

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION OF THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY SCHOOL
CORPORATION
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, HELD MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2008**

PRESENT: Matthew Hamner, Geoffrey Horen, Randall Bland, Steve Randall, Christopher Wood, Walter Bourke, Jim Snapp, Ron Blackgrave, Jim McWhirt, Barbara Fengya, Ann Puckett-Harpold (Mrs. Fengya arrived at 8:09 p.m.)

The Board of Education of the Franklin Township Community School Corporation, Marion County, Indiana, met in Regular Session at 7:00 P.M. at the Administration Offices, located at 6141 South Franklin Road, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46259, on Monday, March 24, 2008. All Board Members and news media had been duly notified and the agenda properly posted.

REGULAR MEETING

President Hamner called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Bland offered the prayer and read the FTCSC Mission Statement.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Hamner stated that Dr. Bourke has a couple of additions to the agenda. Dr. Bourke recommended that the following items be added to the agenda: Item number VII, letter D, 'Approve Creation of Franklin Township Diploma Plus High School' and Item number X, letter D, 'Approve Advertisement of Bids for Technology Package at Edgewood Intermediate'. Mr. Horen moved to approve the agenda with the changes and Mr. Randall seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

President Hamner called for a motion to approve the minutes of an Executive Session and a Regular Board Meeting held on February 25, 2008 and minutes of a Special Board Meeting held on March 10, 2008. Mr. Bland made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Wood seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

President Hamner opened the floor for comments from the community.

Elizabeth Carson, 1128 Stockton St., Indianapolis, IN, stated that she is a resident of Washington Township and is speaking on behalf of the Citizens for Education Group which is a watchdog group for School Boards. She expressed her concerns with some of the expenditures in our recently publicized Pepsi Contract Fund Report. She stated that the group feels that the School Board should be spending the funds for educating our students instead of retirement receptions, etc. She asked the Board members to do the right thing and to return the funds so they could be used for the student scholarships, classrooms computers, or other items.

President Hamner commented that he made a motion at the February Board Meeting to create a policy for the spending of discretionary and non-discretionary funds. And, even though it was not acted upon, it was thoroughly discussed.

Mr. Randall stated that while he agrees with the purpose of the group, he disagrees that the current Board and the current administration are being held accountable for expenditures that were approved by a previous board and a previous administrative team. He invited her to attend a Board meeting with the current Board and to witness the discussions and sometimes denial of fund expenditures.

President Hamner stated the current Board voted to cut out their own health insurance benefits at a savings of \$13,000 per Board member and, at the same time, voted to take a substantial salary cut. He continued stating that every time this Board has found excessive spending of taxpayers' money we have confronted the issues, resolved the expenditures and saved this township millions of dollars.

Mr. Horen commented that our township has a budget of \$80 million and we employ 1000 people and he feels that we should be able to use the \$40,000 given to us via a contract to properly treat employees by sending flowers when there is a death in their family and/or having a retirement celebration for them that is not in excess. He asked Ms. Carson to find another \$80 million corporation that does not do something for their 1000 employees for the same instances. He stated that she is wanting us to take monies out of our already stretched General Fund to cover such items and noted that that makes no sense at all. Mr. Horen commented that he fully respects why Ms. Carson is here, but he fully disagrees with her because he feels that she has no idea what goes on with this School Board.

Dr. Bourke stated that he feels it is wrong that we have allowed someone who is not a patron of our school corporation or our community access to our podium. He encouraged the Board members in the future to disallow non Franklin Township Community School Corporation patrons to speak at our meetings.

President Hamner asked Ms. Carson if she had any further comments.

Alesha Durtschi, 3306 Spring Wind Lane, Indianapolis, IN, commented that she has children that attend Wanamaker Elementary and she understands that the Board is discussing the pros and cons of remodeling the school or rebuilding it on the same land. She expressed her opinion to have the school rebuilt on the little league football field that is on the premises.

President Hamner thanked her for speaking to the Board.

