

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION OF THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY SCHOOL
CORPORATION
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, HELD MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2008**

PRESENT: Matthew Hamner, Randall Bland, Steve Randall, Christopher Wood, Walter Bourke, Jim Snapp, Ron Blackgrave, Jim McWhirt, Barbara Fengya, Ann Puckett-Harpold, Jill Britt

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, April 28, 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. Wood offered the prayer and read the FTCS Mission Statement.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Hamner asked Dr. Bourke if there were any additions to the agenda. Dr. Bourke replied that there are two which are: Item number X, letter C, 'Approval of Mowing Contracts' and Item number X, letter D, 'Accept Technology Bids for Edgewood Intermediate School'. Mr. Randall moved to approve the agenda with the changes and Mr. Bland seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

President Hamner called for a motion to approve the minutes of a Regular Board Meeting held on March 24, 2008. Mr. Bland commented that on page two under 'Comments from the Community', the name 'Lisa Durche' is spelled incorrectly. He stated that it is spelled 'Alesha Durtschi'. Mr. Bland made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Mr. Wood seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

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

LEGAL REPORT

Mr. Kitley reported that everything is pretty quiet and that he has been working on the renewal of the Envoy Contract. Mr. Kitley stated that he wished that the construction managers and the architects would stop drawing up their own contracts because he has to change the wording on them and work out the details to be sure that we have the upper hand. Mr. Randall asked Mr. Kitley if the reason behind him doing so is to be sure that when we build something that we are not liable to pay for the repairs when it is constructed incorrectly. Mr. Kitley responded that one of the items is that he feels that the construction managers should be on site daily to oversee the projects. Mr. Hamner commented that Mr. Kitley is careful not to repeat the past problems of us having to pay to fix items that should have been covered in the initial contract/project. Mr. Kitley added that part of the problem is that change orders are being approved to cover the mistakes when we should not be paying for construction mistakes at all.

DR. WALTER BOURKE, SUPERINTENDENT

Approve Appointment of Principal at Thompson Crossing

Dr. Bourke commented that it is his pleasure to recommend the appointment of Teresa A. Brown to the principalship at Thompson Crossing Elementary. He stated that we believe she is a good solid demanding leader and is what the school needs to be successful. He added that her contract will begin July 1, 2008 and is in the amount of \$85,000 plus administrative benefits. Mr. Bland moved to approve Teresa Brown and Mr. Wood seconded the motion. It carried 4-0.

Approve Appointment of Assistant Principal at FTMSE

Dr. Bourke stated that the interviews for the position of Assistant Principal at Franklin Township Middle School East were conducted by Mr. Charlie McCoy, Principal, along with staff members, and parents and then followed up by interviews with Mrs. Puckett-Harpold, Dr. Snapp and himself. He recommended Amy M. Miller as the Assistant Principal at FTMSE. He noted that she is currently serving as a science teacher in Wayne Township and is a young budding administrator. He added that her contract will begin July 1, 2008 and is in the amount of \$79,900 plus administrative benefits. Mr. Randall made a motion to approve Amy Miller. Mr. Wood seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.

Approve Head Football Coach at FCHS

Dr. Bourke asked the Board members to approve the appointment of Mr. Brian D. Harbin as the Head Football Coach at Franklin Central High School. He noted that the interview/search committee consisted of administrators, teachers, representatives from the Athletic Department, representatives from the Youth Football League, and community members. He added that Mr. Harbin will be teaching health and physical education at FCHS. Mr. Randall moved to approve Mr. Harbin and Mr. Bland seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

DR. JIM SNAPP – ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Update Graduation '09

Dr. Snapp reported that due to the destruction of the RCA Dome and subsequent construction at the Indy Convention Center they will not immediately be able to confirm the dates for holding Franklin Central High School's 2009 Graduation Ceremony. He stated that he and Mr. Koers will bring the details of the contract to the May Board Meeting to present to the Board members.

