

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
226 QUAKERTOWN ROAD, P.O. BOX 368
QUAKERTOWN, NEW JERSEY 08868
908-735-7929



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 13, 2023

For the Regular Meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Education
Monday, November 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Franklin School Multipurpose Room

I. **CALL TO ORDER** - Mrs. Sutton called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Mrs. Sutton led all assembled in the Flag Salute.

III. **STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE**: - Mrs. Sutton read the following statements:

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 has 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 12, 2023.

Also 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 public hearing regarding the contract of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary given to the Hunterdon Democrat and the Express Times 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 September 20, 2023.

IV. **ROLL CALL** - Mr. Kramer called the roll and declared a quorum was present.

| | | | |
|----------|--|---------------|--------------------|
| Present: | Mrs. Karen Sutton, President | Absent: | Mrs. Erin Tomasini |
| | Mrs. Allison Luciano, Vice President | | |
| | Mr. Ronald Falcon | Also Present: | Dr. Nicholas Diaz |
| | Mrs. Shana Frondorf – Arrived at 6:34 PM | | Mr. Mark Kramer |
| | Mr. James Giordano | | |
| | Mrs. Caroline Licwinko | | |

V. **PRESENTATION**

- **Public Hearing:** SBA/BS Contract – Mrs. Sutton opened the public hearing for public comment. No one from the public made any comments.
- **Discussion of the 2023 Year End Audit** - Laura Atwell from BKC Certified Public Accountants, the district auditors, reviewed the results of the audit and had discussions with board members answering any questions posed by the board members.

VI. **MINUTES**

- Motioned by Mrs. Luciano, seconded by Mrs. Licwinko to approve action items VI.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on the dates indicated below as transcribed be approved and filed:

October 13, 2023 [Regular Meeting Minutes](#)
October 13, 2023 [Executive Meeting Minutes](#)

Voice Vote:

| | | | |
|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
| 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

- Michael Gottesman, New Jersey Public Education Coalition – Board Policy 5756

VIII. SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT– Mr. Mark Kramer

- The finance in facility committee met on November 7 at 6:30 PM.
- The tentative timelines for the referendum.
- Status of the construction project in the theater.
- Status of the current conditions Solar panels.
- Current projections for revenue and expenditures June 30, 2024.
- Reviewed the resolutions under section XII Finance and Facilities XII A through H.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT - Dr. Nicholas Diaz

- **Recognition of service for outgoing Board members**
 - Karen Sutton – Dr. Diaz
 - Ron Falcon – Mrs. Gooditis
- High Impact Tutoring Grant
- Sustainable New Jersey

| Type of Drill | Date |
|--|----------|
| Fire Drill | 7/20/23 |
| Security Drill - Communication System Test | 7/31/23 |
| Fire Drill | 8/30/23 |
| Security Drill - Hold in Place | 8/31/23 |
| Security Drill - Shelter in Place | 9/13/23 |
| Security Drill - Secure | 9/15/23 |
| Fire Drill | 9/28/23 |
| Fire Drill | 10/23/23 |
| Security Drill- Active Shooter | 10/30/23 |
| Bus Evacuation Drill | 11/7/23 |
| Security Drill - Hold in Place | 11/7/23 |

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Agenda Items Only

- Yvonne Sheppard, 13 Haddon Rd. Franklin Township suggested that the board record board meetings.
- Colleen Cummins, 15 Woodland Rd., Pittstown wants the board to be more transparent by sharing redlined policies to those policies to the community before they are acted upon.
- Kate Zimmerbaum, 406 Cherryville Rd., Pittstown expressed concerns about the abolishment of policy 5145.7 – Gender Identity and Expression.

Dr. Diaz responded to the reason for the abolishment of policy 5145.7 – Gender Identity and Expression.

XI. AD HOC (Board Goals, Supt Goals/Personnel)/STRATEGIC PLANNING – Mrs. Luciano, Mrs. Tomasini, Mrs. Frondorf

- No updates.

