

REGULAR MEETING
KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Wednesday, October 9, 2019
Town Hall, 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Present: John Burns, Greg Biggs, Doug Farrow, Hoween Flexer, Craig Hanford, Lydia Rivera Abrams and Chris Viens (7:22).
Student Board Members: Jordan Dreibholz and Alexandra Purcell.
Absent with Notification: Jeff Buchbinder.

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. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Norm Ferron expressed his displeasure in how the Board handled changing the mascot name and that the matter should have gone to a public vote. Mr. Ferron also shared his displeasure with the way Board members interviewed him on September 25.

Aimee Langlois shared her displeasure regarding the name change. Native Americans should be invited to speak at the schools to educate students and to try and bridge the gap.

Chris Dillon read a letter aloud in support of keeping the Redmen name.

Raymond Wood shared it was unacceptable the way the Board handled the mascot issue and he reminded Board members that they were elected to represent.

Jason Muscara expressed his displeasure of things that are being said about him and the manner in which Mr. Ferron was interviewed at the September 25 meeting.

Gerry Cinq Mars shared that the mascot name change was poorly managed by the Board and the matter should have gone to a public vote.

Janet Muscara shared her displeasure with how the Board handled the mascot issue.

Karen Fremuth shared that the Board disregarded many opinions shared by community members and changing of the mascot should have gone to a public vote.

Jason Anderson shared that the mascot issue should have been to a public vote.

Janice Jolley shared she was not pleased with the process for changing the mascot name and the manner in which Mr. Ferron was interviewed.

5. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS-None

6. REPORT OF TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON- Postponed to later in the meeting.

7. REPORT BY KILLINGLY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Jordan Dreibholz and Alexandra Purcell shared that KHS held the annual college fair for juniors and seniors. There were 120 colleges represented.

Parent and teacher conferences are going to be held on October 15 and 16. SATS will be on Oct. 16.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

8.A. Continuous Improvement Plan

Board members were given time since the last meeting to review the Continuous Improvement Plan. The plan is in alignment with Board Goals.

Mr. Hanford asked Board members to think about #1 and #5, high level strategies associated with Climate and Culture, especially in light of recent events and public comments. Mr. Farrow reiterated the significance #5 ... *Engage the community with meaningful partnerships that positively impact school practices.*

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer seconded by Mr. Biggs to approve the Continuous Improvement Plan as presented.
Yes-7, Unanimous
Motion Carries.

8.B. Facilities Update

Mr. Rioux shared information regarding various building projects, occurring over the past few years. Mr. Rioux shared that some projects are complete and some still in progress. Roofs have been replaced at KCS, GECC, and KMS, windows replacements at KMS, energy efficient lighting fixtures installed at KHS and KIS.

Many ADA upgrades are complete. Mr. Rioux will continue to monitor and keep the Board informed of ongoing projects. Most of the upgrades and projects were funded through grants, or the Town/State.

9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING NEW KHS MASCOT

Mr. Rioux shared that a committee, made up of students, and staff reviewed names suggested in a poll. "Red Hawks" received the most votes.

Mr. Farrow and Mr. Hanford shared that the issue should have gone to a public vote.

Mr. Hanford said the Board ignored the wishes of the public and the majority of students and he would be interested in reviewing raw data from the student and community poll.

MOTION: by Lydia Rivera-Abrams, seconded by Mr. Biggs to change the mascot name to Red Hawks.
Yes-5
No-1
Abstain-1
Motion Carries

Board members stated how they voted. Hoween Flexer, Chris Viens, Greg Biggs, and John Burns voted in favor of changing the name. Craig Hanford voted no, and Doug Farrow abstained.

10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BEAGARY TRUST GRANT AND ATHLETIC FIELDS

Mr. Rioux shared that funding sources are critical for the district and the Board should review the recent, proposed grant from Beagary Charitable Trust. Mr. Rioux shared that he would like to gather more

information regarding long-term costs and additional funding options for improvements to the KHS athletic fields.

Ms. Rivera-Abrams shared that this donation has strings attached to it and the focus should be Teacher's contracts and pay.

Mr. Rioux shared that the Board will have opportunity to vote regarding the 7-year grant offered by Beagary at a future Board meeting. For now, Mr. Rioux would like to gather more particulars so the Board can make an informed decision as to accept or decline the 7-year grant to go towards costs of improving the KHS athletic fields.

