

Frenchtown Board of Education Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2020 6:45 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER – Opening Statement**

The work session meeting of the Frenchtown Board of Education was called to order at 6:47 p.m. by President Kate Nugent.

Mrs. Nugent read the following:

Adequate notice of this regularly scheduled meeting of the Frenchtown Board of Education has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting act by notification to the Hunterdon County Democrat on January 16, 2020. A copy of this notice has also been posted at the public school, at the municipal building and filed with the borough clerk.

2. **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

3. **ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Mr. Adam Blackburn
Mrs. Kara Bobrowski
Mrs. Laura Einhorn
Ms. Laine Nauman
Mrs. Teresa Pearson
Mr. Hugo Rodriguez
Mrs. Kate Nugent

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Daria Wasserbach, Superintendent
Teresa Barna, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
James Hintenach, Principal

4. **PRESENTATION** – Daria Wasserbach – Exploration of a middle school (grades 6-8) send-receive relationship

- ♣ The Board of Education was given an opportunity to ask questions

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- ♣ Pete Moran – Remain a K-8 for one more year and staff would be willing to take the new proposed health insurance plan offered by the state.
- ♣ Special Education – Have 30 days to re-evaluate, are you thinking about splitting the middle school into different schools? How will it work with different calendars and start times?
- ♣ People look at a school when they move into a town

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- ♣ Chris Guglielmo – Governor announced at the end of February \$50 M Fund as possible revenue for districts losing state aid, read a statement by his daughter, requested that school choice requirements be loosened.
- ♣ Meredith – School choice parent and would like to have a choice as to which school her children will attend.
- ♣ Beth McCann – Positive health care cost change from State, Revenue stream from PILOT, Staff offered a health benefit change that would save the district significantly
- ♣ Jennifer Campbell – Look at the students that we are losing to choice as well.
- ♣ Mrs. Guglielmo – Are we going to visit the other schools to see firsthand?

6. 2019/2020 BOARD and DISTRICT GOALS

Frenchtown District Goals (2019- 2020)

1. Incorporate Community Service Learning into the educational program, including an 8th grade capstone community service project.
2. Expand current Personalized Student Learning Plan for students in grades 6 thru 8 to further differentiate and individualize instruction.
3. Consider new scheduling models for middle school.
4. Assess the needs and goals for technology, and anticipate any upcoming expenses. Create a five year technology plan.

Board Goals (2019- 2020)

1. Negotiate a new teachers' contract with the Frenchtown Education Association to replace the current contract which expires June 30, 2020.
2. By February 1st of 2020, create a three to five year feasibility plan for the district to explore options for dealing with cuts in state funding.
3. Create more opportunities to positively market our school, including participation in town events such as Riverfest and Bastille Day.
4. Assess the viability of Green Certification in our district.

7. BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Informational Items:

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- Board Meeting Schedule
 - ✓ March 24, 2020 - Action Meeting
 - ✓ April 28, 2020 – Action Meeting
 - ✓ May 12, 2020 – Action Meeting

- Ethics/Financial Disclosure Form Completion – Reminder to Board Members

8. APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY 2020/2021 BUDGET

2020-2021 School Budget

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education approved of the 2020-2021 Preliminary School Budget:

WHEREAS, the 2020/2021 preliminary budget includes sufficient funds to implement the proposed planning process as described in this district's Annual Report pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A -11 and to provide curriculum and instruction which will enable all students to achieve the Core Curriculum Content Standards;

WHEREAS, the 2020/2021 preliminary budget is in compliance with the requirements set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A and N.J.A.C. Title 6 and 6A;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Frenchtown Board of Education approves the 2020/2021 preliminary General Fund budget in the amount of \$2,816,390 and authorizes its submission to the Hunterdon County Superintendent of Schools for approval as follows:

Fund	Appropriations	Tax Levy
General Fund	\$2,816,415	\$2,129,519
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 70,012	
Debt Service Fund	\$ 110,894	\$ 110,894
Total Budget	\$2,997,321	\$2,240,413

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the maximum travel allowance for the 2020/2021 school year shall be established at \$5,000 and the maximum regular business travel amount shall not exceed \$1,500 per employee.

