

The Regular Meeting of the Township of Franklin Board of Education was called to order on the above date and time.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Barbara Ciancaglini, President, who made the following statement: "The chair declares that, in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, adequate public notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with statute by the Secretary of the Board of Education."

CALL TO ORDER

The flag salute was held at this time.

FLAG SALUTE

The following members were present at roll call: Ms. Tina Toy, Mrs. Kimberly Kelly, Mr. Stephen Ranson, Mr. Joseph Szwed, Miss Marie Grochowski and Mrs. Barbara Ciancaglini. Also present were Mr. Michael G. Kozak, Superintendent, Mrs. Elizabeth A. DiPietro, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and B. Michael Borelli, Esq., Board Solicitor.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Harold Atkinson, Mr. David Chrans and Mrs. Sandra Coulbourn were absent.

The following names were listed in the Attendance Register.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Robert Weigelt	Reutter School
Cathy Bromwell	Franklinville, P.O. Box 94
Denise Kostiak	P.O. Box 161, Franklinville
Lisa Waechter	716 Parvins Mill Rd., Bridgeton, NJ
Joe Petsch	2370 Stanton Avenue
Cindy Merckx	The Sentinel
H. Atkinson	1112 Fries Mill Rd.
Donna Herrschaft	3897 N. Bluebell Road, Franklinville
Chalie Dains	2317 Tuckahoe Road

Mrs. Ciancaglini moved, Mr. Szwed seconded a motion to approve the resignation of Board Member David Chrans, effective January 8, 2009.

RESIGNATION OF BOARD MEMBER

Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ciancaglini moved, Mr. Szwed seconded a motion to acknowledge the vacancy on the Board of Education created by Mr. Harold Atkinson being sworn in to the Franklin Township Committee, effective January 2, 2009.

VACANCY ON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ciancaglini moved, Mr. Szwed seconded a motion to approve Nicholas Christian to fulfill the remaining term of David Chrans, effective January 21, 2009 through the 2009 School Elections.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

Mrs. DiPietro administered the Oaths of Office as Board Members to Henry Kobik and Nicholas Christian.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Mr. Kozak introduced Mrs. Samantha Shaffer, reading recovery teacher at Caroline L. Reutter School. Two of the students in the after school enrichment program book club would be doing a book review at tonight's meeting.

PRESENTATION - C. L. REUTTER AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT BOOK CLUB - BOOK REVIEW

The participating students were: Sabrina Smith (grade 5) and Jeanelle Tyciak (grade 5).

The presentation ran from 7:12 p.m. - 7:26 p.m.

Mrs. Ciancaglini moved, Mr. Szwed seconded a motion to adopt the minutes of the regular and closed session of the December 17, 2008 meeting.

MINUTES

Roll call vote on the motion: ayes - Mrs. Kelly, Mr. Kobik, Mr. Ranson, Mr. Szwed and Mrs. Ciancaglini; abstentions - Ms. Toy, Mr. Christian and Miss Grochowski. Motion carried.

Mrs. Ciancaglini moved, Mr. Szwed seconded a motion to go into closed session:

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution

WHEREAS, The Open Public Meetings Act permits a public body to exclude the public from a portion of its meeting in order to discuss certain specific matters as set forth in that act; and

WHEREAS, This body finds it necessary to meet in closed session to discuss Attorney-Client Privilege; and

WHEREAS, Under the Open Public Meetings Act, the public may be excluded from that portion of the meeting at which such matters are discussed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this meeting of the Township of Franklin Board of Education held on December 17, 2008 shall be closed to the public to permit discussion of the subject matter aforesaid;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that this session shall last for approximately thirty (30) minutes, and the disclosure of matters discussed in the closed session shall take place at such time as all decisions with reference thereto are complete.

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 7:28 p.m.

Return to session 8:21 p.m..

The Board President, Mrs. Ciancaglini, read the following statement:

STATEMENT - BOARD PRESIDENT

At our last meeting of December 17, 2008, the Board retained the services of special counsel and authorized preparation of a feasibility study to address the educational and financial impact of regionalization or consolidation. This has resulted in some misinformation and misunderstanding that we wish to clarify.

