

Regular Meeting
KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Wednesday, February 28, 2024
7:00 PM
Killingly Town Hall, 172 Main St.
2nd Floor, Community Mtg. Room

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **BOARD SHOUT-OUTS**
4. **REPORT BY STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS**
5. **RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**
 - A. February Employee of the Month-Reilly Allen
 - B. Rebecca Pond and FFA Students: In Celebration of FFA Week.
6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**- *Members of the public are encouraged to share their thoughts with the Board of Education and are invited to do so during this segment of the meeting. 30 minutes will be allotted for public comment per meeting, limited to no more than 3 minutes , maximum per person. People wishing to speak must sign-up prior to the start of the meeting. When appropriate to do so, members of the Board and the administration may respond to comments. However, in consideration of those in attendance and in an effort to proceed in a timely manner, follow-up discussion may need to take place outside of the meeting setting.*
7. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. February 14, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
 - B. KHS Field Trip to Sturbridge Village on March 7, 2024
 - C. David Rollinson- French/Spanish Club Trip Request to France, Spain during Spring Break, 2025
 - D. Dr. Robert Polselli- Trip Requests to US National Robotics Competition in Council Bluffs, Iowa- March 19 through March 24, 2024 and World Robotics Championship in Dallas, Texas, March 24 through March 28, 2024
8. **DISCUSSION OF STRATEGY REGARDING PENDING CLAIMS AND LITIGATION: STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HEARING CONCERNING 10-4b COMPLAINT (Proposed for Executive Session)**
9. **BOARD CHAIR AND COMMITTEE & LIAISON UPDATES**
 - A. Curriculum Committee
 - B. Facilities Committee
 - C. Fiscal Committee
 - D. Personnel Committee
 - E. Policy Committee

Continued

Regular Meeting
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7:00 PM

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

- A. Discussion and Possible Action to approve an additional \$7,823.00 from the Non-Lapsing Account to complete the replacement of the bleachers at KMS.

11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO FORM AN ADHOC COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS SCHOOL MASCOT

12. ADJOURNMENT

It is with great pleasure that Killingly Public Schools recognize

FEBRUARY 2024
Employee of the Month
Reilly Allen

It is my privilege to recommend Ms. Reilly Allen for employee of the month in the Killingly Public School system. Ms. Allen currently serves as our SEL Specialist at Killingly Memorial School, where she focuses on the behavioral needs of our students. Ms. Allen works with various students who require extensive emotional and behavioral support, including students with 504 plans, students in the SST process, or any student who presents with need due to emotionality. She provides support by meeting with students both individually and in small groups.

Both Ms. Allen's communication and organizational skills are exceptional. Ms. Allen responds to students' needs with compassion while setting limits and appropriate expectations. She has a calm, collective demeanor when dealing with emotionally charged situations. She is punctual, professional and seeks out ongoing support and supervision in her role as our SEL Specialist. Ms. Allen has established strong working relationships with staff and is frequently sought out for classroom support for student problem solving, mediation between students, or temperature checks on emotionality.

Ms. Allen takes on multiple additional responsibilities to ensure the success of our KMS community. Currently, Ms. Allen assists every morning with bus duty, happily greeting students. Additionally, every afternoon she helps with parent pick up, and daily she is in the lunchroom helping with lunch duty, or out at recess supervising students. Ms. Allen says that these times provide her with the opportunity to connect with students, observe, and be proactive in addressing behaviors before they arise in other settings.

Since starting at KMS, Ms. Allen has been certified in Safety Cares training, attends various meetings to support and share information on her work with students, and is also a member of our crisis team and attendance committee.

While Ms. Allen has only been at Killingly Public Schools for a short time, she has made a lasting impression and has brought a wonderful energy to our building. She is remarkable at making strong, trusting connections with students and staff. She has no hesitation in helping her fellow colleagues by jumping in to assist with a dysregulated student.

Ms. Allen was also a student at KMS, and a 2018 graduate of Killingly High School. Her commitment to give back to our community is evident by her desire to work at a place that contributed to her own education and development. Ms. Allen's unwavering professionalism and dedication to the students and staff at KMS make her a perfect candidate for employee of the month.

