

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION  
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, HELD MONDAY, JULY 22, 2024**

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

The Board of Education of the Franklin Township Community School Corporation, Marion County, Indiana, met in Regular Session at 5:00 P.M. at the Administration Offices, located at 6141 South Franklin Road, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46259, on July 22, 2024. All Board Members and news media had been duly notified and the agenda properly posted.

REGULAR MEETING

President Zachary Howard called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:47 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. Mrs. Foulk made a motion to approve and Mrs. Gowan seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

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

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

President Howard asked for a motion to approve the following list of Consent Agenda Items. Mr. Walker motioned to approve the items and Mrs. Foulk seconded. The motion passed 5-0. Ms. Downer asked if we have hired any additional counselors for FCHS due to the changes to the graduation requirements. Dr. Huotari replied that we have not, but we have written a couple of grants that would cover the cost of additional counselors if they are accepted.

- A. Board Meeting Minutes
  - 1. Preliminary Determination Hearing (FCHS Project III) – June 24, 2024
  - 2. Preliminary Determination Hearing (GO Bonds) – June 24, 2024
  - 3. Regular Board Meeting – June 24, 2024
- B. Fund and Expenditure Summary Reports (Exhibit No. 24-86)
- C. Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll Claims (Exhibit No. 24-87)
- D. Personnel Report (Exhibit No. 24-88)
- E. Donations (Exhibit No. 24-89)
- F. Fundraisers (Exhibit No. 24-90)
- G. Surplus Equipment for Disposal

Dr. Toni Stevenson, Chief Academic Officer for Elementary, introduced Mr. S. Craig Buckler, the new principal for Thompson Crossing Elementary. She welcomed him to the district and stated that he will make a great addition to the Leadership Team. Mr. Buckler shared that he is getting settled in, has been in a lot of training these past few days, and is looking forward to getting acclimated to his new school. He thanked everyone for the warm welcome and stated that he is getting initiated on Saturday as he is scheduled to sit in the dunk tank at the Back-To-School Bash.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

CENTRAL NINE REPORT

Ms. Dawn Downer stated that she shared an invitation with the Board Members to attend the Dedication Ceremony for the Central Nine New Multi-Purpose Room and Welding Facility that

is scheduled for August 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. She also reported that FC currently has 171 students pre-enrolled for the upcoming school year with Perry Township Schools having 280 which is the highest number of students from the participating school corporations. Ms. Downer added that the Governing Board approved the student handbooks and they are looking forward to getting the school year started.

#### FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP EDUCATION FOUNDATION REPORT

President Howard shared that this Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, is the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Fast Flash and new this year, each participant in the 2K and 5K races will receive a finisher's medal. He added that he hoped everyone would stay for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Back-2-School Bash which will feature booths from every township school, FCHS sports teams and a Community Helper's Zone that will have police motorcycles, K9 units, and a police helicopter landing at 9:30 a.m. President Howard asked everyone to save the date of Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup> for the Golf Fore Kids event taking place at the Back 9 Golf & Entertainment Center in downtown Indianapolis. He thanked FTEF Executive Director, Stephanie Rigler, and her Executive Committee for their planning expertise and for continuing to support our students and teachers.

#### POLICY REVISIONS – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING

Mr. Jeff Murphy referred the Board Members to their copies of School Board Policy, D250 – Teacher Appreciation Grant that was included in their packets. He explained that we ask for approval of this policy each year and there are no changes since last year. There being no questions, Mr. Murphy shared that this policy will be brought to the August 26, 2024 Board Meeting for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and approval. (Exhibit No. 24-91)

#### ACTION ITEMS

##### APPROVE FCHS PHASE 2B CONSTRUCTION BIDS

Mr. Fred McWhorter II directed the Board Members to the FCHS Phase 2B Construction Bids that were included in the meeting documentation. He stated that The Skillman Corporation tabulated the bids and we are recommending the best responsive and responsible bids and alternates as presented in the amount of \$61,060,192. Mr. McWhorter conveyed that these bids are within our budget and will be paid with bond proceeds. Mr. Walker made a motion to approve and Mrs. Gowan seconded. There being no questions or comments, President Howard called for the vote which carried 5-0. (Exhibit No. 24-92)

##### APPROVE AUDIOLOGY SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR 2024-2025

Dr. Sharon Kight referred the Board Members to the Audiology Services Agreement for 2024-2025 which was included in their packets and recommended approval. She stated that Ms. Monica Gallien has provided Educational Audiology services for our township for several years and this is her yearly agreement. Mrs. Gowan motioned to approve the Agreement for 2024-2025. Mr. Walker seconded the motion and it passed 5-0. (Exhibit No. 24-93)

