

# REGULAR MEETING

## KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

7:00 PM

Town Hall, 172 Main St.

### MINUTES

- Present:** Mr. Doug Farrow, Mr. Greg Biggs, Mr. Norm Ferron, (via Zoom) Ms. Hoween Flexer (via Zoom), Ms. Janice Joly, Mr. Jason Muscara, Mr. Kyle Napierata, and Ms. Lydia Rivera-Abrams.  
Student Board Members: Madelyn Sumner, Grace Gilman (via Zoom).  
Absent with Notification: Mr. Chris Viens.
- Others:** Superintendent, Mr. Robert Angeli, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Paul Brenton,  
**Present** Keely Doyle, Recording Secretary and former Interim Superintendent, Dr. Diane Summa.

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Board of Education chair, 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-No comments.

#### 5. REPORT OF TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON

**MOTION:** by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Ms. Rivera-Abrams to postpone this agenda item until Mr. Anderson arrives, via Zoom.

**Unanimous**

**Motion Carries**

#### 6. REPORT BY KILLINGLY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Madelyn and Grace shared that students and teachers are very happy to back in the classrooms. GECC staff utilized an outdoor classroom and setup learning centers for purposeful play.

KCS students explored aspects of self-identity such as their names, gender, physical appearance, and learned about different types of families. This will transition into learning about Martin Luther King Jr. and then into Black History Month.

KMS staff recently participated in professional development and teachers, Kim Vincent and Brittany Bissonnette lead a demonstration for the staff on Nearpod. Students and staff at KIS are sharing their New Year's resolutions and creating vision boards which can be seen on the KIS website.

KHS grading period ends on January 21. Sophomore, Aila Gutierrez was accepted into the virtual William P. Lauder Junior Internship Program at the University of Southern California

## **5. REPORT OF TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON**

Jason Anderson shared that Town Council approved the \$880,945 transfer into the non-lapsing account. Town Council is considering naming a Killingly Pond island after Christopher Hopkins, former KHS student and veteran who died while serving. The Town Council transferred \$18,000 to cover the cost of a new Community Center feasibility study. The community center is having hot water heater issues. Town Council discussed the possibility of relocating the Community Center in the future. Town Council asked if there is a contract with EASTCONN at Westfield Avenue and if so, when does that contract expire?

Superintendent Angeli shared that EASTCONN does have a contract and will reach out to Gary Mala, executive director at EASTCONN.

## **7. BOARD OF EDUCATION CHAIR UPDATE**

Mr. Farrow welcomed Mr. Angeli to his first official BoE meeting. All Board members thanked Dr. Summa for serving as interim superintendent and added that she is a great asset and did a remarkable job while serving in this role. Dr. Summa handled many difficult situations very well, in regards to the COVID19 pandemic. They also thanked her for being a valued past Board member and for her leadership and professionalism. Superintendent Angeli thanked Dr. Summa for continuously making herself available and her assistance with creating a smooth transition.

## **8. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

### **8.a. Discussion of FY2021-22 Budget Process**

Superintendent Angeli shared that during his first few days he met with members of the administrative team. He visited schools and met with principals, discussing their visions and initiatives. These meetings will continue over the next week or two.

The superintendent also shared that staff have a strong understanding of the importance of in school learning but also have concerns about COVID19. Administration will continue to keep an eye on COVID19 quarantine cases and managing substitute coverage.

There have been some CEN wi-fi issues this week, impacting teachers, staff, and students.

Marian Capraro, staff liaison for the Killingly Community Garden at 79 Westfield Ave. is requesting \$779.64 from the Town to improve the irrigation system. Maintenance and a new configuration of a timed watering system would be paid and maintained by the town. The superintendent supports this request.

Superintendent Angeli shared that the Board will need to take action to authorize him as signer on certain documents, specifically the ED-099 agreement.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Muscara seconded by Mr. Biggs to add to the agenda, discussion and possible action regarding an amendment to the ED-099 Child Nutrition Programs agreement.

