

**Franklin Township Board of Education Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting – February 16, 2022**

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**TIME AND PLACE:** The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on February 16, 2022 by the Board of Education of the Franklin Township School District, Warren County, in the Franklin Township School All Purpose Room, 52 Asbury-Broadway Road, Washington, NJ 07882.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Board President, Rudolph DiGilio, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PUBLICATION OF NOTICE:** In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of 1975, the Franklin Township Board of Education has provided adequate notice of the date, time, and location of this meeting. Such notice has been posted at the Franklin Township Municipal Building, at the Franklin Township School, and on the Franklin Township School website and was published in the Express Times and the Star Ledger on January 13, 2022.

**FLAG SALUTE:** Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence

**ROLL CALL** - Mr. Duryea conducted the Roll Call.

**PRESENT:** Rudolph DiGilio (Board President)  
Elizabeth Ames  
Xandria Garcia (arrived at 7:20pm)  
Scott Hansen  
Renee Hart  
Katherine Matlock  
John McGinnis

**ABSENT:** Donna Sbriscia (Board Vice President)  
Chester Kucyn

**PRESENT:** DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS  
Matthew Eagleburger, Chief School Administrator  
Tim Duryea, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**PUBLIC:** Deborah Mannon, Laura Atwell, Kelsey Oakes, William Colantano

**APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 1, 2021 MINUTES Action 22-142 Motion**

Motion by R. Hart, and seconded by S. Hansen, to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 1, 2022.

*This motion was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 6; nays, 0; abstain 0.*

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**APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 1, 2022 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES**

**Action 22-143 Motion**

Motion by R. Hart, and seconded by S. Hansen, to approve and make public the Executive Session minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 1, 2022.

*This motion was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 6; nays, 0; abstain 0.*

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Warren County Dept. of Educ. – SEMI Waiver approval
- Craig Tipton – Letter of resignation

**PUBLIC INPUT PRIOR TO AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**PRESENTATION BY THE DISTRICT’S INDEPENDENT AUDITOR**

Ms. Atwell and Mr. Colantano reviewed the districts 2020-2021 independent audit. There were no recommendations on the audit.

**ARRIVAL OF XANDRIA GARCIA**

Xandria Garcia arrived at the Board meeting at 7:20pm, during the auditor’s presentation.

**CSA REPORT**

Mr. Eagleburger presented the CSA Report, inclusive of information on the following:

- Mask guidance
- Health and wellness
- Mid-year assessments
- Learning Acceleration for grades 3-6
- Social media
- Curriculum Committee - Diversity

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- **Policy** – (Rep-E. Ames)
  - Mr. Eagleburger updated the Board on the Mentor Fee policy.
- **Legislation**
  - Franklin Township Committee – (Rep-T. Duryea)
    - Walking trails
    - Warehouse project
  - Franklin Township PTA
  - Legislative/NJSBA Delegate (Rep-R. DiGilio) –
    - Resolution deadline for Delegate Assembly is 3/10/22
    - Discussion of potential resolutions
    - Budget Address Delay
  - NJASA (Rep-M. Eagleburger) –
  - Warren County SBA (Rep. R. DiGilio and D. Sbriscia) –
    - Next Meeting on 4/5/22 – Leadership Meeting

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**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**LINE ITEM TRANSFERS AND RECLASSIFICATIONS – Action 22-144 Motion**

Motion by R. Hart, and seconded by S. Hansen, to approve the line item transfers and reclassifications, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Source Account/Title</u>	<u>Target Account/Title</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Amount</u>
01/31/2211	000-216-320-000-000 PURCH PROF SERVICES	11-000-216-100-000-000 SALARY - SPEECH	Rel Svcs Pur Prof to Speech Salary	1,000.00
01/31/2211	110-100-101-009-000 SALARY - K TEACHER	11-230-100-101-000-000 SALARY - BSI		4,000.00
01/31/2211	110-100-101-009-000 SALARY - K TEACHER	11-213-100-106-000-000 SALARY - AIDE	Kindergarten Salary to Para Salaries	10,000.00
02/07/2211	000-223-800-000-000 WORKSHOPS	11-000-221-590-000-000 SOFTWARE LICENSING	Workshops to Software Licensing	725.00

*This motion was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0; abstain 0.*

**BOARD SECRETARY AND RECONCILIATION REPORT- December, 2021**

**Action 22-145 Motion**

Motion by R. Hart, and seconded by S. Hansen, to approve the Board Secretary and Reconciliation Report - December, 2021.