The State directed the County Superintendents to begin exploring the restructuring of school districts beginning in July of 2007. That process is moving slowly and no decisions or recommendations have been made. This Board decided to take a proactive approach so that we would be able to make an informed decision regarding what is best for the students and residents of our school district, rather than having our future decided by others. We have not decided in advance which option may be best for our school district and cannot begin to consider that decision until after the feasibility study has been completed.

There is a misconception that we are spending money for a feasibility study that the State is willing to fund. There are no funds available from the State for a feasibility study and the State has not designated their own experts to conduct any feasibility study.

There is a misconception that our actions will have a negative impact upon the efforts to share services with other school districts. That is not the case. We have shared services for many years and continue to meet with other school districts on a regular basis to explore new options for sharing services. Those efforts will continue.

There is a misconception that the action taken at our December 17th Board meeting was done secretly or was deliberately considered late in the evening. Our interviews and discussions with special counsel were conducted in private pursuant to the exceptions of the Open Public Meetings Act which allows us to discuss all issues related to personal and attorney-client privilege in private. However, the resolution to retain special counsel and proceed with the feasibility study was part of the agenda available to the public at the beginning of the meeting prior to the two opportunities for public participation that took place. The motion was addressed later in the evening because of the large volume of business addressed by the Board, including recognition of students and presentations by our principals and administrators.

This Board will continue to fulfill its obligation to be directly involved in all important decisions which have an educational and financial impact on this district and which will shape our future. Once the feasibility study is complete, which will take several months, it will be made public and the public will have the opportunity to comment.

The Superintendent reported:

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Statistical and Informational Report as of December 31, 2008

Enrollment: 1448

Tuition Placement: 17

Student Attendance:

MFJ - 95.27%

Lake - 93.96%

CLR - 95.50%

MR - 95.83%

Student Suspensions:

MFJ - 0

Lake - 0

CLR - 1

MR - 0

Fire drills were held at each school in accordance with state law.

Employee Attendance: 96.7% year to date

The School Business Administrator reported:

SBA/BS REPORT

The Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies Reports for the month ended December 31, 2008 are presented to the Board of Education tonight for approval. These two reports have been reconciled and agree to one another.

For the month ended October 31, 2008, the food services account had a loss of \$1,161.01. The year total is a loss of \$3,985.32.

Committee Agenda:

Finance - On the Finance Committee agenda tonight for approval are payment of bills, payroll, budget transfers, board secretary and board of education certification that no line item has been overexpended and that there are enough funds to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, revenue report, shared services agreement with municipality, acceptance of NCLB FY09 funds and Beneficial Bank as depository.

Additionally, I would like to report to the Board on the status of school bus inspections held on January 14 and 15, 2009. Out of our fleet of 29 vehicles, there was a 60 percent pass rate on initial inspection, no buses were red flagged, and there was a grand total of only 16 violations as compared to a total of 121 violations last year. I would like to congratulate and thank the transportation department for all of their hard work in turning this situation around.

Mrs. Ciancaglini moved, Ms. Toy seconded a motion to acknowledge receipt of all communications, and order that they be filed or forwarded to the appropriate committee.

COMMUNICATIONS

Motion carried unanimously.

There was not a report from the Gloucester County School Boards Association representative.

GCSBA REP. REPORT

Mr. Szwed moved, Mrs. Kelly seconded a motion to open the audience participation portion of the meeting.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Motion carried unanimously.

Audience Participation I - Opened at 8:38 p.m.

Members of the public are encouraged to speak during the public portion of the meeting. Concerns stated, or actions requested by the public, will be taken under advisement by the Board for investigation, discussion, and action or disposition at a later time/date.

When addressing the Board of Education, please respect the following procedures:

1. Be recognized by the Board President.
2. State your full name and address before commenting.
3. Identify the resolution or agenda item on which you will comment.
4. Wait to be recognized before making your comment(s).
5. Limit your comment(s) to the specific resolution or agenda item.

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Donna Herrschaft, 3897 N. Bluebell Road, Franklinville - Commented there was not a misconception about the feasibility study and the hiring of Vito Gagliardi. She said that presentation by Mrs. Shaffer and students (from Caroline L. Reutter School) was very good and wondered if the same thing was being done at Main Road School.