##### BOARD POLICIES – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING AND APPROVAL

Mr. Jeff Murphy referred the Board Members to their copies of the ten (10) School Board Policies and the four (4) Police Department Policies that were included in their packets and recommended approval. He noted that they only change since the first reading was to Policy G360, the correct title 'Director of Information Technology' was inserted in the third paragraph. 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, Police Dept. 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). Mrs. Gowan made a motion to approve the policies and

Mr. Walker seconded. There being no questions or comments, President Howard called for the vote which carried 5-0. (Exhibit No. 24-94)

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

OLD BUSINESS

President Howard presented Mrs. Laker with a bouquet of flowers and a plaque from the School Corporation recognizing her 17 years of service to Franklin Township Schools upon her retirement. He thanked her for taking care of the School Board Members throughout the years and for her dedication to the students, teachers and Administrators.

President Howard stated that Dr. Bruce Hibbard moved from New Albany Schools to lead Franklin Township School Corporation seven years ago. Under his leadership, the School Corporation has seen continuous growth and success. He stated that he is responsible for the renovation of the former Wanamaker Elementary into the highly recognized and very successful Wanamaker Early Learning Center as well as spearheading the design of the soon to open, New Bethel Elementary. President Howard presented Dr. Hibbard with a plaque from the School Corporation and conveyed that we will be forever grateful for his vision and leadership during his tenure.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Hibbard thanked Mrs. Laker for her professional assistance these past seven years. He thanked the Board Members and the Administrative Team for the beautiful 12 string guitar that was presented to him this afternoon and conveyed that he is very grateful for their generosity. Dr. Hibbard shared that Rick Hunter, Betsey Willard and Todd Livesay are all extremely busy gearing up for the beginning of school. He stated that he was very fortunate to have a great team of professionals to work with and he fully expects to see the positive growth of our township continue with the new leadership.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mrs. Foulk thanked Mrs. Laker for taking care of the Board Members over the years.

Mrs. Foulk thanked Dr. Hibbard for his leadership and stated that she is thankful that we got the majority vote to continue the major renovation project at Franklin Central High School. She conveyed that her four children will not reap the benefits of the project, but she is convinced that they received a better education because of Dr. Hibbard.

Mr. Walker stated that it was great to see Officers Short and Schoene in the audience this evening.

Mr. Walker thanked Mrs. Laker for working hard to meet the needs of the Board Members for the past 17 years. He thanked Dr. Hibbard for his contributions to the School Corporation and stated that we have accomplished more under his seven years of leadership than anyone could have imagined.

Mrs. Gowan thanked Dr. Hibbard and Mrs. Laker for their dedication to our students, staff and community.


Ms. Downer wished Dr. Hibbard and Mrs. Laker well and stated that she hoped they both have a great retirement.

Dr. Hibbard and Mrs. Laker thanked everyone for the recognition and the kind words.

ADJOURNMENT

President Howard adjourned the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

APPROVED

  
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Zachary Smith Howard, President

  
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Dawn A. Downer, Vice President

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Doris L. Gowan, Secretary

  
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Kelly L. Foulk, Member

  
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Larry J. Walker, Member

**MINUTES OF PROJECT HEARING AND 2<sup>ND</sup> PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION  
HEARING (FCHS RENOVATION – PROJECT III)  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION  
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, HELD MONDAY, JULY 22, 2024**

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

The Board of Education of the Franklin Township Community School Corporation, Marion County, Indiana, met in Special Session at 5:00 P.M. at the Administration Offices, located at 6141 South Franklin Road, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46259, on July 22, 2024. All Board Members and news media had been duly notified and the agenda properly posted.

President Zachary Howard called the Project Hearing and 2<sup>nd</sup> Preliminary Hearing to order at 5:04 P.M.

**PROJECT HEARING & 2<sup>ND</sup> PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION HEARING (FCHS RENOVATION – PROJECT III)**

President Howard welcomed everyone to the Project Hearing and 2<sup>nd</sup> Preliminary Determination Hearing on the proposed Franklin Central High School Renovation Project III and stated that if anyone is interested in speaking at the Hearing there is a sign-up sheet on the table. He added that the 1<sup>st</sup> Preliminary Determination Hearing on the Renovation Project was held on June 24, 2024. Mr. Erik Long with Ice Miller (Bond Counsel), conveyed that pursuant to Indiana Code 20-26-7-37, before a school corporation may spend more than \$1 million dollars to build, repair or alter a school building that will be financed by a lease or bonds, it must hold a public hearing at which explanations of the potential value of the project to the school corporation and community are given. He added 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 the project. Mr. Long explained that these public hearings and the consideration of the resolutions are the very beginning of the legal process and the resolutions presented this evening will establish the maximum financial terms for the proposed project.