XII. FINANCE AND FACILITIES- Mrs. Sutton, Mr. Falcon, Mr. Giordano

- Motioned by Mrs. Luciano, seconded by Mrs. Licwinko to approve action items XII. A through H.
 - A. Acceptance of the [September](#) and [October](#) 2023 Financial Reports
 - B. Approval of [Budget Transfers for October 2023](#)
 - C. Approval of [October 2023 Bills List](#)
 - D. Approval of Use of Facilities
 - E. Shared Services Agreement- [Class III Officer](#)
 - F. Appointment of Risk Management Consultant for the School Alliance Insurance Fund
 - G. Discussion of the 2023 Fiscal Year End Audit, Acceptance of the 2023 Audit, Approval of the 2023 Fiscal Year End [Corrective Action Plan](#)
 - H. Closeout the Project for the School Alterations to the Theater

A. Acceptance of the September and October 2023 Financial Reports

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 requires the Board Secretary and the Franklin Township Board of Education to certify that no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended and that the sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation, and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10 further requires the Franklin Township Board of Education receive and accept the monthly financial statements, the Board Secretary's, and Treasurer's reports; and

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's reports for the month ending September 30, 2023 and October 31, 2023 are presented for the Board to accept and are on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Franklin Township Board of Education acknowledges receipt of and accepts the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the month ending September 30, 2023 and October 31, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary and Franklin Township Board of Education certify that no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended and that there are sufficient funds available to meet the district's financial obligation.

B. Approval of Budget Transfers for October 2023

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10-(c)1 states that a report shall be presented to the Board showing all transfers between line-item accounts for each line-item account shown on the budget prepared in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:22-8; and

WHEREAS, Board Policy #3160 designates the Superintendent of Schools to approve transfers as necessary between meetings of the Board and be reported to the Board, ratified, and duly recorded in the minutes at a subsequent Board meeting; and

WHEREAS, transfers in the report "Budget Transfers" for the time period of October 2023 were necessary to maintain the needs of the district and are on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that Franklin Township Board of Education ratifies and approves the transfers in the report "Budget Transfers" for October in fiscal year 2023-2024, approved by the Superintendent, so that no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended and that sufficient funds would be available to meet the district's financial obligations, as requested by various district administrators.

C. Approval of October 2023 Bill List

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:19, Expenditure of Funds; Audit and Payment of Claims, provides Boards of Education to make payments on claims for goods received and services rendered payable to the order of the person entitled to receive the amount after approval by the board; or in accordance with payrolls duly certified; or debt service or when provided by resolution approval by a person designated by the board; and

WHEREAS, a list of bills for the month of October 2023 are being presented to the board with the recommendation that they be ratified, approved and paid; and

WHEREAS, each claim or demand has been fully itemized, verified and audited as required by law in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-2;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Franklin Township Board of Education approves the list of bills for payment in the grand sum of \$776,651.91 for October 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the list of bills is on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Franklin Township Board of Education authorizes the School Business Administrator to pay bills if it is determined that a need arises prior to the next board meeting.

D. Approve the Use of Facilities

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following use of facilities requests.

| Name of Group | Purpose | Location | Days/Dates | Time |
|------------------------------|--|-----------|---|---|
| Grand Falloons | Assembly | Gymnasium | 11/16/23 | 12:30-2:45 PM |
| Franklin Township Recreation | Basketball | Gymnasium | 11/20/2023-3/14/2024 M,T,W,Th 1/6/2024 - 3/16/2024 - Saturdays | M,T,W,Th 6:30-9PM Saturdays 9AM-4PM |
| FTS Music Dept. | Winter Concert | Gymnasium | 12/11 - 12/12 12/13 12/14 | During School 1:30 PM & 6:30 PM 6:30 PM |
| PTA | Holiday Shop | Theatre | 11/27 - 12/1/23 | During School |
| PTA | Samba to Salsa - Latin Journey Percussion Assembly | Theatre | 12/13/23 | 8:30 AM - 12PM |
| FTS Counselor | HS Transition - Parent Night | Theatre | 11/16/23 | 5:30-6:30 PM |

E. Shared Services Agreement- Class III Officer

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a Shared Services Agreement between the Franklin Township Board of Education and Franklin Township for a Class III officer for the period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 at a rate of \$55,000 per year.

F. Appointment of a Risk Management Consultant

WHEREAS, The Franklin Township Board of Education has resolved to join the School Alliance Insurance Fund (“SAIF”) following a detailed analysis; and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws of SAIF required that each entity designate a Risk Management Consultant to perform various professional services as detailed in the Bylaws and Risk Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws indicated that SAIF shall pay each Risk Management Consultant if you need to be established annually by the Executive Committee;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Franklin Township Board of Education does hereby appoint CBIZ Insurance Services, Inc. as its Risk Management Consultant in accordance with the Fund’s Bylaws.

