

Frenchtown Board of Education Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2021 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 6:52 pm. 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 14, 2021. A copy of this notice has also been posted at the public school, at the municipal building and filed with the borough clerk.

The public may view and participate in public comment by visiting the following website:
www.dvrhs.org/fesboemeeting

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
Ms. Carolyn Gadbois
Mr. Aaron Lambert (arrived at 8:00 p.m.)
Ms. Laine Nauman
Mr. Hugo Rodriguez
Mrs. Kate Nugent

Absent: None

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

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - None

5. **2020/2021 BOARD and DISTRICT GOALS**

Frenchtown District Goals (2020-2021)

1. Create a reopening plan and provide continued management of the Covid 19 crisis as it relates to the district.
2. Construct a plan to transition middle school into a send/receive model.

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Board Goals (2020-2021)

1. Continue to pursue a middle school send/receive relationship with neighboring districts and select a partner district.
2. Provide support for needed equipment, communication, and community engagement during the extended Covid 19 crisis.

6. BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Informational Items:

- Board Meeting Schedule
 - ✓ March 23, 2021 - Action Meeting
 - ✓ April 27, 2021 – Action Meeting
 - ✓ May 11, 2021 – Action Meeting

7. 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. Contract 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 6:51 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.

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Moved by Ms. Nauman and seconded by Mr. Blackburn. On a voice vote, resolution was adopted as follows: 6 ayes; nays, 0.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education approved to reconvene into regular session at 8:08 p.m.

Moved by Ms. Gadbois and seconded by Mr. Blackburn. On a voice vote, resolution was adopted as follows: 7 ayes; nays, 0.

8. APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY 2021/2022 BUDGET

2021-2022 School Budget

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education approved the 2021-2022 Preliminary School Budget:

WHEREAS, the 2021/2022 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 2021/2022 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 2021/2022 preliminary General Fund budget in the amount of \$2,673,020 and authorizes its submission to the Hunterdon County Superintendent of Schools for approval as follows:

Fund	Appropriations	Tax Levy
General Fund	\$2,673,020	\$2,172,109
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 83,194	
Debt Service Fund	\$ 113,419	\$ 113,418
Total Budget	\$2,869,633	\$2,285,527

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the maximum travel allowance for the 2021/2022 school year shall be established at \$5,000 and the maximum regular business travel amount shall not exceed \$1,500 per employee.

Moved by Mr. Lambert and seconded by Ms. Nauman. On a voice vote, resolution was adopted as follows: 7; nays, 0.

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9. CONSENT AGENDA

Matters listed within the consent agenda have been referred to members of the Board of Education and/or its standing committees, for reading and study and will be enacted with one motion. The Personnel items on the consent agenda are recommended by the Superintendent. If separate discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the consent agenda by Board action.

Action Items:

Finance

Withdraw from the Public Employers Trust

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education approved to withdraw participation in the Public Employers Trust for the purposes of employee health benefit coverage for medical and prescription effective June 30, 2021 at 11:59 pm.

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

Authorize Participation in the School Employees Health Benefit Program

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

Be It Resolved, that the Frenchtown Board of Education hereby elects to participate in the Health Program provided by the New Jersey State Health Benefits Act of the State of New Jersey effective 12:00 am on July 1, 2021, and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Frenchtown Board of Education designates 25 hours per week for TPAF employees and 30 hours per week for PERS employees as the average minimum hours required for full-time status, and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Frenchtown Board of Education hereby appoints Teresa O'Brien, Business Administrator to act as Certifying Officer in the administration of this program.

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

ACES-CPS Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education approved participation in the NJSBA Alliance for Competitive Energy Services Cooperative Pricing System #E8801 to procure on an aggregate basis digital and electronic products and services, E-Rate Consulting Processing Services, and other technology products and programs to enhance Members readiness for Future Ready Schools, as well as energy aggregation services, supplies and materials, time and materials; and such other services and

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products as two or more participating local boards in the system agree can be purchased on a cooperative basis.

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

10. **NEW BUSINESS** - None

11. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - None

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED, the Frenchtown Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m. Moved by Ms. Nauman and seconded by Mr. Lambert. On a voice vote, resolution was adopted as follows: 7 ayes; nays, 0.

Respectfully submitted:



Teresa O'Brien
Board Secretary

Attest:



Kate Nugent
Board President