

## Regular Meeting

### KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

### MINUTES

**Present:** Mr. John Burns, Mr. Jeffrey Buchbinder, Mr. Doug Farrow, Mr. Craig Hanford, Ms. Lydia Rivera-Abrams, and Dr. Diane Summa, Mr. Christopher Viens (7:08 p.m). Student Board members, Terren Allen and Bryce Bentinck.

**Absent with**

**Notification:** Mr. Greg Biggs, Ms. Hoween Flexer

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

**1. Call to Order**

Killingly Board of Education Chairperson, Mr. John Burns called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Public Comments**- No comments.

**5. Report of Town Council Liaison**- No report.

**6. Report of Killingly High School Student Board Members**

Terren Allen and Bryce Bentinck shared that GECC students will go on a field trip to the Killingly Library on January 18th. KIS, grade 5 students will perform a winter concert on January 10th at 7:00 p.m. KHS midterms will commence on January 14th. Freshman orientation will be on January 30th.

**7. Report of Superintendent of Schools**

Mr. Steven Rioux reminded Board members that the Legislative Breakfast will take place on January 23rd, at the Brooklyn Middle School and he invited Board members to attend.

**7.A. Pupil Services Board Report**

Pupil Services Director, Mr. Fran Lagace, Pupil Services Assistant Director, Mrs. Marcia Farquhar-Griffiths, and Patricia George, Board Certified Behavior Analyst shared updates regarding programs in the Pupil Services Department. Patricia George is a district-wide BCBA. The Board approved this position last year. Ms. George explained her roles and responsibilities as the district's BCBA. Ms. George provides classroom observations, guidance, intervention plans in collaboration with staff and

parents for students who struggle academically and experience behavioral issues. Her work focuses on decreasing negative student behaviors that teachers encounter daily in the classroom. Ms. George also works with our clinical staff. Implementation of evidence-based interventions, are developed based on each student's individual needs. Ongoing student data is reviewed and the student's progress is closely monitored with special education teams. Tiers I, II and III criteria have been developed and supports have been implemented. Ms. George and members of PPT teams assist 44 students. Tier III supports make it possible for more students to stay in district, as opposed to costly out of district placements.

Teacher of the Deaf and Hearing Impaired, Eileen Baker, currently serves 9 students. She provides Spanish translation services and American Sign Language. Her services greatly impact those students and families needing these services. Some students from the area are bussed long distances for these services. Mr. Lagace would like to create a regionalized program for the hearing impaired students at KPS and students from other school districts.

Meredith Richards is owner and operator of Discovery Counseling Services. She provides private mental health services to KPS students and their families. Our district provides confidential space for Ms. Richards, allowing her to better service students attending KPS schools. She currently provides services for approximately 25 students. If parents are interested in utilizing her counseling services, forms are available in every building.

## **7.B. Beginning of the Year Student Achievement Results**

Mr. Paul Brenton shared student achievement data and reminded the Board that students are assessed frequently to see where they are. Star, Guided Reading Levels (GRL) and Lexia are utilized for student assessments. Students in grades k-4 are assessed 3-5 times per year. Kindergarten initial assessments are done in November and December. Students in grades five and six are tested 2-4 times per year. Data shows significant growth in guided reading levels for students in grade 5. There is concern regarding school readiness for students entering kindergarten. Additional supports, including a reading specialist and tutors were placed in grades 1 and 3 to increase students to benchmark and strategic levels.

Mr. Brenton shared SAT high school results from April 2018. Currently there are 20 high school students receiving extra support. 62% high school students in grade 11 are meeting the reading benchmark. This is a 5% increase from the previous year. There was an increase from 18% to 29% over two years for students reaching SAT math benchmarks. Killingly students utilize the KHAN Academy. KHAN is an educational organization that offers online tools to further prepare students for SATs.

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

**8.A.** Community Engagement Sub-Committee-The committee has not met since the last Board meeting.

**8.B.** Curriculum Sub-Committee-The committee has not met since the last Board meeting.

**8.C.** Facilities Sub-Committee-The committee has not since the last Board meeting.

**8.D.** Fiscal Sub-Committee

**8.D.1.** December 2018 Financial Reports

The special education tuition account has a net deficit of approximately \$902,000. The district is maintaining a soft-freeze. Fiscal sub-committee members discussed using Non-lapsing Educational funds to cover two current projects, the KIS fire suppression system and the KHS energy management

projects. The Board anticipates asking the Town to increase the amount of the initial request for deposit into the non-lapsing account. The request will take place after the annual audit.

**8.E. Personnel Sub-Committee-** The committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 14th at 4:30. Negotiations with several unions are in progress.