*Respectfully submitted by:
Mrs. Kim Low, KMS Social Worker
Mrs. Tina Chahanovich, KMS Principal*

On behalf of the Board of Education, we commend you for your dedication to Killingly Public Schools.

Susan Lannon
Board of Education Chairperson

Dr. Sue Nash Ditzel
Superintendent of Schools

Regular Meeting
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2nd Floor, Community Mtg. Room

MINUTES

Present: Laura Dombkowski, Meredith Giambattista, Susan Lannon, Laura Lawrence, Kelly Martin, Kevin Marcoux, Misty Murdock, Kyle Napierata, Danny Rovero. Student Board Member, Anya Oliverson.

Others Present: Superintendent Dr. Susan Nash, Assistant Superintendent, Jeffrey Guiot, Recording Secretary, Keely Doyle, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL- See above

3. BOARD SHOUT-OUTS

Kevin Marcoux gave a shout-out to Kurt Michon, head custodian at KHS. Mr. Marcoux went on to say that Kurt goes above and beyond every day with a pleasant disposition. He takes pride in his work and provides a great working environment for students and staff. There is no task too big, or too small. Kurt is respected by everyone at the high school and is adored by all his co-workers.

4. REPORT BY STUDENT BOARD MEMBER

Anya Oliverson shared news about events that have taken place in the district.

GECC: For Purposeful Play, classrooms recently visited Stop & Shop and Lowe's and students will create their own supermarket and home improvement stores.

KCS: Kindergarten students took a field trip to Logee's Greenhouse. The guide shared that the children were the best group they have ever had due to the students' good manners and ability to listen to and follow directions.

No report for KMS.

KIS: The 8th grade popcorn fundraiser that was approved by the Board of Education had a very good outcome and \$5,616 was raised.

KHS: The Agricultural Education Program hosted an AgEd Pop-Up Shop on February 14th. Students sold items from their businesses.

KHS Wrestling won the ECC champions and KHS will host the Class S State Wrestling Tournament on February 16th and 17th. The KHS National Honor Society held a blood drive last week. 9th -11th grade students will be participating in course selection for next school year

5. PUBLIC COMMENT-

Michelle Murphy, 325 Breakneck Hill Rd., Dayville

Ms. Murphy was speaking as a taxpayer. She was disturbed last week seeing a new letter of engagement or contract with legal services between the Board of Education and Shipman & Goodwin without all Board members given the time to read over the financial terms. Whether it was new or renewed contract does not matter.

Ms. Murphy commented as an individual Town Council member saying there is a lot to learn upon taking on an elected position. All Board members should look at all Killingly School system finances including new or renewed contracts, letters of engagement or agreement, etc. This expectation falls on each Town Council member and it also falls on each Board of Education member. Taxpayers expect and deserve knowing that we are looking at all financials, all the time.

6. TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Michelle Murphy shared with the Board that last night's Town Council meeting was cancelled due to the snow. The Town is hoping to receive approval from the Army Corps of Engineers to begin dredging the pond at Owen Bell Park this summer. The material from dredging will be deposited on the soccer field and will be removed in the fall. The soccer playing field will be out of service for 1 year. Presentation was given by Jill St. Clair regarding how the process for funding brownfields work. Improvements to the baseball's infield and irrigation will cost between 35,000-\$45,000. There is an identified donor for partial funding but there will still be a gap for the total cost. She shared information regarding liaison appointments.

Assesments have dramatically increased and this is a concern of the Town Council in relation to budgeting. Mr. Napierata asked about town-wide trash pick-up services and if that service will be changing, as it is in Putnam. This falls under waste mangement but she will look into this. Mr. Rovero asked what the percentage of increase is of the total grand list. Ms. Murphy did not know at this time, but this will be disussed in upcoming Town Council budget meetings. Dates of meetings will be announced soon.

7. KMS BUILDING UPDATE/PRESENTATION BY REPRESENTATIVES OF DOWNES CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Frank Tomcak, project executive and Doug Triba, project manager for Downes Construction gave a brief synopsis of the temporary heating system at KMS and explained how it works and why there were some heating issues. COVID remains to have an impact on receiving mechanical equipment in a timely manner, therefore a temporary heating unit needed to be installed at the new KMS addition. The temporary heating system was accepted by the design team and final inspections took place in December. The temporary unit was installed with involvement from both, the fire marshall and building department official. The heating unit met all building codes.

