

**FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**March 5, 2019**  
**Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes**

***The mission of the Freehold Township Schools, in partnership with our community, is to prepare all students to be responsible citizens and life long learners.***

The Freehold Township Board of Education met in Regular Session on Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at the Board Office of the Freehold Township School District, 384 West Main Street, Freehold, New Jersey, County of Monmouth.

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m.

Mr. Amoroso read the following statement in conformance with the "Open Public Meetings Act", Chapter 231, PL1975, effective January 19, 1976:

"A notice listing the time, date and place of this meeting was posted on the public bulletin board of all Freehold Township Schools, on the entrance door to the Administrative Offices of the Board of Education, on the district website, at the Office of the Freehold Township Clerk, published in the Asbury Park Press on January 24, 2019, and sent to the News Transcript on January 24, 2019."

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Amoroso led the Board in the pledge of allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Board Members Present:	Mr. Amoroso, Mrs. Cozzolino, Mr. DiBlasio, Mr. Matthews, Mrs. O'Sullivan, Mrs. Patten, Mrs. Lambert
Board Members Absent:	Mrs. Holtz, Mrs. Vendittoli
Also Present:	Mr. Neal Dickstein, Superintendent; Ms. Dianne Brethauer, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Pamela Nathan, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. Robert DeVita, Business Administrator; Ilene Tepper, Assistant Business Administrator; staff members; township residents.

**COMMUNICATION** - None

**PRESIDENT'S REMARKS** - None

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Budget Presentation – Mr. DeVita updated the Board on the projected budget for 2019 – 2020. The discussion revolved around the fact that the health benefit renewal projection at 10% was too high. The Board could leave rates flat for the year if they desired. The Board decided to increase the rates 2% and use the savings for capital projects to delay the need for a referendum. Mr. DeVita also discussed that the Township's assess value would increase and that residents could expect the tax rate from the District to decrease slightly. The average home assessed at \$420,000 would see a \$71 to \$91 decrease in their taxes depending upon the final assessed value for Freehold Township.

**BOARD REPORTS AND ACTIONS**

**PERSONNEL/POLICIES/COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

On Motion of Mrs. Lambert, seconded by Mr. DiBlasio, authorization was given to approve the following:

**INCREMENT REINSTATEMENT**

1. The Superintendent recommends approval of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Freehold Township Board of Education hereby restores the salary increment for employee no. 093520, that was withheld for the 2017-2018 school year, effective and beginning March 1, 2019 (pro rata).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby authorizes the administration to take those steps necessary to execute and effectuate those documents to fully resolve AR-2018-587, following the adoption of the resolution.

CREATION OF POSITION

- 2. The Superintendent recommends ratifying the creation of the following position effective November 14, 2018:

One (1) Teacher Assistant

NEW EMPLOYMENT

- 3. The Superintendent recommends approval to issue a contract to the following staff member for the 2018-2019 school year. All employments are recommended pending State Department of Education approval of emergent employment for a period not to exceed 3 months pending completion of the criminal history background check as per NJSA 18A:6-7 et seq; 39-17 et seq; 6-4.13 et seq.

NAME: Njeri Hunt  
 POSITION: Teacher Assistant – Barkalow Middle School  
 SALARY: \$27,564.00 GUIDE: TA STEP: 1  
 ACCOUNT#: 11-213-100-106-10-000-023  
 EFFECTIVE: March 6, 2019 through June 30, 2019

- 4. The Superintendent recommends ratifying approval to issue a contract to the following staff member for the 2018-2019 school year. All employments are recommended pending State Department of Education approval of emergent employment for a period not to exceed 3 months pending completion of the criminal history background check as per NJSA 18A:6-7 et seq; 39-17 et seq; 6-4.13 et seq.

NAME: Jennifer Essner  
 POSITION: Teacher Assistant – Donovan Elementary School  
 SALARY: \$27,564.00 GUIDE: TA STEP: 1  
 ACCOUNT #: 11-213-100-106-10-000-026  
 EFFECTIVE: November 14, 2018 through June 30, 2019

**Motions carried by roll call vote as follows:**

- Ayes: Mr. Amoroso, Mrs. Cozzolino, Mr. DiBlasio, Mr. Matthews, Mrs. O’Sullivan, Mrs. Patten, Mrs. Lambert
- Nays:
- Abstain:
- Absent: Mrs. Holtz, Mrs. Vendittoli

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS - None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Mrs. Lambert, seconded by Mrs. O’Sullivan, the following resolution was moved and adopted:

RESOLVED, this board met in executive session on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 7:54 p.m., for the purposes of discussing FTEA Negotiations, from which the public may be excluded under the Open Public Meetings Act, PL 1975, Chapter 231. It is anticipated that matters discussed in this executive Session will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

**Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

At 7:45 p.m. Mr. DiBlasio, Mr. Matthews and Mrs. Patten leave the meeting.

**MOTION TO RECONVENE THE MEETING AT 8:51 P.M.**

On a motion of Mrs. Lambert, seconded by Mrs. O'Sullivan, the board reconvened as follows:

**Motion carried by voice vote as follows:**

Ayes: Mr. Amoroso, Mrs. Cozzolino, Mrs. O'Sullivan, Mrs. Lambert

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent: Mr. DiBlasio, Mrs. Holtz, Mr. Matthews, Mrs. Patten, Mrs. Vendittoli

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Mrs. Cozzolino and seconded by Mrs. Lambert, and by unanimous voice vote of those present, the meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert DeVita  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
RD:aw