

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION OF THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY SCHOOL
CORPORATION
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2008**

PRESENT: Steve Randall, Christopher Wood, Randall Bland, Aaron Sullivan, C. Scott Veerkamp, 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, August 25, 2008. All Board Members and news media had been duly notified and the agenda properly posted.

NOTE: Agenda Item II – BOARD RECOGNITION was pulled from the agenda and presented prior to the Public Hearings and Budget Hearing allowing a timely release for the students that were present. The recognitions were as follows:

2007-08 FRANKLIN CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL TEAM

President Randall presented Coach Kathy Stricker and her Softball Team with a certificate of achievement for being the 2007-2008 Softball State Runner-Up. He, along with the other Board members and the Central Office Administrators, congratulated her coaching staff and players for their hard work and dedication during their very successful season.

2007-08 FRANKLIN CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL BRAIN GAME TEAM

Board Vice President, Chris Wood, presented Principal, Kevin Koers, with a certificate of achievement for being the 2007-2008 Brain Game Team State Runner-Up. Mr. Koers accepted the certificate on behalf of Coach Adrienne Qualls and the team members. Mr. Wood, along with the other Board members and the Central Office Administrators, asked Mr. Koers to extend their congratulations to the Coach and team members.

REGULAR MEETING

President Randall called the Regular Meeting to order at 8:09 p.m. Mr. Wood offered the prayer and read the FTCSC Mission Statement.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Randall called for a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of Item II, 'Board Recognition', which was presented prior to the opening of the Public Hearings. Mr. Bland made a motion to approve the agenda with the deletion of Item II and Mr. Veerkamp seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

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

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

President Randall asked the Board members if there were any questions or comments regarding the items listed on the consent agenda. There being none, Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the following list of consent agenda items. Mr. Veerkamp seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

- A. Board Meeting Minutes
 - 1. Special Board Meeting – July 14, 2008
 - 2. Work Session – July 29, 2008
 - 3. Budget Work Session – August 11, 2008

- B. Fund and Expenditure Summary Reports (Exhibit No. 08-98)
- C. Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll Claims (Exhibit No. 08-99)
- D. Personnel Report (Exhibit No. 08-100)

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS
CURRICULUM REPORT

Dr. Jim Snapp stated that Mrs. Ann Puckett-Harpold, Director of Elementary Instruction, and Mrs. Barbara Fengya, Director of Secondary Instruction, will be providing reports on Summer School.

Mrs. Puckett-Harpold commented that the Summary of our Elementary Summer School was placed at the Board members' places (Exhibit No. 08-101). She reported that this year they developed a new elementary summer school curriculum that proved to be most beneficial to the 344 students that attended. She shared that they invited children based on test data and that these students will continue to be monitored to determine if the revamping of the program has continued positive results.

Mrs. Fengya referred the Board members to their copies of the Summary of Secondary Summer School which was at their places (Exhibit No. 08-102). She commented that it was divided into two areas – Middle School and High School. She reported that the middle school program was focused on the acceleration of our high ability mathematics students and shared that 92% of the students who participated received credit for Algebra I and will be moving to Algebra II this fall.

Mrs. Fengya reported that at the high school level we focused on credit recovery for students and Physical Education for incoming 9th graders. She shared that they are very pleased that out of the 626 students that were enrolled in different courses, 804 credits were earned. She added that several students utilized the NovaNET software and if they did not complete their coursework during the summer, they are able to pick-up where they left off instead of starting the course over from the beginning.

Dr. Snapp commended both Mrs. Puckett-Harpold and Mrs. Fengya for making a conscience effort to intentionally make changes to our summer school programs that enhanced and increased our student achievement.