It is very common to experience a period of adjustment in initial start-ups of a new heating system. Staff adjusting thermostats and doors left open, impact regulated temperatures. At this time, temperature and humidity levels are where they should be. Temperatures will continue to be monitored until the mechanicals for the permanent heating system are delivered and installed, sometime in April.

8. BOARD CHAIR AND COMMITTEE & LIAISON UPDATES

- A. Curriculum Committee-no update
- B. Facilities Committee

1. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the 2024/25 through 2028/29 Capital Improvement Plan

Dr. Nash shared that the Capital Improvement plan has been trimmed down a bit from past years. The new greenhouse roof at ag-ed and a new parking lot at Goodyear have been completed. Dr. Nash's priorities at this time are projects that are most pivotal in terms of safety. There are two capital improvement projects she has prioritized.

A new access road to the lower field at KHS needs widening. The access road is not wide enough for emergency vehicles, especially fire trucks. In 2021 there was a fire in the lower field and emergency vehicles had a difficult time accessing the area. The Fire Marshall requested in writing, that the road be widened or a new access road be made. Dr. Nash would like to have an engineer do a study and seek a cost estimate. Once an estimate is determined, Dr. Nash will come back to the board to discuss the best options.

The second area of concern is vestibule area KIS. The public enter through the front doors and if they don't go directly to the main office, they can enter multiple hallways, leading to classrooms. Dr. Nash would like to see a teller type window system installed to prevent visitors entering those areas.

**MOTION: Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Danny Rovero to approve the Capital Improvement Plan as presented.
Yes- 9, Unanimous, Motion Carries.**

2. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Use of the Non-Lapsing Account to Fund New Bathroom Doors at KHS.

Dr. Nash shared that KHS the project for new bathroom doors went out to bid to state vendors. At a recent Facility committee meeting, committee members reviewed the contractor's proposal from BMP Construction Inc. The work could be performed during April break. The proposal is \$99,520.45 and a 10% contingency was added for any unforeseen issues, raising the amount to \$109,472.50. Closing down the large bathrooms during class time is having a positive impact on student discipline incidents. There has been a 8% decrease in student vaping incidents and class cuts are down by 11%. Kurt Michon, lead KHS custodian told Dr. Nash that the amount of vandalism has decreased in the bathrooms since closing them off during class time. Ms. Martin asked if there was enough money in the non-lapsing account now, without the transfer and Dr. Nash answered that yes.

**MOTION: Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Misty Murdock to approve using \$109,472.50 from the non-lapsing account to fund the new bathroom doors at Killingly High School.
Yes, 9 Unanimous, Motion Carries.**

- C. Fiscal Committee- Ms. Lannon reminded the Board that the first budget workshop will be held next Wednesday, at 6:15 at Central Office.
- D. Personnel Committee
Misty Murdock, Policy Committee Chairperson shared that the committee met on January 30. They met with the lawyer to learn about procedures regarding negotiations. Negotiations for paraprofessionals and nurses were discussed. Per diem comparable rates for nurses are being looked into.

1. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF KIS PRINCIPAL, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

MOTION: by Misty Murdock, seconded by Meredith Giambattista to enter

into executive session to discuss appointment of KIS principal effective July 1, 2024

Yes- 9 Unanimous, Motion Carries.

Amended Motion to invite Dr. Nash and Mr. Guiot into Executive Session.

Motion Yes- 9 Unanimous, Motion Carries.

The Board entered executive session at 7:37 p.m

The Board came out of executive session and resumed the Board meeting at 7:41 p.m.

2. Possible Action to Appoint KIS Principal, effective July 1, 2024

MOTION: by Kelly Martin, seconded by Laura Lawrence to appoint Bryant Sheldon as KIS Principal effective July 1, 2024.

Yes-9 Unanimous, Motion Carries

3. Discussion and Possible Action to Establish the Position of Athletic Director as a Full-Time, 12-Month Position, Effective July 1, 2024.

MOTION: by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Laura Lawrence to establish the position of Athletic Director to full-time, 12-month position, effective July 1, 2024.

