

KENT CENTER SCHOOL

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KENT CENTER SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

APPROVED-Minutes-March 2016

BOARD APPRECIATION MONTH

The Kent Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, March 3, 2016 at Kent Center School at 6:00 p.m. Present were: Chairman Paul Cortese, Allan Priaulx (via Skype), CiCi Nielsen, Dana Slaughter, Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso, Rob Ober, Florence Budge, Rita Limbos, Superintendent Patricia Chamberlain, Asst. Superintendent Pam Vogel, and Jonathan Moore. Also present were teachers Lee Sohl, Pat Ciccone, and Carolyn Macleod, members of the press, and First Selectman Jeffrey Parkin. Allan Priaulx left the meeting at 8:07 PM.

Call to Order – Paul Cortese called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

- Paul Cortese made a motion to amend the agenda as follows: To add Grace Herde, high school student, under Communications; and Under New Business, to add Coaching and Extra pay for extra duties. Dana Slaughter made a motion to amend the agenda, the motion was seconded by CiCi Nielsen and approved unanimously.

2. Approval of the minutes of the February 4, 2016 meeting

- Paul Cortese asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2016 meeting. CiCi Nielsen made a motion, the motion was approved by Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso and approved unanimously.

3. Communications:

- a) Comments from Board members / Public - none
- b) Written
- c) Grace Herde, a senior at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, attended the meeting to discuss all of the positive experiences she has enjoyed at school. She said that the teachers are supportive and want students to be successful. She attended a conservation research academy program and learned about the environment, which inspired her to complete a community service project involving the restoration of the Salmon Kill River in Salisbury. The Board thanked Grace for her presentation.

4. High School Report – Jonathan Moore

Jonathan Moore gave an update on the Region 1 Budget for 2015-2016. The Budget is to be finalized on Monday.

5. Principal's Report

Florence Budget read highlights from the March Principal's Report, including the Regional Band & Chorus Concerts, the Chocolate Fest, Intramural Basketball, Read Aloud Day, and other happenings at Kent Center School.

6. Committee Reports:

- a) Building Committee – Paul Cortese
There has not been a recent Building Committee meeting. Members are John Mauer, Marty Lindemeyer, George Hetson, and Paul Cortese. The standing Building Committee that is appointed by the Board of Education can be comprised of anyone recommended to the President of the Board.
- b) Budget – CiCi Nielsen

CiCi Nielsen read highlights from the Kent Board of Education 2016-2017 Budget and presented the budget to the Board for approval. Paul Cortese thanked the budget committee for all of their hard work on the budget.

- Paul asked for a motion to approve a budget for total Board of Education expenditures of \$7,165,676.00 for the education years 2016-2017. CiCi Nielsen made a motion to approve the budget, the motion was seconded by Dana Slaughter and approved unanimously. A copy of the budget will be sent to the Kent Board of Finance prior to their next meeting.

John Mauer gave an update on the 2016-2017 Capital Plan, including information on the window replacement (2018)- \$317,300, renovation of the original building (2022)-\$850,000, and roof project (2023)-\$300,000. Jacunski Humes Architects, LLC. Note: The Connecticut State reimbursement for the window project is expected to be based on approximately 50% of the total at Kent's current rate of 29.64% or approximately \$47,000 per Jacunski.

- Paul Cortese asked for a motion to submit the 2016-2017 Capital Plan as documented. A motion was made by CiCi Nielsen, the motion was seconded by Dana Slaughter and approved unanimously.
- Paul Cortese asked for a motion to accept the proposal from Jacunski Humes Architects LLC for an architectural study as outlined in the packet for a lump sum fee of \$20,000 based on the progression of work. CiCi Nielsen made a motion to accept the proposal, the motion was seconded by Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso and approved unanimously.
- Paul Cortese asked for a motion to accept the Building Committee's recommendation to spend up to \$31,000 on a utility truck for Kent Center School. Dana Slaughter made a motion to accept the recommendation; the motion was seconded by CiCi Nielsen and approved unanimously (Allan Priaulx, abstained).

c) Health and Wellness – Alan Priaulx

The Health and Wellness Committee report will be presented at next month's meeting. Allan Priaulx reported that the Fife and Drum restaurant is looking forward to the upcoming 4th grade event.

d) All Boards Chair – Jonathan Moore

The ABC Committee did not have a meeting last month.

7. Superintendent of Schools' Report

March is Board appreciation month and Patricia Chamberlain thanked Board members for their service. Asst. Superintendent Pam Vogel presented the March 2016 Assistant Superintendent Report to the Kent Center School Board of Education, including Curriculum Mapping and Rubicon Atlas, Teacher Observations, Professional Development/Teacher Evaluation (PDTE) Committee, and Personalized Learning.

8. Old Business – Discussion and Possible Action

a) School Lunch Technology

Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso will present a demonstration of the new school lunch technology at the next Board meeting in April.

b) Restraint Policy 5144.1 – 2nd reading

Paul Cortese asked for a motion to adopt the policy. CiCi Nielsen made a motion to adopt Restraint Policy 5144.1 as policy. The motion was seconded by Allan Priaulx and approved unanimously.

c) Wellness Policy 6142 – 2nd reading

Paul Cortese asked for a motion to adopt Wellness Policy 6142.101 CiCi made a motion to adopt Wellness Policy 6142.101 with amendments as policy, the motion was seconded by Dana Slaughter and approved unanimously.

d) 7000 Series

Jonathan Moore presented an overview of the Region One School District 7000 Series Policies. This is the 13th draft of the policy. It will be presented again for Board Approval at a later date.

9. **New Business** – Discussion and Possible Action

a) Tuition Students

- Brittany Barrett submitted a request for a tuition waiver for her daughter Ella to attend Kent Center School under policy 5118 for the school year 2017-2017. CiCi Nielsen made a motion to accept the request, the motion was seconded by Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso, and approved unanimously.
- Heather Darby submitted a request for a tuition waiver for her children Leah and Jack to attend Kent Center School under policy 5118 for the school year 2017-2017. CiCi Nielsen made a motion to accept the request, the motion was seconded by Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso, and approved unanimously.
- Valerie Vega submitted a request for a tuition waiver for her son Aiden to attend Kent Center School under policy 5118 for the school year 2017-2017. CiCi Nielsen made a motion to accept the request, the motion was seconded by Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso, and approved unanimously.
- Jennifer Menniti submitted a request for a tuition waiver for her children Sofia and Max to attend Kent Center School under policy 5118 for the school year 2017-2017. CiCi Nielsen made a motion to accept the request, the motion was seconded by Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso, and approved unanimously.

b) Coaching/Extra Pay for Extra Duties

Paul Cortese read a letter from Deb Morin regarding the lack of numbers for a softball team and the recommendation to add a tennis team. It was asked that the Board provide approval to change the language in the teacher contract to not cover specific sport.

- Paul Cortese asked for a motion to allocate the extra pay for extra duty stipend intended for softball to tennis just for this school year. Dana Slaughter made a motion to approve the request, the motion was seconded by CiCi Nielsen, and approved unanimously.

10. **Comments-**

There was a question about the communication of Board members regarding the Selectman's request to present the Faster Saves Lives program and Lynn Worthington asked whether Board members were communicating outside of the meeting through email regarding the issue. Board member CiCi Nielsen expressed her strong opposition to being accused of communicating with board members outside of the meeting and any illegal activity.

Paul Cortese called for a recess at 8:39 p.m. The meeting readjourned at 8:46 pm.

Paul Cortese asked for a motion to move to Executive Session at 8:47 p.m. and inviting Jonathan Moore and Patricia Chamberlain to attend. Gonzo Garcia-Pedroso made the motion and the motion was seconded by Dana Slaughter.

11. **Executive Session – Personnel, Principal's Contract, Superintendent's Evaluation**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin K. Richards, Board Clerk

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