

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION OF THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY SCHOOL
CORPORATION
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, HELD MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2020**

PRESENT: Kelly L. Foulk, Zachary T. Smith, Judy L. Shore, Dawn A. Downer, Larry J. Walker, Bruce Hibbard, Jill Britt, Chase Huotari, Sharon Kight, Tyler Knight, Fred McWhorter, Kent Pettet, Kaitlin Porter, Lynlie Schoene and Toni Stevenson

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 December 21, 2020. All Board Members and news media had been duly notified and the agenda properly posted.

REGULAR MEETING

President Kelly Foulk called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:01 P.M. She stated that Isaac, a member of the Scout Troop that was in attendance, will be leading the Pledge of Allegiance. She thanked him and welcomed the Troop members.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Foulk called for a motion to approve the agenda as written. Mrs. Shore made a motion to approve and Mr. Smith seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

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

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

President Foulk asked for a motion to approve the following list of Consent Agenda Items. Mr. Walker motioned to approve the items and Mrs. Shore seconded. Mr. Smith stated that he is excited that we have selected Mr. West as our new football coach and asked for clarification regarding his newly created position of Dean of School Information & Events. Dr. Huotari replied that Mr. West will be scheduling and coordinating all of the extra-curricular events for Franklin Central which means that he is responsible for not only scheduling the events, but also coordinating all of the event details that need to be addressed such as venue space, custodial needs, technology items, social media notification, security, etc. He added that Mrs. Matasovsky, FC Principal, suggested we create a position to handle these duties in an effort to allow Mr. Kellison, Asst. Principal, time to conduct teacher evaluations, etc. Ms. Downer conveyed that while she, too, is excited to have Mr. West join our program, she is concerned that we are creating positions to acquire good coaches and feels we should have discussions with the Board prior to creating the positions. She added that she feels the salary of \$86,000 per year is too high for such a position when it is not a supervisory position. Dr. Hibbard stated that the other Dean positions at FC do not supervise anyone and if we want to be competitive in athletics, we need to hire quality coaches. Mr. Smith asked Dr. Pettet about the new Data Secretary position for the Human Resources Department. Dr. Pettet replied that the new position will be handling the employee paperwork, etc. pertaining to COVID-19. He noted that currently our overtime costs for overseeing it is greater than the cost of hiring a clerk to handle it. Dr. Pettet also directed the Board Members to the information on the Personnel Summary regarding time off for COVID-19 related reasons which clarifies our requirements based on the possible expiration of the Family First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) on December 31, 2020. There being no additional comments, President Foulk called for the vote to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried 4-1 with President Foulk, Mrs. Shore, Mr. Smith and Mr. Walker voting in favor and Ms. Downer voting against.

- A. Board Meeting Minutes
 - 1. Regular Board Meeting – November 23, 2020
- B. Fund and Expenditure Summary Reports (Exhibit No. 20-134)
- C. Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll Claims (Exhibit No. 20-135)
- D. Personnel Report (Exhibit No. 20-136)
- E. Donations
- F. Fundraisers
- G. Surplus Equipment for Disposal

DISCUSSION ITEMS

CENTRAL NINE REPORT

Ms. Dawn Downer reported that at the recent Central Nine Governing Board Meeting it was shared that C-9 will continue with the Hybrid schedule after the holidays while continuing to monitor the COVID cases in the nine participating School Corporations. She added that they are reviewing the responses from the architects as a result of the recent Facility Study. Ms. Downer thanked our Transportation Department for increasing the number of buses to transport our students in efforts to minimize the number of riders per bus. Dr. Huotari added that Todd Livesay, Transportation Director, deserves the credit for re-arranging the routes to accommodate the C-9 students. Ms. Downer also added that Central Nine has recorded an increase in attendance and fewer behavioral reports with the altered schedules.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP EDUCATION FOUNDATION REPORT

President Foulk ask Dr. Kent Pettet to share the FT Education Foundation Report this evening as she was unable to attend the most recent meeting. Dr. Pettet conveyed that Monte Gardner will serve as the FTEF President during 2021. He added that they have developed three goals for coming year and will continue to support the School Corporation's Literacy programs. Dr. Pettet summarized a list of supplies and donations that were purchased for our classrooms and our students during the school year. He shared that FTEF provided a pizza party for each school as a 'thank you' for their continued support. Dr. Pettet noted that they are excited to begin preparations for their 25th Anniversary celebration during this next year. He added that anyone interested may purchase a Major Saver discount card until January 4th.

