

Franklin School Board: Regular Meeting

Minutes

DATE/TIME/LOCATION	AUGUST 24, 2026	6:00 PM	FMS –LIBRARY
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MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY	Liz Cote, Chairperson												
TYPE OF MEETING	Public												
MINUTES	Stacie Hubble (School Board Clerk- Pro-temp)												
PUBLIC ACCESS THROUGH U-TUBE	click Video of Meeting to view (view part II) (view part III)												
BOARD MEMBER ATTENDEES	<table><tr><td>Ward I</td><td>Ward II</td><td>Ward III</td></tr><tr><td>Marie Danforth</td><td>Liz Cote</td><td>Jane Cote</td></tr><tr><td>Kayla Morse</td><td>Laurie Cass</td><td>Michael Lombardo</td></tr><tr><td>Jack Finley</td><td>Adam Heath</td><td>Ruth MaGina</td></tr></table>	Ward I	Ward II	Ward III	Marie Danforth	Liz Cote	Jane Cote	Kayla Morse	Laurie Cass	Michael Lombardo	Jack Finley	Adam Heath	Ruth MaGina
Ward I	Ward II	Ward III											
Marie Danforth	Liz Cote	Jane Cote											
Kayla Morse	Laurie Cass	Michael Lombardo											
Jack Finley	Adam Heath	Ruth MaGina											
ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS	<table><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>												
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE													

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE	Daniel LeGallo, Superintendent	Jefferson Braman, Business Administrator	Jule Finley, Curriculum Director
ADMINISTRATORS			
OTHERS	Christine Dzujna		

Agenda:

ITEM #1	CALL TO ORDER	5:31 PM
ITEM #1.1	Meeting was called to Order by Liz Cote, Chairperson	

ITEM #2	NON- PUBLIC SESSION	5:32 PM
ITEM #2.1	Under the provisions of NH State Law RSA 91-A: 3 paragraph II a, b and c – regarding Personnel.	
ACTION ITEM #2.1	MOTION MADE BY	SECONDED BY
Motion to go into Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 paragraph II a, b and c regarding Personnel Matters.	Michael Lombardo	Adam Heath
Motion Approved by Unanimous Roll Call Vote	Abstentions:	

Non-Public Session:

6:00 PM

ACTION ON ITEM #2.2	MOTION MADE BY	SECONDED BY
Motion to come out of Non-Public Session	Michael Lombardo	Jane Cote
Motion Approved by Unanimous Roll Call Vote	Abstentions:	

No action was taken during the Non-Public Session:

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ITEM #3	PUBLIC SESSION	6:04 PM
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ITEM #3.1	Meeting was called back to Order by Liz Cote, Chairperson
ITEM #3.2	Those assembled stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.
ITEM #3.3	Stacie Hubble (Clerk), confirmed that the meeting was posted as required by law.

ITEM #4	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	
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ITEM #4.1	Liz Cote, Chairperson, asked if there were any members of the public wishing to speak.
DISCUSSION	Christine Dzuina (Ward I) spoke about the upcoming Mom Prom event that the Peabody Place Auxiliary hosts every year. The Mom Prom will take place at the Elks Club on October 3 rd from 5-10pm.

ITEM #5	RECOGNITIONS	
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ITEM #5	Liz Cote, Chairperson asked if there were any recognitions.
DISCUSSION	Superintendent LeGallo thanked Steve Kruse from Steve Kruse Roofing for donating a lift used for window washing at each school. Ruth MaGina thanked Mike Lombardo for his donation to the PTSO at the August Farmers Market.

ITEM #6	FHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT	
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ITEM #6.1	There was no Student Representative Report
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ITEM #7	APPROVAL OF PRIOR BOARD MINUTES	
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ITEM #7.1	July 20, 2026, Regular School Board Meeting, and August 5, 2026 Regular; August 5, 2026 Non-Public Sessions were presented for approval.
DISCUSSION	Minutes were reviewed during non-public session with one amendment. A spelling error was caught in the August 5, 2026 minutes and fixed.
ACTION ON ITEM #7.1	
Motion to Approve July 20, 2026, Regular School Board Meeting, and August 5, 2026 Regular; August 5, 2026 Non-Public Sessions were presented for approval and August 5, 2026 Non-Public Sessions as presented and remain unsealed.	
Motion Approved by Majority Voice Vote	
MOTION MADE BY	Michael Lombardo
SECONDED BY	Jane Cote
Abstentions:	Ruth MaGina