Mr. Kozak stated that writing and reading practice was being done at both schools and that although it might be presented differently, it was the same principle

Cindy Merckx, The Sentinel - Thanked the Board of Education for not answering her email. Mrs. Merckx told the Board that their lack of communication was not good for the community. Reminded them that money had been spent in 2004/2005 for a feasibility study. Mrs. Merckx feels that if the Department of Education gives us money, the Board should look better at it and how they plan on spending it.

Mrs. Merckx asked for a copy of the statement which Mrs. Ciancaglini read so that she could print it in the newspaper. She told the board members that they are individuals and she'd like them to be available to talk with her and the community because they are representatives.

Chalie Dains, 2317 Tuckahoe Road - Asked if there was public monies available for study.

Mrs. Ciancaglini said that they have been told that there will be money available at some point, but they don't know when or how much it will be. She told Mr. Dains that even the county superintendent and commissioner weren't sure of when the money would be sent.

Mr. Dains said that if the feasibility study is funded and then community opinion is requested, he wants the Board to remember that they are accountable to everyone in the community because it is their money.

Mr. Dains said that if a change is done within the district, the community should be asked for their opinion and a vote taken.

Mrs. Ciancaglini said that if a change is to be made, the community will be asked to vote upon it.

Mrs. Ciancaglini moved, Mr. Szwed seconded a motion to close the audience participation portion of the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Audience participation ended at 8:59 p.m.

Miss Grochowski moved, Ms. Toy seconded a motion to approve the following Curriculum Committee items:

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

- 1. Homeless Tuition Contract Agreements - Received, 2. Stewart B. McKinney Grant, 3. After School Enrichment Program Activities (Additional), 4. Local Professional Development Plan

Motion carried unanimously.

- 1. Move to approve homeless student Tuition Contract Agreements for the 2008-2009 school year as follows:

HOMELESS TUITION CONTRACT AGREEMENTS - RECEIVED

Student	Classification/ Program/Grade/ Tier/ASSA	School	Last District of Residence	Effective Date	Tuition
V.R.	Grade 4/Elementary	MR	Commercial Twp. Haleyville Mauricetown School District	12/15/08	\$8,538 prorated

- 2. Move to approve the collaboration/articulation agreement with the Gloucester County Special Services School District for the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Education Project for the 2009-2010 school year.

STEWART B. MCKINNEY GRANT

- 3. Move to approve the following After School Enrichment Program Activities for the 2008-2009 school year.

AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM ACTIVITIES (ADD'L)

Program (Grade)	Advisor	Dates	Hours
Writing for Success 4 th Grade <i>Caroline L. Reutter School</i>	Samantha Shaffer	Jan. 6,8,13,15,20,22,27,29 Feb. 3,5,10,17,19,24,26 Mar. 3,5,10,12,17,19,24,26,31 Apr. 2,7,14,16,21,23,28,30	2:40 p.m. - 3:40 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays

Note: Additional class was added to accommodate the large number of 4th graders enrolled.

- 4. Move to approve the Local Professional Development Plan for the 2009-2010 school year.

LOCAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL PLAN

Mrs. Kelly moved, Miss Grochowski seconded a motion to approve the following Finance Committee items:

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- 1. Bills - January, 2. State Aid Deductions, 3. Payroll, 4. Board Secretary's Report and Treasurer of School Monies Report, 5. Budget Transfers - January, 6. Budget Overexpenditure Certification - Board Secretary, 7. Budget Overexpenditure Certification - Board of Education, 8. Anticipated Revenue Summary, 9. Shared Services Agreements - Municipality of the Township of Franklin, 10. Accept Funds – No Child Left Behind FY09, 11. Depository

Motion carried unanimously.

- 1. Move to approve the list of bills for the month of January in the amount of \$446, 843.62 as submitted by the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary: BILLS - JANUARY

Bill List	Amount
Bill List #1 - January 5, 2009	\$ 219,744.00
Bill List #2 - January 21, 2009	\$ 226,483.84
Total	\$ 446,227.84

- 2. Move to approve amounts withheld from State Aid payments for the month of December and paid to County Special Services, Katzenbach, N.J. Commission for the Blind and State Facilities in the amount of \$30,702.00. STATE AID DEDUCTIONS

- 3. Move to approve the payroll for the month of December in the amount of \$988,007.62 as submitted by the Board President, Superintendent and School Business Administrator/Board Secretary. PAYROLL

