

KENT CENTER SCHOOL

9 Judd Avenue, P. O. Box 219, Kent, CT 06757 Phone: 860.927.3537 Fax:
860.927.3925

KENT CENTER SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

APPROVED Minutes-February 2017

The Kent Board of Education held their regular meeting on Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 6:00 pm in the Library at Kent Center School. Present were: Chairman Allan Priaulx, CiCi Nielsen, Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso, Robert Ober, Dana Slaughter, Patricia Chamberlain, Pamela Vogel, Florence Budge, and Jonathan Moore. Also present were: KCS Teachers Lee Sohl, Michelle Mott, Kathleen Robey Jennifer Menniti, and Rebecca DaSilva and members of the press. (Martin Lindenmayer, absent)

Call to Order – Allan Priaulx called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda, Pledge of Allegiance

Dana Slaughter made a motion to approve the agenda. CiCi Nielsen seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

2. Approval of the minutes of meeting of the January 4, 2017 meeting

CiCi Nielsen made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2017 meeting. Dana Slaughter seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

3. Communications:

a) High School Student Report –Sharon Speck

Sharon Speck, a senior at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, presented her high school student report to the Board. She mentioned that she felt somewhat over prepared for high school after her years of study at Kent Center School. She said that there was a good sense of community at the high school and that it is easy to approach people. Allan Priaulx thanked Sharon on behalf of the Board for presenting at the meeting.

b) Comments from Public - None

c) Written - None

4. Kent Teachers Forum – Early Literacy Groups –

Kathleen Robey- Kindergarten teacher Kathleen Robey presented an overview of Early Literacy Groups for the Board. Students participate in a six-lesson session for six days. Mrs. Robey is thankful for the support staff's help in this process.

Rebecca da Silva- 1st Grade Teacher Rebecca DaSilva presented an overview of ELG and said that it is vital to have the support staff in order to make the program run smoothly. She said that they combine groups and then break into smaller groups for effectiveness.

Jennifer Menniti- 2nd Grade teacher Jennifer Menniti presented an overview of ELG groups and said that her students participate in this program five days a week and 30 minutes per day. Pamela Vogel thanked the teachers for their efforts.

5. Liz Radday – Education in Finland

Marvelwood teacher Liz Radday gave a presentation on Education in Finland. She and her family spent the year in Finland. Finnish schools recognize the importance of play time and the necessity of mental breaks to increase productivity. Important 21st century skills include critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and cooperation. Craft education is also an important part of the curriculum because it allows students to apply skills to real life. Independence is also an important part of the curriculum.

6. Principal’s Report – Florence Budge

Florence Budge read highlights from the February Principal’s Report and gave an overview of upcoming events.

7. High School Report – Jonathan Moore

Jonathan Moore gave an overview of recent happenings at the high school. The Board continues to work on the Lighthouse Project and to analyze data. The Board will likely approve a new schedule for the high school on Monday’s meeting. There will be four teaching blocks and classes will be about 20 minutes longer.

8. Committee Reports:

- a) Building Committee – Capital Plan – Marty Lindenmayer (absent)
- b) Budget – CiCi Nielsen

CiCi Nielsen reported that the Budget Committee is in the process of working on the Budget. CiCi Nielsen, Martin Lindenmayer, Dana Slaughter, Allan Priaulx, and Rita Limbos are scheduled to attend the upcoming meetings.

- c) Wellness – Gonzo Garcia-Pedroso

The Wellness Committee had a meeting on January 26. Gonzo Garcia-Pedroso gave an overview of the recent happenings of the Wellness Committee. The Wellness Policy is still being reviewed by state.

- d) ABC Meeting – Jonathan Moore (none)
- e) Grants Committee – Dana Slaughter

Teachers need to make a list of things that they need for innovative classroom projects. Melissa Cherniske has offered to help with grants activity.

9. Superintendent of Schools’ Report – Patricia Chamberlain

Pam Vogel, Assistant Superintendent

Patricia Chamberlain, Superintendent- Patricia Chamberlain presented the 2016-2017 Enrollment Projections and Historical Enrollment for Kent, CT and for Region 1. There is a Focus group with parents and teachers on the proposed regional calendar for next year. It is important to address the need for after school care on Early Dismissal days and to consider the challenges and options at the same time.

Pam Vogel, Assistant Superintendent-

Pam Vogel read highlights from her report for February. Kent Center School has offered to host the All Boards Meeting for Region 1 Board members on Wednesday, April 5 at 6:30 PM. The April 5 meeting at KCS is about Personalized Learning. Pam Vogel gave an overview of two articles that she had asked Board members to read before the meeting and a discussion followed.

10. Old Business: None

11. New Business:

- 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 2017-2018. 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 2017-2018. 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 2017-2018. 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 2017-2018. CiCi Nielsen made a motion to accept the request, the motion was seconded by Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso, and approved unanimously.

12. Comments- None

13. Adjourn

- Dana Slaughter made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m., the motion was seconded by CiCi Nielsen and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristin K. Richards, Board Clerk

It is the policy of Regional School District One that no person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise discriminated against under any program, including employment, because of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, disability, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut State and/or Federal nondiscrimination laws. Inquiries regarding district nondiscrimination policies should be directed to the Director of Pupil Services, 236 Warren Turnpike Road, Falls Village, CT 06031, 860-824-5369, ext. 4