ITEM #8	FINANCIAL REPORT	
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ITEM #8.1	Liz Cote, Chairperson, recognized Jefferson Braman, Business Administrator
DISCUSSION	Jefferson reported that the district is still in a preliminary situation with finances. The reconciliation has taken longer this year since the SAU office has lost staffing. An extension request was filed with the Department of Education for the DOE 25. Revenues have come in \$152,47.00 above the estimate in the general fund. We have at this point eliminated any deficit that we had but the amount of money that we have left at this point is not looking like we will be close to what we are budgeting for a fund balance. Jefferson is projecting approximately \$55,000 to \$60,000 of a fund balance which we have projected \$150,000 for the budget.

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		One thing Jefferson pointed out was that if the fund balance is at that level that means the district would be using some of the unanticipated revenue because everything above our budget amount, that \$152,47.00 is considered unanticipated revenue. The district will then have to go to the city and ask them if we can use that unanticipated revenue to cover the appropriation side of the budget.		
ITEM #9	COMMITTEE REPORTS			
ITEM #9	Liz Cote, Chairperson, asked for reports from committees.			
9.1 GOALS	Goals committee met on August 6th and approved the minutes from the April 14th meeting. Goals were reviewed for the past year and the committee felt they met their maintenance goal of increased School Board community engagement. The committee also feels like they met the priority goal to develop regular consistent distribution channels to get school district information out into the community. The lofty goal of increased advocacy on behalf of Franklin public schools regarding public school funding on multiple levels as measured by community per and post survey and increased communication in the form of deliverables was met but not in the way the committee had originally intended. The committee reached out at the state level to Maggie Hassan and other state legislators, inviting them to attend meetings but it was made clear that they weren't interested in discussing state level funding. The committee also talked about Goal ideas for the Board retreat which they will discuss on 8/25. Goals Committee will meet on Wednesday September 16th at 4:30 at the SAU.			
9.2 FINANCE	The Finance Committee had not met since the last School Board meeting. Finance will meet on Wednesday September 2 nd @ 5:30 at the SAU.			
9.3 POLICY	The Policy Committee met on 8/17/26 and were able to finish the priority required by law spring policy updates that the NHSBA put forth. There are several policies that are recommended that were updated in the spring but we're at the recommended or optional so the committee will be going over those at the next meeting. The committee was able to discuss two policies that were an emergency summer update, one of those will need to be fast tracked at tonight's meeting due to needing to be in place by the start of the school year. Next month the committee will work on reviewing, updating and finalizing the annual evaluation process to hopefully make things more meaningful, streamlined, and efficient. The next meeting will ne on Tuesday September 22nd @ 6:30pm at the SAU. There will be a bullying forum at 6pm on 9/22/26 @ the SAU office. The policy JICK is the one being fast tracked at tonight's meeting and will be discussed at this forum.			
9.4 SAFETY	The Safety committee met on 8/17/26 and discussed the safety handbook updates. There were some corrections/questions so the committee sent the handbook back to Jefferson and he will bring it back to the committee. They talked about NIMS training and how that will be pushed back due to budget issues. They talked about how the Homeland Security Safety Evaluation review and what kind of drills will happen throughout the year will be on the next meeting's agenda The next meeting will be September 15th @ 5:30 at the Franklin Middle School.			
9.5 I2	The I2 meeting was canceled. It has been rescheduled to September 23 rd @ 5pm at the SAU office.			

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9.6 JOINT FINANCE	The Joint Finance Committee has not met since the last School Board meeting. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday September 16 th @ 6pm at the Franklin Public Library.
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ITEM #10	NEW BUSINESS
ITEM #10	Liz Cote, Chairperson, recognized Dan LeGallo, Superintendent

ITEM #10.1	FY 27 Budget Update:
DISCUSSION #10.1	Superintendent LeGallo updated the Board on the budget the City Council passed on Friday 8/14. The city did pass the budget for the city and the schools. The district received the tax cap budget of \$19,351,084 which included the \$52,300 that was moved over from the city budget to the school budget.

