

## **Regular Meeting**

### **KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Wednesday, September 8, 2021**

**7:00 PM**

**Town Hall, 172 Main Street**

### **MINUTES**

**Present:** Mr. Doug Farrow, Mr. Norm Ferron, Ms. Janice Joly, Mr. Jason Muscara, Mr. Kyle Napierata, Ms. Lydia Rivera-Abrams, Mr. Greg Biggs, Mr. Chris Viens (late with notification.)

**Via Zoom:** Mr. Chris Viens (late, joined at 8:26 p.m.)  
Absent with Notification: Ms. Hoween Flexer.

#### **Others**

**Present:** Superintendent, Mr. Robert Angeli, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Sue Nash-Ditzel, Recording Secretary, Ms. Jennifer Thompson

**1. CALL TO ORDER-** Mr. Doug Farrow called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL-**see above

#### **3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Nicola Able of the KEA spoke in support for the paras in their current negotiations and their hope for an increase in the salary scales and a fair settlement

Monique Revellese a parent, resident, and former para spoke in support of the current para negotiations and expressed what it is that paras provide the district and then compared Killingly to surrounding towns for salaries.

Michelle Pion a parent, resident, and current para expressed her concern for the number of paras leaving for surrounding towns due to the pay.

Hailee Blanchard a parent and resident, and current para expressed her concern regarding para leaving and how are they suppose to support the children with the lack of paras in the district.

Karen Greene a resident and seventeen-year para is upset about negotiation impasse. They are being asked to sub for teachers leaving gaps in their roles and responsibilities. They are simply asking for a living wage toe restore the numbers of paras in the district and ultimately the reputation of the Board for supporting their employees.

Margaret Coogan Shuckerow a para spoke of how she uses her own money to buy supplies for the students. She reminded the Board many of them have more than a high school diploma. She asked when would the Board start to take them seriously, and asked what are the kids of Killingly worth?

## **5. RECOGNITIONS OF VISITORS**

### **5.A Introduction of New Administrators and Supervisors- Bob Angeli**

Superintendent Angeli introduced the following people in their new roles:  
Dr. Sue Nash- Ditzel- Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction  
Ms. Kathryn Cote- Director of Pupil Services  
Ms. Tracey Dedonato- KIS Principal  
Ms. Meredith Tukey- KIS Assistant Principal  
Mr. Joseph “JB” Boulanger- Director of Transportation  
Mr. Christian Iamartino - Information and Technology Supervisor

### **5.B KPS 2021-22 Teacher of the Year, Mr. Mike Morrill**

Mr. Morrill began his teaching career as long-term sub in August 2015, and then was hired as a contract science/STEM teacher at KIS. He advocates for students in leadership roles and manages his classroom with a focus on academic and personal success especially when it comes to the social and emotional learning of his students.

### **5.C KPS 2021-22 Paraprofessional of the Year, Ms. Ashley Steele**

Ms. Steele is a well-respected member of the KMS staff and seen as a natural leader. She builds strong relationships and connects with her students especially those with challenging learning and behavioral needs.

## **6. TOWN COUNCIL LIASON REPORT**

Mr. Anderson provided an updated about initiatives and actions the Town Council has taken in July and August- including approving easements, natural gas line with Yankee Gas for KHS, beginning paving projects, and approving a lighting ordinance. He also reminded the BOE about the MOU with the Town Council regarding Westfield Ave. There was discussion about the project and the increase in the cost of the project since last time due to building supply cost increase. Originally quoted at \$17M and now approximately \$27M.

## **7. REPORT OF STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS**

KHS- Music Open House 9/10 from 5:00-7:30 p.m.  
FFA trip to Big E on 9/18  
Class Officer elections were elected on 9/8- congrats to all the winners

KIS- Open House 9/9 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

KMS- Open House was 9/1 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30p.m  
Parent Teacher Conferences 11/22 and 11/23

KCS- Open House was 8/24

Goodyear- Play and Learn Groups on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month for ages birth to three 1:30-2:30  
Coffee and Conversation Zoom Call for parent outreach 10/28 from 9:30 a.m. - 10:15a.m.

**MOTION:** by Ms. Rivera-Abrams, seconded by Ms. Joly to move item 10F Report of 2020-2021 state assessments to next item on agenda.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Muscara to amend the motion to move item 10F to item # 9 on the agenda  
**YES- 5**  
**NO- 2 (Ms. Rivera-Abrams and Ms. Joly)**  
**Motion Carries**

## **8. ACTION ITEMS**

### **8.A DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF FIELD TRIP REQUEST FROM R. POND, VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL DEPT. TO EQUINE EASTERN STATES EXPO**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Muscara, seconded by Mr. Biggs to approve field trip request to Equine Eastern States Expo  
**YES- 7, Unanimous**  
**Motion Carries**

### **8.B DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF FIELD TRIP REQUEST FROM C. CARDINAL, TO BIG E EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION FOR FFA CHAPTER**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Muscara, seconded by Ms. Jolly to approve field trip request to Big E States Exposition for FFA Chapter  
**YES- 7, Unanimous**  
**Motion Carries**

