

Regular Meeting

KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Wednesday, October 14, 2020

7:00 PM

Town Hall, 172 Main St.

The meeting will be streamed on Channel 22

MINUTES

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

**Absent with
Notification:** Chris Viens.

Others Present: Interim Superintendent Dr. Diane Summa, Assistant Superintendent, Paul Brenton, Christine Clark, Manager of Business Affairs and Keely Doyle, Recording Secretary.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Killingly Board of Education Chairperson, Mr. Doug Farrow called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL-see above

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Greg Biggs submitted a public comment regarding his concerns about the hybrid model and how it is causing many difficulties and financial burdens for families. He urged Mr. Brenton and Dr. Summa to resume full-day, in-school learning for all elementary students.

5. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

6. REPORT OF TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON-postponed until later in the meeting.

7. REPORT BY KILLINGLY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Madelyn Sumner, and Grace Gilman

Board members Jason Muscara, Norm Ferron and Greg Biggs in addition to interim superintendent Dr. Diane Summa, held virtual interviews with 11 students on Thursday, Sept. 24.

Students who were selected to serve as Board member representatives are: Seniors-Madelyn Sumner and Grace Gilman. The students reported the following information for schools.

Monday, October 26th a parent of a student will be visiting Goodyear and giving each class a tour of an ambulance/paramedic van. School Resource Officer Joe McCusker visited GECC and met the preschoolers.

At KCS, October began a new Distance Learning Academy for distance learners. Students attending school are able to attend full days 5 days a week. Students have been following all the COVID procedures.

At KMS, Picture Day will be on Oct.19th and 30th. KMS welcomed Ms. Kimberly Vincent as the new Science teacher.

KIS News is published daily on Morning Announcements and online as a way to keep members of the KIS community connected. The PTO has moved to a virtual monthly meeting format on the first Thursday of every month. This year Annual Veteran's Day Celebration, students and staff will be producing a pre-recorded assembly. A video will be shared with families and staff to view at home and at school.

KHS will hold Virtual Parent Teacher Conferences on Oct. 13 and 15. SAT day on October 14. Administration used student feedback and adjusted the schedule to reduce stress for students and teachers. Students are happy to be back to what they knew as their "old" schedule. Students' are following COVID-19 health guidelines.

6. REPORT OF TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON

Mr. Jason Anderson shared that the Town Council authorized budgetary 2019-20 year-end transfers and transfer of FY 2019-20 unexpended funds to Special Reserves and programs. Town council authorized of a five-year lease agreement with Hutchinson Precision Sealing Systems Inc., There will be a Public Hearing on November 10 for several ordinances. Those ordinances include a transfer to Road Renewal Capital Project fund; amending the length of time an assessment deferral or tax abatement agreements; and modification to the process for peddler or vendor permits. A new resolution to be considered is an ordinance to address illicit discharge to stormwater drains. Ms. Flexer asked about protocol and safety guidelines for voters on election day. Ms. Rivera-Abrams asked that the Town use the local newspapers to help inform community members of the absentee balloting process, especially benefitting those who do not have or use electronic devices.

8. CONSULTANT UPDATE ON SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH

Dr. Erardi shared particulars that were collected via community forums, meetings and the superintendent survey. Over 300 faculty staff and community members either attended virtual sessions, completed the superintendent search survey or contacted Dr. Erardi. A profile regarding skills and character traits that stakeholders feel necessary for the next superintendent were shared. Dr. Erardi delivered packets to each Board member on Sunday and disclosed that there are 23 completed applications. One-third of the applicants have experience as a superintendent. Dr. Erardi shared that the Superintendent Hiring Committee can start interviews next week.

9. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

9.A. General Improvement to Alliance Districts School Buildings Grant Application.

The application for funding general improvements requires a resolution by the Board in order to file the grant application. Improvement projects need to be completed by August 2021. Guidelines for

improvements are somewhat restrictive. Funds can be used for improvements, replacements or upgrades. Some items proposed for upgrades or replacements are: phone system, cameras, radios, replacing water bubblers with water filling stations, and possibly ADA door handles.

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Ms. Rivera-Abrams to approve the submission of the Alliance General Improvements School Buildings Grant Program Application as presented in the amount of \$477,600.

Roll Call Vote

8, Yes- Mr. Biggs, Mr. Ferron, Ms. Flexer, Ms. Joly, Mr. Muscara, Mr. Napierata, Ms. Rivera-Abrams, and Mr. Farrow.

Motion Carries

10. BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.A. Curriculum Sub-Committee

Mr. Greg Biggs shared that the curriculum subcommittee members discussed the role of Great Schools Partnership and Knowledge Works. The subcommittee anticipates moving forward with elementary health curriculum and having a parent meeting and scheduling a date to hold an open parent forum.

10.B. Facilities Sub-Committee- No report

10.C. Fiscal Sub-Committee met on October 7. New chair for this subcommittee is Lydia Rivera-Abrams.

10.C.1. Discussion and Review of the FY2019-20 End of the Year Report

Ms. Christine Clark gave a recap of the financial reports. COVID-19 pandemic resulted in expenditures unlike any other year. 2019-20FY reflects a balance of \$1,220,859. A letter of request for a transfer up to 2% of the total budget or up to \$880,944 can be sent to the Town Council. There are still open purchase orders totaling \$207,898.

10.C.2. Discussion and Review of the September 2020 Financial Report

Unemployment compensation currently shows a \$235 balance for the 2020-21. This is due to school closures last school year. Also significantly impacting this line account is unemployment claims. The Department of Labor faced difficulties with processing claims and some KPS individuals received benefits but were not entitled. KPS is contesting the claims individually, but is required to pay the invoices in full. The district may be eligible for 50% reimbursement through the CARES Act.

10.C.3. 1st Quarter 2020-21 Projected Revenues and Expenditures

This report will be placed on the KPS website and the same information will be provided to the Town Manager and Town Council.

10.D. Personnel Sub-Committee have not met

10.E. Policy Sub-Committee have not met

11. CONSENT ITEMS

Ms. Rivera-Abrams asked to pull agenda item 11.A -Sept. 9 2020 BOE Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Muscara to approve consent items:
11.B- Sept. 23 2020 BOE Meeting Minutes
11.C- FY2019-20 June, July, Aug., Sept Authorized Checks
11.D- FY2020-21 July, August, September Authorized Checks
11.E-October 2020 Employee of the Month Nominee
11.F- October 1 2020 Student Enrollment
Yes- 8
Motion Carries

MOTION: by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Ms. Joly to approve 11.A -Sept. 9 2020 BOE Meeting Minutes.

Ms. Rivera-Abrams noted that there was a repetition of agenda item 9.a in the minutes.

MOTION: by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Ms. Joly to approve 11.A -Sept. 9 2020 Minutes with edits.
Yes, 7
Abstain, 1
Motion Carries

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Muscara to adjourn.

The Killingly Board of Education meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Keely Doyle
Recording Secretary