

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
226 QUAKERTOWN ROAD, P.O. BOX 368  
QUAKERTOWN, NEW JERSEY 08868  
908-735-7929



**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**March 31, 2025**

**For the Special Meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Education Monday, March 31, 2025  
at 6:30 p.m. in the Franklin Township Elementary School Multipurpose Room**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**– Mrs. Licwinko called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**– Mrs. Licwinko led all assembled in the Flag Salute.

**III. STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:** Mrs. Licwinko read the following statements:  
In accordance with requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notice has been given of tonight's meeting in the Hunterdon Star Ledger and Express Times, has been posted on the bulletin board by the main office of the Franklin Township School, sent to the Township Clerk and to all Board of Education members, and posted on the school website on March 21, 2025.

**IV. ROLL CALL**– Mr. Kramer called the roll and declared a quorum was present

Present: Mrs. Colleen Cummins – Arrived at 6:35 PM

Absent: None

Mrs. Shana Frondorf

Mr. James Giordano

Mrs. Caroline Licwinko

Mrs. Allison Luciano

Mr. Craig Metz

Mr. Matt Naughton

Also Present: Mrs. Jennifer Aquino  
Mr. Mark Kramer  
Mr. Marc Zitomer

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Lori Vail, 10 Tara Way, Pittstown - Test scores; tax levy
- Elizabeth Basile, 16 Upper Kingstown Road, Pittstown - Acting principal/superintendent
- Kelsey March, 774 Sidney Road West, Pittstown - HIB investigation
- Aimee Luster, 7 Joe Ent Road, Flemington – HIB investigation
- Lori Vail, 10 Tara Way, Pittstown - Cost per student; budget

**VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, while the Sen. Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.) requires all meetings of the Franklin Township Board of Education to be held in public, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) sets forth nine (9) types of matters that may lawfully be discussed in "Executive Session," i.e. without the public being permitted to attend; and

**WHEREAS**, the Franklin Township Board of Education has determined that the following issues are permitted by N.J.S.A. 10: 4-12(b) to be discussed without the public in attendance and shall be discussed during an Executive Session; and

**WHEREAS**, the nature of the matter(s) to be discussed, reviewed, or heard before the Franklin Township Board of Education, detailed as specifically as possible without undermining the need for confidentiality pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13.2 et. seq., shall include HIB and personnel matters; and

**WHEREAS**, the length of the executive session is expected to be approximately 45 minutes, after which the meeting shall reconvene and proceed with business wherein action may be taken;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Franklin Township Board of Education will go into Executive Session for the above-stated reasons; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Franklin Township Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the subject will be made public at such time as the reason for confidentiality no longer exists.

**Motion to approve** the above executive session resolution for the Franklin Township Board of Education adjourning to closed session to discuss HIB and personnel matters, wherein the length of time for the executive session is expected to be approximately 45 minutes, after which the meeting shall reconvene and proceed with business wherein action may be taken.

- Motioned by Mrs. Luciano, seconded by Mr. Giordano, to approve action item VI at 6:46 PM.

**Voice Vote on  
Action Item VI:**

| Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----|----|---------|--------|
| 7   | 0  | 0       | 0      |

**Motion Passes**

- Motioned by Mrs. Luciano, seconded by Mr. Giordano for the board to reconvene into public session at 8:07 PM.

**Voice Vote on  
Action Item VI:**

| Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----|----|---------|--------|
| 7   | 0  | 0       | 0      |

**Motion Passes**

## **VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

- Motioned by Mrs. Luciano, seconded by Mr. Giordano, to approve action item VII A through D.

### **A. Appointment of Independent Investigator**

**Resolved**, that the Board appoints Timothy Downs, Esq. as an outside independent investigator to investigate various H.I.B. complaints at the hourly rate of \$300.00 per hour.

### **B. Appointment of Home Instructor**

**Resolved**, upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent of Schools, the Franklin Township Board of Education approved the employment of Mina Nace, Home Instructor at a rate of \$35.00 per hour for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year.

### **C. Acceptance of Resignation**

**Resolved**, the Franklin Township Board of Education accepts the resignation of Dr. Joanne Calabro, Interim Superintendent of Schools effective March 20, 2025.

### **D. Rescind and Approves Contract for Interim Principal and Acting Superintendent**

**WHEREAS**, the Franklin Township Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") and Ms. Aquino are parties to an employment contract dated February 1, 2025 through December 1, 2025 for Ms. Aquino to serve as Interim Principal; and

**WHEREAS**, the parties have agreed to mutually rescind that contract and enter into a new contract for Ms. Aquino to serve as Interim Principal and Acting Superintendent; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby rescinds Ms. Aquino’s current employment contract and approves a new contract for Ms. Aquino to serve as Interim Principal and Acting Superintendent which has been approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Board President is authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the Board.

**Roll Call Vote on Action Item VII. A through D.**

| Name              | Yes                | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-------------------|--------------------|----|---------|--------|
| Mrs. Cummins      | X                  |    |         |        |
| Mrs. Frondorf     | X                  |    |         |        |
| Mr. Giordano      | X                  |    |         |        |
| Mrs. Luciano      | X                  |    |         |        |
| Mr. Metz          | X                  |    |         |        |
| Mr. Matt Naughton | B & D              |    | A & C   |        |
| Mrs. Licwinko     | X                  |    |         |        |
| Totals:           | 7 B & D<br>6 A & C | 0  | 1 A & C | 0      |

**Motion Passes**

**VIII. NOTEWORTHY DATES**

- Next regularly scheduled meeting April 14, 2025
- Rescheduled meeting from May 12, 2025 to May 5, 2025

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

- Motioned by Mrs. Luciano, seconded by Mrs. Cummins to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 PM.

**Voice Vote on  
Action Item IXI:**

| Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----|----|---------|--------|
| 7   | 0  | 0       | 0      |

**Motion Passes**

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kramer  
Board Secretary