Yes-9 Unanimous, Motion Carries

E. Policy Committee- No updates

9. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING MONTHLY CHECK AUTHORIZATIONS

- A. December 2023 Check Authorizations from 2022-23 Fiscal Year
- B. December 2023 Check Authorizations
- C. January 2024 Check Authorizations

MOTION: by Misty Murdock, seconded Kelly Martin to approve checks as presented.

Yes- 9, Unanimous, Motion Carries.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

- A. Preliminary Budget 2-14-24

Dr. Nash gave a presentation of her preliminary FY 2024-25 budget.

Many districts beside Killingly, will be losing ESSER funds. The Killingly district has relied heavily on ESSER funds, or COVID Relief Funds. To date, almost 1M has supported many position's salaries and benefits. The status of State and Federal grants is unknown at this time.

A zero-based budgeting approach will be looked at for Supplies and Communications. During the budget process, administrators were asked to itemize and justify supplies. In Communications, there were many pandemic-remnant subscriptions that were reviewed. At department level budget meetings, administrators were asked to determine how significantly it would impact programming and student learning if some were eliminated. Dr. Nash said that even though it appears that there is an increase in these accounts, that in actuality, there is not due to last year's pre-spending for these accounts.

Dr. Nash presentation included past historical views of a Superintendent's proposed budget, the Board's proposed budget, and actual adopted budgets.

The main driver in the budget continues to be Salaries and Benefits. Dr. Nash has made her initial reductions and adjustments.

Currently, the Superintendent's proposed budget for the 2024-25 school year is \$49,115.026.90 which equates to a 4.94% increase.

Dr. Nash explained that there will be more details discussed at the upcoming budget workshops. The Board will have time to review proposed, prioritized decision packages and discuss and review all departmental proposed budgets and make revisions.

Mr. Marcoux asked how revenues, such as tuition will impact the budget. The amount of all revenues will be calculated by Mrs. Clark during the budget process.

11. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. January 24, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
- B. February 1, 2024 Student Enrollment
- C. Employee of the Month Nominee

Kelly Martin asked to pull item 10.A, January 24, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

**MOTION: by Kelly Martin seconded by Misty Murdock to approve Consent items 10.B & 10.C
Yes-9, Unanimous. Motion Carries.**

Kelly Martin noted that it was important to add comments made by her at the January 24 meeting. She requested to add that there was a discussion with Attorney Mills surrounding some members of the BOE who were concerned that the Letter of Engagement from Shipman & Goodwin was not attached to the agenda and that they didn't have time to review it before the vote. Ms. Martin shared that it is common practice to see a Letter of Engagement or a contract of any kind prior to voting on it, the majority voted to engage the services without seeing the contract.

**MOTION: by Kelly Martin, seconded by Kyle Napierata to amend the January 24, 2024 minutes.
Yes-9, Unanimous. Motion Carries.**

**MOTION: by Kelly Martin, seconded by Laura Lawrence to approve the amended January 24, 2024 minutes.
Yes-9, Unanimous. Motion Carries.**

12. **DISCUSSION WITH RICH MILLS OF SHIPMAN & GOODWIN REGARDING BOE BY-LAWS AND PROCUREMENT POLICIES, INCLUDING THE POTENTIAL RAMIFICATIONS OF BY-LAW VIOLATIONS AND PROCUREMENT POLICY BREACHES**

This item was added to the agenda at the request of four Board members. Ms. Lannon read Bylaw #9125. The Bylaw contained much detail regarding how the Board is to utilize legal council and how to properly obtain legal advice.

Ms. Martin asked Attorney Mills how it was allowed to waive a partial by-law to pass a 2/3 majority vote at the January special board meeting or at any time. Ms. Martin asked where she can find this information and she would appreciate it if the Board could get that information in writing from Attorney Mills.

Attorney Mills responded by saying that there are three ways for a district to request legal advisement or strategy and it is in the Board of Education Bylaw.