Dr. Snapp asked Mrs. Puckett-Harpold to introduce the Board members to a new assessment tool that will be used in our schools. Mrs. Puckett-Harpold stated that the main focus at our recent Administrative Retreat was increasing our student achievement and she commented that not only do we need to have the tools to collect the student data we also need to help our teachers analyze the data and implement programs to increase student achievement. She shared that we have been selected by the state of Indiana to receive two new assessment programs – Wireless Generation for the K,1,2 students and Acuity for grades 3-8. She noted that the Wireless Generation Program will be using Palm Pilots to collect the data, and along with the software, will allow the students and teachers immediate feedback. Mr. Bland asked if the teachers had hands-on training with the Palm Pilots. Mrs. Puckett-Harpold stated that there was one available during the training, but that they were delivered to the buildings today. Mr. Bland asked if there will be on-site technical support in each building and if there will be more opportunities for hands-on training for the teachers. Mrs. Puckett-Harpold commented that our goal was to have several building experts and we had over 1/3 of our teachers that attended the training. She added that the Palm Pilots are very user-friendly and we will continue to provide support for those who need it. Mr. Randall asked if there will be support personnel in the buildings to assist with the program so an instructional teacher will not have to be interrupted. Dr. Bourke replied that this is a pilot and it is not high-risk testing so there will be a window of opportunity which enables the teacher to stop and continue later once their issue or question is resolved.

Dr. Snapp reported on the current enrollment figures for the Board members (Exhibit No. 08-103). He shared our actual enrollment figures compared to the projected figures from our recent demographic study and noted that our overall enrollment increased by 213 students. He also reported on the class size averages stating that we will be addressing the need for additional

classrooms at the Intermediate and Middle Schools for next year due to their enrollment numbers. Mr. Bland thanked the Administration for their efforts in keeping the class sizes down.

President Randall asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add the inadvertently omitted 'Legal Report'. Mr. Wood motioned to amend the agenda with Mr. Bland seconding the motion. It carried 5-0.

LEGAL REPORT

Mr. John Kitley commented that it was nice to see that Mr. Sullivan is feeling better. He reported that everything is running smoothly at this time.

OPERATIONS SUMMARY

Mr. Ron Blackgrave referred the Board members to their copies of the formerly titled Construction Update and commented that because the construction projects are winding down, he will now refer to the report as the 'Operations Update' (Exhibit No. 08-104). He mentioned that he will be asking for Board approval of a proceed order at the Freshman Academy and also permission to declare several items as surplus equipment. Mr. Blackgrave asked the Board members for any questions. Mr. Wood asked that now that the offsite sewer project is complete, are we expecting any reimbursement from the contractors who caused the initial problems. Mr. Blackgrave stated that we are still pursuing that possibility.

Mr. Randall asked how we allocate manpower on security. Mr. Blackgrave stated that we look at what we need to cover during the school day and ask our officers to be as visibly as possible at the middle schools and high school especially during the lunch periods. He added that we generally have 4 officers on duty at all times and we spread them out to cover as much territory as possible.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP EDUCATION FOUNDATION REPORT

Mr. C. Scott Veerkamp reported that he attended his first FTEF Board meeting on August 7 and was educated on the primary purpose of the Foundation which is to acquire monetary donations to fund teacher grants and special programs to enhance the education of our students. He commented that the Foundation has several fundraisers each year to accomplish this goal and they, too, are feeling the affects of a shaky economy. Mr. Veerkamp stated that they are beginning to advertise the upcoming Franklin 500 Campaign which will run from October through December 31st and invited everyone to consider supporting the Foundation.

CENTRAL NINE REPORT

Mr. Christopher Wood stated that the last Central Nine Governing Board meeting was held August 14 and that the Board was able to meet in the beautiful new LGI room that was added during Phase I of the Building Project. He mentioned that the Indianapolis Star did an article on the newly remodeled facility and thanked his fellow Board members and the community for their support of not only Phase I, but also Phase II of the Project.