G. Discussion Of The 2023 Fiscal Year End Audit, Acceptance Of The 2023 Audit, Approval Of The 2023 Fiscal Year End Corrective Action Plan

WHEREAS, the Franklin Township Board of Education (the Board) caused an annual audit of the district’s accounts and financial transactions to be conducted by a public school accountant for the 2022-2023 fiscal year pursuant to NJSA 18A:23; and

WHEREAS, said “Annual Comprehensive Financial Report” (ACFR) and “Auditor’s Management Report” (AMR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, are required to be filed with the Office of the Commissioner, pursuant to NJSA 18A:23-3; and

WHEREAS, a presentation of the audit with discussion of the district’s fiscal status, any audit findings and recommendations was made to the Board and public by members of the audit firm of BKC Certified Public Accountants at the board meeting of November 13, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the presentation allowed for a public discussion of the audit results including the district’s overall financial position, reserved, unreserved and excess surplus fund balances, funding of worker’s compensation and compensated absences, and food services’ operations; and

WHEREAS, the presentation further allowed for a public discussion of the audit results including any audit findings and recommendations, repeat recommendation, significant deficiency, material deficiency and Corrective Action Plan needed; and

WHEREAS, the synopsis of the ACFR was available to the public at the November 13, 2023 board meeting with copies of the synopsis available at the offices of the School Business Administrator upon request; and

WHEREAS, a Corrective Action Plan has been drafted and disseminated to the board and appropriate parties by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary addressing each of the two (2) audit recommendations presented in the AMR in response to their recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Corrective Actions Plan were provided prior to the board meeting to the Finance Committee for their review, comments and support and providing such support on the action within the Corrective Action Plan;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Franklin Township Board of Education accepts the June 30, 2023 audit and approves the Corrective Action Plan for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby incorporates the Synopsis of the Audit with each specific audit recommendation and the resulting Corrective Action Plan as part of the minutes of this meeting of November 13, 2023,

and noting any public discussion of same for the minutes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary be directed to forward to the Executive County Superintendent the minutes together with necessary copies of the ACFR, Synopsis, Corrective Action Plan, and certified board minutes adopting the above items or as stated in the Department of Education's requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in accordance with the directive from the Department of Education, listed below are the specific board action and the disposition of each audit recommendations:

Recommendation 1

Budgetary line accounts should not be over-expended and county approval should be obtained for all transfers of funds between budgetary line accounts that exceed the 10% limit.

Disposition:

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall review the budgetary line accounts on an ongoing basis to ensure no budget line accounts are over expended. Further, The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall review the S1701 report on a monthly basis to determine if any budgetary line accounts have exceeded the 10% limit and take the appropriate action necessary in accordance with the New Jersey State Department of Education.

Recommendation 2

The District should ensure that bank reconciliations, Board Secretary's report, and Treasurer's report are in agreement prior to submission to the Board for approval and completed in a timely manner.

Disposition:

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall ensure a comprehensive review of the monthly bank reconciliations, Board Secretary's report, and Treasurer's report are in agreement prior to submission to the board for their approval and will be completed monthly and presented to the board within 60 days of the month ending.

H. Closeout the Project for the School Alterations to the Theater

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2022 the Franklin Township Board of Education awarded a contract to DeSapio Construction Inc. for school alterations to the theater in the total contract lump sum of \$296,915.00 inclusive of a \$15,000.00 general allowance; and

WHEREAS, there were sixteen (16) approved change orders charged to the project in the total amount of \$27,602.93, \$12,602.93 above the \$15,000.00 general allowance; and

