

**Frelinghuysen Township Board of Education  
Minutes of April 14, 2021**

The Frelinghuysen Township Board of Education held a virtual Board of Education meeting on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 7:03 PM. Mrs. Neuffer, President, called the meeting to order.

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 advanced notice was published in the NJ Herald and the Express Times. Electronic notice and instructions to access the remote meeting has been advertised on the FTS website. All discussions and official actions of this meeting, unless specifically exempted, will take place in public.

The Board pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

**PRESENT:** Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. Neuffer, Mrs. Swistak, Mrs. DeFilippis, Mrs. Pandiscia, Mr. Hocking, Mr. Galante, Mrs. Keesser, Mr. Forbes

**ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Stephanie Bonaparte, CSA  
Karin Laraway, Board Secretary

**Hearing & Petitions of Citizens - Comment is invited on any matter relating to the agenda.**  
None at this time.

**Request for Executive Session** – None at this time.

**Report of the CSA**

- March 29 students returned to 5 days in person instruction. There are sneeze guards in rooms that have a large number of students.
- There has been an increase in COVID cases over the last week. This is not due to in person learning.
- District conducts contract tracings that indicate the increase in cases is due to maskless gatherings outside of school.
- COVID is not being transmitted in school.
- Two questions to address: 1. What would make the district go 100% virtual? Answer- the inability to run the building. 2. When will the district serve lunches? Answer-this will not be considered until COVID is in the yellow or green code.
- There are 9 (nine) weeks of school remaining and the administration is trying very hard to keep school open.
- It is disheartening that the COVID cases are increasing especially with more children getting symptoms.

- A letter will be sent to parents again requesting that they be cautious and supportive regarding COVID.
- Children are exposed to COVID through organized sports. There is also a trickle down from high school sports and family exposure.
- Student testing – USDOE did not grant NJ a waiver, spring testing is postponed.
- “Start Strong” testing will occur in the fall.
- Township has requested the use of the facilities for elections. CSA responded that the BOE has requested that the Township explore other options.
- District Performance report is available. Data for the 2018-19 school year was used.
- Thanks to the PTO for the kindness and positivity vinyl sayings that were placed on bathroom doors.
- Graduation and field day-hope to provide normal events per CDC guidelines. The PTO will be providing the tent for graduation. Thank you PTO.
- ESSER II grant requires specific areas of allocations as referenced on the agenda.
- Thank you to the Frelinghuysen Township Mayor Chris Stracco for the support regarding the loss of state aid.

**Personnel**

Motion made by Mr. Forbes, seconded by Mr. Hocking, to approve P1 as listed and recommended by the Superintendent.

- P1. Approve the submission to the Commissioner of Education a request to extend the Interim Business Administrator’s contract through September 1, 2021.

Motion approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

**Finance/Facilities**

Motion made by Mr. Forbes, seconded by Mrs. DeFilippis, to approve F1-F5 as listed.

- F1. Approve submission of the federal CRRSA (Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act) grants as indicated:

CRRSA - ESSER II grant (Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief)	\$44,784
CRRSA – Learning Acceleration Grant	\$25,000
CRRSA – Mental Health Grant	\$45,000

- F2. Approve the following facility use request:

PTO- Raelyn	PTO Shed Access	May 6, 2021 1:15 PM
----------------	-----------------	------------------------

Kempinski	PTO Mother's Day Plant Sale	May 7, 2021 7 AM - 3 PM
-----------	-----------------------------	----------------------------

- F3. Approve entering into a Joint Transportation agreement with Sussex County Regional Transportation Cooperative for the 2021-2022 school year on an as needed basis for the following: Special Education, Public/private school, Sports & Field trips.
- F4. Approve entering into a 60 month lease agreement with Kyocera for a TASKalfa 8003i and a 4053ci copier, State of NJ Copiers BPA (G-2075-40465) for a total of \$264.20 per month.
- F5. Approve entering into annual copier service contracts with T. A. Mountford Company for the 2021-22 school year as follows:
- |                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| TASKalfa80031 copier  | \$1625.00 |
| TASKalfa4053c1 copier | \$1320.00 |