ACTION ITEMS

ADOPT EXCESSIVE LEVY APPEALS RESOLUTION

Mr. Jim McWhirt asked the Board members to adopt the Excessive Levy Appeals Resolution (Exhibit No. 08-105) and explained that the resolution will be used for us to appeal to the state of Indiana for the following items: New Facility appeal in the amount of \$521,650 for Edgewood Intermediate, New Facility appeal in the amount of \$592,450 for Franklin Township Middle School East, and a Shortfall appeal in the amount \$375,000. Mr. Sullivan moved to adopt the Resolution. Mr. Wood seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

ADOPT TAX NEUTRALITY RESOLUTION

Mr. Jim McWhirt requested the Board members adopt the Tax Neutrality Resolution (Exhibit No. 08-106). He noted that this Resolution allows that the maximum levy for the Bus Replacement Fund for 2009 be reduced by the amount of the levy for its Retirement/Severance Bond Debt Service Fund. Mr. Bland made a motion to approve the Resolution and Mr. Sullivan seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

ACCEPT DONATION OF OVERHEAD PROJECTOR AND CART

ACCEPT DONATION OF TELEVISION

ACCEPT DONATION OF \$1,000

ACCEPT DONATION OF \$100

Mr. Jim McWhirt requested approval of the following list of donations:

- Overhead Projector and Cart donated to FCHS by Methodist Specialty Physicians (Exhibit No. 08-107)
- 65" Mitsubishi Projection Television donated to FCHS by LeAnne & Jerry Schemenauer (Exhibit No. 08-108)
- \$1,000 donated to FTMS-West by the Bloomington Bicycle Club (Exhibit No. 08-109)
- \$100 donated to Wanamaker Elementary's Benevolence Fund by Jean Kitley (Exhibit No. 08-110)

Mr. Bland motioned to accept the list of donations as described by Mr. McWhirt. Mr. Veerkamp seconded the motion and it carried 5-0. Mr. Bland asked that we send thank-you notes to the appropriate individuals for these donations. Mr. McWhirt agreed to do so.

ADOPT 1028 RESOLUTION FOR CENTRAL NINE PROJECT

Mr. Jim McWhirt recommended approval of a 1028 Resolution for the Central Nine Career Center Project (Exhibit No. 08-111). There being no questions or comments, President Randall asked for a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Wood motioned to approve the Resolution and Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

ADOPT RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT PATRONS' PETITIONS FOR CENTRAL NINE PROJECT

Mr. Jim McWhirt requested the Board members adopt the Resolution to accept Patrons' Petition Resolution for the Central Nine Project (Exhibit No. 08-112). He noted that we need to have 50 signatures and we asked the schools' principals to gather signatures from our corporation's patrons. He stated that to date we have gathered over 100 signatures. Mr. Wood made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF LEASE AND SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Mr. Jim McWhirt requested the Board members adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of Lease and Sale of Real Estate for the Central Nine Project (Exhibit No. 08-113). Mr. Wood motioned to accept the Resolution and Mr. Sullivan seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

ADOPT RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTINUING DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING

Mr. Jim McWhirt recommended the Board members adopt the Resolution approving Continuing Disclosure Undertaking for the Central Nine Project (Exhibit No. 08-114). Mr. Bland asked for an explanation. Mr. McWhirt stated that Central Nine is bound to providing and/or disclosing the correct information to the mortgage lender during the life of the lease. Mr. Bland made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Mr. Veerkamp seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

DECLARE SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

Mr. Ron Blackgrave shared that we have been cleaning house throughout the corporation and have several discarded, unusable, and antiquated items ranging from metal pieces from buildings to heavy desks to portions of fencing, etc. He explained that we are currently storing these items in rented portable storage bins and would like the Board to declare these items as surplus equipment so we can discard them. He added that we will be salvaging the metal for scrap. Mr. Bland moved to declare the items as surplus equipment and Mr. Wood seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