Nicole Newerth, 5549 Sleet Drive, Indianapolis, IN, commented that she has three students in the school corporation and is having a problem with one of the Middle School teachers. She stated that the issues began in the beginning of the school year and that she has contacted the school's administration regarding the problems and she is not satisfied with the lack of communication from principal. She shared specific comments that her daughter repeated to her that were spoken by the teacher in front of his class during the course of the school year. Ms. Newerth commented that most recently she has tried calling and e-mailing the school's administration, but has not received any response. She feels that the students in this class are being intimidated by the teacher and are being exposed to inappropriate comments.

President Hamner stated to Ms. Newerth that Dr. Bourke or his designee will be contacting her to address the situation. Dr. Bourke gave Ms. Newerth his phone number and asked her to contact him in the morning for purposes of resolving the issue to her satisfaction. Mr. Horen apologized to Ms. Newerth on behalf of the Board members for not having the issues resolved in a timely manner.

LEGAL REPORT

Dr. Bourke reported that Mr. Kitley was ill and that there is no legal report this evening.

DR. WALTER BOURKE, SUPERINTENDENT

Update on Staffing for 2008-2009

Dr. Bourke shared with Board members the Staffing Summary for the 2008-2009 school year (Exhibit No. 08-31) with regards to the opening of Edgewood Intermediate and Franklin Township Middle School East. He reported that we have made a number of staffing changes for next year at the existing Middle School and at Kitley Intermediate to be able to make us efficient as possible while keeping the cost to a minimum. He continued stating that the Summary lists the cost reductions and cost additions for the certified personnel positions as well as the non-certified positions with the grand total staffing expenditure for the opening of two new schools to be \$527,060. Dr. Bourke commented that we have \$1,080,000 budgeted in the 2008 salary line item for new teachers which gives us a cost avoidance of roughly \$680,000. Mr. Bland asked if the class sizes will be affected by these changes. Dr. Bourke replied 'no' that we don't think they

will be and added that they are prepared to make adjustments as the true numbers of students increase/decrease. He stated that Dr. Snapp used the projected enrollment numbers in order to make these changes and feels good about the recommendations. Dr. Bourke added that Mr. Blackgrave is working on ways to streamline the operations portion of these buildings which will result in additional savings.

Approve Retirement Incentives

Dr. Bourke recommended approval to offer retirement incentives to our teaching staff. He commented that we have a number of teachers who qualify to retire, but haven't chosen to do so yet and while many of them are excellent teachers and we would certainly miss their expertise and classroom experience, we would save a significant amount of money by replacing them with a young teacher. He explained that he is asking to provide a one-time payment in the amount \$10,000 in January 2009 into the 401A account of any certified employee who has 20 years of experience or more in FTCSC, who has been employed during the 2007-2008 school year and who retires on or before June 30, 2008 by submitting a letter of intent prior to June 1, 2008. He stated that this would not exempt them from other rules, regulations of the state of Indiana or guidelines in contractual agreements of FTCSC, but will allow us to provide them with an incentive and as a result save us money. Mr. Horen asked if we had discussed this option with the Teachers' Association. Dr. Bourke replied that we have had conversations with the Association regarding their support of the plan not necessarily for poling individuals. He stated that even if one or two teachers choose this early retirement incentive, we will save money in 2009 due to the fact that the retiring teacher is most likely at the top of the scale and will be replaced with a teacher that has a bachelors degree with zero experience. He noted that we will save about \$30,000+ per position and the Association, as long as we are not being selective, is in support of the incentive. Mr. Bland inquired as to if we were being selective or if the offer will be open to anyone. Dr. Bourke responded that we are not being selective and it will be open to anyone with 20 years or more of experience. Mr. Randall moved to approve the retirement incentive and Mr. Horen seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-1, with Mr. Hamner voting against.