**8.E.1. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding New Van Driver Position**

Mr. Steven Rioux shared that this proposed position will be a union position.

**MOTION:** by Dr. Summa, seconded by Mr. Farrow that the Board approve a new van driver position as presented.

**Yes- 6**

**Abstain-1 (Ms. Rivera-Abrams)**

**Motion Carries**

**8.E.2. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Behavior Specialist Position**

Mr. Steven Rioux shared that this proposed position a 1.0 FTE position with benefits.

The goal is to decrease the number of outplaced students, increase in-district support, and decrease overall costs related to student outplacements. The district is experiencing significant expenditures for outplaced students, therefore impacting the budget considerably. A Behavior Specialist will model strategies targeting negative student behaviors and teach staff how to better meet the needs of students.

**MOTION:** by Dr. Summa, seconded by Mr. Farrow that the Board approve the Behavior Specialist Position as presented.

**Yes- 5**

**No-1 (Mr. Hanford)**

**Abstain-1 (Ms. Rivera-Abrams)**

**Motion Carries**

**8.F. Policy Sub-Committee**

**8.F.1. Second Reading Policy #2111-Administration-Equal Employment Opportunity**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Viens, seconded by Mr. Hanford that the Board approve the second reading Policy #2111-Administration- Equal Employment Opportunity as presented.

**Yes-6**

**Abstain-1 (Ms. Rivera-Abrams)**

**Motion Carries**

**8.F.2. Second Reading of Policy #3313-Business & Non-Instructional Operations, Relations with Vendors**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Hanford, seconded by Mr. Viens that the Board approve the second reading of Policy #3313-Business & Non-Instructional Operations, Relations with Vendors as presented.

**Yes - 7**

**Motion Carries**

**8.F.3. Second Reading of Policy #4111.1/4211.1-Personnel, Certified/Non-Certified, Affirmative Action Recruitment and Selection**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Hanford, seconded by Dr. Summa that the Board approve the second reading of Policy #4111.1/4211.1-Personnel, Certified/Non-Certified, Affirmative Action Recruitment and Selection as presented.

**Yes - 6**

**Abstain - 1(Ms. Rivera Abrams)**

**Motion Carries**

**8.F.4. Second Reading of Policy #4118.11/4218.11-Personnel-Certified, Non-Certified, Non-Discrimination, Disabilities, Medical Examination**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Viens, seconded by Mr. Hanford that the Board approve the second reading of Policy #4118.11/4218.11-Personnel-Certified, Non-Certified, Non-Discrimination, Disabilities, Medical Examination as presented.

**Yes - 6**

**Abstain - 1(Ms. Rivera Abrams)**

**Motion Carries**

**8.F.5. Second Reading of Policy #4211-Personnel, Non-Certified, Recruitment and Selection**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Hanford, seconded by Mr. Viens that the Board approve the second reading of Policy #4211-Personnel, Non-Certified, Recruitment and Selection as presented.

**Yes - 6**

**Abstain - 1(Ms. Rivera Abrams)**

**Motion Carries**

**8.F.6. Second Reading of Policy #0521-Mission, Goals, Objectives, Non-Discrimination**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Viens, seconded by Mr. Hanford that the Board approve the second reading of Policy #0521-Mission, Goals, Objectives, Non-Discrimination as presented.

**Yes - 6**

**Abstain - 1(Ms. Rivera Abrams)**

**Motion Carries**

**8.F.7. Second Reading of Policy #5111-Students, Admissions/Placement**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Hanford, seconded by Mr. Viens that the Board approve the second reading of Policy #5111-Students, Admissions/Placement as presented.

**Yes - 6**

**Abstain - 1(Ms. Rivera Abrams)**

**Motion Carries**

**8.F.8. Second Reading of Policy #1412 Community Relations, Fire Department**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Hanford, seconded by Mr. Viens that the Board approve the second reading of Policy #1412 Community Relations, Fire Department as presented.  
**Yes - 6**  
**Abstain - 1 (Ms. Rivera Abrams)**  
**Motion Carries**

**9. Consent Items**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Buchbinder, seconded by Mr. Farrow that the Board approve consent items:  
9.A December 12, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes  
9.B December 12, 2018 Regular Board Meeting Board Minutes  
9.C January, 2019 Employee of the Month Nominee  
9.D January 2, 2019 Student Enrollment  
9.E December, 2018 Issued Checks  
**Yes-7**  
**Motion Carries**

**10. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Buchbinder, seconded by Mr. Farrow to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.  
**Yes-7**  
**Motion Carries**

Respectfully submitted by,  
*Keely Doyle*  
Recording Secretary