APPROVE CONTRACT WITH YMCA

Mr. Ron Blackgrave recommended approval of a contract with YMCA to provide before and after school care for our students in nine of our schools (Exhibit No. 08-115). He explained that the YMCA has provided this service since 1997, but because it is a service we are required to send it out for bid. He stated that there was some interest by a couple of local organizations, but that they could not come close to providing the same services in all of the locations that the YMCA offers. Mr. Bland asked for confirmation that the YMCA handles everything including the payments. Mr. Blackgrave confirmed his statement noting that we provide the facility and at various times some select equipment such as a television monitor or a camera. Mr. Bland made a motion to approve the YMCA contract. Mr. Veerkamp seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

APPROVE PROCEED ORDER FOR NEW WALK AT FRESHMAN ACADEMY

Mr. Ron Blackgrave referred the Board members to their copies of the Proposed Site Plans for the new walk at the Freshman Academy along with Gibraltar Construction quotes Options 1, 2, 3, & 4 (Exhibit No. 08-116). He explained that the northeast corner sidewalk area of the building is not large enough for the students to exit the building safely without spilling into the traffic pattern. He commented that the Options range in price from \$23,313 for the basic widening of the sidewalk area to \$186,699 for expanding the drive for ease of delivery and bus turnaround. Mr. Blackgrave noted that he is asking for approval of the proceed order because the equipment is currently on-site and the cost of the project would increase if the contractor had to bring the equipment back to the building at a future date. A discussion followed regarding the necessity of spending \$186,000 when increasing the sidewalk area for the least amount of \$23,313 would suffice. Dr. Bourke recommended that the Board approve the proceed order this evening to widen the sidewalk portion only and following our further evaluation of the area we will provide additional information to the Board members. Mr. Bland motioned to approve the Proceed Order for the new walk at the Freshman Academy which is Option 4 in the amount of \$23,313. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. Mr. Sullivan asked if this addition to the sidewalk would meld in with any additional work we might choose to do at a later date. Dr. Bourke stated that it would. President Randall called for the vote. The motion passed 5-0.

APPROVE REVISED TEXTBOOK RENTAL

Dr. Jim Snapp asked the Board members' approval of the revised textbook rental fees for various courses that were previously omitted (Exhibit No. 08-117). Mr. Bland made a motion to approve the revised textbook rental fees and Mr. Sullivan seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

APPROVE CONTRACT WITH ESC

Dr. Bourke referred the Board members to their copies of the Agreement with Educational Services Company (Exhibit No. 08-118) and stated that it will provide us assistance in preparing and presenting a petition for relief to the Distressed Unit Appeals Board. He noted that the agreement states that we will pay them \$180.00 per hour not to exceed 150 hours for their services. Dr. Bourke added that they will most likely exceed 150 hours, but we will only pay them for the hours they work. He commented that this appeal relates to the 1% property tax cap that is soon to be in place and that the Appeals Board was created by a House Bill with the goal being to save our tax supported funds in 2010. Mr. Veerkamp moved to approve the contract with ESC. Mr. Wood seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

APPROVE NEW POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

Dr. Bourke recommended the approval of a new position, Director of Student Services. He explained that with this approval we will be adjusting some current job responsibilities to give the Special Education Program some much needed assistance. He stated that this person will be responsible for not only overseeing our Special Education Program but also handling discipline issues. Dr. Bourke added that the Director's salary will be \$90,000 plus administrator's benefits. He noted that we will be saving \$30,000 once these job changes are complete which should be at the end of this contract year. Mr. Randall asked Dr. Bourke when the hiring of this position would take place. Dr. Bourke replied that we hope to find a quality person as soon as possible because the Special Education Program has over 3000 students and approximately 17% of our students have Individual Education Plans with only one person overseeing them. Mr. Bland commented that there is an abundance of paperwork that accompanies Special Education and asked if this person would be responsible for delegating paperwork or helping to relieve some of the paperwork from the teachers. Dr. Bourke replied that we currently have one person in our office that attends every Special Education Case Conference and it leaves her with little opportunity to do much else. Mr. Bland added that he will approve the new position if it will take some of the paperwork load from the Special Education teachers. Dr. Bourke commented that we plan to computerize the IEP's which will eventually relieve some of the teachers' loads. Mr. Bland made a motion to approve the new position of Director of Student Services. Mr. Sullivan asked Dr. Bourke to confirm that we have 17% of our students that have IEP's with one person to administer them and no one for Strategic Planning. Dr. Bourke responded that we have one administrator and one secretary in the Central Office, but we do have Department Chairs in the high school, coordinators in the secondary schools and teachers to help, but that there is no one to do Strategic Planning for Special Education. Mr. Wood seconded Mr. Bland's motion. The motion carried 5-0.