Approve New Positions of Department Leaders

Dr. Bourke recommended approval of the new positions of Department Leaders in our Intermediate and Middle Schools. He explained that we do not currently have department leaders in those schools and with the idea of developing collaborative conversations among teachers in same subject areas, we believe that these department leaders will be key in facilitating these efforts. He added that they will be paid a \$1200.00 stipend per year. Mr. Wood asked how these positions would differ from a Department Chair position. Dr. Bourke responded that the Department Chair positions are already in place at the high school level, but that these positions will be new to the middle school and intermediate school levels. Mr. Bland inquired as to what addition job responsibilities they would have beyond the team leadership role. Dr. Bourke stated that they will be involved in and will help organize curriculum work and textbook adoption as well as the distribution and care of materials pertaining to their subject area. Mr. Wood asked how they would be selected. Dr. Bourke replied that the principals will interview and select the recipients. Mr. Bland asked whose responsibility it would be to oversee their job performance. Dr. Bourke replied the building principals. Mr. Wood asked how many Department Leaders would be needed per building. Dr. Bourke answered that there will be six (6) Department Leaders per building. Mr. Hamner asked if the use of Department Leaders is a typical school organizational tool in Indiana. Dr. Bourke replied that this is the first school corporation that he has been involved with that didn't have some type of curriculum leadership at the middle school level. Dr. Snapp and Mrs. Puckett-Harpold both commented that the school corporations that they both were previously employed by had curriculum leadership in not only the middle school level, but also the elementary level. Mr. Horen made a motion to approve the positions of Department Leaders in our Intermediate and Middle Schools. Mr. Wood seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

Approve Creation of Franklin Township Diploma Plus High School

Dr. Bourke requested approval for the creation of the Franklin Township Diploma Plus High

School. He stated that the Board members are aware that this school has been in the planning stages for some time now as they previously approved the hiring of its principal and staff members. He commented that we are currently recruiting students to attend the school and have 46 of the 75 students already signed up. He explained that the Diploma Plus teaching staff will begin training now and continue through August on problem-based learning scenarios to assist them in keeping the students interested in school and on the road to graduate. Dr. Bourke added that we have sought and have received nearly \$100,000 in grants for assistance with starting the school and we will be applying for another \$195,000 for additional needs. He recommended approval from the Board members to create the Franklin Township Diploma Plus High School for opening in August of 2008. Mr. Bland asked what the cost of the school will be when the grant funding is depleted. Dr. Bourke stated that it should take care of itself from the ADM of the students that will be attending. Mr. Bland asked if this school requires the computer and technology expenses similar to the New Tech High School Program that was visited last year. Dr. Bourke replied that it does not require the extent of the technology expenses that New Tech High did and part of the reason for choosing this program was its flexibility and the ability to make it fit our needs. Dr. Bourke added that Indiana Department of Education is reluctant to issue a separate school identification number to the Diploma Plus High School because the students will be able participate in extra curricular activities offered at Franklin Central High School and to IDOE that makes Diploma Plus a program and not a separate school. He commented that the only difference will be what is printed on their diploma. Mr. Horen moved for approval of the creation of the Franklin Township Diploma Plus High School and Mr. Bland seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Bourke thanked the Board members for their approval of both the Department Leaders and the creation of the Diploma Plus High School and stated that these are two items that he feels will assist our students in being successful and staying in school.

DR. JIM SNAPP – ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Approve School Day Schedule

Dr. Snapp referred the Board members to the proposed School Day Start Times and Professional Learning Times Schedule for the 2008-2009 school year (Exhibit No. 08-32) that was included in their packets. He commented that the schedule is a compilation of five community meetings and discussions with the Teachers' Association and administrators. He explained that the recommendation is for the early release time of 45 minutes on each Wednesday with 82% of the parents supporting the early release time in the afternoon. Mr. Randall asked why Wednesday was chosen instead of the previously discussed Monday. Dr. Snapp responded that the parents wanted the same day each week and what is currently happening at the high school and the middle school with the late arrival of students on Mondays is that because most of our holidays fall on Mondays, the late arrival day for students changes from Mondays to Tuesdays several times during the school year. He commented that following numerous discussions the least impacted day because of a holiday would be Wednesdays and that is why it was chosen over another day of the week. Mr. Randall stated that what he is hearing is that instead of having the Early Release Day on Mondays and consequently losing the professional learning time during weeks when there are Monday holidays, Wednesdays were chosen. Dr. Snapp agreed. Mr. Bland asked what the consensus was at the community meetings regarding the school day start times. Dr. Snapp replied that parents overwhelmingly preferred early start times to late arrival times and he feels that they were very pleased with the fact that the older students would arrive at home before the younger students. Mr. Bland asked Mr. Randall, because he attended all but one of the community meetings, for his opinion of how the parents feel about the school day start times. Mr. Randall replied that he feels that the parents were much more receptive to the early release of students one day each week versus late arrival one day each week. Mr. Horen asked how costly would the loss of one hour of professional learning time a few weeks a year be due to a Monday holiday. Dr. Snapp responded that he feels that the frequency of the teachers meeting is important. Dr. Bourke added that the professional learning time is very important no matter what day of the week it falls, but Wednesdays are a day that are very much a part of the regular work week and he feels that the mindset of all involved will be more productive on that day.

