

Regular Meeting

KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

7:00 PM

Town Hall, 172 Main Street

MINUTES

Present: Mr. Doug Farrow, Mr. Greg Biggs, Mr. Norm Ferron, Ms. Hoween Flexer, Mr. Jason Muscara, Mr. Kyle Napierata, Ms. Lydia Rivera-Abrams, Mr. Christopher Viens.

Absent with Notification: Ms. Janice Joly.

Others

Present: Superintendent Robert Angeli, Ms. Christine Clark, Business Manager, Ms. Jennifer Thompson, Recording Secretary.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Doug Farrow called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL** – See above
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
 - Jason Anderson – Appreciates the paraprofessionals and the work they do. Supports fair wages for doing the difficult position. Understands the struggle of lower paying jobs. Please remember there is a confidentiality contract in place, and by going to social media, there is a disservice to both sides.
 - Norm Ferron – Wished the paraprofessionals had spoken to the appropriate people which is the subcommittee. The board is in support of the paraprofessionals and the work they do. The whole board doesn't have a say in the negotiations.
 - Kyle Napierata – The board has not walked away from the table. The full board doesn't have all the information, and there is a process that needs to be followed. The full board is in support of the paraprofessionals.
5. **RECOGNITION OF VISITORS** – October 2021 Employees of the Month
 - Jen Adams and Nancy Schofield – KHS school nurses. They are the one caring adult for many students at KHS. The positive impact is felt by everyone. They have worked tirelessly and endlessly to keep KPS healthy.

6. REPORT BY STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

- GECC
 - Group reading sessions with a focus on communication. Some books include *There was an Old Lady* and *Letter Factory*. Pumpkin life cycle is the focus for science
- KHS
 - *Grab and Go* lunches for after school activities for kids to take. Taco Tuesday is a HUGE hit.
 - TSA – leadership conference on 11/3
 - Music – Cabaret this past Saturday at Owen Bell, proceeds for Disney trip
 - Senior nights will be happening over the next couple of days.
 - SAT prep day today

7. KILLINGLY HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE/REPORT

- Ms. Geary states staff and students are grateful to be back in person.
- Three main skills for students – RED (Responsibility, Excellence, and Dedication)
- KHS Focus Area #1 – Social and Emotional Learning (SEL): One Caring Adult
 - Each student will have one person in the building they can trust and go to when having a hard time. Surveys will be given to students and staff as a measurement tool. To help with the shift of full in person learning, the High School has used the following to help with mental health issues in the building: counselor on call in the center providing additional clinical support via ARP ESSER, with a focus on trauma informed training. They are exploring a school based mental health center, and will be asking the Board for support and approval. Teachers will continue to support students by focusing on relationships first, strengthen assessments, and differentiating instruction and using the acceleration strategies.
- KHS Focus Area #2 – Proficiency Based Learning Curricular Revisions
 - Each department has identified their curriculum goals for the year. Department chairs and administration have met to identify proficiency statements and priority standards for all classes. Next each department will look at what assessments will be used to assess student mastery. The next steps will be to take the 5 elements of the profile graduate to the priority standards. The question was raised by the Board if this work starts over each year, or is it building on previously done work.

8. BOARD CHAIR AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

8.1. Curriculum Subcommittee has not met yet.

8.2. Facilities Subcommittee has not met yet.

8.3. Fiscal Subcommittee did not meet.

8.4. Personnel Subcommittee:

8.4.1. Possible Recommendation of 3 Sick Bank Requests. Subcommittee met prior to meeting to discuss, and the subcommittee is bringing it to the full board for approval.

MOTION: To approve the sick bank request for two employees for up to 30 days each made by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Biggs.

Motion passes unanimously: 8-0.

8.4.2. Still in negotiations with the paraprofessionals, nurses and KAA.

8.5. Policy Subcommittee has not met yet waiting on policies from Central Office to review.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

9.1. Update on GECC

- Water leak at Goodyear that saturated walls in room 8 came from the utility closet next door due to an improperly sealed drain in the floor. Mold was discovered, and remediation occurred last week and up to today. Test results are good- mold spores are down in the building. We can re-open Goodyear tomorrow with staff and students on Friday. Construction will not disrupt education. Attendance rates for virtual learning was requested. It was asked how often the building is inspected for leaks.

9.2. Update on Transportation

- Another COVID case in the transportation department today. Have not been able to run all the busses. Daily email and if needed a Thrill Share call in the morning with updates are sent to parents/guardians. Five busses are currently not running. Question that has been asked: Can runs be combined? Where possible, based on maximum capacity which is 3 students per seat. Other options explored include communal drop off location, with hold KIS and KHS busses and let them be remote, and send to KMS and KCS- it's a timing issue and bus times can't be moved. Could you run a late bus and get the students there later? This still leaves issues at end of the day, and impact contracted hours. Report of attendance for those who have been impacted by transportation was prepared by the superintendent. 550 students impacted by the bus issues. Worst day had 35 absent students and the best day had 2 absent students.
- Exploring KIS access so more parents are on school grounds and not on Upper Maple. Looking at other access points for cars and busses. Have met with Town Manager, DPW foreman, Mr. Vasser and Superintendent. Emergency access road? Second officer to help with dismissal. Will need to test with busses to make the swing and not have to back up.

9.3. September 2021 Monthly Financial Report

- No accounts are of concern.
- Surplus from budget in salaries currently.

9.4. 1st Quarter 2021-22 Projected Revenues and Expenditure

- Revue to exceed the budget- higher than expected Brooklyn enrollment
- Special ed under budget by about \$400k

10. CONSENT AGENDA

10.A. October 13 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

Ms. Rivera-Abrams requested 10.1 be pulled from the consent agenda.

MOTION: to requested the additional language on page 4 language on superintendent reason \$38,000 was spent on the KIS phone project was because the wires were cut accidentally, and include language reflecting the question being asked how many of the new windows at KMS will be impacted by the new project.

made by Ms. Rivera Abrams, seconded by Mr. Biggs.

MOTION TO AMEND: requested language on phone project remains, and new windows impacted by new project to reflect it cannot be determined yet.

made by Ms. Rivera-Abrams, seconded by Mr. Biggs

Motion passes unanimously: 8-0

MOTION: to approve 10.A with edits
made by Ms. Rivera-Abrams, seconded by Mr. Biggs.
Motion passes unanimously: 8-0

MOTION: to approve 10.B through 10.D of the consent agenda.
made by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Ms. Flexer.
Motion passes unanimously: 8-0

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: to adjourn
made by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Napierata
Motion passes unanimously: 8-0

The October 27, 2021 Killingly Board of Education meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Jennifer Thompson
Recording Secretary