APPROVE DIPLOMA PLUS MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Dr. Bourke provided the Board members with a copy of the Diploma Plus Memorandum of Agreement and recommended its approval (Exhibit No. 08-119). He explained that the Agreement is their guarantee that we will abide by the directives and curriculum outlined in the grant which was previously approved. Dr. Bourke asked Mr. Kitley for his comments of the Agreement. Mr. Kitley commented that his only issue is with Item 9, L, which reads: 'This Contract shall be construed under and governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.' Dr. Bourke added that if there is a problem of any kind we can pull out of the deal and we will only have to change the name to not mention 'Diploma Plus'. He noted that it states Boston, Massachusetts simply because that is where their home office is located. Mr. Bland moved for approval of the Agreement and Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. Mr. Randall stated that he has a problem with the dates for the period of the agreement which indicate they begin on or after January 1, 2008 and end on June 30, 2008. Dr. Bourke stated that he did not notice the incorrect dates, but if the Board would approve the Agreement he would contact Diploma Plus to get the correction made prior to signing it. Mr. Bland amended his motion to have the correct period of agreement dates on the contract prior to Dr. Bourke signing it. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Bourke commented that we had an awfully good start to the school year. He continued stating that when you consider that we have nearly 9000 students to accommodate, 1000 employees, 13 cafeterias to manage, a huge fleet of busses and 2 new schools opened it takes a great deal of organization, dedication and hard work from everyone. He thanked the Directors and Administrators throughout the district for overseeing what would seem to some to be a monumental task. He gave special thanks to the contractors and construction workers for making it possible to open the new middle and new intermediate schools on time.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Bland addressed Mrs. Puckett-Harpold and stated that as a Board we have asked that items

roll out consistently throughout the township so every school is doing the same thing and/or has the same requirements as everyone else. He stated that it has been reported to him that this is not true when it comes to curriculum mapping and scheduling of classes in the elementary schools. Mrs. Puckett-Harpold responded that we did some work last year during our early release days and as a result the principals were to work with grade level groups, however, some got farther than others which resulted in some being ahead of the implementation schedule.

Mr. Bland commented that he is not trying to insult anyone, but feels that Administrators sometimes forget how it was in the classrooms. He stated that after looking at the elementary teachers' schedule, which looks wonderful on paper, he feels that it is nearly impossible to meet. He commented that it is his understanding that they are to teach every single subject every day and he feels that if we want the teachers to teach and also give the human element to the instruction, this schedule will not work. Dr. Snapp commented that he had a conversation with one of our elementary principals regarding the first day schedule and the feeding of the students. He stated that they each had a different opinion and after visiting a school and seeing firsthand the issues that could and did arise, a change was made. He commented that last year we did an analysis of our seven elementaries and found out that their time allotment varied greatly from one school to another. Dr. Snapp added that we devised a first draft template to correct the instructional time issues and plan to revisit the schedule until we have a workable and beneficial solution for everyone.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Wood moved to adjourn the meeting. President Randall declared the meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

APPROVED

Steve Randall, President

Christopher A. Wood, Vice President

Randall Bland, Secretary

Aaron L. Sullivan, Member

C. Scott Veerkamp, Member