Mr. Horen made a motion to approve the proposed School Day Start Times and Professional Learning Times for 2008-2009. Mr. Randall seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

Approve Field Trips

Dr. Snapp recommended approval of the following five (5) Field Trips (Exhibit No. 08-33):

- 1 - Adams Elementary 4th Graders to attend Flatrock River Camp on April 30 - May 2, 2008.
- 2 – Arlington Elementary 4th Graders to attend Camp Allendale on May 22 - May 23, 2008.
- 3 – Kitley Intermediate Young Hoosier Program participants to travel to Miami Whitewater Forest on May 22, 2008.
- 4 - Franklin Central High School Winter Guard and Winter Percussion Group to travel to Dayton, Ohio to participate in the 2008 Winter Guard International “Sports of the Arts” World Finals on April 10 – April 12, 2008, and the Winter Percussion Symphony to travel to Dayton, Ohio to compete in the 2008 Winter Guard International “Sport of the Arts” World Finals on April 17 – April 19, 2008.
- 5 – Franklin Central High School World Language students to travel to France and England during Spring Break of 2010.

Mr. Hamner noted that all of the requested field trips are duplicates of previous years’ requests and are funded by the groups involved. Mr. Horen asked why the Board’s permission for the field trips seem to be coming so late. Dr. Snapp replied that the Board receives notice of the trips as soon as they come to him and he intends to create a standardized Field Trip Request Form in the coming months that will include all of the pertinent information regarding the proposed trips that will hopefully create a more consistent and timely approval process. Mr. Randall moved for approval of the five field trips and Mr. Bland seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT – MR. JIM MCWHIRT, DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS
Fund and Expenditure Summary Reports

Mr. McWhirt stated that the Fund and Expenditure Summary Report (Exhibit No. 08-34) is for expenditures through February 29, 2008 and asked for questions or comments. Mr. Bland inquired as to why the Special Ed-Pre School Fund shows a negative balance of \$51,467.39. Mr. McWhirt replied that this is a fund that timing of revenue is the issue because most of funding comes from the state and we will see an improvement in the balance because we are due to receive a portion of the funds soon. Mr. Wood moved for approval of the report. Mr. Bland seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll Claims

Mr. McWhirt asked for approval of the Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll Claims (Exhibit No. 08-35). Mr. Bland asked Dr. Bourke which employees we provide a cell phone for in the amount of \$3394.00. Dr. Bourke responded that we provide them for our principals, our Administrative Leadership Team, key maintenance and operations personnel, our Transportation Director and our security team. Mr. Blackgrave noted that we have a pooled minutes plan/contract and we have not ever gone over the allotted amount of monthly minutes. Mr. Bland inquired as to what voucher #898 paid to Gibraltar Design in the amount of \$28,940.79 was for. Mr. McWhirt replied that the invoices are for various construction projects at Bunker Hill Elementary, Adams Elementary and the softball complex. Mr. Bland motioned to approve the Vouchers and Payroll Claims and Mr. Horen seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

OPERATIONS REPORT – MR. RON BLACKGRAVE, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
FOR OPERATIONS
Construction Update