The first would be to have the Officers of the Board request legal opinion. The second would be to have the whole Board take a vote to get legal opinion. The third is to have the Superintendent or their designee request legal opinion. Attorney Mills shared that at this time, he has not been asked through any of those three avenues, for legal advice regarding Ms. Martin's concerns in this issue. Attorney Mills reminded her of the By-laws and reiterated the three avenues of requesting legal opinion. He added he is to advise the Board as a whole and not individual Board members. Ms. Martin requested to add to tonight's agenda discussion and action to get a legal opinion regarding this issue. Ms. Lannon said there would need to be a 2/3 vote to add this to the agenda.

MOTION: by Kelly Martin, seconded by by Laura Dombkowski to amend the agenda to add discussion and action regarding this specific issue.

Roll Call Vote

No-5, Meredith Giambattista, Kevin Marcoux, Misty Murdock, Danny Rovero, and Susan Lannon.

Yes-4, Laura Dombkowski, Laura Lawrence, Kelly Martin, and Kyle Napierata

Motion Fails

Ms. Lannon asked Attorney Mills if it would be proper protocol for Ms. Martin to put a request in writing requesting legal opinion on this issue. Attorney Mills said that Ms. Martin could put this request in writing as long as one on three avenues as stated in the Board's Bylaw was followed. He added that the Bylaw is to also ensure that the Board does not incur any unnecessary legal costs. Ms. Martin said she feels another By-Law has been broken but will not pursue it tonight because no-one wants to hear the answer and the votes will be no. Ms. Martin will seek answers elsewhere and she will attempt to put her requests in writing.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS STRATEGY REGARDING PENDING CLAIMS AND LITIGATION:

1) Claim Filed by Killingly Board of Education with the Office of Claims Commissioner of the State of Connecticut, File No. 26997

2) Complaint Filed by Killingly Board of Education with the Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission, Case No FIC 2023-0563

MOTION: by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Misty Murdock to enter executive session with invite to Dr. Nash and Attorney Mills.

Roll Call Vote

Yes-9, Laura Dombkowski, Meredith Giambattista, Laura Lawrence, Kelly Martin, Kevin Marcoux, Misty Murdock, Kyle Napierata, Danny Rovero, and Susan Lannon.

Motion Carries

The Board entered Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session and resumed the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

14. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CLAIM FILED BY KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION WITH THE OFFICE OF THE CLAIMS COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT, FILE NO. 26997

MOTION: by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Meredith Giambattista, to authorize the Board's Legal Council Shipman & Goodwin, LLP to withdraw the claim filed by Killingly Board of Education with the office of the Claims Commissioner of the State of Connecticut, file No. 26997.

Roll Call Vote

Yes-5 Meredith Giambattista, Kevin Marcoux, Misty Murdock, Danny Rovero, and Susan Lannon.

No-4, Laura Dombkowski, Laura Lawrence, Kelly Martin, and Kyle Napierata.

Motion Carries

15. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING COMPLAINT FILED BY KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION WITH THE CONNECTICUT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION, CASE NO. FIC 2023-0563

MOTION: by Meredith Giambattista, seconded by Kevin Marcoux to have Legal Council Shipman & Goodwin, LLP withdraw the complaint filed by Killingly Board of Education with the Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission, Case No. FIC 2023-0563.

Roll Call Vote

Yes-5 Meredith Giambattista, Kevin Marcoux, Misty Murdock, Danny Rovero, and Susan Lanno.

No-5, Laura Dombkowski, Laura Lawrence, Kelly Martin, and Kyle Napierata.

Motion Carries

16. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Danny Rovero, seconded by Kevin Marcoux to adjourn at 9:07 p.m.
Unanimous
Motion Carries

Respectfully submitted by,
Keely Doyle
Recording Secretary

France and Spain Trip- Adventures in France and Spain

I. Bienvenidos

A. Number of chaperones (5 - depending on enrollment 1 chaperone :6 students)

B. Benefits of the trip:

- a. In giving our students the opportunity to travel abroad, we are giving them the opportunity to grow in not only the knowledge of the Spanish and French language but the culture as well. Traveling to France and Spain is an experience that will give our students a closer look at a country with a diverse climate, cultural practices and language. Our students will be given the opportunity to see historical landmarks as well as experience the culture through authentic excursions. They will also use the tools that we have given to them in their language acquisition to interact with native speakers. This is a once in a lifetime experience for our Killingly language students.

