

Regular Meeting

KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

7:00 PM

Town Hall 172 Main St.

MINUTES

Present: Mr. Doug Farrow, Mr. Jason Muscara, Mr. Kyle Napierata,
Ms. Lydia Rivera-Abrams.
Present Via Zoom- Mr. Greg Biggs, Mr. Norm Ferron, Ms. Hoween Flexer,
Ms. Janice Joly. Student Board members, Madelyn Sumner
and Grace Gilman. Absent with Notification: Mr. Chris Viens.

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, Mr. Doug Farrow called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL- see above

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. PUBLIC COMMENT-No comments

5. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

5.A. November 2020 Employee of Month

Jefrey Bowden, paraprofessional at Killingly High School was recognized as November 2020 Employee of the Month. Jefrey has been a valued KPS employee for eight years. KHS principal, Elise Guari shared that Jefrey goes above and beyond and makes connections with all students every day. Jefrey also volunteers for sporting events and offers his assistance in many ways to help administrators, staff, and students.

5.B. Recognition of Years of Service for Mr. Francis Lagace

Mr. Fran Lagace, Pupil Services Director, after 20 years of service in Killingly is resigning and taking a job in another district. The Board thanked Mr. Lagace for his years of service and for his guidance and vast knowledge of special education protocol. Mr. Lagace thanked the Board for their support and thanked his colleagues for supporting him and students over the years.

MOTION: Mr. Muscara seconded by Mr. Biggs to move agenda item #9 to follow agenda item #5.B.
Unanimous
Motion Carries

9. REPORT BY KILLINGLY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Madelyn Sumner, and Grace Gilman shared that the KHS Girls Soccer Team won the ECC Region 3 Championships. The Girls Volleyball team won the ECC Northern Division 2 Championship. The KHS Robotics team placed 2nd and 3rd place in competition. KMS teacher/parent conferences are on November 23 and 24, in combination with the Scholastic Book Fair. KCS & GECC parent teacher/conferences are this week.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO REVIEW NEW SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT

MOTION: by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Ms. Flexer to go into executive session to discuss and review superintendent's contract.

**8-Yes, Unanimous
Motion Carries**

The Board members went into executive session at 7:20 p.m.

The Board returned to regular session at 7:56 p.m.

7. POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

MOTION: by Mr. Norm Ferron, seconded by Mr. Jason Muscara
MOVED, in accordance with Section 10-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes, that the Board appoint Robert Angeli as Superintendent of Schools, effective on a date in January or February of 2021 to be established by mutual agreement between the Board Chair and Mr. Angeli; and MOVED FURTHER, that the Board Chair be authorized to execute the proposed contract on behalf of the Board with respect to Mr. Angeli's employment as Superintendent of Schools; and MOVED FURTHER that the Board hereby terminate the search process for a new Superintendent of Schools and dismiss the Hiring Committee.

Roll Call Vote

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

Motion Carries

Mr. Angeli thanked the Board for their vote and support and shared that he is excited to be joining the Killingly Team.

8. REPORT OF TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON

Mr. Jason Anderson, chairman of Town Council shared that four ordinances were passed by Town Council. Town Council also approved changes to the terms for tax abatements. Transfer of funds from 2019-20 budget were approved.

10. KILLINGLY HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

Ms. Guari, KHS Principal shared how students and staff are handling many adjustments due to the COVID pandemic. Teachers, staff and students have been faced with many challenges. Teachers are teaching up to four different cohorts (A,B,C,D) hybrid, remote or distance learning and keeping students engaged. Administrators and counselors have been making home visits, including students who have not been consistent in their attendance. Data from a September student survey showed that students are experiencing stress related to the pandemic. Areas of stress identified are; fear of family or

themselves getting COVID, lack of social distancing, new class schedules, having to learn from home, and technology issues.

Administration are continuing to work on improving class scheduling, determining the quantity of class work, increasing communications, providing more social emotion learning support and addressing tech issues.

New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) Visit.

NEASC is an organization which partners with schools to assess, support, and promote high quality education through accreditation, professional assistances.

The NEASC visiting team made recommendations and commendations to guide school improvement, maintain high standards of education. KHS met all foundational elements and made tremendous progress over the past two years. NEASC commendations included the increased number of students having a voice in developing proficiency-based curriculum, increased number of students in the National Honor Society and school government, the on-going development of proficiency statements and priority standards, and student-centered teaching/learning in classrooms, even during a pandemic. NEASC made some recommendations that included obtaining more input from more teachers of electives on KHS leadership team, continue to develop the curriculum using proficiency statements, continue to develop social emotional learning and restorative practices, and address concerns around the lack of identity among faculty, staff and students.

11. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

11.A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding SRO Agreement

Officer McCusker is the new district-wide School Resource Officer, utilizing most of his time at the high school. Officer McCusker shared information about past positions and assignments during his 26 years of service in law enforcement. Officer McCusker’s SRO position is shared with the Town and appointed by the Town Manager/Chief of Police in consultation with the Superintendent of Schools. The cost is shared between the Town and the Board of Education, on a pro-rated basis.

MOTION: by Mr. Muscara seconded by Ms. Joly that the Board approve the School Resource Officer Agreement as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Yes-7, Mr. Biggs, Mr. Ferron, Ms. Joly, Mr. Muscara,

Mr. Napierata, Ms. Rivera-Abrams and Mr. Farrow.

No- 1, Ms. Flexer

Motion Carries

12. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BOE DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2021 CALENDAR YEAR

Board meeting dates needing approval are from September 2021 through December 2021. Per CT State Statute, the Freedom of Information Act, the Killingly Board of Education meetings are to be established and sent to the Town Clerk for the full calendar year ahead 30 days prior to the first scheduled meeting in 2021. The dates for Board meetings for the 2021 calendar year are as follows:

Wednesday, January 13 & 27, 2021

Wednesday, March 10 & 24, 2021

Wednesday, May 12 & 26, 2021

Wednesday, September 8 & 22, 2021

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Wednesday, February 10 & 24, 2021

Wednesday, April 7 & 28, 2021

Wednesday, June 9 & 23, 2021

Wednesday, October 13 & 27, 2021

Wednesday December 15, 2021

MOTION: by Mr. Muscara, seconded by Ms. Rivera-Abrams to approve the dates as presented of Board meetings for the 2021 calendar year.

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Biggs, to amend the motion to include changing the date of the Nov. 17, 2021 Board meeting to Nov. 10, 2021.
Yes - 2
No - 6
Motion failed

Back to original motion.

MOTION: by Mr. Muscara, seconded by Ms. Rivera-Abrams to approve the dates as presented of Board meetings for the 2021 calendar year.
Yes - 7
No - 1
Motion Carries

13. BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

13.A. Curriculum Sub-Committee

Mr. Greg Biggs – No meetings since the last Board meeting.

13.B. Facilities Sub-Committee - No meetings since the last Board meeting.

13.C. Fiscal Sub-Committee

Ms. Lydia Rivera-Abrams shared that the fiscal subcommittee met on Monday, November 16. Christine Clark, Business Manager summarized highlights of this month's report.

13.C.1. November 6 2020 Financial October Reports

The month of October 2020 showed finances are on track, with no special areas of concern at this time. A \$64,000 unemployment credit was received due to individuals who were not entitled to benefits. The district is still actively pursuing other unemployment claims. There are fifteen outstanding purchase orders from the 2019-20 FY. The student outplacement line-item account is showing a healthy balance. A \$14,570 refund was received on the KHS turf field installation due to change orders, increasing the balance of unexpended funds to be returned to the Town.

13.D. Personnel Subcommittee- No meetings since the last Board meeting.

13.E. Policy Sub-Committee

MOTION: by Mr. Muscara, seconded by Ms. Rivera-Abrams to waive a second reading for both policies presented tonight.
Yes – 8, Unanimous
Motion Carries

13.E.1. Possible First Reading of Policy #4118.237 Face Masks-Coverings

MOTION: by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Ms. Flexer to approve, as a first and second reading Policy#4118.237 Face Masks-Coverings as presented.
Yes - 7
Abstain – 1
Motion Carries

13.E.2. Possible First Reading of Policy #5131.42-Virtual Remote Learning- Code of Conduct

MOTION: by Mr. Muscara, seconded by Mr. Biggs to approve, as a first and second reading Policy #5131.42- Virtual Remote Learning- Code of Conduct.
Yes - 8
Motion Carries

14. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Biggs asked to pull out consent item, 14.C October 28, 2020 Board Meeting minutes.

MOTION: by Mr. Muscara, seconded by Mr. Biggs to approve consent items;
14.A. October 2019 Issued Checks
14.B October 14, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes
14.D November 2020 Student Enrollment
Yes - 8
Motion Passes

MOTION: by Mr. Muscara, seconded by Mr. Napierata to approve 14.C October 28, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes with edit of comma.
Yes - 6
No - 1
Abstain - 1
Motion Passes

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Ms. Flexer, seconded by Mr. Biggs to adjourn.
Yes-8
Motion Passes

The November 18, 2020 Killingly Board of Education meeting adjourned 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Keely Doyle
Recording Secretary