Mr. Fred McWhorter II stated that due to the fact that portions of Franklin Central High School have never been renovated and we are continuing to experience a massive amount of student growth, we are proposing this next phase of renovation. He explained that the community has voted against a referendum which would have increased their taxes and shared that this project is structured to stay under the tax cap, therefore, no one will see an increase to their property taxes. Mrs. Jenni Matasovsky, Chief Academic Officer for Secondary, offered an overview of the project. She shared that the new pathway programs are the main reason for the expansion needs which will add for example, updated culinary art rooms, early childhood care classrooms, and also include additional space for core subjects. Mr. George Link, VPS Architecture, and Mr. Tim Funston, Skillman Corporation, outlined the design and construction phases of the proposed project. They shared that the project will take lots of organization because school will be taking place during the 4-5 year construction process. Mr. Walker asked when the project will be completed. Mr. Link replied at the end of 2030.

Mr. Brock Bowsher with Baker Tilly (Municipal Advisors) presented the School Corporation's existing annual debt service/lease rental payments and shared the maximum parameters for the proposed bonds as well as the repayment schedule. The Board Members did not have any questions.

(Exhibit No. 24-77)

**COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY**

President Howard opened the Public Hearing for anyone who wished to speak regarding the proposed Franklin Central High School Renovation – Project III.

There were no comments.

BOARD CONSIDERATION OF PROJECT RESOLUTION

Mr. Erik Long with Ice Miller recommended the Board's consideration of the Project Resolution (Exhibit A) that was included in the meeting documentation. He stated that the estimated cost of the project is \$120 million dollars. Mrs. Foulk made a motion to approve and Mr. Walker seconded. There being no questions or comments, President Howard called for the vote which carried 3-2, with President Howard, Mrs. Foulk, and Mr. Walker voting in favor and Ms. Downer and Mrs. Gowan voting against. (Exhibit No. 24-78)

BOARD CONSIDERATION OF PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION RESOLUTION

Mr. Erik Long recommended the Board's consideration of the Preliminary Determination Resolution (Exhibit B) that was included in the meeting documentation. Mrs. Foulk motioned to approve and Mr. Walker seconded the motion. President Howard called for vote which carried 3-2, with President Howard, Mrs. Foulk, and Mr. Walker voting in favor and Ms. Downer and Mrs. Gowan voting against. (Exhibit No. 24-79)


BOARD CONSIDERATION OF REIMBURSEMENT RESOLUTION

Mr. Erik Long recommended the Board's consideration of the Reimbursement Resolution (Exhibit C) that was included in the meeting documentation and explained that this resolution allows the School Corporation to be reimbursed for any expenditures which may occur prior to receiving the issuance of the obligations. Mr. Walker motioned to approve and Mrs. Foulk seconded. President Howard called for vote which carried 3-2, with President Howard, Mrs. Foulk, and Mr. Walker voting in favor and Ms. Downer and Mrs. Gowan voting against. (Exhibit No. 24-80)

ADJOURNMENT

President Howard adjourned the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

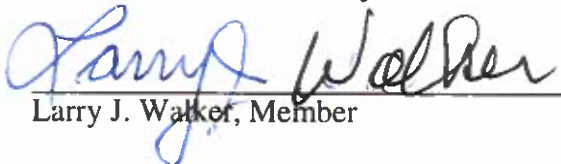
APPROVED

  
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Zachary Smith Howard, President

  
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Dawn A. Downer, Vice President

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Doris L. Gowan, Secretary

  
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Kelly L. Foulk, Member

  
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Larry J. Walker, Member

**MINUTES OF PROJECT HEARING AND 2<sup>ND</sup> PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION  
HEARING (GENERAL OBLIGATIONS BOND HEARING)  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION  
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, HELD MONDAY, JULY 22, 2024**

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

The Board of Education of the Franklin Township Community School Corporation, Marion County, Indiana, met in Special Session at 5:00 P.M. at the Administration Offices, located at 6141 South Franklin Road, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46259, on July 22, 2024. All Board Members and news media had been duly notified and the agenda properly posted.

President Zachary Howard called the Project Hearing and 2<sup>nd</sup> Preliminary Hearing to order at 5:34 P.M.

**PROJECT HEARING & 2<sup>ND</sup> PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION HEARING (GENERAL OBLIGATIONS BOND)**

President Howard welcomed everyone to the Project Hearing and 2<sup>nd</sup> Preliminary Determination Hearing on the proposed 2024 General Obligations Bonds and stated that if anyone is interested in speaking at the Hearing there is a sign-up sheet on the table. He added that the 1<sup>st</sup> Preliminary Determination Hearing on the 2024 GO Bond Projects was held on June 24, 2024. Mr. Erik Long with Ice Miller (Bond Counsel), conveyed that pursuant to Indiana Code 6-1.1-20, before a school corporation proposes to enter into a lease and/or issue bonds for the construction or renovation of a school building resulting in total costs in excess of certain thresholds, it must hold a public hearing on its preliminary determination to do so. He added that these 2024 Bonds to not have anything to do with the proposed Franklin Central High School Project.