ITEM #10.2	NOMINATION
#10.2 DISCUSSION	Superintendent LeGallo nominated Kate Lefebvre, as the new Occupational Therapist and Maura Veilleux, as the new Science Teacher at Franklin High School for Board approval.
ACTION ON ITEM #10.2	
MOTION MADE BY	
SECONDDED BY	
Motion to Approve Kate Lefebvre, as the new Occupational Therapist and Maura Veilleux, as the new Science Teacher at Franklin High School	
Michael Lombardo	
Laurie Cass	
Motion Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote	
Abstentions:	

ITEM #10.3	FALL COACH NOMINATIONS
#10.3 DISCUSSION	Superintendent LeGallo nominated the coaches for the fall season for Franklin High School and Franklin Middle School
ACTION ON ITEM #10.3	
MOTION MADE BY	
SECONDDED BY	
Motion to Approve Fall Coach Nominations for FHS	
Laurie Cass	
Jane Cote	
Motion Approved by Majority Voice Vote	
Abstentions:	
Adam Heath	
ACTION ON ITEM #10.3	
MOTION MADE BY	
SECONDDED BY	
Motion to Approve Fall Coach Nominations for FMS	
Laurie Cass	
Michael Lombardo	
Motion Approved by Majority Voice Vote	
Abstentions:	

ITEM #10.4	STUDENT HANDBOOK APPROVAL 26-27
#10.4 DISCUSSION	Superintendent LeGallo asked the Board to approve the updated student handbooks for each school.
ACTION ON ITEM #10.4	
MOTION MADE BY	
SECONDDED BY	
Motion to approve the updated student handbooks for each school.	
Michael Lombardo	
Ruth MaGina	
Motion Approved as by Unanimous Voice Vote	
Abstentions:	

ITEM #10.5	FACULTY HANDBOOK APPROVAL 26-27
#10.5 DISCUSSION	Superintendent LeGallo asked the Board to approve the updated faculty handbooks for each school
ACTION ON ITEM #10.5	
MOTION MADE BY	
SECONDDED BY	

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Motion to approve the updated faculty handbooks for each school.		Jane Cote	Marie Danforth
Motion Approved as by Unanimous Voice Vote		Abstentions:	
ITEM #10.6	TEE SHIRT DONATION		
#10.6 DISCUSSION	Superintendent LeGallo asked the Board to accept a \$1,500 anonymous donation for the district to purchase opening day t-shirts for the staff.		
ACTION ON ITEM #10.6		MOTION MADE BY	SECONDED BY
Motion to accept the anonymous donation for the district to purchase opening day t-shirts for all staff		Michael Lombardo	Ruth MaGina
Motion Approved as by Unanimous Voice Vote		Abstentions:	
ITEM #10.7	SNHU DONATION ACCEPTANCE		
#10.7 DISCUSSION	Superintendent LeGallo asked to accept a \$10,000 donation from Southern New Hampshire University to the high school to use for College and Career Readiness initiatives.		
ACTION ON ITEM #10.7		MOTION MADE BY	SECONDED BY
Motion to accept a \$10,000 donation from Southern New Hampshire University to the high school to use for College and Career Readiness initiatives.		Marie Danforth	Jane Cote
Motion Approved as by Majority Voice Vote		Abstentions:	Liz Cote/Laurie Cass
ITEM #10.8	WEIGHT ROOM EXPANSION PROJECT/DONATION		
#10.8 DISCUSSION	Principal Levesque discussed the weight room expansion project, the donor willing to fund the project and the dedication/naming of the new space.		
ACTION ON ITEM #10.8		MOTION MADE BY	SECONDED BY
Motion to dedicate the weight room to Bill Hayte.		Michael Lombardo	Adam Heath
Motion Approved as by Unanimous Voice Vote		Abstentions:	
ITEM #10.9	BULLYING POLICY PUBLIC FORUM		
#10.9 DISCUSSION	The district will be hosting a public forum on the new Bullying policy with the public on September 22 at 6:00 in the high school cafeteria to receive public input on the bullying policy. This is required by new state law, HB131, that went into effect this legislative session.		
ITEM #10.10	SAU RETREAT		
#10.10 DISCUSSION	The SAU retreat will be held on August 25th from 4-8 in the Middle School Library.		
ITEM #11	LEGISLATIVE UPDATE		
ITEM #11.1	Liz Cote, Chairperson, regarding legislative updates.		
DISCUSSION	Liz spoke about two education-related bills that were part of the veto override. They have implications for education but are not directly threatening our district. House bill 1817 allows students who are receiving EFA's to also have access to district curricular programs and co-extracurricular activities at no cost.		

