

**FRELINGHUYSEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF
EDUCATION Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 22, 2024
7:00 PM**

The Frelinghuysen Township Board of Education held a meeting on Wednesday, May 22, 2024 in the media center of the Frelinghuysen School. Mrs. Neuffer, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Please let the minutes show that the Frelinghuysen Township Board of Education has complied with the Open Public Meetings Act which requires that advance notice of this meeting be given and that the public has the right to attend such meetings.

This advance notice was published in the NJ Herald and the Express Times. All discussions and official actions of this meeting, unless specifically exempted, will take place in public.

The Board pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENT: Mr. Hocking, Mrs. Neuffer, Mr. Forbes, Mr. Togno, George Riedel, Mrs. Swistak and Mrs. DeFilippis

ABSENT: Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. Pandiscia, Greg Brennan, Interim SBA/Board Secretary

ALSO PRESENT: Jarlyn Veras, CSA,

Hearing & Petitions of Citizens – Comment is invited on any matter relating to the agenda.

None.

CSA Report - Ms. Veras

May has gone by very quickly and it has been a very busy month.

- *We concluded NJSLA training with absolutely no issues. Thank you to our students and staff for helping us have a seamless testing season.*

- *I also want to thank our Garden Club for making our school look beautiful this spring .They did a great job making sure our front entrance is adorned with beautiful flowers.*
- *The Blairstown Ambulance visited our 2nd graders this afternoon. Students enjoyed getting to learn about the role of an EMS and how and the various features of an ambulance.*
- *Several student activities and events scheduled for May and June.*
- *Reminders- As this is the last board meeting before the end of the year. Calendar revised- June 12-14 are early dismissals and the 14th is the last day of school.*

Personnel

Motion made by Mr. Forbes and seconded by Ms. DeFilippis to approve P1-P4 as listed.

Motion to approve P1-P4 as listed:

P1. Approve the following curriculum writing at \$47.00 per hour:

Kate Lorenzo	ELA & Math	Grades 3-6	Not to Exceed 24 hrs
Jennifer Guida	ELA & Math	Grades K-2	Not to Exceed 18 hrs

P2. Accept the resignation of Lori Naomi, effective June 30, 2024

P3. Accept the resignation of Jessica Pryor, effective June 30, 2024

P4. Accept the recommendation of the CSA to hire John Stracco and Catherine Higgins as summer custodians and Susan Polizzo as substitute summer custodian at the hourly rate of \$15.50 per hour.

Motions P1-P4 carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Finance/Facilities

Motion made by Ms. Swistak and seconded by Mr. Forbes to approve F1-F8 as listed.

Motion to approve F1-F8 as listed:

F1. Approve the Bills & Claims List dated May 22, 2024, Checks 19268-19287 in the total amount of \$ 287,829.05 for the General Fund.

F2. Approve the renewal of the transportation contract with Krapf School Bus that includes an increase at the CPI (Consumer Price Index) 5.81% for the 2024-25 School Year.

F3. Approve the renewal of the food service contract with Maschio’s Food Services, Inc. in the (cost reimbursable) contract amount of \$67,815.18, with a management fee in the amount of \$9,829.91, and with no guarantee, for the 2024-25 School Year.

F4. Approve the renewal of the Occupational Therapy Services contract with Fast Forward Learning Center, LLC at \$92.00 an hour for the 2024-25 School Year.

F6. Approve the renewal of the Building Automation Prevention Maintenance Agreement at \$3,456.00 and the Professional Scheduled Service Agreement for Mechanical Equipment at \$22,822.80 with H.T. Lyons for the 2024-25 School Year.

F7. Approve ESY transportation contract with KRAPF School Bus in the amount of \$7,505.00

F8. Approve Facilities Use Request for the following:

PTO	Graduation Tent	Grass Area Behind School
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Motions F1-F8 carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Report of the Board Secretary

Motion made by Ms. Swistak and seconded by Mr. Forbes to approve R1-R2 as listed.