WHEREAS, below is an accounting of the contract and allowances:

| | | |
|---|-------------------|----------------------|
| Original Contract Amount Including Allowances | | \$ 296,915.00 |
| Total Allowances Included in Contract | \$(15,000.00) | |
| Changes to the Contract | | |
| Removal of four hidden windows | 751.32 | |
| Emergency light exterior entrance | 350.00 | |
| Additional exit light | 530.00 | |
| New motion detector | 600.00 | |
| Relocate refrigerant lines | 8,877.00 | |
| Battery calculations | 1,825.00 | |
| Addition to traditional heat detector | 2,127.92 | |
| Stair opening infill | 1,678.23 | |
| Relocate existing wiring | 1,228.50 | |
| R38 Insulation | 441.95 | |
| Security switch | 262.50 | |
| Fire damper | 2,645.50 | |
| Additional framing calculations | 6,277.00 | |
| Interior wood trim | 2,058.01 | |
| Share of payment for sidewalk | <u>(2,050.00)</u> | |
| Amount Exceeding Allowance | | <u>12,602.93</u> |
| Adjusted Balance of Contract | | 309,517.93 |
| Payments to Contractor To Date | | <u>(195,231.62)</u> |
| Balance of Contract to be Paid to Contractor | | <u>\$ 114,286.31</u> |

WHEREAS, the project was substantially completed as of May 11, 2023; and

WHEREAS, H2M Architects, the district's Architect of Record for this project, recommends to the Franklin Township Board of Education that the school alterations to the theater is completed and the contractor be paid the remaining balance of the adjusted contract in the amount of \$114,286.31; and

WHEREAS, Schenck, Price, Smith & King, the district's legal counsel for capital projects, has reviewed the documentation provided by the district's Architect of Record for closeout and confirms that the information provided to the district by the Architect of Record is sufficient for the district to closeout this project;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Franklin Township Board of Education accepts the H2M Architects, the district's Architect of Record recommendation that the school alterations to the theater is completed and the contractor be paid the remaining balance of the adjusted contract in the amount of \$114,286.31; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately, and the Franklin Township Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent, Board President and School Business Administrator to sign any documents on behalf of the Franklin Township Board of Education with regard to exercising the intent of this resolution.

Board of Education Roll Call Vote on Action Items A through H.

| Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|---------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Falcon | X | | | |
| Mrs. Frondorf | X | | | |
| Mr. Giordano | X | | | |
| Mrs. Licwinko | X | | | |
| Mrs. Luciano | X | | | |
| Mrs. Tomasini | | | | X |
| Mrs. Sutton | X | | | |
| Totals: | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

XIII. CURRICULUM AND EDUCATION - Ms. Tomasini, Mrs. Luciano, Mrs. Licwinko

- Motioned by Mrs. Licwinko, seconded by Mrs. Luciano to approve action items XIII. A through H.

A. Approve HIB Self-Assessment

BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the Franklin Township School Self-Assessment rating of 75 for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act for the period of July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023.

B. Gift Card Donation from Wegmans

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education accept a gift card valued at \$175 donated by Wegmans for the purpose of purchasing supplies for Roary’s Java Cart.

C. Contract Amendment - Sarah’s Spanish School

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to extend the contract with Sarah’s Spanish School to provide the Online Spanish Year 1 Step-By-Step Program for grades K-8 through June 2024, not to exceed \$14,830.

D. Approval of Field Trips

| Grade | Destination | Date |
|--------------|---|-------------------|
| Eighth Grade | Clinton Twp. Middle School - Dr. Mykee Fowlin | November 14, 2023 |
| MD Program | Flemington Launderette | November 28, 2023 |
| MD Program | Liberty Science Center | December 6, 2023 |
| MD Program | Bucks County Children’s Museum | January 2024 |
| MD Program | ShopRite Clinton | February 13, 2024 |
| First Grade | RVCC Planetarium | March 12, 2024 |
| MD Program | Lifetown | May 15, 2024 |
| Fourth Grade | Turtle Back Zoo | May 17, 2024 |

E. Approve Appointment of Hunterdon Behavior Therapy LLC - BCBA

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve the [Contracted Services Agreement](#) for the 2023-2024 school year between Hunterdon Behavior Therapy LLC (Justine Mora) and the Franklin Township Board of Education for BCBA Services at the hourly rate of \$100.00, total contract not to exceed \$85,000.00.

F. Approve Preschool Expansion Operational Plans

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Franklin Township Board of Education approve the preschool expansion operational plan for the 2024-2025 school year.

G. Approve Preschool Enrollment

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Franklin Township Board of Education authorizes the submission of the fiscal year 2025-projected preschool enrollment.

H. Book Donation from FTS PTA

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education accept a donation of four (4) copies of the book, “Franklin as We Were” by Rural Awareness from FTS PTA.