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. 08-42) is for expenditures through March 31, 2008 and asked for questions or comments. Mr. Wood commented that it looks rather normal. Mr. McWhirt replied that there is nothing out of the ordinary on the report and asked for approval of the report. Mr. Wood moved for approval of the report. Mr. Bland seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll Claims

Mr. McWhirt asked for approval of the Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll Claims (Exhibit No. 08-43). There being no questions, President Hamner asked for a motion to approve the items. Mr. Bland motioned to approve the Vouchers and Payroll Claims and Mr. Wood seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

Update on Tax Situation

Mr. McWhirt referred the members to the memo regarding the Final Approval of the 2007 Budget that was at their places (Exhibit No. 08-44). He stated that last week we received from the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) the final numbers for our 2007 budget, including final budgets, final levies, final tax rates, and assessed valuation. He reported that it indicates what we approved locally in May of 2007 and what their final approval was which we received in April of 2008. He continued stating that the 2007 levies that were approved in May of 2007 and are very close to what they actually approved in April of 2008 with only a slight reduction mostly in the Capitol Projects Fund. Mr. McWhirt commented that the assessed valuation increased substantially from 8.2% to 15.8% which in turn drives down the tax rate with a reduction from 2006 of 3.6%. He added that the final billing for the 2007 taxes should be distributed soon and he speculates that we should be receiving the final 2007 funds in August of 2008. He stated that we will be needing to borrow more money to cover our expenditures.

Mr. Randall asked Mr. McWhirt if he has an exact amount of money that we have paid in interest due to the property tax issues. Mr. McWhirt replied that he has the exact figures in his office, but reminded the Board members that each year there is a need to borrow some monies because of only receiving payments twice a year and this situation is causing us to borrow in excess of the normal amount.

Acceptance of Donation from Subway

Mr. McWhirt stated that we have received a donation from Mr. Ritesh Desai, owner of the Subway located on Franklin Road, in the amount of \$500.00 (Exhibit No. 08-45). He noted that we have deposited the amount in the General Fund and asked the Board members to accept the donation. Mr. Hamner asked that we send him a thank you note following the approval of the donation. Mr. Bland moved for approval of the donation. Mr. Wood seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

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

Construction Update

Mr. Blackgrave directed the Board's attention to the Construction Update (Exhibit No. 08-46). He noted that the projects at Adams and Bunker Hill are finished except for a few minor punch list items that will be taken care of. He commented that at the FTMS-East site there have been significant changes since the Board tour of the facility in March. He continued stating that the site was revisited on April 18 by Dr. Bourke, Larry Koenes, Ron Fisher, Mr. McCoy and himself and they were pleased with the progress at the site and added that Skillman has placed an extra person at the site to oversee the project and to be sure that we make our timelines. Mr. Wood asked about the retention pond drainage issue at the location. Mr. Blackgrave commented that we have had ongoing conversations with several people regarding the pond and we do intend to resolve the drainage issues.

Mr. Blackgrave stated that we have been notified that some of the topsoil at the Freshman Academy site will need to be hauled away and it will be a costly venture, but there is money in the project to cover the roughly \$100,000 expense. He added that we most likely will transport it to the areas where we are having sewer drainage issues and, with the assistance of Schmidt & Associates, we are determining what exactly needs to be done to resolve all of the issues. Mr. Hamner agreed that we need to address these issues as soon as possible due to the fact that one of our community members that lives on Edgewood Avenue has had various drainage issues with his property following a couple of our projects.

Mr. Blackgrave noted that the repairs to the football stadium have been temporarily halted because the wrong materials were ordered. He added that the projects for summer will include minor modifications to the Alternative Education building for the implementation of the Diploma Plus High School and also the addition of bus parking spaces at Transportation.