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board Secretary, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10 (c) 3, does hereby certify that as of the date of these reports, no line item 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);*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief School Administrator recommends that the Franklin Township Board of Education accept the monthly financial reports of the Secretary and the Reconciliation for the Month of **December, 2021**; and further recommends, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10 (c) 4, that the Board of Education Certifies that no major account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10 (b), and that as of this report sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligations for the remainder of the year.*

*ON A ROLL CALL VOTE, this motion was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0; abstain, 0.*

**PUBLIC INPUT PRIOR TO BOARD ACTION:**

- Mrs. Mannon thanked the Board for their support of the resolution endorsing the permanent extension of the SSO lunch program.

**PROGRAM, CURRICULUM, AND INSTRUCTION-RELATED ITEMS – Action 22-146 Motion**

Motion by R. Hart, and seconded by S. Hansen, to approve the following block of Program, Curriculum and Instruction -related items, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

- Approve the February 16, 2022 Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement Form.
- Approve the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Life and Careers curriculum for final reading.

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*ON A ROLL CALL VOTE, this motion was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0; abstain, 0.*

**TRANSPORTATION-RELATED ITEMS – Action 22-147 *Motion***

Motion by R. Hart, and seconded by S. Hansen, to approve the following block of Transportation -related items, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

- Approve the addition of a bus stop on the district’s Green route and mid-day route via Warren County Special Services School District at 2132 Route 57.

*ON A ROLL CALL VOTE, this motion was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0; abstain, 0.*

**FINANCE-RELATED ITEMS – Action 22-148 *Motion***

Motion by R. Hart, and seconded by S. Hansen, to approve the following block of Finance-related items, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

- Approve applying for and accepting a 2022 REAP Grant in the amount of \$19,099.00, which is designated for use in the 2022-2023 school year and any time extension approved beyond said school year.
- Approve the district utilizing the Alternative Fund Use Authority in the 2022-2023 school year for the Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP).
- Approve the following Board resolution concerning the permanent extension of the SSO program:

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Agriculture extended the availability of the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) school lunch program to all public schools for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years, affording all public school students the ability to obtain free meals through their respective school district, regardless of household income level, and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Agriculture has made no declaration as to the continuance of this program beyond the 2021-2022 school year, and

**WHEREAS**, the availability of said meals greatly enhances the nutritional opportunities for the general population of public school students, and

**WHEREAS**, the enhanced nutritional opportunities afforded through the SSO program positively impact the health and academic performance of those children, and

**WHEREAS**, it is a commonly shared societal belief in our culture that providing for the nutrition of all children in need is an intrinsically moral aspiration, and

**WHEREAS**, the existing Free and Reduced Lunch Application process, in its pre-COVID form, does not adequately meet the needs of our nation’s children, given the following deficiencies, as well as others not noted:

- It does not have the ability to comprehensively evaluate the financial posture of every household in a manner that takes into consideration the myriad factors that are necessary to determine need, resulting in many needy students being declined access to said program.

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- It is extremely reliant upon the integrity of those completing the application, due to the limited level of verification required for said applications.
- There is a tremendous level of disparity regarding the cost-of living for varied geographic areas of the country, without the utilization of adequate regional modification factors to align the income eligibility chart to more or less affluent areas.
- The application process is a time consuming, labor-intensive, and costly initiative for each school district to oversee.
- Families for whom English is not the primary language in the household frequently decline to complete the application, due to language challenges.
- It only addresses student need generated by income, while ignoring student need generated by parental irresponsibility.
- Very small disparities in income can result in the declination of certain households from participation in the free lunch program, while other households with nearly identical financial profiles are approved.