MOTION: by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Ms. Flexer to authorize the superintendent to issue an RFP for a new Turf field, pending funding approval, and collaborate with the Town manager to identify funding options for this project.

Yes-5

No- Ms. Rivera-Abrams and Mr. Craig Hanford

Motion Carries

6. REPORT OF TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON-

Mr. Adam Griffiths shared that typical, routine business occurred at the last Town Council meeting. The ACCESS Agency requested \$5,000 for a winter emergency shelter, but more funding is needed to complete the shelter.

Ms. Flexer asked that the Town place charter revisions in a more prominent place on their website.

Mr. Rioux shared that a new statute requires a projected revenue and expenditure report be submitted to the Town on a quarterly basis and is included in the September 2019 Financial Report. The report is available to view on the KPS website.

11. BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.A. Community Engagement Sub-Committee

Mr. Greg Biggs reported that the sub-committee members have not met.

11.B. Curriculum Sub-Committee

Mr. Chris Viens reported that sub-committee members have not met.

11.C. Facilities Sub-Committee

Mr. John Burns anticipates a facilities sub-committee meeting in November.

11.D. Fiscal Sub-Committee

11.D.1. September 2019 Fiscal Report

11.D.1.1. September 2019 System Object Report

11.D.1.2. 1st Quarter 2019-20 Projected Revenues and Expenditures

Mr. Hanford was appointed chairman of the Fiscal Sub-committee at the Oct. 7 sub-committee meeting. Manager of Business Affairs, Ms. Christine Clark shared that there are no accounts of great concern at this time, and will continue to monitor student out-placement expenditures.

There are nineteen (19) open purchase orders from FY2018-19. The district requested that \$436,000 be contributed into the non-lapsing account.

It is anticipated that \$215,000 will be returned to the Town from FY2018-19 budget.

11.D.2. Discussion and Possible Approval Regarding KHS Football Coach Stipend

This item was tabled at Mondays' Fiscal-Sub-Committee meeting.

11.D.3. Turf Field- See agenda Item 10.

11.E. Personnel Sub-Committee- There was a Teacher negotiation meeting on October 1 and a Mediation meeting is scheduled for October 25.

11.F. Policy Sub-Committee- Ms. Flexer shared members of the Policy sub-committee forwarded to the full Board tonight, three policies as First Readings.

11.F.1. Discussion and Possible Approval of First Reading Policy #5144.4 Students-Discipline, Physical Exercise

MOTION: by Mr. Hanford, seconded by Mr. Biggs to approve as a First Reading, as presented, Policy #5144.4 Students-Discipline, Physical Exercise.
Yes-7, Unanimous
Motion Carries

11.F.2. Discussion and Possible Approval of Policy #5131-Students, Conduct and Discipline.

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Hanford to approve as a First Reading, Policy #5131-Students, Conduct and Discipline, with edit on page (u).
Yes-6,
Abstain-1 (Ms. Rivera-Abrams)
Motion Carries

11.F.3. Discussion and Possible Action of Policy #6159- Instruction, Individualized Education Program, Special Education Program.

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Hanford to approve, as a First Reading, as presented, Policy #6159- Instruction, Individualized Education Program, Special Education Program
Yes-7, Unanimous
Motion Carries

12. CONSENT ITEMS

Mr. Chris Viens asked that consent items 12.A and 12.B be taken off.

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Farrow that the Board approve consent items:
12.C- FY2018-19 July and August Authorized Checks
12.D- FY2019-20 July and August Authorized Checks
12.E- September 2019 Authorized Checks
12.F-October 2019 Employee of the Month Nominee
12.G- October 1 2019 Student Enrollment
Yes-7, Unanimous
Motion Carries

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Hanford to approve consent item, 12.A, Sept. 11 2019 BOE Meeting Minutes.

Yes-6
Abstain- 1 (Mr. Viens)
Motion Carries

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Hanford to approve consent item,
12.B, Sept. 25 2019 BOE Meeting Minutes

Yes-5
Abstain -2 (Mr. Viens and Mr. Biggs)
Motion Carries

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Hanford to adjourn.

Yes-7, Unanimous
Motion Carries

The Killingly Board of Education meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Keely Doyle

Recording Secretary

Approved: 11-13-19