

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, HELD MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2024**

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

ABSENT: Kent Pettet and Tyler Knight

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 June 24, 2024. All Board Members and news media had been duly notified and the agenda properly posted.

REGULAR MEETING

President Howard called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:41 P.M. He also led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Howard called for a motion to approve the agenda as written. Ms. Dawn Downer made a motion to approve and Mr. Larry Walker seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

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. Mrs. Foulk motioned to approve the items and Mrs. Downer seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

- A. Board Meeting Minutes - Regular Board Meeting & Addl. Appropriations Hearing - May 20, 2024 (Exhibit 24-63)
- B. Fund and Expenditure Summary Reports (Exhibit No. 24-64)
- C. Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll Claims (Exhibit No. 24-65)
- D. Personnel Report (Exhibit No. 24-66)
- E. Donations (Exhibit No. 24-67)
- F. Fundraisers
- G. Surplus Equipment for Disposal (Exhibit No. 24-68)

Ms. Downer thanked the teachers for moving to different buildings next year and the Human Resources Department for coordinating all the moves. Ms. Downer asked about classified staff and Ms. Jill Britt stated that we will be hiring all summer. Mr. Jeff Murphy shared that there will be a Classified Job Fair on July 10th.

Dr. Chase Huotari introduced Jenni Matasovsky as the new Chief Academic Officer of Secondary and Zakary Tschiniak as the new Principal of Franklin Central High School and asked them to introduce themselves, their families and to say a few words.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

CENTRAL NINE REPORT

Ms. Dawn Downer reported that the Central Nine Governing Board met last week. She shared that it was a very somber meeting with the loss of one of their Board Members, Gary Robinson. Ms. Downer was appreciative of his support and work in Center Grove. She was happy to report

that C9 is fully staffed, working on enrollment (FC's enrollment in C9 was down from last year), Adult Ed is associated with CG and had issues with audit/bookkeeping that is not up to SBA standards. C9 will be working with someone to better keep track of accounting transfers. She shared that the building project is going well and they are expanding the welding classes, have an area for larger school functions and will be opening August 8th.

There were no questions or comments from the Board Members.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP EDUCATION FOUNDATION REPORT

President Howard shared that the Franklin Township Education Foundation Board of Directors met recently. He stated the 31st Annual Fast Flash will be held on Saturday, July 27th and this year, every 5K and 2K participant, of any age and no matter if they run or walk, will receive a finisher's medal. He also shared that after the race, everyone is welcome to stay for the 4th Annual Back-2-School Bash where each of our schools will be represented to welcome families back for another great school year. President Howard also shared that all our high school sports teams will be on display for younger students to try out new skills and new for this year will be a Community Helper's Zone with fire trucks, police motorcycles, an army helicopter and much more! He stated if anyone wanted to register for the race, go to myftfef.org and all school employees who register with their FTCSC email will receive a free exclusive race t-shirt.

President Howard also asked everyone to save the date for the Golf Fore Kids event scheduled for Friday, September 27th at Back 9 Golf and Entertainment in downtown Indianapolis.

There were no questions or comments.

POLICY REVISIONS – 1ST READING

Mr. Jeff Murphy referred the Board Members to their copies of the ten (10) School Board Policies that were included in their packets: Policy A300 – Responsible Use of Technology, Policy A301 – Wireless Communication Devices (NEW), Policy A350 - Civility and Decorum (NEW), Policy B150 - Organization, Policy B200 - Membership, Policy C175 - Student Attendance, Academic Engagement, and Truancy Prevention, Policy D375 - Employee Discipline, Policy D500 - Standard of Care and Supervision of Students, Policy E125 - Promotion, Placement, and Retention of Students, Policy G360 - Data Breach and Protection. He summarized the policies. Mr. Murphy added that the FTCSC Police Department was asking for approval of edits or new policies for our Police Department and those policies included: Policy 208 - LETB Uniform Statewide Defensive Tactics Training Program (NEW), Policy 300 - Use of Force, Policy 330 - LETB Uniform Statewide Policy on Deadly Force (NEW) and Policy 1004 - Reporting of Arrests, Convictions and Court Orders (NEW).

President Howard had a question about Policy A350 and who it pertained to. Mr. Murphy answered the policy is situationally based on the location of the incident.

There being no additional questions, Mr. Murphy shared that we will bring these policies to the July 22nd Board Meeting for 2nd reading and approval. (Exhibit No. 24-69)

ACTION ITEMS

APPROVE ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS RESOLUTION

Mr. Fred McWhorter II shared that the State Board of Accounts (SBA) has come out with additional guidance in regards to paying Athletic Officials through an online payment system. He shared that most school systems, including ourselves, utilize such a system; however, the SBA now requires that the Board authorize a resolution to the effect for audit purposes. Mr. McWhorter II recommended approval.