Mr. Blackgrave thanked the Board members for attending the tour of our facilities on March 21 and directed the Board’s attention to the Construction Update (Exhibit No. 08-36). He commented that the Grounds personnel have been readying the athletic fields and they will be ready for the spring season. He added that we have received compliments from the IHSAA

Commissioner regarding our softball facility and noted that the fencing project will conclude when the weather permits. Mr. Blackgrave reported that the Diploma Plus High School will be housed at the same facility as the current Alternative School and that it will require some modifications to the building. He noted that once we meet with Gibraltar Design regarding the changes we will be sharing the information with the Board members. He commented that he has been working with Mr. Rick Rush and Mr. John Wade from the Rookie League and extended their gratefulness to the Board for our commitment to the community.

Mr. Blackgrave commented on the less than stellar tour of FTMS-East and stated that he has been in contact with the Project Manager and he will be sending a letter to the CEO of Skillman Corporation regarding the conditions of the site and the lack of progress on the project. He referred the Board members to the latest Project Master Schedule (Exhibit No. 08-37) that was at their places. He commented that it shows substantial completion by the first week of June and they show total project completion the first week of July. He added that it will be tight and because the second floor is further along than the lower level, Mr. McCoy is working to stagger the furniture delivery. Mr. Wood asked how the furniture will be able to get to the 2nd floor when the elevator will not be ready. Mr. Blackgrave replied that they will have to take it up via the stairs which was part of the furniture quote. Mr. Wood stated that he is concerned about the project for numerous reasons: the condition of the building and the construction site, the lack of workers on site during the tour, and the fact that it becomes very expensive to 'race to the finish' and try to complete a project in time for school to open. He encouraged the administration to stay on top of the project and keep the Board members up-to-date on its progress. Mr. Blackgrave agreed. Mr. Horen stated that he shares Mr. Wood's concerns regarding the FTMS-East Project and its appearance and commented that the Freshman Academy site as well as the Edgewood Intermediate site were very clean and are moving very well. Mr. Blackgrave commented that the MS-East project has had issues for awhile and it has not improved.

Mr. Randall asked who oversees the construction contracts for the school corporation and requested the Board see the contracts. He stated that his reasoning is that he just found out that we paid for a softball building two years ago and it isn't finished yet. Dr. Bourke stated that there wasn't a contract for that building nor was it bid. He continued stating that it was built by individual claim - we were to contact someone, quote the work and pay them by claim. Mr. Randall replied that the issue is that the building is not structurally safe nor sound, we paid them in August of 2006 and now we have had to pay to fix the structure. He commented that he would like to know how much money we have spent to fix the 'messes' that were created by not using contracts. He added that he would prefer paying more for a project with the security of a contract that we can use as leverage if necessary. Dr. Bourke stated that we no longer build anything without a contract, but that wasn't the way it was done in the past and even though it wasn't always safe, it did save the Corporation a great deal of money.

Mr. Wood requested that the Project Manager from the FTMS-East Project be asked to attend the next Board meeting and to report on the progress of the project. President Hamner noted that it seems to be unanimous among the members that Mr. Wood's request be met. Mr. Blackgrave agreed to make the necessary arrangements. Mr. Bland asked Mr. Blackgrave to not only invite the Project Manager to the April meeting, but also invite his boss as well. Mr. Horen suggested that Mr. Blackgrave and Dr. Bourke tour the facility the week prior to the meeting and then, if they feel it necessary for the Board members to tour the facility before the meeting, we will be willing to do so. Mr. Blackgrave asked the Board members to contact him if they would like to visit the construction site.

