

Regular Meeting
Killingly Board of Education
Wednesday, December 13, 2017

MINUTES

Present: Mr. Greg Biggs, Mr. John Burns, Ms. Hoween Flexer, Mr. Steven Gilbert, Mr. Craig Hanford, Ms. Lydia Rivera-Abrams, Dr. Diane Summa, Mr. Christopher Viens. Student Board Members, Terren Allen, Bryce Bentinck. Mr. Jeffrey Buchbinder (absent with notification.)

Others Superintendent, Mr. Steven Rioux, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Paul Brenton
Present: Keely Doyle, Recording Secretary.

1. Call to Order

Ms. Hoween Flexer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call-see above.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Welcome new Board members

Ms. Flexer welcomed new Board members Steven Gilbert and Craig Hanford.

5. Public Comments

Hoween Flexer, 5 Franklin St.

Ms. Flexer congratulated the KHS Football Team for winning the 2017 Class M State Championship. Some players were in attendance, accompanied by Coach, Chad Neal. She added that during the entire football season, team players displayed great sportsmanship, are caring individuals and have represented Killingly Public Schools in a positive manner.

6. Election of Officers

In accordance with BOE by-law 9120, election of board officers, and by-law 9110, terms of office, voting for officers are by written ballot, as required by statute and by-law.

6.A. Election of Chairperson and

6.B Vice Chair of the Killingly Board of Education

Dr. Summa, nominated Mr. John Burns as Chairperson of the Killingly Board of Education, seconded by Ms. Rivera-Abrams.

MOTION: by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Viens to close nominations.

Mr. Burns, nominated Dr. Diane Summa as Vice Chairperson of the Killingly Board of Education, seconded by Ms. Rivera-Abrams.

MOTION: by Mr. Hanford, seconded by Mr. Gilbert to close nominations.

Voting was done by written ballot.

Mr. John Burns received 9 YES votes to fill the role as Chairperson of the Killingly Board of Education.

Dr. Diane Summa received 8 YES votes and 1 Abstention to fill the role of Vice Chair of the Killingly Board of Education.

As of December 13, 2017 Mr. John Burns is the Chairperson of the Killingly Board of Education and Dr. Diane Summa is Vice Chair of the Killingly Board of Education.

MOTION: by Dr. Summa, seconded by Mr. Biggs to add to the agenda, item #7, Recognition of Visitors, Recognition of the KHS Football Team.

Unanimous 8-0

Motion Carries

7. Recognition of Visitors

7.A. November 2017 Employees of the Month- Eric Bryant and Mark Hurd were publically recognized by the Board as November 2017 employees of the month. Fran Lagace nominated them for doing outstanding work in training Physical Management Techniques (PMT) to staff in-district over the past 13 years.

7.B. Student Recipients of the 2017 CAPSS Award- The Board congratulated students who were given the 2017 CAPSS Superintendent's Student Award. The program was instituted in 1986 by the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents to recognize students who demonstrate academic success, school leadership and service to others, thus making them role models for other students. Each school system in the state is allowed to present one award for every 250 students. This years recipients are: Evan Kozey and Cheyenne Reynolds from KMS, Couper Jackson and Alyssah Yater from KIS, and Julie Trafaconda and Zachary Schena from KHS.

Mr. Chad Neal, KHS Football Coach, spoke very highly of all members on the KHS Football Team. He announced that the football team had 13 wins and 0 losses this year and that Killingly was the only undefeated football team in the State. In addition, Killingly has not had an undefeated season since 1953. The KHS football team ranked #5 in the State Media poll. Mr. Neal thanked the football players for all their hard work and thanked everyone for all their support. Spencer Lockwood, KHS senior, received Connecticut's Gatorade Player of the Year.

Terren Allen also thanked and congratulated members of the football team.

7.C. Student Participation at FFA Convention

Vocational Agriculture Teacher, Mr. Ken Couture introduced students who participated in the 90th National FFA Convention. Students participated in workshops, convention sessions and career exploration. The Killingly chapter representatives who attended were: Jenna McCauley, Amanda Cicchetti, Mackenzie Coffey, Alexis Gavitt, Mary Jordan, Anastasia Salisbury, Julia Trafaconda and

Blake Wolanin, Megan Graham, Aeron Sampson and Jamison Mills were accepted to perform in the National FFA Band from 300 auditions. Rebecca Andre-Perry and Kristin Morneau, 2016 KHS graduates, received their American FFA degree. Nicholas Perreault, a 2017 graduate was named the National winner of the Specialty Animal Production, Entrepreneurship/Placement Proficiency Award.