The Motion to approve was made by Mrs. Foulk and a Second by Ms. Downer. The vote carried 5/0. (Exhibit No. 24-70)

APPROVE GUARANTEED SAVINGS CONTRACT PROVIDER

Mr. Fred McWhorter II shared that proposals were solicited and Schneider Electric provided a proposal that we deem as the Best Responsive and Responsible. He shared that their initial cost energy audit proposal is for \$24,000 to complete the engineering necessary to move forward with Edgewood Intermediate and Franklin Central High School energy savings projects. He stated the projects are estimated to be approximately \$6.5 million, however, with \$1,950,000 in Treasury payments and \$3,250,000 in EPA grant funds the total estimated out of pocket will be approximately \$1,300,000 to be paid out of construction and GO bonds and lifecycle operating cost savings are expected to be \$12 million. Mr. McWhorter II recommended approval.

The Motion to approve was made by Mr. Walker and a Second by Mrs. Gowan.
The vote carried 5/0 (Exhibit No. 24-71)

APPROVE AMERGIS CONTRACT

Dr. Sharon Kight shared that the District would be using Amergis to provide a Special Education Teacher at Franklin Central Junior High and a School Psychologist for the District. Dr. Kight recommended the approval.

The Motion to approve was made by Mrs. Gowan and a Second by Mr. Walker.
The vote carried 5/0. (Exhibit No. 24-72)

APPROVE SLP INTERNSHIP AGREEMENT

Dr. Sharon Kight shared that a Speech Language Pathology student from Saint Mary's College will be doing her internship with FTCS. Dr. Kight recommended approval of the Internship Agreement.

The Motion to approve was made by Mrs. Foulk and a Second by Mrs. Gowan.
The vote carried 5/0. (Exhibit No. 24-73)

APPROVE ATHLETIC TRANSPORTATION FEE CHANGE

Dr. Chase Huotari shared that due to increased gas prices, bus driver rates, and additional trips added each year due to IHSAA improvements, the High School and Junior High are asking to increase their Athletic Transportation Fees to ensure that transportation costs are covered for student athletes each year. He stated that Franklin Central High School would like to raise their fee from \$70 to \$75 per student and Franklin Central Junior High would like to raise theirs from \$30 to \$40 per student. Dr. Huotari recommended approval.

The Motion to approve was made by Mr. Walker and a Second by Ms. Downer.
The vote carried 5/0. (Exhibit No. 24-74)

APPROVE COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLANNING PROPOSAL

Dr. Chase Huotari shared that the District was looking for an external partner to facilitate a clear and concise strategic planning process that could evolve as needs change in the District. He shared that Scholarus, a part of Educational Elements, has provided the proposal to best meet community and student needs.

The Motion to approve was made by Mrs. Gowan and a Second by Ms. Downer.
The vote carried 5/0. (Exhibit No. 24-75)

APPROVE RESOLUTION OF ADDED AGENDA ITEM - SUPPLEMENTAL PAY

Mr. Jeff Murphy asked the School Board to approve a resolution to establish a supplemental yearly payment of \$4000 to our K-6 Self-Contained Emotional Behavior Challenges Program teachers. He shared that the students in this program have very challenging behaviors and with what they present, that these teaching positions are often a revolving door. Mr. Murphy stated that there are currently 2 out of the 5 positions open with no applicants. He shared that in classrooms where consistency is needed most, we are not able to offer consistent instructional teachers who demonstrate longevity across years and hoped that by offering a supplemental payment program, we would gain quality applicants and consistency in these classrooms. Mr. Murphy recommended approval.

The Motion to approve was made by Mrs. Foulk and a Second by Mr. Walker.
The vote carried 5/0 (Exhibit No. 24-76)

Mr. Walker asked if we have had any interest in the positions that would benefit from the Supplemental Pay Resolution. Dr. Sharon Kight stated that there were no applicants for Kitley Intermediate or Arlington Elementary but one applicant for Edgewood Intermediate.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Hibbard said there are 27 school days until the new school year begins. He welcomed Jenni Matasovsky and Zakary Tschiniak who are both working on their PhDs. He said we lost Larry Hanni and that he will be missed. Dr. Hibbard shared that the Celebration of Life would be Saturday. He also shared that Betsey Willard lost her mother and asked that we keep her in our thoughts and prayers.


BOARD COMMENTS

There were no comments from the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm.

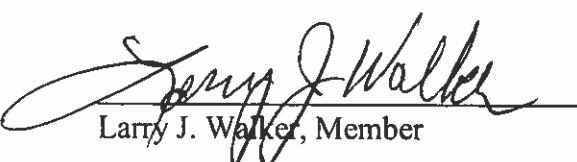
APPROVED


Zachary Smith Howard, President


Dawn A. Downer, Vice President


Doris L. Gowan, Secretary


Kelly L. Foulk, Member


Larry J. Walker, Member

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ABSENT: Kent Pettet and Tyler Knight

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President Zachary Howard called the Preliminary Determination Hearing to order at 6:00 P.M.

PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION HEARING (FCHS PHASE III PROJECT)

President Howard welcomed everyone to the Preliminary Determination Hearing on the proposed FCHS Renovation Project Phase III and stated that if anyone is interested in speaking at the Hearing there is a sign-up sheet on the table. Mr. Erik Long with Ice Miller (Bond Counsel), conveyed that pursuant to Indiana Code 6-1.1-20-3.5, a school corporation must hold two public hearings and adopt a resolution to preliminarily determine to issue bonds or enter a lease for a project which has a total cost in excess of certain thresholds. Mr. Long shared that these public hearings and the consideration of resolutions are the very beginning of the legal process. He noted that no Board action is legally required at this hearing. Rather, this hearing is solely to hear public comment regarding the projects. Mr. Fred McWhorter II stated that due to the need for expansion based on the demographic study and the community not wanting a referendum for a tax increase, the project was restructured to stay under the tax cap. He stated that Phase II of the project started in June 2023 adding new science rooms, classrooms and remodeling the main entrance. Jenni Matasovsky, FCHS Principal, discussed the educational need for the project. Mrs. Matasovsky stated that we are adding classrooms so that departments can be moved together. She stated FC has 30 Math teachers and they will all be moved upstairs. She added that renovations will include the Culinary Arts industrial kitchen/restaurant set up, textile labs, WELC internships, and old art rooms will become engineering rooms. Mr. McWhorter added that these projects will help with enrollment growth and will take 5 years to complete.

Mr. George Link with VPS Architecture shared renditions of the proposed Phase III renovation project. He commented that FCHS is 16 acres under roof and will be 18 acres when completed. He stated that Phase III will include the outdoor space, new athletic fields, resurfacing of the baseball/softball fields, parking, a full size soccer/lacrosse field, smaller practice field, etc. The start dates for these projects are in 2025, 2027 and 2029. The goal is to keep costs under the property tax cap. We will have saved \$12M in capitalized interest over the course by bonding this way.

Mr. Brock Bowsher with Baker Tilly discussed how the proposed projects will be financed, as well as information about the effect on the typical tax payer stating there are three goals, discussing debt, project parameters, and outstanding debt with proposed projects and the impact. He presented the School Corporation's existing annual debt service/lease rental payments and shared that the estimated cost of the FCHS Phase III project will cost \$120M dollars. There were no questions or comments from the Board Members. (Exhibit No. 24-61)

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY


President Howard opened the Public Hearing for anyone who wished to speak regarding the proposed Franklin Central High School Addition/Renovation Project. No community member signed up to speak. He then thanked everyone who participated in the hearing and said he appreciated their time and interest in the project and the future of our community. President Howard mentioned that this is just the first step in the legal process. No Board action is legally required at this hearing and rather that this hearing is solely to hear public comment and the

Board will continue to work with the administration and its professionals to look for efficiencies to conserve tax dollars while meeting our educational needs. He stated the Board will hold a second public hearing on July 22, 2024 at 5:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT

President Howard adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

APPROVED



Zachary Smith Howard, President



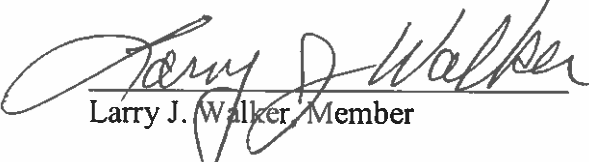
Dawn A. Downer, Vice President



Doris L. Gowan, Secretary



Kelly L. Foulk, Member



Larry J. Walker, Member

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President Zachary Howard called the Preliminary Determination Hearing to order at 6:35 P.M.

PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION HEARING (General Obligations Bond Hearing)

President Howard welcomed everyone to the Preliminary Determination Hearing on the proposed General Obligations Bond projects and stated that if anyone is interested in speaking at the Hearing there is a sign-up sheet on the table. Mr. Erik Long with Ice Miller (Bond Counsel), conveyed that pursuant to Indiana Code 6-1.1-20-3.5, a school corporation must hold two public hearings and adopt a resolution to preliminarily determine to issue bonds or enter a lease for a project which has a total cost in excess of certain thresholds. Mr. Long shared that these public hearings and the consideration of resolutions are the very beginning of the legal process. He noted that no Board action is legally required at this hearing. Rather, this hearing is solely to hear public comment regarding the projects. Mr. Fred McWhorter II spoke of the \$6.35M bond issue. He stated the proposed G.O. Bond project would include renovations and improvements to the school facilities, deferred maintenance improvements, HVAC improvements, roofing improvements, site improvements, and the purchase of equipment, buses and technology. Mr. Brock Bowsher with Baker Tilly stated that the 2024 bonds would be paid back starting in 2025 with a maximum term of 4 years and 4 months. (Exhibit 24-62)

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

President Howard opened the Public Hearing for anyone who wished to speak regarding the proposed G.O. Bond project. No community member signed up to speak.

He stated the Board will hold a second public hearing on July 22, 2024 at 5:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT

President Howard adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

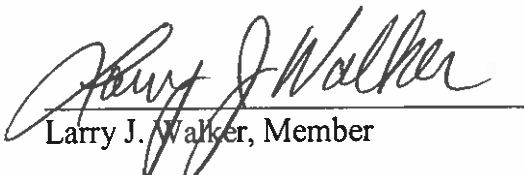
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