Approve Purchase of Maintenance Vehicles

Mr. Blackgrave referred the Board members to the Vehicle Replacement Request documentation (Exhibit No. 08-38) that they received and stated that the 3rd page is the vehicle inventory list with the items that we are asking to be replaced highlighted in red. He stated that the three vehicles to be replaced are old - the 1989 Chevy pick-up has been declared unsafe, the 1996 Chevy Caprice cannot be driven any longer, and the 1995 Chevy van. He requested the Board approve the purchase of two ¾ ton pick-up trucks with snow blades and one ¾ ton van for a total purchase price not to exceed \$75,000. Mr. Bland asked if the new vehicles come stripped down. Mr. Blackgrave responded that they do have radios in them, but do not have power windows. He

added that the pick-up trucks do have larger engines due to the fact that we will be using them to push snow. Mr. Wood commented that he looked at the bid pricing for these vehicles and feels that we are getting a fair price. Mr. Bland asked if the pricing includes the two snow blades. Mr. Blackgrave responded that it does and that we have more people to push snow than we have vehicles for them to drive. Mr. Horen suggested that instead of trashing the old vehicles we donate them to the Franklin Township Education Foundation. Dr. Bourke commented that the Board will have to declare the items as surplus and then they may be donated. Mr. Horen moved to approve the purchase of 3 maintenance vehicles while declaring the vehicles to be replaced as surplus. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. It carried 4-1, with Mr. Randall voting against.

Update on Wanamaker and FTMSW

Mr. Blackgrave commented that part of the Facilities Tour included Wanamaker Elementary and Middle School West for purposes of comparing those facilities with the new structures and exploring options for renovating those buildings. He noted that he has been in conversation with both teachers and parents to gather feedback on these future projects. He referred the Board members to their copy of a Preliminary Schedule created by Gibraltar Design for these projects (Exhibit No. 08-39). He mentioned some of the options that have been discussed: Remodel Wanamaker Elementary, Build a new Wanamaker Elementary on adjacent property, Build an 8th Elementary on previously purchased land, Identify and explore costs of remodeling portions of the current Middle School. Dr. Bourke stated that we are asking the Board members if they are supportive of the Administration continuing to explore construction options for these two buildings. Mr. Wood commented that the original portion of Wanamaker Elementary was built in 1956 with additions being added in 1994 that are still in very good condition. He stated that his preference would be to find a use for at least part of the existing building and not demolish the entire building. He added that he does not have a problem with exploring our options. Mr. Hamner mentioned that the AC/heating units that are in the classroom ceilings are loud and are therefore disruptive to the learning environment for teachers and students. He spoke on behalf of the Board members to allow the Administrative Team to investigate options for improving those two buildings. Dr. Bourke commented that we will study the feasibility of new construction projects and the ability to finance it and will bring it back to the Board as soon as possible.

Mr. Horen stated that he feels that we should have immediate conversations with the community explaining that our urgency in exploring our options is because of the new laws that come into effect July 1 and not because the current Board is trying to push something through before the end of its term. He commented that he would like for them to understand that some of the discussed improvements at these two buildings are necessary issues such as more restroom facilities and increased classroom sizes and not extravagant expenditures. Mr. Hamner commented that he could not approve moving along with a major construction expenditure before July 1st because, even though the intent would not be to push something through before the new Board members were seated, it would give the appearance of that it is how it happened. A discussion followed. Mr. Bland commented that from an educator's standpoint, Wanamaker Elementary is a very inadequate facility. He explained that the noise level in his classroom is similar to the problems at Wanamaker and it is not only difficult for the students to hear him, but also difficult for him to hear his students. He continued that the lack of storage becomes an issue as well because it causes distractions. Mr. Bland stated that our options are to put money into an already failing structure or to immediately begin the process to rebuild the school on part of the existing property. Mr. Horen noted that the condition of Wanamaker is not a new issue, but the Board members had to prioritize the construction needs and because of the township growth, it was determined that addressing the overcrowded buildings was a more immediate need.

Mr. Bland added that he is less anxious to spend money on renovating the current Middle School because he feels that there is a greater need at Wanamaker Elementary.

Approve Advertisement of Bids for Technology Package at Edgewood Intermediate

Mr. Blackgrave recommended approval to advertise for the Technology Package for use at Edgewood Intermediate. President Hamner asked for a motion to approve the Technology Package Advertisement. Mr. Randall moved for approval and Mr. Horen seconded the motion. It carried 5-0.

