

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION OF THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY SCHOOL
CORPORATION
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, HELD MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025**

PRESENT: Zachary Smith Howard, Ryan Donovan, Larry J. Walker, Elizabeth Yoder, Dr. Chase Huotari, Sharon Kight, Tyler Knight, Jenni Matasovsky, Fred McWhorter II, Jeff Murphy, Kent Pettet, and Lynlie Schoene.

Dawn Downer joined the meeting at 6:15pm.

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, February 10, 2025. All Board Members and news media had been duly notified and the agenda properly posted.

REGULAR MEETING

President Howard called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Howard led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Howard asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mrs. Yoder made the motion, Mr. Donovan seconded and the motion carried 4/0.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

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

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Board Meeting Minutes (Exhibit No. 25-23)
 - 1. Regular Board Meeting - January 13, 2025
 - 2. Board of Finance Meeting - January 13, 2025
- B. Fund and Expenditure Summary Reports (Exhibit No. 25-24)
- C. Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll Claims (Exhibit No. 25-25)
- D. Personnel Report (Exhibit No. 25-26)
- E. Fundraisers (Exhibit No. 25-27)
- F. Field Trips (Exhibit No. 25-28)
- G. Surplus Equipment for Disposal (Exhibit No. 25-29)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

CENTRAL NINE REPORT

Ms. Downer apologized for being late. She said that C-9 has not met this month and is getting ready to reorganize after all the partnering schools have reorganized their boards. Ms. Downer mentioned that C-9 had a second and final Open House, and are planning for Spring Break and Summer Camps. She said she would bring the information to the board when she receives it.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP EDUCATION FOUNDATION REPORT

Mr. Donovan stated that FTEF hosted its 2nd Annual FTEF Gala this past Saturday, which was a tremendous success in raising funds for the teachers, staff, and students of FTCSC. He expressed gratitude to the event's sponsors, including Diamond Sponsors: Skillman, VPS, Creative Engineering Solutions, Midwest Carpenters, and the Ryan & Jessica Thomas Family. He also thanked all participants for their support and involvement in making the event a success.

Additionally, Mr. Donovan announced that three of Franklin Central's distinguished individuals were inducted into the Wall of Fame. He said that Steve George, Ben Schuman, and Kathy Stricker were honored for their outstanding commitment to FTCSC and the Franklin Township community.

Mr. Donovan also shared that Franklin Central High School Senior Scholarship applications are now open. He went on to say that this year, five different scholarships are available for seniors to apply for and that in addition, FTEF is offering two scholarships for FTCSC educators. He mentioned the Elizabeth Good Fellowship will be awarded to an educator pursuing graduate studies in school administration, while the newly established Susan Tomlinson Memorial Scholarship will support an Instructional Assistant in FTCSC seeking a Transition to Teaching license.

Mr. Donovan said applications are due by midnight on March 31, 2025, and winners will be announced on May 1st. He mentioned that more information about the scholarships, as well as pictures from the Gala, can be found on the FTEF website at myftef.org. (Exhibit 25-30)

LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT

President Howard reported that ISBA is currently tracking 184 bills. He noted that House Bill 1230 is expected to be scheduled for a hearing in the House Elections and Apportionment Committee on Wednesday. He mentioned that HB 1230, concerning School Board Elections, requires each candidate's political party affiliation or status as an independent to be listed on the general election ballot.

He also discussed SB 287, which mandates that school board candidates be nominated in the same way as other elected officials, including participating in a primary election with party affiliation shown on the ballot.

President Howard highlighted two additional bills to watch: HB 1001 on the State Budget and HB 1681 on Local Public Questions. He explained that the initial version of HB 1001 is considered the governor's budget and includes agency requests, including those from the Indiana Department of Education. President Howard said that about 100 representatives from various groups testified on the bill and that both ISBA and IASBO voiced support for increased funding in the tuition support formula to reach or exceed inflation rates. He went on to say that ISBA also advocated for additional funding for ELL students, summer school reimbursement, the secured schools safety grant, and the expansion of the On My Way Pre-K program. He said a new version of the budget is expected this week.

Regarding HB 1681, President Howard explained that it specifies local public questions or referendums can only be placed on the ballot during a general election.

ACTION ITEMS

APPROVE ROOFING BID

Mr. McWhorter reviewed the Bid Memo and stated that it came in 40% less than they thought it would. Mr. Donovan asked if we received three Bids and Mr. McWhorter said we only received two and explained why this one was chosen. President Howard asked about Edgewood

Intermediate's roof and Mr. McWhorter stated that they are only replacing the portion that wasn't added onto recently and that FTCSC had a Roof Study completed for all the facilities. (Exhibit 25-31)

Mr. Walker made the motion to approve, Mr. Donovan seconded, and it carried 4/0.