8. Report of Town Council Liaison

Town Council Liaison Alternate, Jason Anderson, said the Town Council made an amendment to the cell phone tower lease.

9. Report by Killingly High School Student Board Members

On December 20 and 21, KCS kindergarteners will perform a holiday concert from 9:30 to 10 a.m. There will be a holiday assembly on December 21 presented by grade 2 at KMS.

At KIS, 7th and 8th grade students are performing a winter concert tonight. The grade 6 concert will be on December 19th. The Vocational Agricultural department held their annual Holiday Shopping Night on December 1 with over 60 vendors. It was very successful and well attended. KHS will be having their winter assemblies on December 13 & 14. KHS winter concert is on December 14 at 7:00 p.m., \$5.00 donation. The KHS Alumni Concert and reception is on Friday, December 15th from 7:00-10:00 p.m.

10. Superintendent Report

10.A. General Updates

Mr. Rioux acknowledge and thanked Mr. Peter Gerardi (not in attendance) for all his efforts in helping to facilitate the celebration and entourage buses for the KHS Football Team. Mr. Rioux also thanked members of the community, the fire departments and the State Troopers for their support and services.

Mr. Rioux reiterated that Killingly still has not received any Alliance grant funds nor have any applications or guidelines been received but he is hopeful that information and confirmation will be received by the new calendar year. On January 17th. CABE will be hosting an “Alliance Districts” roundtable discussion for board members and superintendents.

Mr. Rioux stated that he will be available to the public on December 19th for a “coffee chat” from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m at Central Office on Westfield Ave.

He anticipates this will be a monthly opportunity for members of the community to engage in one to one conversation.

10.B. Pupil Personal Services (PPS) Update/Report

Mr. Fran Lagace, PPS Director, Marcia Griffiths-Farquhar, Assistant PPS Director and Eileen Baker, KPS Hearing Impaired teacher gave an update for the PPS department. The report included district data and program updates.

Mr. Lagace explained how students are identified and serviced. The main goal is to integrate and mainstream students back into district.

The Board was provided data in regards to IEP's by building, IEPs by grade and IEP trends by categorized disabilities. Killingly's prevalence rates are comparable to other districts in our DRG. Eileen Baker, KPS Hearing Impaired Teacher currently serves seven hearing impaired students and travels to all five schools within the Killingly district. Mrs. Baker monitors students who transition back to the district. She also is an interpreter for bilingual families and consults with building staff on audio-logical support for all students. Eileen explained that the students she works with are progressing exceedingly well.

EASTCONN Northeast Regional Program (NRP) is now in its second year at the Westfield Ave. location. Special Education Director Eric Protuis and Amy Margelony, Assistant Director of Special

Services gave a summary of the program. NRP provides and addresses mental health and trauma based needs of students. NRP staff teach students how to self-regulate and critical thinking skills. NRP currently serves 79 students, 46 are Killingly students, and the remaining students are sent from twelve other districts. In January, six Killingly students are anticipated to transition back to district. Thus far, all students who have transitioned back to district have been very successful in their academic studies. NRP also provides vocational training and has partnered with ten different employers. NRP provides clinical supports, and consults with EASTCONN's Psychological and Psychiatric services division. The Killingly/EASTCONN/NRP partnership has been very successful.

11. Report by BoE Chair and Sub-Committee Chairs

Board Chair, Mr. John Burns stated he would like to have every BoE meeting televised for transparency sake, especially upcoming budget meetings. There was brief discussion regarding the location of Fiscal Committee Meetings of the Whole. Mr. Burns assured board members that meetings will be at least videotaped for airing. He asked board members to contact Keely if they wish to receive hardcopy packets of board meeting material.

11.A. Discussion of Sub-Committee and Liaison Assignments

Mr. Burns distributed a list of board sub-committees, and liaison commissions to board members. He asked board members to send him, via email, by December 19th their preferences they wish to serve on. Mr. Burns will review all preferences with Dr. Summa. Mr. Burns said that the existing schedule of meetings may be revised to accommodate board members availability. Ms. Flexer verbally corrected the list and stated that the Fiscal Sub-Committee are held on second Tuesday of the month. Mr. Burns shared that Town Council members are inquiring about a formal celebration or an event to acknowledge the KHS Football team winning the CIAC Class M championship. Mr. Rioux will confer with Mr. Hendricks about this.

