

**MINUTES OF A BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION  
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, HELD MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023**

PRESENT: Zachary Smith Howard, Doris L. Gowan, Larry J. Walker, Dawn A. Downer, Kelly L. Foulk, Bruce Hibbard, Jill Britt, Chase Huotari, Sharon Kight, Tyler Knight, Fred McWhorter, Jeff Murphy, Kent Pettet, Kaitlin Porter, Lynlie Schoene and Toni Stephenson

The Board of Education of the Franklin Township Community School Corporation, Marion County, Indiana, met for purposes of a Board of Finance Meeting at 6:00 P.M. at the Administration Offices, located at 6141 South Franklin Road, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46259, on Monday, January 9, 2023. All Board Members and news media had been duly notified and the agenda properly posted.

**BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING**

School Board President, Zachary Smith Howard, called the Board of Finance Meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

President Howard recommended to keep the President and Secretary of the Board of Finance the same as are presently serving those positions on the Board of Education: President, Mr. Zachary Smith Howard and Secretary, Mr. Larry Walker. Ms. Downer made a motion to approve and Mrs. Gowan seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

**REVIEW OF INVESTMENT POLICY**

Mr. Fred McWhorter II referred the Board Members to their copies of the Investment Income Policy (#F200) that was included in their packets. He stated that there have not been any changes made to the policy during the past year. There were no questions or comments. (Exhibit No. 23-15)

**REVIEW OF INVESTMENT REPORT**

Mr. Fred McWhorter II presented the 2022 Annual Investment Summary Report and the Investment Income History. He stated that the Corporation's primary banking institution for 2022 was Teachers Credit Union and we have worked hard to maintain our relationship with them to insure we receive the best possible return on our investments. He was excited to share that we earned more dollars in interest in December 2022 than we did the entire year of 2016. (Exhibit No. 23-16)

**REVIEW OF DUAB FISCAL INDICATORS**


Mr. Fred McWhorter II stated that a few years ago some school corporations in the State got into financial trouble and as a result the Distressed Unit Appeal Board (DUAB) now oversees Indiana school corporations' budgets. He shared that Franklin Township Community School Corporation looks good as our enrollment has steadily increased, our assessed valuation has also increased and we have had a balanced budget six (6) years in a row. Mr. McWhorter invited the Board to visit the DUAB website to get an overview of the financial status of any school corporation in the State of Indiana. (Exhibit No. 23-17)


President Howard commended Mr. McWhorter for negotiating a wonderful interest rate with TCU. Mr. McWhorter replied that we are looking forward to another increase soon. There were no additional questions or comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Howard adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

APPROVED

  
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Zachary Smith Howard, President

  
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Doris L. Gowan, Vice President

  
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Larry J. Walker, Secretary

  
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Dawn A. Downer, Member

  
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Kelly L. Foulk, Member

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
EDUCATION OF THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
CORPORATION  
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, HELD MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023**

PRESENT: Zachary Smith Howard, Doris L. Gowan, Larry J. Walker, Dawn A. Downer, Kelly L. Foulk, Bruce Hibbard, Jill Britt, Chase Huotari, Sharon Kight, Tyler Knight, Fred McWhorter, Jeff Murphy, Kent Pettet, Kaitlin Porter, Lynlie Schoene and Toni Stephenson

The Board of Education of the Franklin Township Community School Corporation, Marion County, Indiana, met in Regular Session at 6:00 P.M. at the Administration Offices, located at 6141 South Franklin Road, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46259, on Monday, January 9, 2023. All Board Members and news media had been duly notified and the agenda properly posted.

REGULAR MEETING

Ms. Amy Matthews, Attorney, called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE

Ms. Amy Matthews issued the Oath of Office to re-elected Board Members, Ms. Dawn A. Downer, Mr. Zachary Smith Howard, and Mr. Larry J. Walker. She extended her congratulations to them. (Exhibit No. 23-01)

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Ms. Matthews asked for a motion to approve the agenda as written. Mr. Howard made a motion to approve and Ms. Downer seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD FOR 2023  
ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Ms. Matthews asked for nominations for the office of President. Ms. Downer nominated Mr. Howard and Mrs. Gowan seconded the nomination. The motion carried 3-2, with Mr. Howard, Ms. Downer and Mrs. Gowan voting in favor and Mrs. Foulk and Mr. Walker voting against.

Ms. Matthews asked for nominations for the office of Vice President. Mrs. Foulk nominated Mr. Walker. Their being no second, Ms. Matthews called for the vote. The motion failed 2-2-1, with Mrs. Foulk and Mr. Howard voting in favor, Ms. Downer and Mrs. Gowan voting against and Mr. Walker abstaining. Ms. Downer nominated Mrs. Gowan for the office of Vice President and Mr. Howard seconded. The motion passed 3-2, with Mr. Howard, Ms. Downer and Mrs. Gowan voting in favor and Mrs. Foulk and Mr. Walker voting against.