Board of Education Roll Call Vote on Action Items A through H.

| Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|---------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Falcon | X | | | |
| Mrs. Frondorf | X | | | |
| Mr. Giordano | X | | | |
| Mrs. Licwinko | X | | | |
| Mrs. Luciano | X | | | |
| Mrs. Tomasini | | | | X |
| Mrs. Sutton | X | | | |
| Totals: | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

XIV. POLICY - Mrs. Tomasini, Mr. Falcon, Mrs. Frondorf

- Motioned by Mrs. Licwinko, seconded by Mrs. Luciano to approve action items XIV. A through G.

Action Items

- A. Adopt Regulation 6151R- [Class Size](#) - Second Reading
- B. Adopt Policy 5511- [Dress Code](#) - Second Reading
- C. Revise Policy 1250 - [Visits to the School](#)
- D. Revise Policy 3541.22 - [Transportation Safety](#)
- E. Revise Policy 5141.2 - [Illness](#)
- F. Revise Policy 5141.3 - [Health Examinations and Immunizations](#)
- G. Revise Policy 5111 - [Admission](#)

Board of Education Roll Call Vote on Action Items A through G.

| Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|---------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Falcon | | | X | |
| Mrs. Frondorf | X | | | |
| Mr. Giordano | X | | | |
| Mrs. Licwinko | X | | | |
| Mrs. Luciano | X | | | |
| Mrs. Tomasini | | | | X |
| Mrs. Sutton | X | | | |
| Totals: | 5 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

XV. NEGOTIATIONS – Mrs. Luciano, Mr. Giordano, Mrs. Licwinko

- There were no motions put forth at this time.

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Motioned by Mrs. Luciano, seconded by Mrs. Licwinko to approve action item XVI at 7:18 PM.

Voice Vote:

| Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----|----|---------|--------|
| 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act authorizes a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the Board of Education discusses topics falling within certain specified exceptions to the requirement for open public meetings; (N.J.S.A. 10:4-13) and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to discuss matters that fall within one or more of the statutory exceptions to open public meetings;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12), that the Franklin Township Board of Education adjourn from public session and enter into executive session at this time to discuss confidential matters pertaining to personnel agenda items, a personnel matter and legal matters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Franklin Township Board of Education expects to reconvene into public session in approximately 30 minutes and action may be taken.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the matters discussed in executive session should be made public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer exists; and

- Motioned by Mrs. Luciano, seconded by Mrs. Licwinko for the board to reconvene into public session at 7:51 PM.

Voice Vote:

| | | | |
|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
| 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

XVII. PERSONNEL

- Motioned by Mrs. Luciano, seconded by Mrs. Licwinko to approve action items XVII A through M.

A. Substitute Lesson Plan Writing

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Mr. Jon Huber to prepare substitute lesson plans at a rate of \$30 per hour, not to exceed 20 hours.

B. Approve Substitute Principal

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Mr. Hunter Timko, as substitute principal, on an as needed basis for the 2023-24 school year at the rate of \$200 per day, in addition to his regular salary. Not to exceed \$800.

C. Approve Professional Day Requests

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following professional day requests:

| Date | Employee | Name of Professional Development Program | Registration Cost | Mileage & Other Costs | Total Cost Not To Exceed |
|----------|----------------------|---|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 11/29/23 | Dr. Lindsay Gooditis | Memorandum of Agreement, School Security & Gang Awareness | \$0 | N/A | \$0 |
| 1/9/24 | Harmony Stryker | Bureau of Education & Research (Decrease Attention-Getting and Tantrum Behaviors) | \$279 | N/A - Virtual | \$279 |

| | | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|--|-------|---|---------|
| TBD/Self-Paced | Katherine Matassa | Institute for Multi-Sensory Education (Dyslexia Overview Digital Course) | \$100 | N/A - Virtual | \$100 |
| 12/13/23 | Austin van-Spanje | NJ4S Training | \$0 | \$5.00 | \$5.00 |
| 12/11 & 12/13/23 | Elizabeth Alexander | Minecraft Education | \$0 | N/A - Virtual | \$0 |
| 1/23-26/2024 | Dr. Lindsay Gooditis | Techspo '24 | \$600 | Lodging: \$400 Mileage and Tolls: \$150 | \$1,150 |
| 1/23-26/2024 | Laura Sretenovic | Techspo '24 | \$600 | Lodging: \$400 Mileage and Tolls: \$150 | \$1,150 |
| 1/23-26/2024 | Elizabeth Alexander | Techspo '24 | \$600 | Lodging: \$400 Mileage and Tolls: \$150 | \$1,150 |