11.B. Discussion of Board of Education Retreat

Mr. Burns said he would like to schedule a board retreat soon and as in the past, the retreat will probably take place on a Saturday and he anticipates securing a facilitator for the retreat. Hoween asked if board members could suggest topics for the retreat.

11.C. Community Engagement Sub-Committee

Ms. Rivera Abrams stated that the committee met on November 29th. They discussed to updating a video on the Town's website. It was suggested that the video include information about the new Go Math program and include Mr. Rioux. A new video project is on hold due to a \$5,000 expense. The committee will explore the possibility of using grant funds to cover the expense. A press release, regarding student accolades earned at the Annual National Convention was sent to WINY radio station. Members of the Attendance Task Force, initiated by the NECC, will assess what impact the attendance initiative has had on parents.

11.D. Curriculum Sub-Committee

Mr. Chris Viens stated that the committee has not met since October 17, 2017.

11.E. Facilities Sub-Committee

Mr. Burns said the committee will be meet in January but the exact date is not yet determined.

11.F. Fiscal Sub-Committee

11.F.I. November 2017 Financial Reports

Ms. Flexer said the fiscal sub-committee met on December 12th. As of November 30th, Teachers' Salaries accounts shows approximate 200K surplus but this will change due to staff

replacements for FMLA leave of absences. Expenditures for local and agency placement tuition is running higher than expected but excess cost reimbursement will be available. In addition, Ms. Flexer explained that we should ensure that any supplemental appropriation to be considered at Town meeting be sufficient to fully appropriate the \$43,197,374 BoE 2017-18 budget.

11.G. Personnel Sub-Committee

11.G.I. Approval of New/Revised Positions

Dr. Diane Summa said that the sub-committee met on Nov. 28th. The committee reviewed and approved bringing forward to the full board, the superintendent's request for three new/revised positions.

11.G.I.1. Approval of Board Certified Behavioral Analyst (BCBA) Position.

The cost related to this position is provided through three grants.

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Gilbert that the Board Approve the Board Certified Behavioral Analyst (BCBA) Position as presented.
Yes-8
No-0
Motion Carries

11.G.I.2. Approval of KCS Clinician Position

There have been no applicants to fill the Psychologist vacant position. The position was vacated by due to a staff member retiring on 10/29/17. The position, because of how it is classified, has been hard to fill. By restructuring the title of the position, it will broaden the pool of applicants. The salary of this position is already in the budget, therefore no additional cost will ensue.

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer seconded by Mr. Gilbert that the board approve the KCS clinician position as presented.
Yes-8
No-0
Motion Carries

11.G.I.3. Approval of Before and After School Childcare coordinator position.

This proposed position would have zero impact on the budget.

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Dr. Summa that the Board approve the Before and After School Childcare coordinator position as presented.
Yes 7-0
No-1
Motion Carries

11.H. Policy Sub-Committee

The sub-committee did not meet due to lack of quorum.

12. Consent Agenda

Ms. Rivera-Abrams asked to take off from the consent items, 12.C., Nov. 8, 2017 BOE meeting minutes.

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Gilbert that the Board approve consent items;
12.A December 2017 EOM Nomination
12.B December 1 2017 Student Enrollment
12.D November 29 2107 BOE Meeting Minutes
12.E November 2017 Issued Checks
Unanimous 8-0
Motion Carries

Ms. Rivera-Abrams asked to have the Nov. 8, 2017 BOE minutes include the *KHS backpack initiative. The backpack initiative started this year, under the direction of Mrs. Karen Lagace. The program provides food/snacks/drinks placed in backpacks and is designed to provide anonymity to those who receive backpacks. Currently 40 to 50 families are provided backpacks. The program is very successful.

Ms. Rivera-Abrams also inquired about adding “new business” to board agendas.

MOTION: by Ms. Rivera-Abrams, seconded by Ms. Flexer to amend the November 8, 2017 board meeting minutes to include the above *information.
Unanimous 8-0
Motion Carries

13. Adjournment

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Dr. Summa to adjourn at 10:22 p.m.
Unanimous 8-0
Motion Carries

Respectfully submitted by,
Keely Doyle
Recording Secretary