Facility Usage Guidelines

Mr. Blackgrave referred the Board members to the Facility Usage Guidelines that were distributed for their information (Exhibit No. 08-47) and noted that these guidelines are used when we have residents that want to use our facilities for various reasons. He commented that there is a significant cost for after hour use of our facilities and some of the residents are not in agreement with the fees. He explained that the fees are for custodians, security personnel, etc. and added that in the first three months of this calendar year, we have paid nearly \$8000 in overtime to custodians for coverage at these events. Mr. Wood asked if the fees would be extra income for our township. Mr. Blackgrave stated that the fees collected would be replacement revenue. Mr. Randall asked if the revised Facility Rental Agreement has changes in it regarding charging our athletic teams for use of the facilities when there is revenue involved at the gate. Dr. Bourke replied that we began charging the athletic teams for security personnel in this past year because our overtime costs were high, but if we have a school based group that wants to use our facilities during normal operating hours there will most likely not be a charge because our

personnel are already on site. Mr. Hamner asked if we would allow the user to provide its own security and/or clean-up crew thus offsetting some of the fees. Dr. Bourke stated that we will most likely make that call on a situation basis because if they offer to have a clean-up crew, we will probably have to have at least one of our custodians present to oversee the event.

Approval of Mowing Contracts

Mr. Blackgrave commented that he has previously shared with the Board members some mowing contract prices and stated that last year, in an effort to weigh the costs, we discontinued our mowing contract with First Class Landscaping and chose to have our personnel mow all of our properties. He shared that after reviewing the costs of hiring summer mowing help, the repair and upkeep of our mowers added to the additional two properties that we now have to maintain, it was determined that there was not much savings at all. He referred the Board members to the list of quotes (Exhibit No. 08-48) and stated that they range from \$82,680 to \$57,330. He asked the Board members to consider approving the contract for the mowing at our six outlying elementary schools: Acton, Adams, Arlington, Bunker Hill, Thompson Crossing and Wanamaker. Mr. Blackgrave added that the equipment that was purchased last year will be used to cut the main campus areas plus the new middle school and the new intermediate school sites.

Mr. Randall stated that he is confused with Mr. Blackgrave's figures that we can hire First Class Lawn and Landscape for \$57,330 to do the same job that we can do for \$88,000. He stated that one would think that it would be in reverse. He stated that because of previous business practices of First Class Landscaping, he disagrees with hiring them. Mr. Randall asked why we have to have our employees supervise the mowers. Mr. Blackgrave and Dr. Bourke stated that most of the summer help we employ are college students and if they damage equipment severely we will terminate them, but we also need to supervise them which costs us man hours and time lost for performing other township responsibilities. Dr. Bourke stated that we will do whatever the Board wants us to do, but the contractors have more employees to do the job in less time than we could do it.

Mr. Hamner commented that the contract is for 26 cycles and asked if we have a dry summer, is there a provision in the contract that allows us to decrease that number. Mr. Blackgrave replied that there is a provision in the contract that allows us to call them if we don't think that there is a need for their service on a given week and then the price will change accordingly. Following further discussion regarding the \$30,000 difference between the low and high bids, Mr. Blackgrave stated that if the Board chooses to move forward with the contract, he will get Mr. Kitley's approval of the contract prior to them beginning the work. Mr. Bland commented that if the costs are the same for us to mow versus First Class Landscaping to do the job, he is in agreement to authorize the contract, but he does not want them to realize that they severely underbid and then terminate the contract in the middle of the mowing season.

Mr. Randall made a motion to deny the mowing contract to First Class Lawn and Landscape. There being no second, the motion died.

Mr. Bland asked that if we did the work ourselves would it cost more than the contract. Mr. Blackgrave responded that he will have to hire a few more people to get the job done, and although we have the equipment, but it will need to be shared amongst more people. Mr. Bland asked what our employees are doing when they aren't sent out to mow grass. Mr. Blackgrave replied that they will be performing their normal job responsibilities. A discussion followed regarding the cost of hiring additional personnel to perform the summer mowing duties versus the cost of paying a contractor to do the job.

Mr. Randall made a motion to have our people do the mowing and not award the contract to First Class Lawn and Landscape. Mr. Bland seconded the motion. Following a discussion regarding the contract totals and the estimates presented for us doing the work including the hiring of two seasonal employees, President Hamner called for the vote. The motion carried 4-0.