**Unanimous**

**Motion Carries**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Muscara, seconded by Mr. Biggs, that the Killingly Board of Education authorizes the execution of ED-099 Permanent Single Agreement to Participate in the Child Nutrition Programs and to designate the Superintendent of Schools, Robert Angeli as the authorized signer of the Agreement and claims for reimbursement. Furthermore, to authorize the Manager of Business Affairs, Christine Clark, to certify claims for reimbursement only in the absence or incapacity of the Superintendent of Schools.

**Unanimous  
Motion Carries**

## 9. BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 9.a. Curriculum Sub-Committee- Greg Biggs shared a new meeting date will be determined soon.
- 9.b. Facilities Sub-Committee- Kyle Napierata shared that the facilities subcommittee had a brief meeting and he was elected chair for this committee. A list of building projects were reviewed and discussed.
- 9.c. Fiscal Sub-Committee
  - 9.c.1. Month of December 2020 Financial Reports- Ms. Lydia Rivera-Abrams shared that the fiscal subcommittee met on January 11. Encumbrances and expenditures are at 49.59% of the 20-21FY budget. The district is in good financial standing at this time. COVID expenditures were reclassified to the Coronavirus Relief Fund grant. Expenditures for special education outplacements have exceeded budget. The committee discussed the 21-22FY budget process.

Superintendent Angeli shared that the Board will receive the initial budget books at the January 27 Board meeting. Mr. Farrow shared that on Wednesdays, when there are not regular scheduled BoE meetings scheduled, have worked well but he asked for Board input.

Ms. Lydia Rivera-Abrams asked for clarification about the budget books distribution on January 27 and if at that time, are figures only recommendations, ultimately allowing input from the Board. Superintendent Angeli shared that the budget books and the budget is a working document. He will share information regarding budget drivers, areas of concern, increases or decreases, state grants, revenues, etc. If the Board has a specific percentage of increase in mind, this could help guide the budget. Ms. Rivera-Abrams asked if the Board would be apprised of district priorities. Ms. Flexer asked that mill rates be explained and discussed, specifically equivalency in dollars, and this would to help community members understand the budget's impact.

Mr. Farrow shared sections of the budget book could also be reviewed at regular Board meetings. Mr. Biggs supported this option.

Ms. Joly shared that she would prefer to have separate budget meetings and Mr. Ferron supported this option. Mr. Muscara shared he was fine with either option, but discussing sections during regular meetings could help expedite the process. Ms. Rivera-Abrams prefers to meet every other Wednesday but would also like updates and discussions at regular Board meetings.

After discussion, Mr. Farrow shared that budget meetings with the whole Board will take place every other Wednesday and commence at 6:15 p.m. It is unknown at this time if the Town Hall Community meeting room will be available for budget meetings.

9.d. Policy Sub-Committee-Mr. Jason Muscara shared that the subcommittee has not met.

9.e. Personnel Sub-Committee-Mr. Doug Farrow shared that the next Personnel subcommittee meeting is tomorrow, January 14 at 5:00 p.m.

## 10. CONSENT AGENDA

- 10.a. December 2020 Issued Checks
- 10.b. December 16, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes
- 10.c. January 2021 Student Enrollment
- 10.d. January 2021 Employee of the Month Nominee

Ms. Lydia Rivera-Abrams asked to pull 10.b December 16, 2020 Board meeting minutes.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Muscara to approve consent items;  
10.a. December 2020 Issued Checks  
10.c. January 2021 Student Enrollment  
10.d. January 2021 Employee of the Month Nominee  
**Unanimous**  
**Motion Carries**

Ms. Rivera-Abrams asked that acknowledgement of appreciation of Dr. Summa's service imparted at the December 16 Board meeting be included in the December 16 minutes.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Muscara, seconded by Mr. Napierata to approve consent item 10.b December 16, 2020 Board meeting edited minutes that will include acknowledgements of appreciation of Dr. Summa's service as interim superintendent.  
**Unanimous**  
**Motion Carries**

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** by Mr. Muscara, seconded by Ms. Flexer to adjourn.  
**Unanimous**  
**Motion Carries**

The January 13, 2021 Killingly Board of Education meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
*Keely Doyle*  
Recording Secretary