

Regular Meeting

KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Wednesday, September 23, 2020

7:00 PM

Town Hall, 172 Main Street

MINUTES

Present: Doug Farrow, Greg Biggs, Jason Muscara, Kyle Napierata,
Lydia Rivera-Abrams.
Participating via Zoom: Norm Ferron, Hoween Flexer, and Janice Joly.

**Absent with
Notification:** Chris Viens.

Others Present: Interim Superintendent Dr. Diane Summa, Assistant Superintendent,
Paul Brenton and Keely Doyle, Recording Secretary.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ROLL CALL-see above

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

One public from Elizabeth Laflamme was received and forwarded to all Board members. Mr. Paul Brenton thanked all the volunteers, sponsors and businesses for supporting the KHS Golf Tournament last weekend.

5. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

5.A. September 2020 Employees of the Month

The Board recognized Killingly Public Schools' Transportation and the Operations and Maintenance Departments. Both departments were recognized for all the hard work they carried out to get ready for the Opening Day, amid COVID-19 turmoil. It took a considerable amount of time for staff in both departments to prepare for Opening Day and implement COVID-19 guideline health and safety measures.

6. TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Mr. Kofi Kisseh, Transportation Supervisor, shared information regarding many different transportation topics. Those topics included resignations and new hires, the number and type of vehicles used for transportation, average number of students per bus, how many miles per year vehicles travel, adjusted drop-off and student pick-up times, and a 4-year vehicle replacement cost analysis. Mr. Kisseh shared detailed information regarding COVID-19 bus health and safety protocols. Drivers regularly remind students to social distance and keep masks on. Killingly is providing its own transportation to all out of district locations, but one. Possible projects that the Board should consider in the future are; a shared bus/truck washing bay, utilizing Versatrans GPS system, increased lighting in the bus parking area. Mr. Kisseh is working on completing a driver handbook/safety manual. Driver contracted hours will be reviewed and compared with current route times. The KMS parking lot and traffic flow will be reconfigured when the KMS project is completed

7. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

Mr. Mike Vassar O & M Supervisor shared the status of ongoing and completed building projects within the district. The report included updates on the KHS natural gas line installation, KHS driveway repairs, KHS wellhouse, KHS solar project. KMS updates included the ADA project, window installations, solar project plans and timeframes and the LED project. PBC approved hiring Antinozzi and Associates for the KMS addition. Phase I of the KIS solar project is complete. Phase II is awaiting contracts and engineering. Line striping will be completed in conjunction with KHS line striping. KCS solar plans are being reconfigured from a roof installation to a carport design. ADA punch list is about nearly complete. Some potentially dangerous trees were removed. LED project at KCS is moving forward and is anticipated to begin in late October. The LED project is anticipated to begin at GECC in the late fall and new outdoor benches and tables were installed. Central Office solar project is on schedule and completion is expected in mid-October. District-wide O &M was responsible for ordering PPE that was necessary for the schools and buses. Temporary custodial staff were hired to meet CDC and State cleaning guidelines. Mr. Vassar stays in communication with the district nurse supervisor for related COVID-19 safety measures and protocols.

8. BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

8.A. Update on Superintendent Search Survey and Community Conversation Forums

Mr. Farrow shared information regarding the superintendent search, the survey and the virtual Community Conversation forums. He shared Dr. Erardi's contact information for those who may have questions.

9. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE.-see next item.

10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING TEACHER SUBSTITUTE PAY RATES

Dr. Summa shared the rationale for requesting approval of a temporary substitute payrate increase. The district needs to stay competitive in our area and it would help to adequately staff our schools. There is a shortage of substitutes in all districts. The pay increase would be effective September 24 through December 31, 2020. The proposed increases are; substitutes with BA Degree, from \$100 per day to

\$150 per day and substitutes with BA Degree and certification would increase from \$115 to \$175 a day. This would not have an impact on the local budget. The increase would be covered by the Corona Virus Relief Fund and possibly the ESSER grant. If the proposed increases were to continue past December 31st, the topic should be discussed at a Fiscal or Personnel subcommittee meeting with the anticipated new Superintendent.

MOTION: by Ms. Rivera-Abrams, seconded Ms. Joly to approve increased payrates for substitutes holding a BA Degree, from \$100 to \$150 per day and substitutes holding a BA Degree and certification from \$115 to \$175 per day, effective 9/24/20 through 12/31/20 .

Roll Call Vote

Yes- 6, Mr. Ferron, Ms. Flexer, Ms. Joly, Mr. Napierata,
Ms. Rivera-Abrams, and Mr. Farrow.

No -2, Mr. Biggs, Mr. Muscara.

Motion Carries

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Ms. Rivera-Abrams to adjourn.
Unanimous

Motion Carries.

The September 23, 2020 Killingly Board of Education adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Keely Doyle

Recording Secretary