Accept Technology Bids for Edgewood Intermediate School

Mr. Blackgrave requested approval of the Technology Bids for Edgewood Intermediate School

MINUTES OF A REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON APRIL 28, 2008 p. 5

to Pomeroy IT Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$374,580.58 (Exhibit No. 08-49). He mentioned that they have researched Pomeroy and are pleased with the total bid package. Mr. Bland asked how this bid compares to the previous bids for other schools. Mr. Blackgrave stated that compared to the bid for the new middle school which was around \$500,000, this bid is significantly lower. Mr. Randall made a motion to approve the Technology Bid and Mr. Wood seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Bland inquired as to the status of the two houses that are in front of the high school that are partially demolished and stated that they are a real eyesore. Mr. Blackgrave responded that the gentleman that had paid for an extension to move the houses off our property was working towards that goal until he had a heart attack. He noted that we are set to demolish the houses the week of May 7th.

Mr. Bland asked what areas of our property will be used for the Relay For Life event that is scheduled for May 30 & 31. Dr. Bourke replied that they will be using the football stadium and any of its surrounding areas and that he has been in conversation with the committee members to be aware of the placements of their tent stakes for purposes of non-interference with our sprinkler system, etc.

Mr. Randall asked what the procedure is for the placement and removal of housing development and housing for sale signage on our school properties. Dr. Bourke and Mr. Blackgrave stated that they can place the signs on the property on the weekends, but they have to be removed by Monday morning and it is not against the law to do so.

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

Personnel Report

Mrs. Britt stated that included in the Personnel Report (Exhibit 08-50) are the three positions that Dr. Bourke has already received approval to hire this evening: Principal at Thompson Crossing Elementary, Assistant Principal at Franklin Township Middle School East and Head Football Coach at Franklin Central High School. She added that the report also includes the internal transfers for the Intermediate Schools and the Middle Schools for the 2008-2009 school year. Mrs. Britt commented that Courtney Williams has been selected to replace the retiring Cathy Steele as Director of Food Service and Sheri Oullette has been selected to replace Courtney as Assistant Director of Food Service. She added that most of the hiring and changes for the Classified Staff are due to the opening of the two new schools. Mr. Bland asked if the changes to the Food Service Administrator positions have any effect on payroll expenditures. Mrs. Britt replied that both employees will be making less than their predecessors which constitutes a savings. There being no further questions, Mr. Hamner requested approval of the report. Mr. Bland motioned to approve the Personnel Report. Mr. Randall seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

Approve Non-Renewal of Teachers' Contracts

Mrs. Britt moved that the Board of School Trustees of the Franklin Township Community School Corporation non-renew the teaching contracts, effective at the end of the current school year, of the following nonpermanent teachers: Rachel Applegren and Jana Baker. Mr. Randall made a motion to approve the non-renewal of the contracts and Mr. Bland seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

INSTRUCTION REPORT – MRS. BARBARA FENGYA, DIRECTOR OF SECONDARY INSTRUCTION & MRS. ANN PUCKETT-HARPOLD, DIRECTOR OF ELEMENTARY INSTRUCTION

Approve 7-12 English/Language Arts and World Languages Textbooks

Mrs. Barb Fengya introduced teachers, Stephanie Dodd and Angela Goodkins, and thanked them for their help in examining and researching the proposed 7th and 8th Grade Language Arts

MINUTES OF A REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON APRIL 28, 2008 p. 6

Textbooks for adoption. She, along with they, are recommending the Board approve the following textbooks (Exhibit 08-51):

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Textbook</u>	<u>Publisher</u>
7 th Grade	<i>Indiana Elements of Literature, First Course</i> <i>BK English: Communication Skills in the</i> <i>New Millennium</i>	Holt Rinehart & Winston Barrett Kendall
8 th Grade	<i>Indiana Elements of Literature, Second Course</i> <i>BK English: Communication Skills in the</i> <i>New Millennium</i>	Holt Rinehart & Winston Barrett Kendall

President Hamner thanked the teachers for coming to the meeting and for their work on the Textbook Advisory Committee. Mr. Randall moved to approve the textbook recommendations. Mr. Wood seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

Mrs. Barb Fengya introduced Jim Zoch, Chairman of the FCHS English Department, and thanked him for the time and effort he spent on the High School Language Arts Textbook Advisory Committee. She, along with Mr. Zoch and his committee members, are recommending the Board approve the following textbooks (Exhibit 08-52):

