

Regular Meeting
KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Wednesday, March 8, 2023
7:00 PM
Killingly Town Hall, 172 Main St.
2nd Floor, Town Hall Community Meeting Room

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Ferron called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
Ms. Martin lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. ROLL CALL

On roll call, Board members Laura Dombkowski, Norm Ferron, Kelly Martin, Jason Muscara, Kyle Napierata, and Lydia Rivera-Abrams were present. Jennifer Hegedus, Susan Lannon, and Christopher Viens were absent with notification.

Also present were Asst. Superintendent Dr. Nash-Ditzel, Manager of Business Affairs Christine Clark, Student Board Members Connor Thompson and Julie Carver and Secretary Buzalski.
Town Council Representative Michelle Murphy.

3. REPORT BY STUDENT BOARD MEMBER

Student Board members Thompson and Carver gave the Board an update on school activities.
Chairman Ferron excused the Student Board Members at 7:07 p.m.

4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

A. Member Representatives of FOLK (Friends of Learning in Killingly)

Committee Chair Janice Ahola-Sidaway congratulated this year's grant recipients: Christina Stravato of Goodyear Early Childhood Center; Ellen Huie of Killingly Central School; Lauren Konicki, Carol Records, Lisa Siegmund, and Erin Sochor of Killingly Memorial School; teaching team Mike Morrill, Pam Ames, and Mike Eddy of Killingly Intermediate School; and Jim Hutson of Killingly High School.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Alan, Griswold

6. TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT – no report.

7. BOARD CHAIR AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

- A.** Curriculum Committee – a meeting is scheduled for 3/15 at 5 p.m.
- B.** Facilities Committee – the 2023-2028 Capital Improvement Plan will be discussed in agenda item 8.
- C.** Fiscal Committee – the Superintendent's Recommended Decision Packages and the 2023-2024 Operating Budget will be discussed in agenda items 9 and 10 respectively.
- D.** Personnel Committee – the meeting was postponed until 3/16 at 4 p.m.
- E.** Policy Committee – will be scheduling a meeting to discuss discipline plans and Zoom meeting rules.

- F. Ad Hoc Committee (Alternative Options to SBHC) = Ms. Dombkowski reported that the Committee had a presentation by Community Health Resources on February 23, and will have a presentation by Silver Linings Counseling, LLC on March 9.

8. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF 2023-2028 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Dr. Nash-Ditzel presented the plan and responded to Board member questions and comments.

Mr. Muscara made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dombkowski, to accept the Capital Improvement Plan as presented. Discussion followed. Mr. Muscara moved the question. Voice vote: Majority for, Ms. Rivera-Abrams against. Motion passed, 5-1.

9. DISCUSSION, REVIEW OF SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDED DECISION PACKAGES

Dr. Nash-Ditzel presented four Superintendent's recommended decision packages. The four decision packages were: School Psychologist=\$92,503, Business Office Assistant=\$100,000, .55 Family Consumer Science Position=\$59,052, and .5 GECC custodian =\$25,675.00.

10. REVIEW AND ACTION OF THE 2023-24 OPERATING BUDGET

Dr. Nash-Ditzel presented the 2023-24 Operating Budget reflecting 6 different options. After review of all options, the board opted for Option #3. Summary of Option #3:

Preliminary budget= \$48,655,933 (8.05% increase);

Reductions-pre-spending, grants and retirements= \$1,515,813;

First Round position cuts= \$613,254;

Four decision packages =(\$278,252)

This would equate to an Operating Budget of \$46,805,118 (3.94% increase.)

Ms. Rivera-Abrams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Napierata, to approve the 2023-24 Operating Budget utilizing Option 3. Voice vote: Unanimous. Motion passed.

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

- A. Board Appreciation Month – Dr. Nash-Ditzel thanked the Board Members and presented them with plant bowls made by our Vo-Ag students.
- B. Cognitive Engagement – Dr. Nash-Ditzel explained how cognitive engagement programs and strategies are being used to enhance learning.

12. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. February 22, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
 - B. March 1, 2023 Student Enrollment
 - C. Employee of the Month Nominee
 - D. World Robotics Championship Trip Request to Dallas TX
- Mr. Muscara pulled agenda item 12D.

Mr. Muscara made a motion, seconded by Mr. Napierata, to accept the consent agenda as presented. Voice vote: Unanimous. Motion passed.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Muscara made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dombpowski to adjourn the meeting.

Voice vote: Unanimous. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Buzalski

Recording Secretary

The votes of each member shall be made available within forty-eight hours and the minutes shall be made available within seven days. Copies are available at the Central Office, 79 Westfield Ave.

Minutes and a video recording of this meeting can be found at
<https://www.killinglyschools.org/about-us/board-of-education>