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT – MRS. JILL BRITT, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
Personnel Report

Mrs. Britt was absent so Mr. Blackgrave summarized the Personnel Report (Exhibit No. 08-40) for the Board members. He reported that the only new position that is listed is that of a secretary for the Diploma Plus High School and added that included in the report is the resignation of Mr. Lance Scheib, the FCHS Football Coach. He noted that we are in the process of reviewing the 29 applications for the Thompson Crossing Principal position and the 50 applications for the Middle School East Assistant Principal position. Mr. Blackgrave recommended approval of the Personnel Report. Mr. Bland asked if there are specific reasons why we are experiencing numerous Classified Staff resignations. Mr. Blackgrave commented that he is not aware of any specific reasons, but shared that Mrs. Britt is continuing to collect and compile the information from the exit interview surveys. There being no further questions. Mr. Wood motioned to approve the report. Mr. Randall seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

INSTRUCTION REPORT – MRS. BARBARA FENGYA, DIRECTOR OF SECONDARY INSTRUCTION & MRS. ANN PUCKETT-HARPOLD, DIRECTOR OF ELEMENTARY INSTRUCTION
Approve “Camp Invention” as a Summer School Program

Mrs. Ann Puckett-Harold recommended approval to implement “Camp Invention” as a Summer School Program (Exhibit No. 08-41). She explained that it is a self-supporting program which targets 1st through 4th graders and provides enrichment in the fields of science, mathematics, history and the arts. She mentioned that Ms. Linda Minton, a representative from Camp Invention, is in the audience to answer any questions that the Board members might have and with the Board’s approval Ms. Minton will serve as the Director of the Program. She added that the Program will be from 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. each day and will be housed at South Creek Elementary, along with the Township’s Summer School Program. Mrs. Puckett-Harpold stated that parents will pay \$185.00 per week per child. Mr. Bland asked how many weeks the program is designed to run. Mrs. Puckett-Harpold responded that it is a one-week program. President Hamner thanked Ms. Minton for attending the meeting and for patiently waiting for the Board’s response to her Program. Mr. Randall made a motion to approve “Camp Invention” as a Summer School Program and Mr. Bland seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP EDUCATION FOUNDATION REPORT – MR. GEOFF HOREN

Mr. Horen stated that their last meeting was held on March 6 and reported that the conversation focused on the distribution of grants. He reported that Mrs. Fengya and Mrs. Puckett-Harpold have been asked to assist in the grant process by helping to standardize the grant applications to coincide with our curriculum. He commented that they also had conversation regarding the Fast Flash 5K that is scheduled for Saturday, May 10th and received confirmation from Dr. Bourke that he will participate once again this year.

CENTRAL NINE REPORT – MR. CHRIS WOOD

Mr. Wood reported that the Central Nine Governing Board met on March 13 and stated that most of the discussion was regarding the progress of the C-9 Director search. He reported that they have narrowed the search to three candidates with the hopes of filling the position this week. Mr. Wood commented that Sherene Donaldson, Supervisor of Adult & Continuing Education, has been invited to participate in IPLA and stated that they are excited because this is the first time that C-9 has had a participant in that program. He also noted that they renegotiated the annual Farm Lease and finalized the donation of the ambulance from the FT Fire Department. He mentioned that the GED testing site in Edinburgh is now operational.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Bourke commented that we have a Special Board Meeting scheduled for April 14 and explained that this is typically the meeting that we present the Schools' PL 221 Plans. He stated that we previously held a Work Session in February for purposes of reviewing most of those plans and recommended that we cancel the meeting. President Hamner asked the Board members if any of them had objections to canceling the meeting. There were no objections.

Dr. Bourke reminded the Board members that because we are having a Board election in May we are required by law to hold a re-organizational meeting within the first 15 days of July 2008. Mr. Bland commented that he has two dates on his calendar as tentative meeting dates – July 7 and July 14. Following discussion, Dr. Bourke stated that he would check the calendar and find a date that is suitable for everyone.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Randall moved to adjourn the meeting. President Hamner declared the meeting adjourned 9:05 p.m.

APPROVED

Matthew L. Hamner, President

Christopher Wood, Secretary

Geoffrey W. Horen, Vice President

Steve Randall, Member

Randall Bland, Member