APPROVE ACTON ELEMENTARY BOILER BID

Mr. McWhorter reviewed the Bid and mentioned that it came in 5% less than expected. (Exhibit 25-32)

Mrs. Yoder made the motion to approve, Mr. Donovan seconded, and the motion carried 4/0.

APPROVE WELC PROGRAM RATES

Mr. McWhorter and Mrs. Webb discussed the rates for next year. Mr. McWhorter mentioned that in the past we had Grant money to help offset rates but those funds are no longer available. He said that the new rates are still below our competition's rates and this will give parents a 6 month notice for the change. (Exhibit 25-33)

Mr. Donovan made the motion to approve, Mrs. Yoder seconded, and the motion carried 4/0.

APPROVE STUDENT HANDBOOKS FOR 2025-2026 FOR ELEMENTARY, INTERMEDIATE, JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Murphy stated due to the fact that Kindergarten registration was opened early this year, handbooks needed to be completed and approved earlier than normal. Mr. Donovan mentioned that he reached out to a few teachers and they are finding that students are being sent to school without coats for recess when the temperature is very cold. He said they would like to look into changing the temperature guideline of 0 degrees windchill to 15 degrees. Mr. Donovan also said that the teachers are noticing a lot more students with cell phones at the elementary level. He said the teachers state they are disruptive during instructional time. He also said that some teachers have mentioned that inappropriate websites are being accessed when students take their chromebooks home. Mr. Murphy said he will look into this for the next update. (Exhibit 25-34)

Mrs. Yoder made the motion to approve, Mr. Donovan seconded, and the motion carried 5/0.

APPROVE FCHS NON-STANDARD COURSE WAIVER

Mrs. Matasovsky stated that Franklin Central needed to make changes for the current and incoming freshmen so they meet graduation requirements. She said that two Franklin Central teachers worked together to create this course incorporating personal finance and micro/macro economics. She also mentioned that many other districts are also doing this. President Howard asked what the district's thoughts are that we will award diplomas early and Mrs. Matasovsky said no, we will start with the current freshman class. Mrs. Yoder asked if there was a specific curriculum that needed to be purchased to which Mrs. Matasovsky said no, the teachers will utilize PLC time to create the curriculum. (Exhibit 25-35)

Mr. Walker made the motion to approve, Ms. Downer seconded, and the motion carried 5/0.

APPROVE BEHEARD CONTRACT

Dr. Kight stated that we had several deaf students move into the district recently and she has had to hire four ASL interpreters. Mrs. Yoder asked if they were full time or part time. Dr. Kight said

that we have hired one full time interpreter and are using sub contractors to fill the other full time positions until she is able to hire permanent staff. She also said the interpreters will be needed for several years. Ms. Downer asked if the contract company sends the same person and Dr. Kight explained that she has six that will rotate between the schools. Ms. Downer then asked about what confidentiality training the subcontractors go through. Dr. Kight and Mr. Murphy said they go through our new hire training and also confidentiality training with their contract company including HIPAA and FERPA training. (Exhibit 25-36)

Mrs. Yoder made the motion to approve, Mr. Donovan seconded, and the motion carried 5/0.

APPROVE T-MOBILE OOMA AIRDIAL QUOTE

Mr. Knight stated this is a quote to add a few cellular lines so we can use them in emergency situations such as calling 911. He said if we suffer a network outage, this will allow emergency communications. Mr. Knight said that this quote saves us money and gets us reliable service. (Exhibit 25-37)

Mr. Donovan made the motion to approve, Ms. Downer seconded, and the motion carried 5/0.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Huotari stated that Saturday was a great day to be a Flash with the Gala and how many people came out to support Franklin Township. He said that FC's Girls Basketball team won Sectionals and it was so good to see the Boys Football team come out to support the Girls. Dr. Huotari also mentioned that a few teachers held a Leadership Camp for students on Saturday evening and the staff and students had a great time learning new skills.

BOARD COMMENTS

President Howard said the Gala was great and hats off to everyone involved in the planning. Ms. Downer wished to thank President Howard for the legislative session report and the board and administration for enduring this stress. She also mentioned that she has been hearing wonderful things from colleagues about how well Franklin Township is being represented.

ADJOURNMENT

President Howard adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

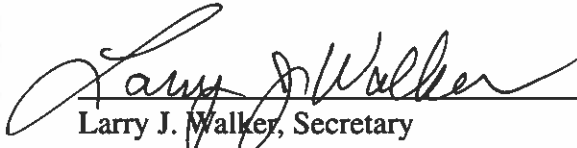
APPROVED



Zachary Smith Howard, President



Dawn A. Downer, Vice President



Larry J. Walker, Secretary



Ryan Donovan, Member



Elizabeth Yoder, Member

