

Regular Meeting

KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

MINUTES

PRESENT: Mr. John Burns, Mr. Gregg Biggs, Mr. Doug Farrow, Ms. Hoween Flexer, Ms. Lydia Rivera-Abrams, Dr. Diane Summa, Mr. Chris Viens.
Student Board Representatives, Terren Allen and Bryce Bentinck
Absent with Notification: Mr. Jeffrey Buchbinder.
Absent: Mr. Craig Hanford

OTHERS Superintendent Steve Rioux and Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Paul Brenton,
PRESENT: Recording Secretary, Keely Doyle.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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. RECOGNITION OF STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS AND APPOINTMENT OF NEW STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Hoween Flexer, Mr. Jeff Buchbinder and Mr. Craig Hanford held interviews last month for new student Board members. Ms. Flexer introduced the students who were selected. The students are all juniors. Alexandra Purcell, and Jordan Dreibholz will be the regular student Board members, and Russell Farnsworth and Aidan Parsons will serve as alternate student Board members.

Mr. Burns, on behalf of the whole Board, thanked Terren Allen and Bryce Bentenck for doing an outstanding job the past two years as student Board members.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT- No comments.

6. REPORT OF TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON

Mr. David Griffiths shared that The Town Council approved the Board's request to transfer \$293,622 into the Board of Education's Unexpended Educational Fund account. Council members reviewed a draft version of the revised Charter Commission.

7. REPORT OF KILLINGLY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Terren Allen and Bryce Bentinck shared the dates and times of many end of year events, including senior awards night and graduation.

Terren and Bryce shared results of a survey they took regarding the “Redmen” name and symbol which has been a frequent conversation in the community and schools. Both KHS students and staff participated in the survey asking if the current name should change and why. Some students and staff feel that the Redmen name is insensitive, offensive, ignorant and reflects a close-minded attitude, while others were fine with keeping the name.

Some reasons expressed why not to change the name were related to tradition and costs. Terren and Bryce shared their personal opinions and compassionately asked the Board and the superintendent to change the Redmen name to help improve the climate at the high school and depict a more positive image for the district.

Mr. Burns asked Mr. Rioux that this topic be addressed at the next Board meeting, with possible action.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

Mr. Paul Brenton reviewed the summary of changes to the revised teacher evaluation. Revisions to the evaluation plan and its language is driven by statutory requirements. Revisions to the Teacher Evaluation plan include clarification to professional assistance and support systems timelines for teachers who do not meet proficient or exemplary summative ratings. The revised evaluation is aggressive and decreases a 3-year process to a 2-year process.

8.A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Revised Teacher Evaluation Plan

MOTION: by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Farrow that the Board approve the revised Teacher Evaluation Plan as presented.

Yes - 6

No - 0

Abstain – 1 (Ms. Flexer)

Motion Carries

8.B. Discussion Regarding Board Summer Book Study: Courageous Conversation About Race.

Mr. Rioux distributed the book to all board members present and asked Board members to read the book during the summer. Mr. Rioux would like to have follow-up discussion in September.

9. REPORTS BY BOE CHAIR AND SUB-COMMITTEES

9.A. Community Engagement Sub-Committee

Mr. Greg Biggs shared that at the last meeting committee members discussed the strategic plan, Portrait of a Graduate, and emergency codes. The next tentative meeting is scheduled for September 11.

9.B. Curriculum Sub-Committee

Mr. Chris Viens shared that the committee have not met since the last meeting.

9.C. Facilities Sub-Committee

Mr. John Burns shared that the committee have not met since the last meeting.

9.D. Fiscal Sub-Committee

9.D.I. May 2019 Financial Reports

Dr. Diane Summa shared that the May report is consistent with the April report. There were many transfers, but none over \$10,000. The audit is finished. It is anticipated that at the next Board meeting there will be possible action regarding a specified amount available for transfer into the Unexpended

Education Fund Account from the 2018-19 budget. We will finish the year in the black, with savings in salaries, health insurance and grant offsets.

9.D.II. Whitsons 2019-20 Contract Renewal Amendment

According to state and federal regulations, food service management company contracts can be entered into for one year. After the initial contract, they are eligible for four one-year renewals, which then must be submitted for CSDE approval. It is recommended that the Board approve the 2019-20 Contract Renewal Amendment with an adjustment of 3.0%. (No impact on the budget.)

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Dr. Summa that the Board approve Whitsons 2019-20 Contract Renewal Amendment as presented.

Yes - 7

No - 0

Motion Carries

9.D.III. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Withdrawal from the Non-Lapsing Account for Completion of the GECC Parking Lot

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Farrow to authorize the Superintendent to utilize the "Unexpended Education Fund Account" to complete the GECC Parking Lot project. (22 additional parking spaces)

Yes - 7

No - 0

Motion Carries

9.E. Personnel Sub-Committee

Dr. Diane Summa shared that the committee has not met, and a ratified Transportation Union Contract will be reviewed later in the meeting.

9.F. Policy Sub-Committee

9.F.I. Discussion and Possible Approval of First Reading of Policy #5113- Students/Attendance/Excuses/Dismissal/Truancy

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Viens that the Board approve the First Reading of Policy #5113, Students/Attendance/Excuses/Dismissal/Truancy as presented.

Yes -6

No - 0

Abstain – 1 (Ms. Rivera-Abrams)

Motion Carries

9.F.II. Discussion and Possible Approval of First Reading of Policy #6146, Students/Graduation Requirements

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Farrow that the Board approve the First Reading of Policy #6146, Students/Graduation Requirements as presented.

Yes - 7

No - 0

Motion Carries

10. CONSENT ITEMS

Ms. Rivera-Abrams asked to take off consent item, 10.e KHS Student Advisory Field Trip to Washington D.C for discussion.

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Biggs that the Board Approve consent items:
10.a May 8, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes
10.b. May 22, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes
10.c. June 3, 2019 Student Enrollment
10.d. May 2019 Issued Checks
Yes - 7
No - 0
Motion Carries

MOTION: by, Ms. Flexer seconded by Mr. Biggs to approve consent item, 10.e KHS Student Advisory Field Trip to Washington D.C
Yes - 7
No - 0
Motion Carries

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Viens that the Board go into Executive Session for privileged discussion regarding ratified union contract.
Yes - 7
No - 0
Motion Carries

The Board went into executive session at 8:45 p.m.
The Board came out of executive session at 8:55 p.m.

11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RATIFIED UNION CONTRACT FOR KILLINGLY BUS DRIVERS

MOTION: by Dr. Summa, seconded by Ms. Flexer that the Board approve the ratified union contract for Killingly Bus Drivers, Local 1303-261, effective July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2022.
Yes - 7
No - 0
Motion Carries

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Biggs that the Board of Education meeting adjourn.
Yes - 7
No - 0
Motion Carries

The Killingly Board of Education meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Keely Doyle
Recording Secretary