C. Trip Safety

- a. Passport Tours maintains a free blog website that updates each night detailing the day's activities to keep in contact with the group and the people at home.
- b. We will have each student and Parents have *Remind App* in order for them to keep in contact with the chaperones and the group

II. *Passports Educational Travel*

- A. About the organization- Passports is a company which has been operating since the 1960's. They are the only fully American educational tour company currently in business.
- B. Why Passports and not some other organization?
While reviewing the catalog for Passport, it appears to have more concern for the placement of tour members. I have compared the prices for a similar tour using EF and have found them to be more or less the same.

III. Itinerary- See included information

IV. Payment schedule:

- a. Total cost \$3,709.00 (Estimated monthly payment \$195.00 when started in March 2024)
- b. Initial deposit \$250
- c. Final payment is due 12/30/2024 or 03/20/2025 with EZ pay.

V. Enrollment Information

- a. **Travel Protection included as listed in the attached Enrollment Guide such as:**
hospitalization, emergency evacuation, overseas assistance services, baggage and personal effects, baggage delay, travel delay, trip interruption, medical cancelation, canceling due to political unrest.
- b. **Program Inclusions:**
Round trip air
Triple room in 3-4 star hotels
Ground transportation
Continental breakfast and dinner
Sightseeing as indicated in itinerary

Trained Passport guide

VI. **Not included in the aforementioned price**

- a. Bus transportation to Boston, MA -Logan Airport (to be split amongst students and added to the price)
- b. Tips and gratuities (to be collected upon leaving).

VII. **Students aid for the cost of the trip:**

- a. Possible fundraisers:
 - i. Yankee Candle
 - ii. Krispy Kreme

Company contact person:

Kris Weinand

kris@passports.com

Phone: (857)930- 4785

Or (800)332-pass

Fax (508)885-0329

Address:

389 Main Street

Spencer, MA 01562

KILLINGLY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST

REV. 7/08

Trip Number: _____ - _____ - _____ Billing Code: _____
Bldg Use Sequence (e.g. 010-1-001)

SCHOOL: KHS GRADE/CLASS/CLUB: French/Spanish Club DATE: 9/13/2023

TEACHER/FIELD TRIP LEADER: David Rollinson

DATE OF TRIP: 4/12 - 4/19/25 NUMBER OF STUDENTS: approx 20-25

NUMBER OF CHAPERONES: 1 per 6 students

DEPARTURE TIME: est 7:30am RETURN TIME: est 6:00pm

On a school day: 8:30 AM or later unless approved in writing by the Transportation Supervisor 2 PM or earlier unless approved in writing by the Transportation Supervisor

DESTINATION/DIRECTIONS (be specific): Paris, France and Madrid, Spain

Leaving the first day of Spring break 2025 and returning 7 days later. We are flying out of Boston/Logan airport

Yes No Transportation availability confirmed with Transportation Supervisor.

Objectives of Trip (relation to curriculum, etc.): Students will be immersed in the language, using Real Life situations to practice what they have learned

Transportation Desired:

Names of Chaperones:

nly to airport) School Bus David Rollinson Elise Geary
 Mini Bus Jennifer Nadeau
 Other (specify) more as needed
 Van depending on number of participants

Special Equipment Required: Substitutes Req. 0
 Car Seats _____ (Number) Aide(s) Required _____ (Number)
 Handicap Equipped _____ Nurse Required _____ (Number)
Specify: _____

NOTE: Requests to be submitted with all entries complete at least two weeks prior to the trip. Approval will be given only for trips where careful and early planning insures that worthwhile educational outcomes will result. PLEASE NOTE: Head teacher (school) is responsible for any parking fees.

