

Regular Meeting
KILLINGLY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Wednesday, May 28, 2025
7:00 PM
Central Office, Conference Room A
79 Westfield Ave., Killingly, CT 06239

MINUTES

Present: Susan Lannon, (absent with notification), Laura Dombkowski, Meredith Giambattista (absent with notification), Laura Lawrence (absent with notification), Kevin Marcoux, Kelly Martin, Misty Murdock, Kyle Napierata. Student Board member, Emerson Joly.

Guests: Superintendent Susan Nash, Assistant Superintendent Jeff Guiot and Recording Secretary Keely Doyle.

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Misty Murdock called the meeting to order at 7:03PM. Kyle Napierata led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

3. BOARD SHOUT-OUTS- No shout-out.

4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

A. May 2025 Employee of the Month, Kirk St. Onge

Kirk St. Onge was not able to attend tonight's meeting. Kirk is a bus driver for the Killingly Public School's transportation department. Kirk demonstrates consistent excellence, professionalism, and strong commitment to student safety and service every day.

5. EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION: TEACHING & LEARNING SHOWCASE- No presentation tonight.

6. REPORT BY STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Student Board member, Emerson Joly shared the following.

Goodyear had a phenomenal turnout for the grand opening of the Goodyear Nature Preserve; about 180 families attended.

KCS: On Friday, May 23rd KCS held a highly successful Family Showcase. Families had the opportunity to tour classrooms and interact with students. Another Family Showcase will be held on Thursday. Step Up Day will take place on Thursday, June 5th. This annual event is designed to support students in becoming familiar with their new learning environments and help ease the transition into the upcoming school year.

KMS: Grade four visited Roseland Cottage. Classes rotated through stations that helped enhance their reading unit on the American Revolution.

Grade 3 students had the opportunity to attend a musical based on the books *Rosie Revere, Engineer*, *Iggly Peck, Architect*, and *Ada Twist Scientist* by Andrea Beaty at the Loos Center in Pomfret. This play focused on the STEM curriculum. Grade 2 students will be visiting the Audubon Society in Pomfret, CT

KIS 5th and 6th graders are planning for their annual field day extravaganza. This event includes fun and interactive academic and playful activities.

7th grade students are looking forward to field trips to UCONN and the Mystic Seaport. 8th graders are looking forward to their annual class trip to Holiday Hill to enjoy themselves one last time as a class before the Recognition Ceremonies on June 16th. BOE members are welcomed to stop in at KIS for any of our field days to enjoy some fun and are invited to our 8th Grade Recognition Ceremonies.

KHS: Tuesday, May 20th, Dr. Po held the Robotics Honor Society Induction Ceremony and End of Year Banquet.

Wednesday, May 21st, the FFA held their annual banquet recognizing students for their accomplishments.

Thursday, May 22nd, the World Language Dept. held the induction ceremony for the World Language Honor Society.

Friday, May 23rd KHS Music Dept. held their annual Collage Concert highlighting all student musicians.

Tuesday, May 27th, the Music Dept. held the annual music awards ceremony recognizing all student musicians.

The Art Show is available all week for viewing in the small gym and was open to the public on May 27th.

On May 28th KHS seniors were recognized for their completion of a Career Pathway.

The Quiet Corner Film Festival is May 28 at 5:30PM. Video technology students as well as students throughout CT will participate in the festival.

Friday, May 30th KHS will celebrate students in two separate events during PRIDE. We will hold our underclassmen awards ceremony while seniors will participate in the 2025 Yearbook distribution and signing.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT-** No public comments.

8. **BOARD CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE & LIAISON UPDATES**

A. Curriculum Committee-no report

B. Facilities Committee-no report

1. Discussion & Possible Action for the Use of the Non-lapsing funds for the Construction of the KHS Access Road

Kyle Napierata, Facilities Committee Chairperson, shared that the committee met prior to tonight's Board meeting. The committee discussed funding for the KHS access road. Kyle conveyed that there will be three phases to the construction of the KHS access road. The facilities committee is asking that the Board approve using non-lapsing funds for the construction of the KHS access road.

MOTION: by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Kelly Martin to approve using \$855,147.01 from the non-lapsing account to fund Phase I construction of the KHS access road,
Unanimous, Motion Carries.

C. Fiscal Committee-no report

D. Personnel Committee-no report

E. Policy Committee-

1. Discussion & Possible Action of New Policy #6141.323 Instruction- Internet Responsible Use, Filtering Access to Electronic Networks as a SECOND READING.

MOTION: by Kelly Martin, seconded by Kevin Marcoux to approve Policy #6141.323 Instruction-Internet Responsible Use, Filtering Access to Electronic Networks as a SECOND READING.
Unanimous, Motion Carries.

2. Discussion & Possible Action of NEW Policy #5144.4 Students:Discipline, Physical Exercise and Discipline of Students as a SECOND READING.

MOTION: by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Kyle Napierata to approve Policy #5144.4 Students: Discipline Physical Exercise and Discipline of Students as a SECOND READING.

Unanimous, Motion Carries.