Mr. Fred McWhorter II stated that the following facility projects will be paid for with the Bond proceeds: HVAC, roofing and site improvements, various equipment, buses and technology items.

Mr. Brock Bowsher with Baker Tilly (Municipal Advisors) presented the School Corporation's existing annual debt service/lease rental payments and shared the maximum parameters for the proposed bonds as well as the repayment schedule. He added that there may be a rate cut in September 2024, which will be a positive factor for the Corporation. The Board Members did not have any questions.

(Exhibit No. 24-81)

**COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY**

President Howard opened the Public Hearing for anyone who wished to speak regarding the proposed 2024 General Obligations Bonds.

There were no comments.

**BOARD CONSIDERATION OF PROJECT RESOLUTION**

Mr. Erik Long with Ice Miller recommended the Board's consideration of the Project Resolution (Exhibit A) that was included in the meeting documentation. He stated that the combined cost of the projects is \$6.3 million dollars. Mr. Walker made a motion to approve and Mrs. Foulk seconded. The motion carried 5-0. (Exhibit No. 24-82)

**BOARD CONSIDERATION OF PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION RESOLUTION**

Mr. Erik Long recommended the Board's consideration of the Preliminary Determination Resolution (Exhibit B) that was included in the meeting documentation. Mr. Walker motioned to approve the resolution. Mrs. Foulk seconded the motion and it passed 5-0. (Exhibit No. 24-83)

BOARD CONSIDERATION OF PRELIMINARY BOND RESOLUTION

Mr. Erik Long recommended the Board's consideration of the Preliminary Bond Resolution (Exhibit C) that was included in the meeting documentation. Mr. Walker motioned to approve the resolution and Mrs. Foulk seconded. The motion carried 5-0. (Exhibit No. 24-84)

BOARD CONSIDERATION OF REIMBURSEMENT RESOLUTION

Mr. Erik Long recommended the Board's consideration of the Reimbursement Resolution (Exhibit D) that was included in the Board Meeting packet. Mr. Walker made a motion to approve and Mrs. Foulk seconded. The motion passed 5-0. (Exhibit No. 24-85)

Dr. Hibbard thanked Mr. Erik Long and Mr. Brock Bowsher for their work in assisting with the financing of our school renovations and building projects throughout the past seven years. He conveyed that we have touched every building and the additions to FCHS and the New Bethel Elementary will make everyone proud to be a part of the Franklin Township School Community. He added that using three different bond issues for the FCHS construction/renovation projects was a wonderful idea. Mr. Long and Mr. Bowsher thanked Dr. Hibbard and the Administration for their support over the years and wished Dr. Hibbard the best of luck in his retirement.

ADJOURNMENT

President Howard adjourned the meeting at 5:47 p.m.

APPROVED

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Zachary Smith Howard, President

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Dawn A. Downer, Vice President

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Doris L. Gowan, Secretary

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Kelly L. Foulk, Member

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Larry J. Walker, Member



**MINUTES OF PROJECT HEARING AND 2<sup>ND</sup> PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION  
HEARING (GENERAL OBLIGATIONS BOND HEARING)  
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President Howard welcomed everyone to the Project Hearing and 2<sup>nd</sup> Preliminary Determination Hearing on the proposed 2024 General Obligations Bonds and stated that if anyone is interested in speaking at the Hearing there is a sign-up sheet on the table. He added that the 1<sup>st</sup> Preliminary Determination Hearing on the 2024 GO Bond Projects was held on June 24, 2024. Mr. Erik Long with Ice Miller (Bond Counsel), conveyed that pursuant to Indiana Code 6-1.1-20, before a school corporation proposes to enter into a lease and/or issue bonds for the construction or renovation of a school building resulting in total costs in excess of certain thresholds, it must hold a public hearing on its preliminary determination to do so. He added that these 2024 Bonds to not have anything to do with the proposed Franklin Central High School Project.

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(Exhibit No. 24-81)

**COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY**

President Howard opened the Public Hearing for anyone who wished to speak regarding the proposed 2024 General Obligations Bonds.

There were no comments.

**BOARD CONSIDERATION OF PROJECT RESOLUTION**

Mr. Erik Long with Ice Miller recommended the Board's consideration of the Project Resolution (Exhibit A) that was included in the meeting documentation. He stated that the combined cost of the projects is \$6.3 million dollars. Mr. Walker made a motion to approve and Mrs. Foulk seconded. The motion carried 5-0. (Exhibit No. 24-82)

**BOARD CONSIDERATION OF PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION RESOLUTION**

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Kelly L. Foulk, Member

  
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Larry J. Walker, Member