- 4. Move to accept the reports of the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies for the period ending December 31, 2008 and acknowledge that they are in agreement. SBA/BS AND TREASURER OF SCHOOL MONIES REPORTS

- 5. Move to approve budget transfers for the month of January in the amount of \$157,940.62 as submitted by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary: BUDGET TRANSFERS - JANUARY

Transfer List	Amount
Transfer List #1	\$ 157,940.62
Total	\$ 157,940.62

- 6. Move to approve the Board Secretary's Monthly Certification that as of December 31, 2008, no budgetary line item account has been overexpended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)3. BUDGET OVEREXPENDITURE CERTIFICATION - BOARD SECRETARY

- 7. Move to certify that as of December 31, 2008, after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Monthly Financial Reports, and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been overexpended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)4 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. BUDGET OVEREXPENDITURE CERTIFICATION - BOARD OF EDUCATION

- 8. Move to approve the anticipated Revenue Summary as of December 31, 2008 as submitted by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary. ANTICIPATED REVENUE SUMMARY

- 9. Move to approve the following shared services agreements with the Municipality of the Township of Franklin: SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENTS MUNICIPALITY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN

Provider: Municipality of the Township of Franklin

- 1. Recyclable material collection and disposal
- 2. Solid waste collection and disposal
- 3. Ice control material storage and application when needed
- 4. DARE Officers

Provider: Township of Franklin Board of Education

- 1. Police Car Maintenance (labor)
- 2. Duplicating paper joint purchase
- 3. Athletic fields for youth organizations
- 4. Gymnasiums for youth organizations

10. Move to accept the following No Child Left Behind Grants for the 2008-2009 school year as follows:

ACCEPT FUNDS - NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND FY09

Description	Amount
Title I - Part A	\$167,954
Title II - Part A	\$ 71,387
Title II - Part D	\$ 1,391
Title IV	\$ 4,568
Total	\$245,300

11. Move to approve the following resolution which adds Beneficial Bank as a depository:

DEPOSITORY

Resolution

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:17-34 directs that funds received by a Board of Education may be deposited in any bank or banking institution of this State designated as a depository of school funds; and

WHEREAS, Beneficial Bank is a bank operating in the State of New Jersey that is designated as a depository of school funds and is part of the Governmental Unit Depository Protection Act insurance program; and

WHEREAS, Beneficial Bank has partnered with the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials to create a competitive product which guarantees that it will pay interest in excess of that paid by the New Jersey Cash Management Fund;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Franklin Board of Education that it does hereby add Beneficial Bank as a school district depository of funds and authorizes the Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies to open an account with said bank, depositing such funds as in their judgment provides a rate of return that would benefit the students and financial position of this district.

Miss Grochowski moved, Mrs. Kelly seconded a motion to approve the following Personnel Committee items:

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

- 1. Substitute Employment, 2. Employment - Priority Substitute Teacher, 3. Probationary Employment Acknowledgment, 4. Resignation - Custodian, 5. Travel Expense - Professional Staff, Non-Unit Staff and Support Staff, 6. Resolution - Authorization for Emergent Hiring Pending Completion of Criminal History Check

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

- 1. Move to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the approval of the N.J. Dept. of Education, the employment of the following substitutes for the 2008-2009 school year: SUBSTITUTE EMPLOYMENT

Teacher

Source for Teachers
Amanda Martino

- 2. Move to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the employment of the following individual as priority substitute teacher for the respective term indicated: EMPLOYMENT - PRIORITY
SUBSTITUTE TEACHER

Name	Term
Donna Antonelli	March 2, 2009 - June 16, 2009

- 3. Move to acknowledge the successful probationary employment of the following employee: PROBATIONARY
EMPLOYMENT
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Linda Sue Betteridge	Custodian	December 22, 2009

- 4. Move to accept the resignation of Jason Ruczynski, custodian, effective January 31, 2009. RESIGNATION - CUSTODIAN

- 5. Move to approve travel expenses, as attached. TRAVEL EXPENSE -
PROFESSIONAL STAFF,
NON-UNIT STAFF AND
SUPPORT STAFF

- 6. Move to approve the following resolution: RESOLUTION -
AUTHORIZATION FOR
EMERGENT HIRING
PENDING COMPLETION
OF CRIMINAL HISTORY
CHECK

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Township of Franklin Board of Education seeks to employ Amanda Martino, on an emergent basis for a period not to exceed three months, pending completion of a criminal history records check; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Franklin Board of Education seeks to demonstrate to the Commissioner of Education that special circumstances exist which justify the emergent employment; and

WHEREAS, Amanda Martino have attested that he/she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq, N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq, as applicable;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Franklin Board of Education approves the application for emergent hiring of Amanda Martino.