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Textbook</u>	<u>Publisher</u>
English 9 College Prep	<i>Prentice Hall Literature Grade 9</i> <i>Indiana Penguin Edition</i>	Prentice Hall
English 9 Pre-Ap	<i>Prentice Hall Literature Grade 9</i>	Prentice Hall
English 10 College Prep	<i>Prentice Hall Literature Grade 10</i> <i>Indiana Penguin Edition</i>	Prentice Hall
English 10 Pre-AP	<i>Prentice Hall World Masterpieces</i>	Prentice Hall
English 11 College Prep	<i>Prentice Hall Literature Grade 11</i>	Prentice Hall
English 11 AP	<i>Prentice Hall Reader</i> <i>Everyday Use: Rhetoric at Work in</i> <i>Reading, Writing</i> <i>One Hundred Great Essays (Penguin)</i>	Prentice Hall Prentice Hall Longman Addison/Wesley
English 12 College Prep Composition:	<i>Prentice Hall Writing & Grammar</i> <i>(Handbook Edition), 2008</i>	Prentice Hall
English 12 College Prep Literature:	<i>Prentice Hall Literature Grade 12</i>	Prentice Hall
English 12 AP	<i>Literature: An Introduction to Fiction,</i> <i>Poetry, Drama, & Writing</i>	Prentice Hall
Speech	<i>Human Communications: The Basic Course</i>	Prentice Hall
Advanced Speech	<i>Basic Debate</i>	Glencoe
Creative Writing	<i>In a Field of Words: A Creative Writing</i> <i>Text</i>	Prentice Hall
Journalism	<i>Journalism Today</i>	Glencoe
Mass Media	<i>Journalism Today</i>	Glencoe
English as a New Language	<i>Shining Star Series</i>	Longman
Etymology	<i>Programmed College Vocabulary,</i> <i>7th Edition</i>	Prentice Hall

Mr. Zoch explained the selection process to the Board members. He thanked the teachers, administrators and parents who were involved in the textbook selection/adoption process. Mr. Hamner asked if the proposed recommendations satisfy the majority of the English teachers. Mr. Zoch replied that they were in 100% agreement of the textbook series. President Hamner thanked Mr. Zoch for his time and for the information. Mr. Randall moved to approve the textbook recommendations and Mr. Bland seconded the motion. It passed 4-0.

MINUTES OF A REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON APRIL 28, 2008 p. 7

Mrs. Barb Fengya introduced Ellen Binder, Chairman of the FCHS World Language Department, and thanked her for the time and effort she spent on the World Language Textbook Advisory Committee. She, along with Ms. Binder and her committee members, are recommending the Board approve the following textbooks (Exhibit 08-53):

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Textbook</u>	<u>Publisher</u>
French, Level 1	<i>Holt French 1, Bien dit!</i>	Holt Rinehart Winston
French, Level 2	<i>Holt French 2, Bien dit!</i>	Holt Rinehart Winston
French, Level 3	<i>Holt French 3, Bien dit!</i>	Holt Rinehart Winston
French, Level 4	<i>Tresors du Temps, 2005 Edition</i>	Glencoe
French, Level 5/AP	<i>En bonne forme, 2007 Edition</i>	Houghton Mifflin
German, Level 1	<i>Deutsch Aktuell 1, 2004 Edition</i>	EMC Publishing
German, Level 2	<i>Deutsch Aktuell 2, 2004 Edition</i>	EMC Publishing
German, Level 3	<i>Deutsch Aktuell 3, 2005 Edition</i>	EMC Publishing
German, Level 4	<i>Kaleidoskop, 7th Edition</i>	Houghton Mifflin
German, Level 5/AP	<i>Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik, 4th Ed.</i> <i>Allerlei zum Lesen, 2nd Edition</i>	Houghton Mifflin Houghton Mifflin
Spanish, Level 1	<i>Holt Spanish 1, Expresate!</i>	Holt Rinehart Winston
Spanish, Level 2	<i>Holt Spanish 2, Expresate!</i>	Holt Rinehart Winston
Spanish, Level 3	<i>Holt Spanish 3, Expresate!</i>	Holt Rinehart Winston
Spanish, Level 4	<i>Galeria de arte y vida, 2007 Edition</i>	Glencoe
Spanish, Level 5/AP	<i>A toda vela, 2008 Edition</i>	EMC Publishing

