

## **Regular Meeting**

### **KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Wednesday, January 10, 2018**

### **MINUTES**

**Present:** Mr. Greg Biggs, Mr. Jeffrey Buchbinder, Mr. John Burns, Ms. Lydia Rivera-Abrams, Mr. Christopher Viens. Student Board member, Bryce Bentinck.  
Absent with Notification- Dr. Diane Summa, Mr. Craig Hanford and Ms. Hoween Flexer.

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

**1. Call to Order-**Mr. John Burns called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**2. Roll Call-**see above.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Public Comments-**None

**5. Recognition of Visitors**

**5.A.** The Board recognized and congratulated Sara Lenoir, a special education paraprofessional at Killingly Memorial School as December 2017 Employee of the Month.

**6. Report of Town Council Liaison**

Mr. John Cesolini shared that the town council approved two agreements with the proposed power plant that could result in substantial tax revenue. Town council members will be holding a special goal-setting meeting on Saturday, January 13th. Town council members would like to meet with board of education members soon. Mr. Burns informed Mr. Cesolini that the Board of Education will be starting their fiscal budget meetings in February and invited town council members to attend. The budget meetings will be televised and/or taped. Locations of the meetings will be determined. Mr. Burns asked that town council move quickly to resolve the 2017-18 shortfall in the appropriated board of education budget. The shortfall is a direct result of the State's final budget.

**7. Report by Killingly High School Student Board Members**

KCS will hold a pre-k to kindergarten Transition Night on January 22, at 5:30 pm. KIS will be performing a grade 5 concert on January 11, at 7:00 pm. KIS will have a grade 7 & 8 dance on January 26th. KHS midterms begin next Thursday, January 18th through January 23rd. A GoFundMe page has been created to help fund rings for the KHS football team.

**8. Superintendent Report**

**8.A.** Discussion of District Updates

Mr. Steven Rioux invited Board members to accompany him to CABA's Alliance District Roundtable Discussion. It will be held in Wethersfield on January 17th from 9:00-11:00 a.m.

A Legislative Breakfast will be held at the Brooklyn Middle School on January 22nd. Mr. Rioux expressed the importance of board members attending and that this is an opportunity for board members to have conversations with legislators regarding their educational and funding concerns.

The parade and bonfire for the KHS State Class M Football Championship was canceled due to the extreme cold temperatures. Mr. Rioux and Town Manager, Sean Hendricks are entertaining the idea of celebrating the championship during the Killingly Springtime Festival.

#### **8.B. Killingly Memorial School Report**

Mrs. Tina Chahanovich, principal at Killingly Memorial School talked about the Readers and Writers Workshop and GO Math educational programs serving students at KMS.

Reader and Writers' Workshop Model was implemented several years ago at the elementary schools. During the summer, professional development is offered at EASTCONN's Teachers' College, including Units of Study.

KPS has trained reading and writing workshop coaches in district. Reading and writing class time is 60 minutes per day, per subject. Teachers meet with students in very small groups and give 5-10 minutes mini lessons to guide students. Components of the model program include independent reading, read-aloud, student sharing time, mid-workshop teaching points, and wrap-ups/reflection. Go Math-enables students to drive the learning process and become more comfortable with math thinking skills. Students share new learning with other students and explain answers to math problem. Students have access to online assistance, math assignments and lessons based on GoMath content. Math time for students consist of 75 minutes per day.

Mrs. Chahanovich stated that KMS teachers send home, step-by-step lessons and teachers, when asked, have and will continue to help parents learn modern strategies.

Mrs. Chahanovich shared that teachers do not prepare students just for spring testing, but prepare them to be life long learners. Teachers continually help students to become more comfortable with computer skills. A rigorous approach in reading, writing and math is focused on everyday throughout the entire school year. Mr. Rioux added that the learning pace is quicker and grades 2, 3 and 4 and math scores tend to be higher in those grades.

#### **8.C. Alliance Grant Update**

Mr. Rioux emphasized that the anticipated \$328,769 in Alliance monies is to supplant the general education appropriated budget, but is to go towards supporting initiatives that impact student improvement and district operations. The Next Generation Accountability Report for the 2016-17 school year should be out next month. The report includes many indicators in which a district is rated. Some indicators are: student growth measures in science, math and ELA, graduation rates, student accessibility to the arts, absenteeism rates, physical fitness, postsecondary entrances, 4 and 6-year graduation rates. The state sets a target score in all the indicators.