David A. Rollinson
Teacher

Karen Lagace
Principal/Program Administrator

[Signature]
Superintendent's Office

[Signature]
Transportation Supervisor



KILLINGLY HIGH SCHOOL

226 PUTNAM PIKE
KILLINGLY, CT 06241
(860) 779-6620
Fax (860) 774-0846

January 23, 2024

Dear Killingly Board of Education Members:

I am writing to request permission to take 10-15 members of the Killingly High School Robotics team to Dallas Texas for the World Robotics Championship from March 23-28 or 15-20 of our students to Council Bluffs, Iowa from March 19 - 24 for the US National Robotics Championship to experience the highest level of engineering and robotics competition. I have completed two separate request forms, as I wanted to seek your approval early and both of these events depend upon our teams qualifying for a spot. Our teams will learn their fate at the conclusion of the Southern New England Regional Robotics Championship to be held on February 26-27 at the Total Mortgage Arena in Bridgeport, CT. If teams qualify, I wanted to avoid a last minute, rushed request to present to you. In all likelihood, our teams will qualify for one event or the other and therefore only one of the field trip requests will be moved forward. In the unlikely event that teams qualify for both events, no team will travel to two separate championships. They will have to choose one or the other, minimizing student absence. However, if teams split, I will creatively schedule my travel to accommodate both teams.

As an educator since 1996, I have had the unique opportunity to travel with more than 235 students on over 40 trips both nationally and internationally to compete in the New England Regional, US National, World, New Zealand National, and Japan International National robotics competitions. Each of these experiences has been incredibly impactful for my students. Upon reflection, my students describe their experience of meeting peers from another culture, interacting with teams from other countries, and learning about diverse people as "life changing," "the best experience I've ever had in school," and "a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity." I truly believe that traveling for competitive robotics with a focus on developing students skills and knowledge in engineering, culture, and global citizenship is the most impactful experience I have ever provided students.

A trip to Iowa or Texas is not just a fun experience for our students. They earned the opportunity to compete on the US National stage or the World Stage as a direct result of their accomplishments. Unlike many field trips, this one is earned through very hard work, dedication, hundreds of hours of focused testing and practice, and ultimately by being selected the best in New England. KHS students will fly out of either Bradley International, Logan International, or TF Green International and travel to Eppley Field (OMA) for US Nationals or Dallas, Love (DAL) where they will embark on a journey of a lifetime. We will stay locally and compete at the Iowa West Field House in Council Bluffs for US Nationals or the Kay Bailey Hutchinson Center in Dallas. Students will compete in robot skills (both operator control and programming), head-to-head competition, and multiple engineering design interviews to defend their incredible engineering notebook.

Over the past decade, my wife, an RN of nearly three decades who specializes in children and intensive care treatment, and I have chaperoned more than 40 out-of-state (including 2 international) robotics trips and are very comfortable taking on the extreme responsibility of caring for our students 24/7. These adventures will be an excellent opportunity for our students and will be well within our comfort zone. Through the exciting experience of competitive robotics, our students not only learn to become engineers, problem solvers, and collaborators, they learn the value of diversity, culture, and global citizenship that will make our world a truly better place.

KILLINGLY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST

REV. 7/08

Trip Number: 010 - 0 - Billing Code: _____
Bldg Use Sequence (e.g. 010-1-001)

SCHOOL: KHS GRADE/CLASS/CLUB: Killingly Robotics DATE: 1/22/24

TEACHER/FIELD TRIP LEADER: Dr. Polselli

DATE OF TRIP: 3/19/24 - 3/24/24 NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 10-15

NUMBER OF CHAPERONES: 2-3

DEPARTURE TIME: TBD RETURN TIME: TBD

On a school day: 8:30 AM or later unless approved in writing by the Transportation Supervisor

2 PM or earlier unless approved in writing by the Transportation Supervisor

DESTINATION/DIRECTIONS (be specific): US National Robotics

Championship - Towa West Field House
5 Arena Way, Council Bluffs Iowa

Yes ___ No N/A **Transportation availability confirmed with Transportation Supervisor.**

Objectives of Trip (relation to curriculum, etc.): To broaden our students' understanding and skill development in a highly competitive, real world, competitive environment

Transportation Desired:

Names of Chaperones:

School Bus

Dr. Robert Polselli

Mini Bus

Kathleen Polselli, RN

Flights Other (specify) _____

Rental Vans x 2

Special Equipment Required:

Substitutes Req. 1

Car Seats _____
(Number)

Aide(s) Required _____

(Number)

Handicap Equipped

Nurse Required _____

(Number)

Specify: _____

(Number)

NOTE: Requests to be submitted with all entries complete at least two weeks prior to the trip. Approval will be given only for trips where careful and early planning insures that worthwhile educational outcomes will result. PLEASE NOTE: Head teacher (school) is responsible for any parking fees.