Ms. Binder explained the selection process to the Board members. She thanked the teachers, administrators and parents who were involved in the textbook selection/adoption process. President Hamner stated that the Board appreciates the dedication of the teachers in selecting quality student materials. He thanked Ms. Binder for her presentation. Mr. Bland made a motion to accept the textbook recommendations. Mr. Wood seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

Approve High School Curriculum Changes

Mrs. Barb Fengya recommended approval of the following high school courses (Exhibit No. 08-54): Advanced Environmental Science, 2-Dimensional and 3-Dimensional Art, Advanced 2-Dimensional Art II, Advanced 2-Dimensional Art III, Advanced 2-Dimensional Art IV, Advanced 3-Dimensional Art II, Advanced 3-Dimensional Art III, and Advanced 3-Dimensional Art IV. She explained that they tried to simply and reorganize the courses thus helping to identify the students' interests. There being no questions, President Hamner asked for a motion to approve the high school curriculum changes. Mr. Bland motioned to approve the changes and Mr. Randall seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Update on Kindergarten Registration

Update on Phelps Assessment

Mrs. Ann Puckett-Harpold stated that they are very excited to have enrolled 472 Kindergarten children after just one day of registration which was held on April 10th. She commented that they are especially pleased that 327 families have selected to send their child to full-day kindergarten because statistics show that children do benefit academically from a full-day versus a half-day of kindergarten instruction. She commented that currently our kindergarten program has 615 students with 363 of those attending our full-day program. Mrs. Puckett-Harpold explained that when the families came to register they were given an appointment time to come back and participate in the Phelps Assessment which provides us with data on our children before they walk into our buildings. She noted that this data will be used to identify Title I needs, high ability students and to offer support where needed in specific areas.

MINUTES OF A REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON APRIL 28, 2008 p. 8

Mrs. Puckett-Harpold continued stating that this directly connects with the work that is being done with our friends from the Rooney Foundation. She noted that the Phelps Assessment was previously done with paper and pencil in a 20-minute, one-on-one setting and now is being done electronically thus eliminating several tedious steps. She explained that this information will be used to assist principals in creating class lists that are more than just names on a page. Dr. Bourke added that although this sounds simple, it is a major advancement for our schools to be able to have the student data as soon as the children begin in August saving weeks of testing time. He applauded Dr. Snapp, Mrs. Fengya and Mrs. Puckett-Harpold for their work on this project.

Mr. Bland commented that FCHS teachers, Ms. Lisa Laker and Ms. Susan Tomlinson, along with everyone involved with the 'Flashes Around the World' Event should be commended. He mentioned that the event was wonderful and very impressive, but he stated that he felt some of our students were disrespectful during the program. President Hamner asked Dr. Bourke to forward the Board members appreciation to Ms. Laker and Ms. Tomlinson.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP EDUCATION FOUNDATION REPORT – MR. GEOFF HOREN

Dr. Bourke reported on the FTEF due to Mr. Horen's absence. He commented that the last Foundation meeting concentrated on plans for the Fast Flash which is planned for May 10th and he encouraged everyone to participate. He added that they are also working on the plans for the golf outing which is scheduled for July 10th at The Legends Golf Course. He commented that the Foundation recently hosted a Franklin Township Chamber of Commerce Meeting/Luncheon which was very well attended and that they participated in the 'Flashes Around the World' Event that was held at Franklin Central High School. Dr. Bourke also reported that while the contributions to the Foundation have decreased, the total grant application amounts have increased.

