

REGULAR MEETING

KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Town Hall, 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Present: John Burns, Jeff Buchbinder, Doug Farrow, Hoween Flexer, Craig Hanford, Lydia Rivera Abrams. Late with Notification: Chris Viens (7:27) Greg Biggs (7:31)
Student Board Members: Jordan Dreibholz and Russell Farnsworth

Others Present: Superintendent Steve Rioux, Assistant Superintendent, Paul Brenton 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. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

4.A. September 2019 Employee of the Month

Mandy Jarvis, paraprofessional at Killingly Intermediate School was recognized as September 2019, Employee of the Month.

4.B. Transportation Supervisor

Superintendent, Steve Rioux introduced Kofi Kisseh, the new transportation supervisor who joined Killingly in July. Mr. Kisseh shared some of his background experience. Mr. Kisseh is focusing on strategies to running the department more efficiently, reducing the number of out-sourced bus runs, recruiting and training and more drivers.

4.C. Presentation of Gift to Board of Education

J. Kiku Langford McDonald was present at the June 26 BOE meeting. Due to the many opinions shared at that meeting, Ms. McDonald bestowed to the Board red origami cranes. In Japanese culture, it is thought that when 1,000 origami cranes are folded, it creates healing and cranes symbolize a wish for peace. The origami cranes were folded by various community members and put in strings of 10 to be suspended in various locations in the schools.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Claudia Terwilliger-Allen, Thompson resident, thanked the Board for the retirement of the Killingly mascot.

Elizabeth LaFlamme-Baker- 49 L'Homme St., reminded Board members of

an email she sent to all Board members regarding a bus issue and requested an investigation.

Kevin Kerttula, 14 Granite Court, conveyed to the Board his displeasure with the retirement of

the Killingly mascot and the decision not being brought forward to the community for a Town vote.

6. INTERVIEW FOR BOARD VACANCY

Mr. Normand Ferron, 102 Squaw Rock Rd, Danielson. Mr. Ferron was recommended by the Republican Town Committee. Mr. Burns enlightened Mr. Ferron of the time commitment involved when one becomes a Board member and if appointed, the term would expire in November 2019. Board members interviewed Mr. Ferron.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPOINTMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

MOTION: by Mr. Farrow, seconded by Mr. Hanford to appoint Mr. Normand Ferron as a Board of Education member through the November 2019 elections filling the vacancy of Dr. Diane Summa
Yes-4
No-4
Motion Failed

Mr. Burns stated that Mr. Normand Ferron would not be appointed to the Board.

8. RECESS FOR SWEARING-IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBER-Not needed

9. KILLINGLY INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL BOARD PRESENTATION

Ms. Heather Taylor, Killingly Intermediate School principal shared her report, focusing on Proficiency Based Learning (PBL) and how it aligns KPS core values and Board goals. Ms. Taylor explained what proficiency-based learning is and what it is not. School Leadership Teams conducted a self-study using New England’s School Consortium Global Best Practices. Proficiency-based refers to systems of instruction, assessment, grading, and academic reporting that are based on students demonstrating understanding or mastery of the knowledge and skills they are expected to learn. Student academic achievement is reported separately from student behaviors, tardiness, attendance, class participation and work completion. Habits-of-work grades are reported with academic grades on a student’s report card. Habits-of-work, common rubrics and scoring criteria were developed. Habits-of-work include perseverance, organization, and collaboration. Essential learning outcomes are implemented through defined proficiency statements and performance indicators that students are expected to learn and to proficient in by the time they enter high school.

10. STRATEGIC PLAN

- Item 10.a District Advancement Plan Summary
- Item. 10.b BOE Strategic Action Plan
- Item 10.c Strategic Communication Plan

Mr. Rioux shared ample information regarding how the District Advancement Plan was created and shared the many components incorporated into developing a District Strategic Plan. An all-inclusive Executive Summary of the District Advancement Plan was reviewed. A District Strategic Plan identifies and prioritizes specific desired outcomes for the entire school community. To guide the District over the next several years, a Strategic Action and Communication Plan clearly outlines timeframes, expectations, goals, objectives, theories of action and benchmarks.

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Ms. Rivera-Abrams to approve the Education Strategic Action Plan 2019-2022 as presented.

**Yes-8, Unanimous
Motion Carries**

11. CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Mr. Rioux conveyed relevant information incorporated in the 2019-22 Continuous Improvement Plan. Mr Rioux referred to the Executive Summary and asked the Board to take some time in reviewing the document and suggested that this agenda item be brought back in October for follow-up and possible Board action.

12. SBA ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS

Mr. Paul Brenton presented Smarter Balances Assessment data related to achievement levels and student growth. Data included mathematic and ELA results from 2014-15 through 2018-19. There will be a focus on early literacy, high school student growth rates, continue refinement in Readers Workshops and providing on-going professional development, especially for new teachers. In mathematics strategies will focus on standards for grades 4 and 5, professional development for math teachers, instructional coaching support for all new KCS and KMS teachers, KIS instructional coaching support for the middle school, Illustrative Math professional development, and KHS will continue to implement the CT model state curriculum and SAT topics and strategies. Mr. Brenton addressed and noted the areas of student improvement and reiterated that the teachers and staff are doing great things.

13. DISCUSSION ON BOOK STUDY-Courageous Conversations about Race

The Board discussed and shared their perspectives related to the prompts and “conversation starters” extracted from the book, Courageous Conversations about Race.

In light of elections in November and anticipated new Board members, it is suggested that this topic be an agenda item at a Board retreat.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Buchbinder to adjourn.
**Yes-8, Unanimous
Motion Carries**

The Killingly Board of Education meeting adjourned at 10:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Keely Doyle,
Recording Secretary