Ms. Matthews asked for nominations for the office of Secretary. Mrs. Gowan nominated Mr. Walker and Ms. Downer seconded the nomination. The motion carried 3-2, with Mr. Howard, Ms. Downer and Mrs. Gowan voting in favor and Mrs. Foulk and Mr. Walker voting against.

APPOINTMENTS

President Howard read the list of School Board Appointments for 2023. (Exhibit No. 23-02)

Legislative Liaison	Zachary Smith Howard
Central Nine Rep.	Dawn A. Downer
Central Nine Alt.	Larry J. Walker
CIESC Advisory Council	Dr. Chase Huotari
Franklin Township Ed. Foundation Rep.	Zachary Smith Howard
Designee to sign community supported residential/student contracts for IDOE	Dr. Bruce Hibbard
HSBT Administrative Rep.	Mr. Fred McWhorter II
HSBT FTEA President &/or Designee	Katie Cadle/Bryan Sawyers

APPROVE SCHOOL BOARD ATTORNEY

President Howard made a motion to approve Church, Church, Hittle and Antrim as the School Board Attorneys. Mrs. Gowan made a motion to approve and it passed 5-0. (Exhibit No. 23-02)

APPROVE TREASURER AND DEPUTY TREASURER

President Howard asked for a motion to approve Mr. Fred McWhorter II as Treasurer and Mrs. Kaitlin Porter as Deputy Treasurer. Mrs. Gowan motioned to approve and Ms. Downer seconded. The motion carried 5-0. (Exhibit No. 23-02)

APPROVE SCHOOL BOARD SALARY FOR 2023

President Howard asked for a motion to approve the School Board Salary for 2023 as listed below. Mr. Walker made a motion to approve. Ms. Downer seconded the motion and it passed 5-0. (Exhibit No. 23-02)

Yearly Stipend	\$2,000
Regular Meetings	\$75
Special Meetings	\$60
Board Activities	\$60

APPROVE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2023

President Howard asked for a motion to approve the list of School Board Meeting dates for 2023 as presented. Mr. Walker motioned to approve the dates and Ms. Downer seconded. The motion carried 5-0. (Exhibit No. 23-03)

ACCEPT/APPROVE UNIFORM CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

President Howard asked for a motion to approve the Uniform Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements submitted by each of the Board Members. Mrs. Gowan motioned to approve and Ms. Downer seconded. The motion passed 5-0. (Exhibit No. 23-04)

READ/APPROVE INDIANA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSN. CODE OF ETHICS

President Howard and Mrs. Gowan read the ISBA Code of Ethics that was included in the meeting documentation. He asked the Board Members to sign the attached statement acknowledging their understanding of the code and agreeing to abide by it. President Howard recommended approval of the signed statements. Mrs. Gowan made a motion to approve the statements. Mr. Walker seconded the motion and it carried 5-0. (Exhibit No. 23-05)

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

President Howard opened the floor for comments from the community.  
There were no comments

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

President Howard asked for a motion to approve the following list of Consent Agenda Items. Ms. Downer made a motion to approve the items and Mrs. Gowan seconded. Ms. Downer asked why there were so many Substitute Teacher terminations listed on the Personnel Report. Ms. Britt replied that these substitutes have not worked for us during 2022 and this is an effort to clean up our files. Mrs. Foulk congratulated the Business Office for having a balanced budget once again in 2022 and thanked them for their hard work resulting in moving \$3 million into the Rainy Day Fund. There being no additional questions or comments, President Howard called for the vote which passed 5-0.

- A. Board Meeting Minutes
  - 1. Regular Board Meeting - December 19, 2022
- B. Fund and Expenditure Summary Reports (Exhibit No. 23-06)
- C. Year-End Appropriation Transfers 2022 (Exhibit No. 23-07)
- D. Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll Claims (Exhibit No. 23-08)
- E. Personnel Report (Exhibit No. 23-09)
- F. Donations
- G. Fundraisers

- H. Surplus Equipment for Disposal
- I. Resolution to Transfer Funds to Rainy Day Fund (Exhibit No. 23-10)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

CENTRAL NINE REPORT

Ms. Dawn Downer stated that since the Central Nine Governing Board is due to meet later this month she does not have a report this evening and noted that she will have two months of information to share at the February Board Meeting.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP EDUCATION FOUNDATION REPORT

