. Personnel - All resolutions are upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.**

**Resolved**, to approve items 12.01 - 12.03.

12.01 **Resolved**, to appoint Judith Pellegrino as full-time custodian at the annual salary of \$46,350, to be prorated from the start date of March 24, 2022 through June 30, 2022.

12.02 **Resolved**, to appoint Karin Stumpf as substitute caller at the stipend of \$1,800.00 for the period of March 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022.

12.03 **Resolved**, to appoint Michael Underwood as substitute custodian January 31, 2022 through June 30, 2022.

Discussion: None

Motion by: Luciano                      Seconded by: Evans

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Evans	X			
Mr. Falcon	X			
Ms. Gilpin	X			
Mr. Giordano	X			
Mrs. Luciano	X			
Mrs. Tomasini	X			
Mrs. Sutton	X			
Totals:	7	0	0	0

13. **Executive Session – 9:05 p.m.**

13.01 Adopt the Following Resolution

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Franklin Township Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4 -13 and 10:4 -12 that said public body hold a closed session on February 15, 2022 for the purpose of discussing personnel. It is expected that the results of the discussion undertaken in closed session will be made public at the time official action is taken. The board expects to reconvene into public session in approximately 10 minutes. Action will not be taken.

Motion Luciano      Second Gilpin      By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

13.02 **Resolved, to return to Open Public Session at 9:17 pm.**

Motion Evans      Second Luciano      By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

14. **Other Business** – Nothing at this time.

15. **Adjournment**

15.01 **Resolved to** Adjourn from the Public Meeting at 9:17 p.m.

Motion Falcon      Second Gilpin      By Voice Vote

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
7	0	0	0

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Gooditis, Acting Bd. Secretary