CENTRAL NINE REPORT – MR. CHRIS WOOD

Mr. Wood reported that the Central Nine Governing Board met in Executive Session prior to the regular meeting on April 10 and they discussed the Facilities Project which is coming along nicely and also approved Phase II of the Building Project. He noted that they restructured the Building Trades Program, approved the 2008-2009 School Calendar and the Student Handbook. He added they officially hired Mr. Steve Hagen as the new Director of Central Nine and he will be working part time until his contract begins on July 1st. Mr. Wood commented that they received an update on the Adult and Continuing Education Program led by Ms. Donaldson, who has been with them for less than 2 years and continues to do an outstanding job.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bland asked Dr. Bourke to clarify the situation with the teaching assistants in our elementaries – Are we moving them to buildings where they are needed or are we reducing the numbers? Dr. Bourke replied 'both'. He explained that most schools are being given a minimum of three assistants, unless the enrollment dictates, in which case we will be adding more. He commented that we have reduced the number of aides in our Intermediate and Middle Schools. Mr. Bland noted that according to last year's statistics the classrooms received less than 1 hour of assistance and now with the reduction, the teachers will be receiving less help. He asked Dr. Bourke to be mindful of the ever-growing number of autistic students that need special assistance. Dr. Bourke stated that our goal is to place them where they are needed instead of just giving each school the same number of assistants.

Mr. Bland read Article: E1500 from the Policy Handbook as follows: Nepotism

“When relatives of School Board members and/or school administrators are employed by the School Corporation, the relative shall not have a direct supervisory or administrative relationship with the other relative.

Whenever possible, relatives shall not be assigned to the same school building.

This policy applies only to personnel appointments and assignments made after the policy is adopted by the Board of Education.”

He commented that it was adopted in June of 2000 and he stated that he agrees with the portion regarding a person being supervised by a relative, but he does not agree with not assigning people who may be related to the same building. He noted that part of being a good teacher is being happy where you are which is created by working with individuals that you can work best with.

Mr. Wood commented that he was a Board member in 2000 when the Policy was revised and he doesn't recall the reasoning for the change to the Policy. He feels that giving the administration the flexibility to place relatives in the same building with the statement 'Whenever possible' is a fair solution.

Mr. Hamner stated that he feels the relative supervisory portion of the Policy is needed, but he does not have any problem with two individuals of equal status working in the same building.

Dr. Bourke stated that he knows that there are special situations that are made more difficult because there are relatives working in the same building. A discussion followed regarding the interpretation of the word 'nepotism'. Dr. Bourke feels that the phrase 'whenever possible' means that we should not be placing relatives in the same building unless they cannot be placed anywhere else.

Mr. Randall inquired as to how the Board plans on changing the 'intent' of a Policy. He added that before a Policy is finalized it must be read/presented at two open meetings.

Mr. Bland stated that he feels that if we leave the statement in the Policy we are creating problems. Following further discussion, it was determined that FTCSC Policy Handbook Article E1500 – Nepotism, needs to have the definition of a 'relative' included. Mr. Bland made a motion to define what a relative is: a blood relation which does not include in-laws and would be effective immediately and not retroactively. Mr. Randall seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.

Mr. Randall moved to increase the number of vacation days for Superintendent Bourke from 20 days per year to 25 days per year beginning this year for the remainder of his contract. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Randall recommended approval to allow not only the administrators, but also the classified staff to carryover vacation days from one year to the next with the maximum number of vacation days available being 30. He explained that at this point in time, no one is allowed to carryover any days of vacation and he is recommending that we allow them to do so beginning with their current vacation days on July 1, 2008, but with the stipulation that the days are used prior to leaving the township or with the authority of Dr. Bourke and the School Board. Mr. Randall made a motion to allow the administrators and classified staff to carryover no more than 10 vacation days beginning July 1st of each year. Mr. Bland seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.

Dr. Snapp invited the Board members to the Teacher of the Year Award Reception that is being held on May 27 at 3:45 p.m. in the Administration Building. He noted that the committee chose a teacher from each building who will be recognized at the reception and Dr. Bourke will follow with the announcement of the Franklin Township Community School Corporation Teacher of the Year who will participate in the competition for Indiana Teacher of the Year.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Randall moved to adjourn the meeting. President Hamner declared the meeting adjourned 9:25 p.m.

APPROVED

Matthew L. Hamner, President

Christopher Wood, Secretary

Steve Randall, Member

Randall Bland, Member