President Howard conveyed that the next meeting of the Franklin Township Education Foundation is not until January 17<sup>th</sup>, but he did inform everyone that the application deadline for the following scholarships is February 3<sup>rd</sup>: Dr. Elmo B. Carver Memorial Scholarship, Richard H. Crosser Memorial Scholarship, Mae Dilliner Lowes Memorial Scholarship, and Abby Sherwood Memorial Scholarship. He added that the Elisabeth Good Fellowship application goes live on January 30<sup>th</sup> with a deadline of April 3, 2023.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT

President Howard reported that the Indiana General Assembly began its long session today and must conclude by midnight on April 29, 2023. He shared that the main objective this session will be to adopt a two-year state budget. President Howard added that the Governor has submitted a proposed budget which includes a 6% increase for schools for the 1<sup>st</sup> year. He noted that another item for discussion will be the elimination of textbook rental fees for all students. President Howard conveyed that he will be providing Legislative updates at the upcoming Board Meetings. There were no questions or comments.

GRADUATION RATE REPORT

Dr. Chase Huotari stated Franklin Central High School has much to celebrate regarding their graduation rate and how it compares to other schools. He was thrilled to share that FC's graduation rate of 95.58% is the best in comparison to local area high schools and ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> compared to the high schools in the Hoosier Crossroads Conference. Dr. Huotari noted that the percent rates are for non-waiver graduates that meet academic and pathway requirements established by the IDOE. He added that this is a huge celebration for our dedicated staff and hard working students. Mrs. Foulk stated that this wonderful accomplishment definitely deserves a round of applause. President Howard thanked him for the exciting news and added that it is very impressive that we have such a wide variety of pathways to enable our students to be successful. (Exhibit No. 23-11)

ACTION ITEMS

APPROVE SCHOOL COUNSELING CONSULTING AGREEMENT

Dr. Lynlie Schoene recommended approval of the School Counseling Consulting Agreement that was included in the meeting documentation. She stated that the two-year agreement is for Professional Development for our counselors. Mr. Walker motioned to approve and Ms. Downer seconded. There being no questions or comments, President Howard called for the vote which carried 5-0. (Exhibit No. 23-12)

BOARD POLICIES – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING & APPROVAL

Mr. Jeff Murphy referred the Board Members to their copies of the five (5) School Board Policies that were included in their packets: Policy C425 – Student Suicide Prevention and Awareness, Policy F176 – Unpaid Meals, Policy H125 – Corporation-Support Organizations, Policy 321 – Reserve Officers (FTCSC Police Dept. Manual), and Policy C525 – Medical Needs at School. He shared that the changes made since the first reading are highlighted on the summary page and recommended approval of the policies. Ms. Downer made a motion to approve the policies. Mrs. Gowan seconded the motion and it passed 5-0. (Exhibit No. 23-13)



APPROVE FCHS FIELD TRIPS

Dr. Chase Huotari recommended approval for the FCHS Open Winter Guard to travel to Dayton, Ohio, on April 13-16, 2023 and the FCHS Percussion Symphony to travel to Dayton, Ohio, on April 20-24, 2023 to compete in the Winter Guard International World Championship. Mrs. Gowan made a motion to approve the field trips and Mr. Walker seconded. The motion carried 5-0. (Exhibit No. 23-14)

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Bruce Hibbard recognized the Scouts that were in attendance this evening and asked them to introduce themselves and to share what school they attend. The members of Boy Scout Troop 104, based out of Acton United Methodist Church, introduced themselves and noted that they are working on their Citizenship in the Community merit badges to pursue the rank of Eagle Scout.

Dr. Chase Huotari was happy to announce that we have five (5) girl wrestlers that have advanced to the State Wrestling Tournament. He added that this is quite an accomplishment since the Girls' Wrestling Program is a new sport.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Larry Walker thanked Dr. Huotari for sharing the wonderful graduation rates with the Board and stated that he is proud to be a part of the Board for another term.

Mr. Larry Walker stated that he would like to publicly exonerate his friend, Mr. Jim Cougill, for something that he was accused of doing in the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade at Wanamaker Elementary many years ago. He noted that Mr. Cougill lives out-of-state and is watching via the Live Stream. Mrs. Foulk jokingly asked Mr. Walker if he was the guilty party.

President Howard conveyed that he is looking forward to serving on the Board and working with the School Community for another 4 years.

ADJOURNMENT

President Howard adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

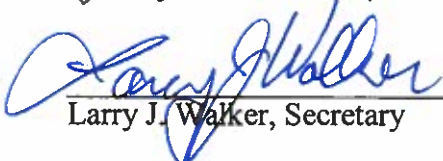
APPROVED



Zachary Smith Howard, President



Doris L. Gowan, Vice President



Larry J. Walker, Secretary



Dawn A. Downer, Member



Kelly L. Foulk, Member