Motion approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

### Curriculum/Policy

Motion made by Mrs. Swistak, seconded by Mrs. Pandiscia, to approve CP1 as listed:

- CP1. Approve the following policies on first reading:

#### General Policy Updates

P 0145 Board Member Resignation and Removal  
P 0164.6 Remote Public Board Meetings During a Declared Emergency  
R 1642 Earned Sick Leave Law  
P 1643 Family Leave  
P 3431.1 Family Leave (abolished)  
P 4431.1 Family Leave (abolished)  
P3431.3 New Jersey Family Leave Insurance Program (abolished)  
P 4431.3 New Jersey Family Leave Insurance Program (abolished)  
P 5112.01 Pre-Kindergarten  
P & R 5330.01 Administration of Medical Cannabis  
P 7425 Lead Testing of Water in School  
R 7425 Lead Testing of Water in Schools  
P&R 7430 School Safety (abolished)

NCLB to ESSA

P 2415 Every Student Succeeds Act  
P 2415.01 Academic Standards (abolished)  
P 2415.02 Title I Fiscal Responsibilities  
P2415.03 Highly Qualified Teachers (abolished)  
P 2415.05 Student Surveys and Analysis  
P&R 2415.20 Every Student Succeeds Act Complaints  
P 4125 Employment of Support Staff Members  
P 6360 Political Contributions  
P 8330 Student Records  
P 9713 Recruitment by Special Interest Groups

Motion approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

### **Report of the Board Secretary**

Motion made by Mr. Hocking, seconded by Mrs. Pandiscia, to approve R1-R3 as listed:

- R1. Approve the following minutes:  
March 24, 2021 Regular Virtual Meeting and Executive Session  
Virtual Meeting
- R2. Approve the transfers for March 2021.
- R3. Accept, certify and file the treasurer's and board secretary's financial reports for March 2021 and note that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations and that no major account has been over-expended in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A:16.10.

R1 approved on an 8-0-1 vote with Mr. Forbes abstaining.  
R2-R3 approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

**Unfinished Business** – None at this time.

### **New Business**

Mrs. Neuffer and Mrs. Peterson attended the Sussex County SBA virtual meeting. Regionalization was discussed. The bill is awaiting passage.

Mrs. Neuffer and Mrs. Swistak met with the BOE Presidents and Vice Presidents of the elementary clusters. Hopefully they will continue to meet. All are in the same situation with regards to school funding.

The district has not heard back from the Frelinghuysen NW representative after the municipal meeting in which the representative stated that he would take the concerns back to the administration at NW and get back to the Frelinghuysen district.

The BOE will begin the CSA evaluation in executive session this evening. The two new BOE members, Mrs. Pandiscia and Mrs. Keesser have completed the CSA evaluation training.

### **Correspondence**

The letter from Frelinghuysen Township Mayor Chris Stracco regarding school funding is on the district's website.

**Hearing & Petitions of Citizens** – None at this time.

### **Request for Executive Session – CSA evaluation and Personnel.**

No action will be taken once the BOE returns to the regular meeting.

Mrs. Neuffer read the Sunshine Law.

Motion made by Mr. Forbes, seconded by Mrs. Peterson, to adjourn to a virtual executive session for CSA evaluation and personnel discussion for approximately 45 minutes. The time was 7:42 PM.

Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

Mrs. Laraway left the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Motion made by Mr. Forbes, seconded by Mrs. Peterson, to return to the regular virtual meeting. The time was 8:51 PM.

Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

### **Adjournment**

Motion made by Mr. Hocking, seconded by Mrs. DeFilippis, to adjourn the virtual regular meeting. The time was 8:52 PM.

Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin Laraway, Board Secretary