#### **8.D. NESDEC Enrollment Projections**

Mr. Rioux shared that district enrollment should remain stable.

It was asked if Killingly is in alignment with other districts for *choiced-in* and *choiced-out* students. Ms. Rivera-Abrams inquired about any impact that may have resulted from the revised alternative meal policy. Mr. Rioux will share the data at a future board meeting.

#### **9. Reports by BoE Chair and Sub-Committee Chairs**

Mr. John Burns read aloud Steven Gilbert's resignation. The KRTC has been informed and will forward their recommendation to the board in a few weeks.

#### **9.A. Discussion of Sub-Committee Assignments**

Mr. Burns asked committee members to inform Ms. Doyle of updates regarding dates and times of future sub-committee meetings.

**9.B. Discussion of Board of Education Retreat**

Mr. John Burns presented some options regarding a board retreat and board professional development. CAGE's Mr. Nick Caruso, will be the facilitator.

Mr. Viens asked to keep 7:00 as the start time for those meetings. Ms. Rivera-Abrams suggested a more informal setting for a "retreat."

**9.C. Community Engagement Sub-Committee-** Ms. Lydia-Rivera Abrams stated that there was no meeting on the Dec. 21st and therefore, no report at this time.

**9.D. Curriculum Sub-Committee-** Mr. Chris Viens said the next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 16th.

**9.E. Facilities Sub-Committee**

Mr. John Burns stated the committee met earlier in the evening and many items were discussed including on-going KMS, and KCS and GECC, roof and window projects, ADA compliance, underground tank replacement. KCS parent/teacher organization is taking procedural steps in making improvements to the playground at KCS. No recommendations to the full board at this time.

**9.F. Fiscal Sub-Committee-** Mr. Burns announced that the fiscal sub-committee met on January 9th, and elected Diane Summa as chair of that sub-committee.

**9.F.I. December 2017 Financial Reports**

Mrs. Christine Cark summarized by saying that this is the halfway point of the fiscal year, and most budget accounts are at expected levels. Teachers' salaries show an approximate \$250,000 surplus. Remaining vacancies and staff returning from FMLA may impact the anticipated surplus. A draft of the financial audit is expected in January. Upon confirmation of the unexpended balance, the Town Council can consider transferring \$414,937 into the Unexpended Education Funds account. Placement tuition including local and outplacements expenditures and encumbrances exceed their line items budgets at this time, but with excess cost reimbursement and a 75% funding estimate should reduce those deficits.

**9.F.II. Approval of Transfer**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Buchbinder, seconded by Mr. Biggs to approve the \$68,250.00 transfer as presented.

**5-0 Unanimous**

**Motion Carries**

**9.G. Personnel Sub-Committee**

Mr. Burns informed the Board that the paraprofessional union will start arbitration in March.

**9.H. Policy Sub-Committee**

Mr. Buchbinder stated that they have not met this year but a policy sub-committee meeting will probably be held on January 17th to elect a chair and discuss results of CAGE's policy audit.

**9.I. Advisory Updates as Needed-** No Updates.

## **10. Consent Agenda**

Mr. Buchbinder asked to remove consent item 10.C., December 13, 2017 BOE Meeting Minutes from the consent agenda because he was not in attendance at that meeting, therefore he cannot participate in the vote.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Buchbinder, seconded by Mr. Biggs to approve consent items:  
10.A January 2018 EOM Nomination  
10.B January 2 2018 Student Enrollment  
10.D December 2017 Issued Checks  
**5-0 Unanimous**  
**Motion Carries**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Viens to approve consent item  
10.C December 13, 2017 BOE Meeting minutes with a spelling  
correction to Mr. Biggs' first name on page 1.  
**4- Yes**  
**1-Abstain (Mr. Buchbinder)**  
**Motion Carries**

## **11. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Buchbinder, seconded by Mr. Biggs to adjourn at 8:55 pm  
**5-0 Unanimous**  
**Motion Carries**

Respectfully submitted by,  
*Keely Doyle*  
Recording Secretary