

Regular Meeting
KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Wednesday, January 22, 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 (absent with notification), Misty Murdock, Kyle Napierata, Danny Rovero (absent with notification), Susan Lannon, Student Board Member Melody Hutchinson

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

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meredith Giambattista, co-chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and Misty Murdock led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL- See Above

3. BOARD SHOUT-OUTS- No Shoutouts

4. REPORT BY STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Melody Hutchinson gave the Board an update on recent and upcoming events in the district. Some highlights of her report are below.

KCS: Students in Mrs. Parsell's Kindergarten class read "The Mitten Tree". Inspired by the book's theme, the students thought it would be nice to offer mittens and gloves to children at KCS who need a set for recess. The service project supported our Kindergartener's with helping children within our KCS community as well as fostering the classroom's theme of sharing. 17 pairs of mittens have already been collected for students to use at recess. Thank you to all the students and families who donated!

KMS: KMS teachers had the opportunity to participate in a few different professional development activities. Third and fourth grade teachers stepped into the shoes of their students as they solved multiplication problems using place value partial products and smart partial products. Grade 2 teachers were able to review three major strategies for solving 2-digit addition. KMS participated in Dr. Nash's Innovation Lab, where they took on the role of detectives. Their mission was to decide whether a lesson that they had to view, qualified as a DOK Level 3. Working collaboratively, the teachers analyzed and determined

the appropriate DOK level. They then reconvened as a larger group to share their thoughts and discuss whether the lesson aligned more closely with a DOK Level 1 or 2.

KIS: KIS music department ended their winter concert series last week with the 5th and 6th grade chorus and band students performing for packed houses. The 5th grade band and chorus program has grown tremendously thanks to the Board of Education's support of the new schedule that was implemented at KIS this year. Because of this support, students are able to learn about and grow their musical talents more regularly, thus increasing their achievement in the performing arts, something that was definitely noted in the applause given to the students by the audience. The 2nd round of clubs and activities is in full swing at KIS. Students are enjoying participating in clubs and activities such as volleyball, sewing, creative writing, coding, book club, board games, journaling, and so much more. We thank the teachers for sharing their interests and hobbies with all the students and look forward to seeing the students grow their interests as a result.

KHS: The KHS gym was full of fans and athletes on Monday, January 13th for Unified Sports senior night. Woodstock and Thompson joined us for senior night and then participated in a jamboree of basketball games with KHS! Thank you to everyone who attended to celebrate the seniors and cheer on our teams. KHS had a great professional development day on Tuesday, January 21st. Dr. Nash presented an exciting innovation lab workshop on the Depths of Knowledge (DOK) levels for lesson planning; faculty also participated in a habits of work workshop and a gradebook workshop with the admin team. KHS students will participate in course selection beginning on February 19th and school counselors will be going out to visit sending schools to support course selection for incoming 8th graders. Congratulations to the KHS football coaches, football staff and football players for being recognized as the CT High School Coaches Association 2024 Team of the Year!

5. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

A. January 2025 Employee of the Month, Adrianna Randolph.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT – No Public Comment

7. TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT-

Town Council member Michelle Murphy shared that the elevator at the Town Hall has been fixed. The footbridge is still damaged and remains closed. The Engineering Department has contacted a consultant to evaluate the condition of the footbridge and to provide an estimate of the cost to repair.

8. PRESENTATION FROM EASTCONN REGARDING INCREASE IN TUITION AND TRANSPORTATION

Eric Protulis, Executive Director and Brian Greenleaf, CFO from EastConn spoke to the Board about the need to increase tuition for students attending EastConn in the middle of the year. It is a 15% increase in Base tuition and a 4% increase in transportation cost.

9. BOARD CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE & LIAISON UPDATES

- A. Curriculum Committee- No Report
- B. Facilities Committee- No Report
- C. Fiscal Committee- No Report
- D. Personnel Committee-
The committee is continuing negotiations with Transportation
- E. Policy Committee- No Report
- F. AdHoc Committee to Discuss District-wide Bullying
In the process of choosing a different date to meet
- G. AdHoc Committee to Discuss School Mascot
The Historical Committee is reconvening at the end of the month to go over imagery being created by KHS art students.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

- A. 2025-2026 Budget Presentation
Dr. Nash highlighted to the board some things that budget money has been used for that have made Killingly Public Schools better and safer, such as Armed Security Officers in all schools, a Pyramid Coach-lowering the number of office referrals, a new math curriculum that earned KMS to become a school of distinction. Dr. Nash also highlighted that the creation of Killingly Therapeutic Academy will not add extra cost to the 25-26 school budget. Dr. Nash presented the board with a preliminary budget of \$49,738,817. A 4.97% increase from last year.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. 1-8-2025 BoE Meeting Minutes
- B. KHS Model UN Field Trip Request to Boston, MA

Motion: by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Misty Murdock to approve consent agenda.
YES- 5, Unanimous
Motion Carries

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: by Misty Murdock, seconded by Kyle Napierata to adjourn at 7:46pm
Yes-5, Unanimous
Motion Carries

Respectfully submitted by
Amy Perreault
Acting Recording Secretary