

Franklin Township Human Relations Commission Meeting

Minutes of June 25th, 2025

Present: Gary Rosenthal, Nora Catiis, E. Poustchi, Councilman Alex Kharazi (on Telephone). Samina Sattar, Diya Patel

Absent: Edna Arguello Hitcher, John Samba, Kamla J. Sharma,

Excused: John Tibbs, Linda Montgomery Williams, Shubhendu Singh, Pete Clark, Elangkathir, Elamaran, Sharon Czebotar

Police: Mathew Russo

Guest: Genese Miles, Franklin High School Principal

Meeting called to order at **7:05 PM**

Due to lack of quorum, meeting was curtailed and Minutes of June 25th will be approved at next meeting.

Guest Report: Mrs. Miles shared some important statistics about Franklin High School, where 2,029 students are currently enrolled. She said the school's main goal is to graduate all students on time, within four years. Right now, they are working on improving the absence rate and increasing the graduation rate. The current graduation rate is ninety-four percent, which is above the state average, but Mrs. Miles believes it can reach a hundred percent. She also shared the school's ethnic breakdown, noting that the largest group is Hispanic, which also has the highest absence rate. Absences have been affected due to new state rules that allow fewer excused absences. Mrs. Miles explained how the school supports new students by giving tours, especially to those coming from different backgrounds and experiences, such as charter schools. She also talked about the small number of students who drop out, but Mrs. Miles keeps in mind that public school isn't the right path for everyone, and some students may do better in other ways of learning.

Other Business: The presentation review and approval by Edna, Pete and Nora of the new HRC brochure was tabled to next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at **7:55 PM**

The next meeting will be on **August 27th**

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary Rosenthal, Chairman acting as Secretary
Diya Patel, Junior Commissioner