**THEREFORE**, the Franklin Township Board of Education/Warren County/New Jersey, does hereby petition the Department of Agriculture and the Federal Government to implement a permanent extension of the SSO program of free meals to all public school students, regardless of household income, and

**THEREFORE**, a copy of this resolution will be disseminated to appropriate educational associations, school districts, and government offices and legislators, with the intent of garnering broad-based support for this initiative to enhance the nutritional programs offered to our nation's children.

*ON A ROLL CALL VOTE, this motion was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0; abstain, 0.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Action 22-149 Motion**

Motion by R. Hart, and seconded by S. Hansen, to enter Executive Session to discuss items related to personnel matters, with information to be released at a date, not yet determined. (It is estimated that the Board will be in Executive Session for approximately 20 minutes.)

*This motion was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0; abstain 0.*

The Board entered executive session at 8:09 pm.

**Action 22-150 Motion**

Motion by R. Hart, and seconded by S. Hansen, to reconvene Public Session.

*This motion was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0; abstain 0.*

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The Board reconvened public session at 8:33 pm.

**PERSONNEL-RELATED ITEMS – Action 22-151      *Motion***

Motion by R. Hart, and seconded by S. Hansen, to approve the following block of Personnel-related items, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

- Approve hiring Sarah Rush as a teacher for the 2021-2022 school year, at step 2BA, at an annual salary, per guide determination, of \$52,720.00, pro-rated for the balance of the school year, pending receipt of all necessary certifications and paperwork. Until that time, and beginning no earlier than 2/22/2022, she will be approved as a long-term teacher substitute at a daily rate of \$279.00.
- Approve the 2021-2022 Professional Development Plan for Matthew Eagleburger.
- Accept the letter of resignation from Craig Tipton, with regret. Mr. Tipton’s last day employed by the Franklin Township Board of Education will be April 15, 2022.
- Approve posting for a music teacher for the 2021-2022 school year, per Mr. Tipton’s resignation. The CSA is authorized to determine the certifications needed for this position based upon the potential of combining other non-music related assignments into the position.
- Approve the following individuals as instructors for after-school programs, as noted:

<b>Instructor</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b># of Sessions</b>	<b>Rate Per Session</b>	<b>Total Payment</b>
Julia Cassano	Learning Acceleration	23	\$50.00	\$1,150.00
Diana Mallory	Learning Acceleration	23	\$50.00	\$1,150.00
Karen Kane	Learning Acceleration	46	\$50.00	\$2,300.00
Pam Fellner	Learning Acceleration	23	\$50.00	\$1,150.00
Deborah Beer	Learning Acceleration	23	\$50.00	\$1,150.00
Mike Miccucci	Chess	5	\$50.00	\$250.00
Deborah Beer	Battle of the Books	5	\$50.00	\$250.00
Barbara Weinstein	Battle of the Books	5	\$50.00	\$250.00

*ON A ROLL CALL VOTE, this motion was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0; abstain, 0.*

**BILL LIST – Action 22-152      *Motion***

Motion by R. Hart, and seconded by S. Hansen, to approve the February 16, 2022 bill list in the amount of \$101,934.09 and the following non-checks:

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Check #</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Account</b>
12/7/2021	N0942	Horizon Healthcare Ins. Agency	Flex Admin	\$72.00	11-000-230-590

*This motion was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 6; nays, 0; abstain, 1 (McGinnis).*

**ADJOURNMENT - Action 22-153**

***Motion***

Motion by R. Hart, and seconded by S. Hansen, to adjourn the meeting.

*This motion was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0; abstain, 0.*

*Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Duryea  
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator

Rudolph DiGilio, Board President