R1. To approve the BOE minutes regular and executive session meetings for April 24, 2024 and May 8, 2024.

R2. To approve the attached list of March Transfers

and the March Board Secretary’s Report, in agreement with the Treasurer’s

Report in the amount of \$1,074,303.95 in Total Government Funds;

and after review of the Secretary’s report (appropriations section) and upon

consultation with the appropriate District officials, that the Frelinghuysen

Township Board of Education is in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23 A-16.10(c)

4 and shall certify that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s

financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Motions R1-R2 carried - Mr. Forbes and Ms. Neuffer Abstained from R1.

Curriculum/Policy

Unfinished Business - None

UB1. Approve the following resolution:

Motion made by Mr. Hocking and seconded by Ms. Swistak to approve UB1 as listed.

Frelinghuysen Township Board of Education

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Frelinghuysen Township School District (“District”) is a pre-kindergarten through grade 6 school district located in Warren County, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the District operates Frelinghuysen Elementary School, which is located at 780 Route 94, Newton, New Jersey 07860 (hereinafter, “School”);

WHEREAS, it has recently come to the District’s attention that a company has applied to the Frelinghuysen Township Land Use Board (hereinafter, “Township”) for authorization to utilize property located at 720 Route 94 (hereinafter, “Facility”) as a “cannabis cultivation and manufacturing facility”; and

WHEREAS, it is the District’s understanding that the Facility will grow and manufacture cannabis in approximately 62,460 square-feet of greenhouse structures and 10,000 square feet of warehouse structure at the Facility for commercial use; and

WHEREAS, the Facility is located only approximately 1,023.4 feet from the property line of the School; and

WHEREAS, because most of the School building does not have air-conditioning, staff often leave School building windows open during the fall and spring seasons during school hours to allow fresh air to enter the building;

WHEREAS, the District has significant concerns regarding the location, size, and scope of the Facility, and its impacts on the School community; and

WHEREAS, the District has great concerns that should the Township approve the Facility, the emissions caused by the cannabis cultivation will likely cause a lingering odor to emanate from

the Facility and have a harmful impact on air quality, which will negatively impact the well-being of School staff, students, and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the District has serious concerns pertaining to students' and the faculty's abilities to fully engage and concentrate in school despite the strong odors that will be produced by the Facility's cannabis production, which will almost assuredly reach the School due to the School's close geographic proximity to the Facility, and have a negative and potentially dangerous effect on the learning environment; and

WHEREAS, the District has serious concerns, both short-term and long-term, pertaining to the health and safety of students and staff caused by the myriad of environmental issues, including possible depletion of the water table as well as possible air and groundwater pollution, that would likely result due to the Township's approval of the Facility; and

WHEREAS, the District has serious concerns that approval of the Facility would cause an increase in traffic in the vicinity surrounding the School, which could negatively impact student and staff arrival and dismissal times as well as during extracurricular activities that extend beyond the school day; and

WHEREAS, the District has serious security concerns that a cultivation and manufacturing facility of the Facility's magnitude would have a negative impact on the safety and security of the School;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Frelinghuysen Township Board of Education formally expresses its opposition to the proposed development of the Facility for the reasons contained herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be sent by the Board Secretary to the Township Governing Body, the Mayor, the Planning & Zoning Boards, Governor Murphy, our local Legislators, the Commissioner of Education, and the Executive County Superintendent of Schools.

Motion UFB1 carried unanimously by roll call vote. Mr. Forbes abstained.

New Business Correspondence - None

Hearing & Petitions of Citizens - None

Request for Executive Session

Motion made by Ms. Swistak and seconded by Mr. Forbes to enter into Executive Session at 7:35.

Motion made by Mr. Forbes and seconded by Ms. Swistak to exit Executive Session at

8:01.

Adjournment

Motion made by Ms. Swistak and seconded by Mr. Forbes to Adjourn at 8:02.

All Aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory E. Brennan

Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary