

Miscellaneous

Voicing your concerns

If you have any questions or concerns, the best place to begin is with the staff member, teacher, supervisor, or administrator closest to your issue. This is where most problems can be quickly and productively resolved. If questions or concerns still remain, please contact Dr. Varley. And, if you feel that further action is required, the board is available to hear your concerns.

Confidentiality

While there are some items that can be commented on, please know that there are other items by law that must be kept confidential and not be discussed with the public at all or until a later date. Any complaints or charges against an employee are not permitted in an open meeting of the school board. These complaints should be put in writing to Dr. Varley or the Board. All such complaints will be referred to Dr. Varley for investigation and report.

Conduct at the meeting

Compliments are always welcome! However, we welcome all input. Unfortunately, undue interruptions or other interference with the orderly conduct of the Board of Education business cannot be allowed. The presiding officer may revoke the speaker's privilege of address if, after being called to order, improper conduct or remarks persist.

Thank you for taking interest and attending a meeting of the board. As you can see, we are hard at work for the children. You can find meeting schedules, agendas and minutes posted on our website along with district policies for viewing.



Welcome to a meeting of the Florham Park Board of Education

Executive Session begins at 6:30pm

Public Session begins at 7:00pm

67 Ridgedale Avenue
Florham Park, NJ 07932
973-822-3880

www.fpks.org/boe.html



Dr. Melissa Varley, Superintendent

John Csatos, Business Administrator

BOARD MEMBERS

The Board of Education is comprised of seven residents elected to serve three year terms. These terms are overlapping in order to ensure continuity. At the end of a term, a member may continue service to the community by being re-elected to the Board for another three year term. State law does not limit the number of terms a member may serve. School Board members receive no compensation for their public service.

Linda Rozek – President FPEA Negotiations (Chair) FPAA Negotiations Curriculum Committee	Elected 2016, Term Expires 2018
Kristina Heinold – Vice President FPAA Negotiations (Chair) Finance & Facilities Committee Transportation Committee	Elected 2015, Term Expires 2017
Alita Thomas Policy/Personnel Committee (Chair) FPEA Negotiations Project Community Pride	Elected 2015, Term Expires 2017
Charles “Skip” Shanley Curriculum Committee (Chair) Policy and Personnel Committee Borough Liaison	Elected 2016, Term Expires 2018
Yvonne Cali TAB (Chair) Curriculum Committee Policy/Personnel Committee	Elected 2017, Term Expires 2019
Fabienne Crimi Transportation Committee (Chair) Finance & Facilities Committee Hanover Park High School Articulation FPAA Negotiations	Elected 2017, Term Expires 2019
Nicholas Ritrivi Finance & Facilities Committee (Chair) Transportation Committee TAB FPEA Negotiations	Elected 2017, Term Expires 2019

Mission Statement:

The Florham Park Public Schools are committed to the achievement of individual academic excellence through high quality teaching, learning and community involvement, which results in students being well prepared to meet future educational challenges and to contribute to society. They will achieve these goals in accordance and alignment with the New Jersey Core Content Curriculum Standards, which guide our academic instruction.

Welcome to the meeting...

What type of meeting is taking place?

REGULAR MEETINGS are open to the public. A list of meeting dates can be found on our website. Copies of the agenda are available at least 24 hours in advance on our website or you can find printed copies at the meeting. A quorum of board members (4 of 7) must be present for a regular meeting to take place. With that said, when four or more board members meet to conduct board business or take action, the meeting must be announced and be open to the public. Board members hear reports and discuss specific topics from previously held committee meetings. All action items are listed on the agenda. All actions authorized or required by law are taken in regular meetings.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS are a portion of a public meeting that are held in private. These meetings are appropriate for discussion of personnel matters, labor negotiations, and other matters which are confidential as defined by the Open Public Meeting Law of the State of New Jersey. A complete list of topics that may be excluded can be found on our website under Policies, Bylaws, Policy 0166. The Board is not permitted to take any action while in executive session.

SPECIAL SESSIONS are called when circumstances arise that require a quorum of the board to meet. These sessions give the Board an opportunity to examine specific issues more thoroughly. These meetings are also open to the public and follow the same format as a regular meeting. Notification of the meeting shall be made 24 hours in advance.

Responsibilities of the Board of Education:

The Board is responsible for establishing the quality of education in the district. As elected officials, they govern the district and are authorized to:

- Defining the philosophy of the district
- Setting goals and objectives to achieve educational progress
- Establishing policies for the operation of the school district
- Evaluating the effectiveness of district programs and services
- Developing a budget consistent with the district's educational needs
- Perform self-evaluations of the effectiveness of the Board
- Employ and evaluate the Superintendent

The Florham Park Board of Education works as a board of committees. Committees shall consist of no more than three board members. Each committee shall be represented by a board member who acts as chairperson and two additional board members. The board president may serve as ex officio member of all committees. The chairperson is charged with making recommendations to the Board and act in an advisory capacity. Committees are not authorized to take action.

Responsibilities of the Superintendent:

The Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Melissa Varley, is employed by the Florham Park Board of Education to carry out policies and administer the district's educational programs. It is her responsibility to advise the Board on all matters and to operate the district so that all students receive an excellent education.

Responsibilities of the Business Administrator:

The district Business Administrator/Board Secretary is directly responsible to the Superintendent for the performance of his duties. The overall role of the SBA/BS is to help achieve the district goals by providing leadership and supervision in the areas of financial and operational management. See Policy 1320.

What happens at an open board meeting?

Open public meetings are governed by statutes of the State of New Jersey, rules of the State Board of Education and by Robert's Rules of Order, and Newly Revised Bylaws and Policies.

This is followed by the **Superintendent's Report** that is informational regarding the current enrollment and HIB report as well as district happenings. This is also the time where administrators may recognize certain accomplishments or make special presentations.

There are two opportunities for public participation. The first is the **Public Comments On Agenda Items**. Then later on in the agenda will be reserved for **Public Comments-Open** for general topics. We welcome your opinion, so please fill out the appropriate sign-up sheet before the meeting. Those who wish to address the Board, upon recognition by the President, shall state their name and address for the record and have the floor for up to three minutes. Unfortunately, this time is not intended for public debate. Questions raised may require further investigation or discussion amongst board members. The Board will need to take action on agenda items.

Committee Reports are typically presented by the chairperson of that specific committee. These reports are presented for the public and the Board's information and require no formal action.

During the **Resolutions** part of the meeting it may appear as if the board is voting on consent or action items with little or no discussion. However, this is not the case as some items may have appeared on a previous agenda or may have been discussed at length during a committee meeting or at a special or executive session. These items are categorized and in the order of committee reports.

Finally, time is allotted for other board discussion during **Old/New Business** followed by any **Correspondence or Communications**.