

Regular Meeting

KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

7:00 PM

Town Hall, 172 Main St.

Please Note: The meeting will be streamed on Channel 22

MINUTES

Present via Zoom Platform: Greg Biggs, Norm Ferron, Hoween Flexer, Janice Joly, Jason Muscara, Kyle Napierata, Lydia Rivera-Abrams, and Mr. Doug Farrow.
Absent with Notification: Chris Viens.

Others Present

via Zoom Platform: Superintendent Steve Rioux, Assistant Superintendent, Paul Brenton and Keely Doyle, Recording Secretary.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Killingly Board of Education Chairman, Mr. Doug Farrow called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL-see above

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS- A total of 105 public comments were received.

Ms. Flexer read one public comment letter aloud from Erica Ponciano. The letter from Ms. Ponciano was in support of the turf field project.

4. BOARD CHAIRMAN COMMENTS

Mr. Farrow shared that he anticipates discussion and possible action regarding the turf field project at a June Board meeting.

Due to Mr. Rioux's resignation, Mr. Farrow thanked Mr. Rioux for his many years of service and dedication to the district and added he learned a lot by working with Mr. Rioux.

Mr. Farrow shared that there will be a Special Board meeting in June 3, 2020 to discuss the process of securing an interim superintendent and eventually a superintendent and discussion and possible action regarding the 2020-21 fiscal year budget.

5. APPROVAL OF APRIL 22, 2020 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Ferron to approve the April 22, 2020 Board minutes

Yes- 7

Abstain- 1

Motion Carries

6. APPROVAL OF MAY 13, 2020 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: by Mr. Ferron, seconded by Mr. Biggs to approve the May 13, 2020 Board minutes.

Ms. Rivera requested two corrections.

- roll call vote on agenda item #5 correction **8** yes votes, not 9
- agenda item 8.D.*communication shared from EASTCONN*, not CABE.

MOTION: by Ms. Joly, seconded by Mr. Ferron to approve the May 13, 2020 with the 2 corrections.

**Unanimous
Motion Carries**

7. GENERAL UPDATES

7.A. Re-opening of Buildings for Office Staff and 12-month Employees

School offices will be open beginning June 1st, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for staff. Twelve-month employees will continue to work remotely and on the school premises as appropriate.

7.B. Summer School Update

Mr. Paul Brenton read guidelines and safety requirements for summer school. The district has come up with a 4-tier summer program, open to all students.

The Governor released his “Reopen Connecticut” Guidelines for summer programming. Requirements and guidelines are extensive for in-person classes such as; required liaisons, priority access for special populations, on sight medical professionals, notice of risks, restrictions on visitors, restrictions on meals, restrictions on items brought into buildings, restrictions on the number of individuals in buildings, restrictions on bus transportation, PPE required on busses and in classrooms, protection for high-risk adults and students, social distancing in classrooms, required health screenings, no sharing of classroom materials and cleaning practices.

On Friday May 22nd, the summer program planning team met with facilities, food, transportation and health professionals to determine capacity under the current guidelines. The team explored multiple scenarios that would permit educators to meet with groups of students during the month of July. Commencing July 6th Killingly will offer online summer programming consisting of three tiers. Tier 1- Summer opportunities available to all students, including; scholastic book packs sent to students in grades K-8 and online opportunities to continue learning. Tier 2- Summer Success Programming; remote learning in small groups. July 6th through Aug 7th Tier 3 Remote Credit recovery for students in grades 9-12 supported by outside accredited institutions. Extended School Year Programming (ESY) Additional educational programming for special populations of students. Program delivery will be a blend of virtual and offsite services. Other districts and the majority of schools are not running in-school programs due to the strict guidelines.

Childcare program OEC is allowing up to 30 students. Again, there will be many restrictions. Screenings, including temperature check, staff wearing PPE. If programs have over 30 students, they are required to get approval from OEC and Northeast District Department of Health.

Mr. Rioux and Ms. Sherman are discussing the possibility of childcare at Goodyear Early Childhood center for pre-k children.

7.C. Opening of Schools Update:

Mr. Rioux is a member of the Regional Task Force. There will be a meeting on Tuesday. He expects to receive more guidance from the State in June. He said it is important that the district start planning for next year and be prepared and the district formed a Re-Opening Task Force Committee.

Below is a list of initial meetings and topics. Meetings take place virtually using the Zoom platform.

Wednesday May 27 th	Introduction to the team and external influences guiding our work
Tuesday, June 2 nd	Health and Safety- including discussions on; PPE, cleaning, temperature sensors, available space and guidelines.
Monday, June 8 th	Potential Schedules- including discussions of full return, partial return, and continued remote learning
Thursday, June 11 th	Curriculum and delivery of instruction, what it will look like, staff training.

Each of the topics is designed to start initial conversations. As we begin to formalize plans in certain areas, members in the task force will expand and some members of the task force will rotate to topics related directly to their role.

The team will be discussing the issues in broad terms as decisions will impact students from all of the communities who are transported into our school system.

Killingly is a hub for many students and superintendents are discussing the importance of consistency in surrounding towns. Final plans will need to be cleared through the Northeast District Department of Health.

7.D Graduation Update

At this time Killingly High School is moving forward with a graduation ceremony on June 19th.

Nothing is official yet but the proposed plans are;

- A vehicle parade of graduates which travels from the KIS parking lot through town on Maple St. and Main St. before finishing at KHS.
- An in-vehicle graduation ceremony at KHS with designated parking for graduate's families.
- Presentation of in-person diplomas on an outdoor podium, in cap-and gown with limited in-person interaction.

Executive orders are still in place regarding the size of gatherings. Student speeches will be made prior to the graduation, remotely. Due to limited parking and space, only the Board Chair should attend.

At this time KPS is working with the police and other local agencies to support the logistical elements of graduation. Staff will show their support to graduating students at off site venues, such as the parade route. Waiting for final details and approval from NEDH.

Ms. Flexer asked if BoE members would be allowed to sit in their cars in the parking lot and if graduation would be live-streamed. Mr. Rioux reiterated that space will be very limited. Ms. Rivera-Abrams said the district must do whatever it takes so each graduate will have transportation to receive their diploma.

8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION (Discussion may take place in Executive Session)

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Biggs to enter into executive session.

Unanimous

Motion Carries

The Board entered executive session at 7:52 p.m.

The Board resumed the Board of Education session at 8:39 p.m.

8.A. Non-Union Salaries

MOTION: by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Ferron to increase the non-union salaries by 2% as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Yes- 5-Mr. Biggs, Mr. Ferron, Ms. Flexer, Mr. Muscara, and Mr. Farrow.

No- 3-Ms. Joly, Ms. Rivera-Abrams, and Mr. Napierata.

Motion Carries

8.B. Paraprofessionals Negotiations and Contract Extension

MOTION: by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Ms. Flexer, to extend the paraprofessionals contract by 1-year with a 2% increase as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Yes-6-Mr. Biggs, Mr. Ferron, Ms. Flexer, Ms. Joly, Mr. Muscara, and Mr. Farrow.

No- 2-Ms. Rivera-Abrams, and Mr. Napierata.

Motion carries

9. ADJOURN

MOTION: by Ms. Joly, seconded by Mr. Biggs to adjourn.

Unanimous

Motion Carries

The May 27, 2020 Killingly Board of Education meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Keely Doyle

Recording Secretary