R. Polselli
 Teacher

Ka. Lacey
 Principal/Program Administrator

 Superintendent's Office

[Signature]
 Transportation Supervisor

Note: Teams must still qualify for this event and no team will travel to both US Nationals & worlds.

KILLINGLY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST

REV. 7/08

Trip Number: 010 - 0 - _____ Billing Code: _____
Bldg Use Sequence (e.g. 010-1-001)

SCHOOL: KHS GRADE/CLASS/CLUB: Killingly Robotics DATE: 1/22/24

TEACHER/FIELD TRIP LEADER: Dr. Polselli

DATE OF TRIP: 3/23/24-3/28/24 NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 15-20
NUMBER OF CHAPERONES: 2-3

DEPARTURE TIME: TBD RETURN TIME: TBD
On a school day: 8:30 AM or later unless approved in writing by the Transportation Supervisor **2 PM or earlier unless approved in writing by the Transportation Supervisor**

DESTINATION/DIRECTIONS (be specific): World Robotics
Championship - The Kay Bailey Hutchinson
Center 650 South Griffin St, Dallas, Texas

Yes ___ No N/A **Transportation availability confirmed with Transportation Supervisor.**

Objectives of Trip (relation to curriculum, etc.): To provide students a realworld opportunity to apply their engineering skills & knowledge at the very highest levels of competition.

No trans to airport

Transportation Desired: _____ Names of Chaperones: _____
School Bus Dr. Robert Polselli
Mini Bus Kathleen Polselli, RN

Flights Other (specify) _____
Rental Vans x 2 _____

Special Equipment Required: _____ Substitutes Req. 1
_____ Car Seats _____ (Number) _____
_____ Handicap Equipped _____ Aide(s) Required _____ (Number) _____
Specify: _____ Nurse Required _____ (Number) _____

NOTE: Requests to be submitted with all entries complete at least two weeks prior to the trip. Approval will be given only for trips where careful and early planning insures that worthwhile educational outcomes will result. PLEASE NOTE: Head teacher (school) is responsible for any parking fees.

R Polselli
Teacher

Karen Lopez
Principal/Program Administrator

[Signature]
Superintendent's Office

[Signature]
Transportation Supervisor

Note: Teams must still qualify for this event and no team will travel to both worlds and Nationals.

Killingly Board of Education NONLAPSING ACCOUNT

6/30/2022 Available Balance of Fund	1,253,257.60
"Pending" 21-22 Contribution @ 6/30/2023	746,742.40
CAP	2,000,000.00
6/30/2023 Cash Balance (confirmed with TOK)	1,652,166.09
Plus 21/22 Max Contribution - Actual	746,742.00
Committed Projects @ 6/30/2023	
6/18/2019 KCS ADA	50,000.00
6/22/2022 KHS & KCS Gas Additional	90,000.00
6/24/2020 KHS & KCS Gas (\$100,000-\$2,000-\$35,324)	62,676.00
11/17/2021 KIS Roof (\$50,000 - \$1,372)	48,628.00
11/17/2021 KIS Elevator (\$156,500-\$44,500-\$44,500-\$4,020-\$29,323-\$2,064.40-\$3,615)	28,477.60
12/15/2022 Westfield Elevator (\$100,000-\$46,000-\$9,700-\$44,300)	-
10/12/2022 Westfield Elevator Additional (\$25,000-\$1,700-\$4,725-\$8,530)	10,045.00
10/12/2022 KMS Café Renovation	250,000.00
4/5/2023 Ag Greenhouse roof	60,000.00
4/5/2023 GY Paving (\$95,000-\$456.18)	94,543.82
6/23/2022 KMS Bleachers	116,000.00
Committed Projects @ 6/30/2023	(810,370.42)
6/30/2023 Available Balance on 6/30/23	1,588,537.67
2/14/2024 KHS Bathroom Doors Project	(109,472.50)
Total Available 2/23/2024	1,479,065.17
Plus 22/23 Max Contribution "Pending" audit/Town Council approval:	411,462.33
Potential Total Available:	1,890,527.50