



June 23, 2026
Board of School Trustees

FCMS - Auditorium
625 Grizzly Cub Drive
Franklin, IN 46131
6:00 PM

1. WATCH MEETING LIVE
You Tube Live Stream

2. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER
 - Pledge of Allegiance

3. **ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Public Comments on any Action Item

Public comments regarding action items are limited to 3 minutes.

There were no public comments.

- B. Resolution for consideration of an operating referendum and a revenue spending plan for Franklin Community Schools

Dr. David Clendening

A motion was made to approve the resolution and spending plan as presented. This motion, made by Brett Jones and seconded by Jennifer Mann, Passed.

Debbie Gill: Yea

Brett Jones: Yea

Jennifer Mann: Yea

Becky Nelson: Yea

David Yount: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Dr. Clendening introduced a proposal for a 2027-2034 operating referendum, which will go before voters in November, imposing a property tax rate that does not exceed \$0.2900 and results in a maximum annual amount that does not exceed \$9,000,000. Since Indiana's property tax caps began in 2009, the district has consistently streamlined operations and maintained competitiveness through 2019. In 2019, we asked the community to collaborate with us and to approve a \$0.23 per \$100 of AV house assessment to help us stay competitive in teacher and support staff salaries and in safety initiatives. Through our partnership with Cummins, we created peer groups that looked like us, and the results showed we were falling behind on salaries

and safety initiatives. Ultimately, the community approved the 2019 referendum, and the district remains deeply grateful for this continued partnership. This partnership has yielded numerous successes across the district, directly benefiting both our students and staff.

Why are we asking for the referendum now? The state legislation and the general assembly changed the law, and referendums can only happen in general election years (2026, 2028, 2030, 2032, etc). So, we have a choice to go earlier so we can continue our program successes. If we wait until 2028, we will see a gap in our resource allocations. We are asking the Board to consider the revenue spending plan as well as the resolution to allow us to move forward with the November election to be put on the ballot, asking the community to partner with us again.

Mr. Ahaus shared why we are choosing \$0.29 in the next operation referendum and what that means for us. One important factor is to look back at the overall tax rate of the district. Efforts were made by the district after the 2019 referendum to bring down the tax rate. In the last 5 years, we have gone from \$1.70 to \$1.23. The HS comes off our debt service after this calendar year. Our current referendum expires at the end of 2027. The goal is to stabilize our cash flow through 2034. The referendum levy would be used on three components: 1) Essential student health and safety initiatives, 2) Supporting and retaining teachers and staff, 3) Managing class sizes, academic programs, and opportunities to meet the learning needs of all students.

Eric Long, with Ice Miller, shared the timing and technical aspects of the resolution that is under consideration. To get on the November 2026 ballot, the legal steps have to be wrapped up by July 31, 2026. The first step is passing the resolution, making a finding regarding the need for the referendum. After the school board considers the resolution and there is a majority vote, the next step is to talk to the county auditor for their certifications on the blank figures in the resolution. The next step will be to run the ballot question by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance for their review.

C. Franklin Cub Academy Logo

Katie Smith

Motion to approve the Franklin Cub Academy logos. This motion, made by Jennifer Mann and seconded by Brett Jones, Passed.

Debbie Gill: Yea

Brett Jones: Yea

Jennifer Mann: Yea

Becky Nelson: Yea

David Yount: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Mrs. Smith requested approval of the Franklin Cub Academy logo with the establishment of 2015.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 pm. This motion, made by Brett Jones and seconded by David Yount, Passed.

Debbie Gill: Yea

Brett Jones: Yea

Jennifer Mann: Yea

Becky Nelson: Yea

David Yount: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

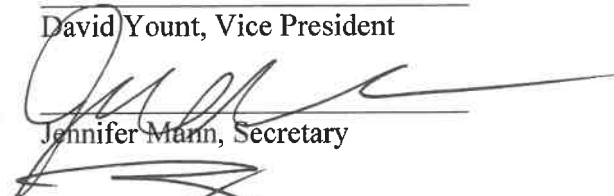
5. 11. I.C. 5-14-9-1

David Yount is an appointed member of the Franklin Community School Corporation Board of School Trustees representing Needham Township appointed by Franklin Community School Board. The date of appointment was January 30, 2025, and the term expires December 31, 2026.

Board of School Trustees


Debbie Gill, President

David Yount, Vice President


Jennifer Mann, Secretary

Brett Jones, Member

Becky Nelson, Member