Moved by Mrs. Einhorn and seconded by Mr. Blackburn. On a roll call vote, resolution was adopted as follows: 7 ayes; nays, 0.

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Enrollment Adjustment

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-11.2(c) allows a district to request an adjustment to the tax levy for increases in enrollment that exceeds two percent of the prebudget year;

WHEREAS, the Frenchtown Board of Education has determined that there is a need to use the enrollment adjustment in the amount of \$70,772 for the purpose of funding an anticipated increase in health care costs that exceed two percent of the prebudget year;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Frenchtown Board of Education requests the approval of the enrollment adjustment in the amount of \$70,772.

Moved by Ms. Nauman and seconded by Mrs. Einhorn. On a roll call vote, resolution was adopted as follows: 7 ayes; nays, 0.

9. PERSONNEL/FACILITIES

Student Teaching Placement

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education approved Sean Lynch for student Teaching Placement from March 9, 2020 to May 6, 2020 with Katelynn Yard as his support Teacher.

Moved by Mrs. Pearson and seconded by Mr. Blackburn. On a roll call vote, resolution was adopted as follows: 7 ayes; nays, 0.

2019-2020 Substitutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education approved the following substitute for the 2019-2020 substitute list at a rate of \$90.00 per day (Teacher), \$120.00 day (School Nurse), \$13.00 per hour (Custodian) or \$80.00 per day (Secretary)

Brittany Kollmer	Nurse	\$120.00 per day
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Moved by Mrs. Pearson and seconded by Mr. Blackburn. On a roll call vote, resolution was adopted as follows: 7 ayes; nays, 0.

Facility Use

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education approved the following use of School facilities:

Organization	Date(s)	Time
Frenchtown PTO	3-20-2020	5:30-8:00 p.m.

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Moved by Mrs. Pearson and seconded by Mr. Blackburn. On a roll call vote, resolution was adopted as follows: 7 ayes; nays, 0.

10. NEW BUSINESS

11. PUBLIC COMMENT None

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Section 6 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 (R.S. 10:4-13), permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting or portion of a meeting of this public body in certain circumstances and

WHEREAS, the Board must consider (see check below), which is/are exempt from public discussion pursuant to the Act;

- 1. Matter which by express provision of law is rendered confidential
- 2. Release of information which would impair receipt of federal funds
- 3. Individual Privacy/ Student Matters
- 4. Collective Bargaining/Negotiations
- 5. Real estate matters
- 6. Disclosure could impair public safety
- 7. Pending/Anticipated Litigation
- 8. Terms and conditions of employment
- 9. Deliberations involving imposition of specific civil penalty.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourn to executive session at 9:05 p.m. to discuss the above-mentioned matters to the exclusion of all others. Matters discussed may or may not be made public this evening. Resulting action may or may not be taken following re-entry into regular session.

Moved by Mrs. Pearson and seconded by Mrs. Einhorn. On a roll call vote, resolution was adopted as follows: 7 ayes; nays, 0.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education approved to reconvene into work session at 10:11 p.m.

Moved by Mr. Blackburn and seconded by Mrs. Einhorn. On a roll call vote, resolution was adopted as follows: 7 ayes; nays, 0.

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Action Items:

Settlement Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education approved the attached settlement agreement with Glen G. Hale, Inc.

Moved by Mrs. Einhorn and seconded by Ms. Nauman. On a voice vote, resolution was adopted as follows: 6 ayes; nays 1, Mr. Blackburn.

12. ADJOURNMENT

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 10:13 p.m. Moved by Mr. Blackburn and seconded by Mrs. Einhorn. On a voice vote, resolution was adopted as follows: 7 ayes; nays, 0.

Respectfully submitted:



Teresa Barna
Board Secretary

Attest:



Kate Nugent
Board President