ACTION ITEMS

APPROVE PROPERTY/LIABILITY INSURANCE RENEWAL

Mr. Fred McWhorter II recommended approval of the Property/Liability/Workman's Comp Insurance renewal for 2021 that was included in the Board Meeting packets. He explained that Assured Partners shopped the market and we recommend the proposal with Liberty Mutual, Hartford Steam Boiler and Chubb for the total amount of \$823,716 which excludes the certified terrorism coverage of \$23,319. Ms. Downer made a motion to approve and Mrs. Shore seconded. There being no questions or comments, President Foulk called for the vote which carried 5-0. (Exhibit No. 20-137)

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL COURSES AT FCHS

Dr. Chase Huotari referred the Board Members to their copies of the list of additional courses offered to students at FCHS for the 2021-2022 school year and recommended approval. He explained that the addition of these courses expands the dual credit and pathway opportunities for students and makes FTCSC eligible for additional CTE funding. Mr. Smith motioned to approve the additional courses and Ms. Downer seconded. Mrs. Shore stated that the Literature courses sound so interesting that she would like to participate in them. President Foulk conveyed that she is quite impressed by our continued goal of offering classes that entice and challenge our students in an effort to prepare them for future endeavors. There being no additional comments, President Foulk called for the vote. The motion to approve the list of additional courses at FCHS passed 5-0. (Exhibit No. 20-138)

NEW BUSINESS

FTCSC FINANCIAL INFORMATION & RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Fred McWhorter II gave an overview of our assessed valuation, tax rates, and tax levies. He shared that in 2021 we will have the lowest total tax rate since 2012 and the lowest debt rate since 2008. He added that our enrollment has been steadily increasing and with well over 1000 new parcels slated for home construction, we anticipate rapid growth in our schools in the very near future. Mr. McWhorter stated that when he arrived four years ago there were legitimate financial concerns regarding the Corporation's cash balance and he is happy to report that we have had four years of balanced budgets while simultaneously been able to fund various construction and facility maintenance projects. He noted that our projected cash balance for end-of-year 2020 is \$37,603,661. Mr. McWhorter recommended that the Board approve to pay the Administrators and Certified Staff Members who didn't receive the teacher incentive bonus (\$660 or \$495) that was just distributed and pay the approximate 132 twelve-month Classified Staff members \$250 each for a total of \$72,000. Mr. Smith asked if the building principals are included in the Administrator group. Mr. McWhorter replied, 'yes' they are as well as the deans and school psychologists as long as they meet the employment criteria. Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the bonus recommendation and Ms. Downer seconded. Mrs. Shore stated that she supports the recommendation because it important for them to know that they are very much appreciated. President Foulk added that she feels the timing is a perfect way to extend our gratitude for everyone's effort in adjusting, re-arranging, and working through the ever-changing mandates due to COVID-19. There being no additional comments, President Foulk called for the vote which carried 5-0. (Exhibit No. 20-139)

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Hibbard remarked that it is a sad night as one of the Board Members that hired him is leaving the Board. He thanked Mrs. Judy Shore for her years of service and presented her with a clock and a School Corporation Lifetime 'Gold Card' which enables her free admittance to any event excluding various tournaments. Dr. Hibbard added that with Judy's support over the last four years, we have partnered with the Indianapolis Fire Department to build a new fire station, transformed Wanamaker Elementary into the Early Learning Center, hired Mr. McWhorter as COO, re-configured our schools' grade levels, etc. Dr. Hibbard shared that Mrs. Shore retired from teaching in our district and is still highly regarded and respected for her dedication to the students and staff members. Mrs. Shore thanked Dr. Hibbard and stated that it is truly amazing to see the changes that have occurred during her four years as a Board Member. President Foulk remarked that it was wonderful to get to know Mrs. Shore and added that she has been a great contributor over the past years and is definitely a 'Flash' to the core.

BOARD COMMENTS

President Foulk thanked the Scouts that attended the meeting and thanked Isaac for leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Smith was thrilled to announce that there are only 10 days until 2021!

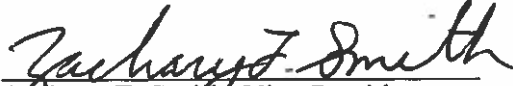
ADJOURNMENT

President Foulk adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

APPROVED



Kelly L. Foulk, President



Zachary T. Smith, Vice President

Judy L. Shore, Secretary



Dawn A. Downer, Member

Larry J. Walker, Member