D. Leave of Absence (Tenured) - Employee ID #9996

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve an agreement between the Board of Education and Employee #9996 pursuant to ARTICLE XIII (J) of the Agreement between the Quakertown Education Association and the Franklin Township Board of Education (2020-2025), commencing on or about November 1, 2023 and terminating on January 31, 2024.

E. Approve Professional Development Subscription - SpeechPathology.com

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a one-year subscription to SpeechPathology.com, an online professional development module, at a cost not to exceed \$99.

F. Approve Substitute Teachers

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2023-2024 school year at the rate of \$135.00 per day, pending fingerprints, background check and health exam.

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Jennifer Fellin | Liam Smeraglia |
| Ralph Viola | Pete Rosenberg |

G. Amended Employment Contract (Non-Tenured) - Employee ID #10162

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, amend the [employment contract](#) of employee #10162 extending contract date from December 22, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

H. Acceptance of Resignation - Paraprofessional

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accept with regret, the resignation of Marie Alice Cerne Morris, Paraprofessional, effective November 22, 2023.

I. Leave of Absence (Tenured) – Employee ID #10239

BE IT RESOLVED, to approve a request for an unpaid Leave of Absence for Employee #10239, pursuant to Article XIII (E) of the Agreement between the Quakertown Education Association and the Franklin Township Board of Education (2020-2025), commencing on or about January 9, 2024 and terminating on or about February 1, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that during such leave the employee will be responsible for payment of benefits.

J. Appointment - Preschool Paraprofessional

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to [appoint](#) Jean Burns as a Preschool Paraprofessional for the 2023-2024 school year at an annual salary of \$31,725, prorated, effective January 1, 2024.

K. Appointment - Elementary Leave Replacement

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to appoint Mr. Ross Leebaw as a [Third Grade Elementary Leave Replacement](#) at the rate of \$200 per day, effective November 13, 2023 through January 31, 2024 pending fingerprints, background check, and health exam.

L. Appointment - MD Program Paraprofessional

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to [appoint](#) Katherine Smith as an MD Paraprofessional effective November 27, 2023 for the 2023-2024 school year at an annual salary of \$36,409.50, prorated.

M. Retirement

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accept with regret, the retirement of Jeffrey Weinhold, Third-Grade Teacher, effective January 31, 2024.

Board of Education Roll Call Vote on Action Items A through M.

| Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|---------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Falcon | X | | | |
| Mrs. Frondorf | X | | | |
| Mr. Giordano | X | | | |
| Mrs. Licwinko | X | | | |
| Mrs. Luciano | X | | | |
| Mrs. Tomasini | | | | X |
| Mrs. Sutton | X | | | |
| Totals: | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

XVIII. BOARD MATTERS/NEW BUSINESS

- Dr. Diaz spoke about the Board Leadership Roles for 2024
- Mr. Giordano spoke about restrooms for the PreK program
 - a. Restrooms will be addressed through the referendum

XVIX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Yvonne Sheppard, 13 Haddon Rd. Franklin Township spoke about the policy on Gender Identity and Expression and questioned why her correspondences were not listed on the agenda.
- Community member, 12 Tennis Court, informed the board that she cannot hear the discussions from the board; commented on policy 5145.7; provided some statistics on LGBTQ community.
- Kate Zimmerbaum, 406 Cherryville Rd., Pittstown addressed policy 5145.7 – Gender Identity and Expression.
- Cyrus Cama, 15 Mathew Drive, Annandale, parent teacher conferences and concerns on continuity relating to a teacher going on leave and the replacement of that teacher.

XX. OTHER BUSINESS

- None

XXI. NOTEWORTHY DATES

Next board meeting will be on December 11, 2023, unless canceled. Organization meeting is January 3, 2024.

XXII. ADJOURNMENT

- Motioned by Mrs. Licwinko, seconded by Mrs. Luciano to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 PM.

Voice Vote:

| Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----|----|---------|--------|
| 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kramer
Board Secretary