Mrs. Kelly moved, Mrs. Ciancaglini seconded a motion to approve the following Policy Committee items:

POLICY COMMITTEE

- 1. Policy 4151- Attendance, 2. Policy 8110 to 8860 Series - Second Reading

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

- 1. Move to approve the temporary suspension of the retirement provision of Policy 4151, Attendance, for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year as follows:

POLICY 4151 - ATTENDANCE

“Subsequent to notice of employment non-renewal, termination, resignation, or retirement (during required contractual notification period)” will temporarily read “Subsequent to notice of employment non-renewal, termination, or resignation (during required contractual notification period).”

- 2. Move to approve the second reading of the following:

POLICY 8110 TO 8860 SERIES - SECOND READING

Number	Title
8110	Attendance Areas
8130	School Organization
8140	Pupil Enrollments
8210	School Year
8220	School Day
8310	Public Records
8320	Personnel Records
8335	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
8420	Emergency Evacuation
8431	Preparedness for Toxic Hazard
8441	Care of Injured and Ill Persons
8442	Reporting of Accidents
8451	Control of Communicable Disease
8453	HIV/AIDS
8461	Reporting Violence, Vandalism, Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse
8462	Reporting Potentially Missing or Abused Children

Mr. Christian addressed the Board:

“Madame President - It’s with great sadness that my first comment to the Board is to note the passing of James Dougherty. Mr. Dougherty was a Board Member at Franklin Township and Delsea, where he served as past president. He was a native son and a builder of schools and a champion of the youth of our community.

I’d like to ask that the District officially send a letter of condolence and gratitude to the family and, if possible, attend the services which have been scheduled for Saturday, January 24, 2009 at Trinity Methodist Church, Clayton.”

Mrs. Ciancaglini moved, Mr. Szwed seconded a motion to go into the Open Public comment.

NEW BUSINESS
PASSING OF FORMER
BOARD MEMBER

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion carried unanimously.

The Open Public Comment portion of the meeting began at 9:06 p.m.

This meeting will now be open to the public. If your questions or comments pertain to litigation, student or personnel items, or negotiations, we would ask that you see the superintendent after the meeting since we do not discuss these items in public. _____

There was no participation in the Open Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Mrs. Ciancaglini moved, Mr. Szwed seconded a motion to close public comment.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Open Public Comment section of the meeting was closed at 9:07p.m.

Mr. Szwed moved, Mrs. Ciancaglini seconded a motion to establish the deadline for candidates to file nominating petitions for the 2009 Annual School Election with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to be March 2, 2009 by 4:00 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS
NOMINATING PETITION
DEADLINE

Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ciancaglini moved, Miss Grochowski seconded a motion to draw the names for candidate ballot position for the 2009 Annual School Election on March 11, 2009 at 4:05 p.m. in the Administration Building Conference Room.

DRAWING OF NAMES

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Szwed moved, Miss Grochowski seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:

SCHOOL BOARD
RECOGNITION MONTH IN
NEW JERSEY, JANUARY
2009

Resolution

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association and the National School Boards Association have declared January 2009 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time that all residents might acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The Township of Franklin Board of Education is one of more than 600 local school boards in New Jersey that sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, The Township of Franklin Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine community goals for the education of more than 1.4 million children in Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 4,800 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in indicators such as high school graduation rates, class size, college entrance exam participation, and Advanced Placement offerings and test scores. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Township of Franklin Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2009 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Township of Franklin Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staffs toward the improvement of our children's education.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Szwed welcomed back Miss Grochowski.

Mr. Szwed also stated that he takes spending taxpayer dollars very seriously since he is a taxpayer himself.

Ms. Toy moved, Mr. Szwed seconded a motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. DiPietro
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary

Typed by: jmp