3. Discussion and Possible Action of New Policy #6142.61 Instruction:Physical Activity as a SECOND READING.

MOTION: by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Kyle Naierata to approve Policy #6142.61 Instruction:Physical Activity as a SECOND READING.

Unanimous, Motion Carries.

- A. AdHoc Committee to Discuss District-wide Bullying-no report
- B. AdHoc Committee to Discuss School Mascot-no report
- C. Updates from Liaisons for: Town Council, CABA, Cable Advisory, EASTCONN, Economic Development, Parks & Recreation, PBC

9. **FINANCIAL MONTHLY REPORT Including SYSTEM OBJECT REPORT**

Manager of Financial Affairs, Christine Clark highlighted some of the information included in the April 2025 financial report. Expenditures and encumbrances total \$37,550,276 or 79.25% of the approved 2024-25 budget of \$47,383,839.

Teacher salaries accounts shows a budget surplus of approximately \$470,000.

Transportation indicates a line-item surplus of approxiamtely \$171,000. Mostly due to driver vacancies, absences.

The revised reimbursement rate is now at 75.74%. This has gone up since the last projected reimbursement rate of 64.19% is December. Ongoing placement cost will directly impact the year-end financial position. Year-end expenditures and those reported on March 1 will be reconciled to the April 2026 ECS. Available funding sources will be looked into to cover unpaid meal charges, which as of April 30 is \$56,000.

Ms. Clark gave an update of the amount remaining in the non-lapsing account that now includes the deduction for the Phase 1 for the KHS access road and an anticipated deposit of \$503,486 from the 2023-24 budget.

10. **REVIEW & POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING MONTHLY CHECK AUTHORIZATION**

MOTION: by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Kyle Napierata to approve the monthly check authorization for the month of April.

Unanimous, Motion Carries.

11. **DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION FOR A TRANSFER EXCEEDING \$10,000 TO SUPPORT CONTRACTED SERVICES POSITIONS FOR SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING PROGRAMS (SELP) AT KIS & KHS.**

MOTION: by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Kyle Napierata to approve as presented, a transfer to support contracted services for SELP rooms at KIS & KHS. (into 2 line accounts, total of 2 transfers \$114,622.95 & \$114,622.96)

Unanimous

Motion Carries

12. **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

- A. GECC Nature Preserve

Superintendent Sue Nash showed a video of the new GECC Nature Preserve. GECC Staff and Director of GECC, Sally Sherman built the trail. Board members are welcomed to walk the trail.

B. Update on 2025-26 Budget

The BOE adopted 2025-26 budget was \$49,738,817. After a failed referendum, Town Council reduced it by \$1,800,000 bringing the proposed Board of Education budget down to \$47,938,817. The total increase over the 2024-25 budget is \$554,978.

Dr. Nash clarified \$900,000 of DEI hires from ARP ESSER grant in the operating budget. She believes that recent comments stem from a PowerPoint slide she showed last year for the 2024-25 budget.

Dr. Nash reminded the Board of legislative changes impacting non-lapsing accounts. Currently there is approximately 1.3M in the non-lapsing account based on tonight's agenda action item, 8.B.1. and a deposit of 503K into the non-lapsing acct.

Dr. Nash proposed that start up costs for the Killingly Therapeutic Academy (KTA) come from the non-lapsing account. It is unknown how much revenue will be generated from student enrollments. 2025-26 cost for ESS is 679K. The cost is budget neutral for the 25-26 SY based on the number of students we brought back from out-of-district. It is unknown for the 2026-27 the growth of the program.

Dr. Nash shared how "revenue" impacts or offsets the education budget. Revenue does not come to the school district.

Dr. Nash showed proposed reductions and she gave rationale to her decisions which included 13 eliminated positions, 5-10 reduced positions and 3 losses of job.

- 1 high school classroom position (English)
- 2 elementary classroom positions
- 2 intervention positions (1 vacant)
- 2 special services positions (vacant)
- 1 district reading consultant position
- 3 paraeducators (1PT 2FT, vacant)
- 2 custodians (1PT, 1FT) (district)
- 5 administrators reduce to 10 months, (KMS, KIS, KHS, PPS, AD)
- Restructuring and movement of secretaries
- Reduce \$300,000 from ESS for KTA- pay out of non-lapsing account
- Athletics- reduce by \$77,667.00
- Information Technology- Reduce by \$69,548.00
- Transportation- Reduce by \$50,000
- O&M repairs and maintenance \$100,000
- Supplies- GECC-\$4,450, KCS-\$9,980, KMS-\$18,700, KIS- \$18,035, KHS-\$14,952
- Hiring at lower steps-\$15,467.00

13. CONSENT AGENDA

A. May 14, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

MOTION: by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Kelly Martin to approve the May 14, 2024 Board meeting minutes as presented.

Unanimous, Motion Carries.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Kevin Marcoux, seconded by Kelly Martin to adjourn at 8:05PM.
Unanimous, Motion Carries.

Respectfully submitted by,

Keely Doyle

Recording Secretary