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ITEM #12	POLICY	
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ACTION ITEM #12.1	MOTION MADE BY	SECONDED BY
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ITEM #12.1	Liz Cote, Chairperson, presented the following policies for 1 st read:	
	EBCA	Crisis Prevention and Emergency Response Plans
	EHB	Data/Records Retention and Destruction
	ECFA	Surveillance and Other Audio and Video Recording by the District
	JLCD	Administering Medications to Students
	JICK	Bullying Prevention-Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention
	JJJ	Access to Public School Programs by Non-Enrolled Resident
	AC	Nondiscrimination, Equal Opportunity, and Anti-Discrimination Plan
	ACA	Discrimination and Harassment Grievance Procedure
	DAF	Administration of Federal Grant Funds
	DFA	Investment
	JFABD	Admission of Homeless Children and Unaccompanied Youth

ACTION ON ITEM #12.1	MOTION MADE BY	SECONDED BY
Motion to move from first read to second read.	Kayla Morse	Jane Cote
Motion Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote	Abstentions:	

ACTION ON ITEM #12.1	MOTION MADE BY	SECONDED BY
Motion to fast-track policy JICK	Kayla Morse	Mike Lombardo
Motion Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote	Abstentions:	

ITEM #12.3	Liz Cote, Chairperson, presented the following policies for Rescinds:	
	EEAA	Video and Audio Surveillance on School Property
Motion to rescind the policies as listed.		Jane Cote Marie Danforth
Motion Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote		Abstentions:

ITEM #13	LATE ITEMS/OTHER	
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ITEM #13.1	LATE ITEMS / OTHER	
DISCUSSION	Superintendent LeGallo recognized a donation from the Congregational Church in Franklin. The church donated \$2,149.83 to pay off some of the lunch debt.	
Action item #13.1	Motion made by	seconded by
Motion to acknowledge the donation from the Congregational Church	Laurie Cass	Ruth Magina
Motion Approved by Majority Voice Vote	Abstentions:	Jane Cote
ITEM #13.2	LATE ITEMS / OTHER	

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DISCUSSION	Superintendent LeGallo spoke about the resignation he received from Paul Child's Alternative Education Coordinator at Franklin High School.
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ACTION ON ITEM #13.2	MOTION MADE BY	SECONDED BY
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Motion to accept the resignation of Paul Child's Alternative Education Coordinator at Franklin High School with regret.	Michael Lombardo	Jane Cote
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Motion Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote Abstentions:

ITEM #13.3	LATE ITEMS / OTHER
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DISCUSSION	Liz Cote spoke about an invitation to partner with the New Hampshire School Funding Fairness Project. Their entire focus is on New Hampshire public school funding, and they are doing a county tour where they will listen and learn from the community about funding issues. They would like Franklin to be the host site for Merrimack County.
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Action item #13.3	Motion made by	seconded by
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Motion to allow the New Hampshire School Funding Fairness Project to use the district facilities for a one-night informational session for the Merrimack County community.	Michael Lombardo	Kayla Morse
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Motion Approved by Majority Voice Vote Abstentions: Jane Cote

ITEM #14	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
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ITEM #14.1	Liz Cote, Chairperson, asked if anyone present wished to address the Board.
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DISCUSSION	Kaityln Nash (Ward I) announced that they are putting together podcast telethon fundraiser. A team will put together a series of videos called challenge week. The team will be hosting several interviews and celebrating all the members of the community in relation to the school. The goal is to raise \$100,000.00.
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ITEM #15	SEAL NON-PUBLIC
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ACTION ON ITEM #15.1	MOTION MADE BY	SECONDED BY
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Motion to Seal August 24, 2026, Non-Public minutes.	Jane Cote	Michael Lombardo
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Motion Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote Abstentions:

ITEM #16	ADJOURNMENT	7:23 PM
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ITEM #17	Liz Cote, Chairperson, accepted a motion for adjournment.
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ACTION ON ITEM #17	MOTION MADE BY	SECONDED BY
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Motion to adjourn	Kayla Morse	Michael Lombardo
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Motion Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote Abstentions:

NEXT MEETING	LOCATION	TIME
Monday, September 21, 2026	FMS Library	6:00 pm

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: STACIE HUBBLER, BOARD CLERK PRO-TEMP