### **8.C DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF FIELD TRIP REQUEST FROM D. DURAND, FOR THE BROADCAST JOURNALISM CLASS TO THE STUDENT TELEVISION NETWORK CONVENTION IN LONG BEACH CALIFORNIA**

Mr. Durand explained the purpose of the trip and the educational benefits it would provide for Killingly students. The Board asked to see the video created at the conference.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Ferron, seconded by Mr. Biggs to approve field trip request to Student Television Convention in Long Beach, CA  
**YES- 7, Unanimous**  
**Motion Carries**

### **8.D DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF FIELD TRIP REQUESTION FROM J. ETHIER AND M. CARNAROLI FOR THE KHS MUSIC DEPT TO DISNEY IN ORLANDO, FL, FOR MUSIC WORKSHOPS**

Mr. Ethier explained this trip was originally scheduled for April of 2019 and was subsequently cancelled. The symphonic band and chorus reauditioned and were selected to attend in April of 2022. He went on to explain what the students would experience from the trip. Ms. Rivera- Abrams expressed concern over a trip to FL due to their COVID positivity numbers.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Ferron, seconded by Mr. Biggs to approve field trip request to Disney in Orlando, FL  
**YES- 6**  
**NO- 0**  
**Abstain- 1 Ms. Rivera-Abrams**  
**Motion Carries**

## **8.E DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF FIELD TRIP REQUEST FROM J. ETHIER FOR KHS MARCHING BAND TO BIG E FOR OPENING DAY PARADE**

Mr. Ethier explained the marching band would be participating in the opening day parade, which is an annual tradition for the marching band. He also explained all of the COVID precautions for participating at the BIG E have been implemented.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Muscara to approve field trip request to Big E for Marching Band  
**YES- 7, Unanimous**  
**Motion Carries**

## **8.F DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF FIELD TRIP REQUEST FROM D. ROLLINSON FOR KHS FRENCH CLUB TO QUEBEC CITY, CANADA**

Mr. Rollinson explained the students would be able to speak the language in a natural setting versus just in the classroom with him and other students. He also explained what was required to enter Canada during this time.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Napierata to approve field trip request to Quebec City, Canada for French Club  
**YES- 7, Unanimous**  
**Motion Carries**

## **10.F REPORT OF 2020-2021 STATE ASSESSMENT RESULTS**

Dr. Nash presented on the State Assessments (SBAC, NGSS, and School SAT Day). She reminded the Board the numbers would represent children educated in the hybrid model. For students who participated in full remote learning, they were reported separately and not included in these numbers. In this assessment period, our highest need students saw significant gains scoring above the state average in science and ELA. Killingly has decided to use a strategy called acceleration to help with the gaps in learning seen during the last 18 months. ESSER funds have been used to hire math and ELA tutor and coaches to use acceleration in the classroom with students. A Board member expressed concern with our children paying the price for the disconnect between curriculum implementation, training and teaching.

## **9. BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS**

- 9.a. Curriculum Sub-Committee- The subcommittee has not met
- 9.b. Facilities Sub-Committee- The subcommittee has not met
- 9.c. Fiscal Sub-Committee- The subcommittee has not met
- 9.d. Personnel Sub-Committee- They are currently in negotiations with administrators, paras and nurses.

### **9.D.1 Discussion and Possible Recommendation for Sick Bank Request**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Ms. Rivera-Abrams to approve sick bank request for employee for up to 60 days  
**YES- 8, Unanimous**  
**Motion Carries**

- 9.e. Policy Sub-Committee- The subcommittee has not met

## 10. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

### 10.A NEW HIRES

38 certified new hires and 33 non-certified new hires including paraeducators, BCBA, school nurses, campus monitor, IT director, and transportation supervisor. It was stated there were still approximately 10 paraeducator openings. The superintendent was asked if we were meeting our legal obligations of IEPs. The superintendent stated he was working to make sure that was happening.

#### 10.A.1 NEW TEACHER ORIENTATION

Dr. Nash informed the board there were 30 new educators at the orientation. She also shared a short video with the Board.

### 10.B OPENING OF SCHOOLS

Good opening days. Due to heat needed have an early dismissal on Friday. Everyone seemed excited to be back in person. Still some transportation issues to work out.

### 10.C UPDATE OF COVID 19

Mask breaks are being provided. Teacher are using outdoor lessons to help with those breaks. Bob and Kim Burnham are working to ensure the district has what is need for compliance in regards to EO 13D.

### 10.D KMS Renovation Update

The renovate as new project is moving along. The Town and architect have met to review the plans.

### 10.E School-based health centers

In discussion with Generations to have services provided right in our schools. There will be a presentation for the Board soon regarding this. The first focus will be behavioral/mental health.

## 11. CONSENT AGENDA

11.a. June 23, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

11.b. Student Enrollment

**MOTION:** by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Muscara to approve the consent agenda  
**YES- 8, Unanimous**  
**Motion Carries**

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Muscara to adjourn  
**YES- 8, Unanimous**  
**Motion Carries**

The September 8, 2021 Killingly Board of Education meeting adjourned at 10:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

*Jennifer Thompson*

Recording Secretary