

**Regular Meeting**  
**KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Wednesday, January 8, 2025**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Central Office 79 Westfield Ave., Killingly CT 06239**  
**Conference Room A**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Laura Dombkowski, Meredith Giambattista, Laura Lawrence (absent with notification), Kevin Marcoux, Kelly Martin, Misty Murdock, Kyle Napierata, Danny Rovero (absent with notification), Susan Lannon Student Board Member, Evan Kozey.

**Guests:** Superintendent Susan Nash, Assistant Superintendent Jeffrey Guiot, and Acting Recording Secretary Amy Perreault

**1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Susan Lannon, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:01pm and Laura Dombkowski led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. ROLL CALL – See above**

**3. BOARD SHOUT-OUTS**

Kevin Marcoux gave a shout out to Steve and Mike Marchesseault for their hard work and dedication filming athletic games and providing sports teams with film to analyze.

**4. REPORT BY STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS**

Evan Kozey gave the Board an update on recent and upcoming events in the district. Some highlights of his report are below.

**GECC:** Goodyear is preparing to celebrate World Snow Day on Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. All classrooms will engage in snow-based learning and will get a visit from Frosty the Snowman.

**KCS:** Friends in Mrs. Kelsey Crawford-Vasquez’s class started their New Year continuing to learn and solidify their letter sounds. This week, “Sherbert”, the class pet, engaged the students in a game to identify words that begin with Y. Students also practiced air writing to learn the strokes of the letter and applied this new knowledge to their writing. Ms. Hanson’s first graders spent the week continuing their studies on Ancient Egypt and were eager to share their new knowledge about the importance of the Nile River, the Pharaohs as rulers, and the hieroglyphic writing system.

**KMS:** On Friday, December 14th, KMS participated in the Connecticut Children's Hospital Pajama Day fundraiser to support children with cancer. Because of our generous KMS families, staff, and students, KMS was able to donate \$1,149.00! KMS held their monthly school wide community meeting the day before vacation. Students and staff participated in a variety of singalongs. Student of the month, grade 4 Koala Captains, and traveling trophy winners for best class attendance were each awarded. The "Golden Koala" award was also presented this month to Mrs. Bitgood. The assembly concluded with a visit from Mr. & Mrs. Claus. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the holiday.

**KIS:** KIS is ramping up efforts this year to recognize students for good behavior and effort in their academics. Students have received recognition during grade level ceremonies for outstanding effort for their course work and the prize patrol awards program has recognized students for being outstanding school citizens. This Friday there is a pep rally for the boys and girls' basketball teams, and cheer team. This month's habit of work focus is on collaboration, being a contributing member of the school classroom. The 5th and 6th grade chorus and band will be having their winter concerts next week.

**KHS:** KHS held their Great Things Happen Here assembly on Monday, January 6th, they recognized students for responsibility, excellence, and dedication. Students and alumni were also recognized for outstanding accomplishments on their AP courses and exams. The school counseling department will be holding a FAFSA workshop on Thursday, January 9th. There will be a robotics competition at KHS on Saturday, January 11th. Winter sports are in full swing. All sports schedules are listed on the CIAC and KHS website. KHS is preparing for midterm exams taking place from January 27th to January 31st, these will be half days. Semester 1 Quarter 2 ends on January 31st. Congratulations to twelve music students on their acceptance into the CMEA music festival at UCONN.

## **5. PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment**

## **6. TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT**

Town Council member Michelle Murphy shared that the council had a special meeting Tuesday, January 7, 2025 to interview people for the planning and zoning and permanent building committee.

## **7. BOARD CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE & LIAISON UPDATES**

- A. Curriculum Committee-  
Discussion during superintendent update.
- B. Facilities Committee- No report
- C. Fiscal Committee-  
The committee will be meeting as a full board in two weeks regarding budget season.
- D. Personnel Committee-  
The committee started negotiations with Transportation.
- E. Policy Committee- No report
- F. AdHoc Committee to Discuss District-wide Bullying-  
The committee will meet Monday, January 13th at 6pm
- G. AdHoc Committee to Discuss School Mascot-  
The committee will be meeting on January 27th to go over some of the imagery.

**8. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FFA FIELD TRIP REQUEST TO IRELAND, SPRING 2026**

FFA teacher Calvin Brodersen gave a brief overview about the field trip. The field trip is through EF tours and is an agricultural focused tour of Ireland in April of 2026.

**Motion:** by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Misty Murdock to approve the FFA Field Trip to Ireland, Spring 2026.

**Yes- 7, Unanimous  
Motion Carries**

**9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

Mr. Rovero has decided to step down as vice chair for personal reasons but will remain on the Board.

**Motion:** by Misty Murdock, seconded by Kevin Marcoux to appoint Meredith Giambattista to Vice Chair

**Yes- 4, Abstain-3  
Motion Carries**

**10. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

A. Discussion and Possible Action for Approval of 2025-2026 Calendar

Mr. Guiot spoke about the 2025-2026 school calendar. The school calendar year would be 182 student days and 188 workdays for teachers. The first day for students would be August 28, 2025.

**Motion:** by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Misty Murdock to approve 2025-2026 Calendar.

**Yes- 7, Unanimous  
Motion Carries**

B. Attendance Update –

Dr. Nash provided a presentation showing absentee percentages through the years. Dr. Nash highlighted that the addition of an Attendance Coordinator, as well as communication and cooperation with parents and incentive programs for students have helped bring absentee numbers down. Dr. Nash would like to thank community partners for providing prizes and rewards for students.

C. Update on KPS Therapeutic Academy at Westfield-

The KPS Therapeutic Academy will be ready to open in the fall of 2025. It will be a partnership between KPS and Effective School Solutions. It will offer Grades 5-12 and a transition program for students up to their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday. Dr. Nash is hoping to

bring back students that are in out of district placement and will be accepting Killingly students first and then will be looking at opening to other districts to bring in revenue that will offset the budget. The Academy will have 20 students in grades 5-12 and 10 students in the transition program for the first year.

- D. Discussion and Possible Action on Adoption of CKLA (ELA Program),  
Matt Sierakowski presented to the Board. Mr. Guiot went over cost.

**Motion:** By Kelly Martin, seconded by Laura Dombkowski to accept a multi-year contract with CKLA as discussed.

**Yes-7, Unanimous  
Motion Carries**

- E. Discussion and Possible Action on Adoption of AP Statistics & AP Pre-Calculus to the High School Program of Studies-  
Lydia Miudo presented to the Board the addition of 2 new math credit courses to the high school curriculum. This would increase AP offerings from 2 to 4 courses.

**Motion:** by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Kyle Napierata to adopt AP Statistics and AP Pre-Calculus to the High School Program of Studies

**Yes- 7, Unanimous  
Motion Carries**

## 11. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. 12-11-24 BoE Meeting Minutes
- B. Student Enrollment
- C. Employee of the Month Nominee

Susan Lannon asked to pull consent item 11.A December 11, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

**Motion:** by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Misty Murdock to approve consent item 13.A December 11, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

**Yes-6  
Abstain- 1 Susan Lannon  
Motion Carries**

**Motion:** by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Misty Murdock to approve 11.B through 11.C

**Yes-7, Unanimous  
Motion Carries**

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Kyle Napierata to adjourn at 8:25 pm.

**Yes- 7, Unanimous  
Motion Carries**