

June 6, 2018

The Kent Board of Education held their regular meeting on Wednesday, June 6, 2018 at 5:30 pm in the Library at Kent Center School. In attendance were Marty Lindenmayer, CiCi Nielsen, Melissa Cherniske, Rob Ober, Dana Slaughter as well as Principal Florence Budge, Superintendent Pam Vogel, Assistant Superintendent Lisa Carter, several teachers and members of the public and press.

1. Marty called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Marty amended the agenda to have the Technology Center Dedication as item number 4a. Focus on Student Learning- Update on Grading Policy was added as number 5. Reclassification/Update to Head Custodian Position was added to the agenda as number 10.

2. Approval of Minutes
 - CiCi Nielsen made a motion to approve the May 2, 2017 special meeting minutes, seconded by Melissa Cherniske. The motion was approved unanimously.
 - CiCi made a motion to approve the May 25, 2018 special meeting minutes, seconded by Melissa Cherniske. The motion was approved unanimously.
3. Written Communication- A letter was read from Lynn Harrington stating her concern that the grading practices update was not on the agenda. Marty stated that it was added to the newly amended agenda.
4. Recognition of those who Contribute to KCS
 - a. Technology Center Dedication- Melissa Cherniske made a motion to approve the dedication of the Technology Center, seconded by Cici Nielsen. The motion was approved unanimously. The Technology Center has been renamed to include Carolyn MacLeod. The new plaque will now read Ed Epstein and Carolyn MacLeod. Ed spoke of Carolyn starting the KCS Technology Program back in the early 80s. She provided a major service for KCS and its students for 30 plus years. Carolyn spoke on her beginning at Kent Center School and shared her gratitude. The new plaque was revealed to a round of applause by many co-workers of Carolyn's.
 - b. Special Recognition- Brian Ohler presented Florence Budge with a citation on behalf of the General Assembly in recognition of her service and dedication to Kent Center School.

Marty Lindenmayer presented Florence with a certificate and flowers on behalf of the Board with gratitude and thanked Florence for her commitment and devotion.
 - c. Lions Club- Melissa Cherniske recognized and thanked the Kent Lions for their donation of time and materials to upgrade the baseball field dugout. John Worthington was presented with recognition for his effort as President of the Lions Club. Kevin Brady and Mike Gawel were both recognized for their contributions and hard work.

On behalf of the Board, Melissa recognized Linda Miller for her contributions and many hours in making the Flex program a success. A huge thanks to Linda for all she has done.

On behalf of the Board, Melissa recognized all who participated in the interview process that lead to the choosing of the new Principal.

5. Focus on Student Learning- Update on Grading Policy- Teachers met on Monday with Lisa to discuss grading and came to a consensus with a recommendation. There will be a parents meeting on Tuesday, June 19 at 6:00 pm. There will be a presentation pertaining to a way forward for grading, including an explanation of how NYPs will be addressed.
6. High School Report – Stephanie Raftery gave highlights of happenings at HVRHS including a trip To Disney World where the band and choir won best in show! She read a policy to which the Region One Board has committed to, as well as goals of the Region One Board. A copy of her report was filed.
7. Committee Reports:
 - a) Facilities and Safety – Marty Lindenmayer- updates were included later in the Reclassification of the Head Custodian position.
 - b) Budget – CiCi Nielsen stated the budget has passed.
 - c) Wellness – None
 - d) ABC Meeting – None
 - e) Personnel – None
 - f) IT – None
 - g) Community Relations Committee – Dana reported that the KCS Scholarship Committee granted a total of \$68,420 to 37 students. Approximately \$1849 was awarded to each student.
8. Administrative Reports:
 - a) Principal’s Report –
 - Florence Budge presented the Next Generation Report for KCS. Florence read highlights of her report. Florence shared that student Noah Love and Gussie Smith attended the National Invention Convention in Dearborn, MI. Florence read a letter sharing her hope that the Board will continue to support teaches and staff and remain autonomous. She shared her gratitude in being able to be a part of Kent Center School. A copy of her report was submitted and filed.
 - b) Superintendent of Schools’ Report
 - Dr. Pam Vogel read highlights from her report. A copy of her report was submitted and filed.
 - c) Assistant Superintendent of Schools’ Report –
 - Lisa Carter read highlights from her report. Lisa stated that the two Kent Center School teacher positions have been posted and Central Office will work with Michelle Mott to review the candidates. A copy of her report was submitted and filed.

Marty thanked Josh Szwed for all his work concerning the Outdoor Classroom Project and for all he does throughout KCS.

Melissa Cherniske made a motion to change June 20, 2018 to a half day of school, seconded by CiCi Nielsen. The motion was approved unanimously.

9. Business:
 - a) Healthy Food Certification
 - Melissa Cherniske made a motion to approve the participation of Kent Center School in the State of Connecticut’s Healthy Food Certification

program with all of its rules and regulations for the 2018-2019 school year, seconded by CiCi Nielsen. The motion was approved unanimously.

- Dana Slaughter made a motion to exclude from certification, food items that do not meet the CT Nutrition Standards, provided that the food is sold in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend, the sale is at the location of the event, and the food is not sold from a vending machine or school store. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Melisa Cherniske made a motion to permit the sale of beverages that do not meet the CT Nutrition Standards, provided that the beverages are sold in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend, the sale is at the location of the event, and the food and beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. The motion was approved unanimously.

b) Region One Superintendent Job Description, Evaluation Tool and Procedures

- There was review and discussion of the Region One Superintendent job description. The evaluation process was reviewed which included a timeline. The evaluation process will be brought to the KCS Board in September.

c) Capital Plan Submission-Window Project

- Marty stated the State had money to provide a reimbursement process to fund improvements needed, making it possible to facilitate the window project. The windows are tentatively scheduled to be replaced the summer of 2019.
- A motion was made by Melissa Cherniske and seconded by CiCi Nielsen that the KCS Board of Education approve a request to the Kent Board of Finance to consider and take the action of depositing into a non-lapsing account, for the specific purpose of funding the KCS Window Project, funds totaling up to \$60,000 from the FY 2017-2018 KCS budgeted appropriation for education for the town. This request is made pursuant to the State of CT Statute 10-248a. The motion was approved unanimously.
- A motion was made by Melissa Cherniske and seconded by CiCi Nielsen that the KCS Board of Education approve a request to the Kent Board of Finance, to appropriate \$100,000 from the Five-Year Capital Reserve (GL #32000) to the Capital Project KCS Windows project (GL #316110). Upon approval of this appropriation, subsequent funding for this project showing in FY 2021 in the Five-Year Capital Plan will be assigned to replenish the Five-Year Capital Reserve (GL #32000). The motion was approved unanimously.

10. Re-Classification /Update of the Head Custodian Position to Head Facilities Manager- The updated job description for Head Facilities Manager was reviewed and discussed.

11. Public Comment- Lynn Harrington asked that Central Office post the Administration Meeting minutes online. Pam responded that they will not be made available online. Lynn had questions regarding the amount of PD hours for teachers, including when a substitute is needed.

Rob Ober spoke as a parent and gave thanks to Florence for her leadership over the last few

years and stated that a clear vision emerged. As a parent and a teacher he appreciates her efforts and looking back, history will remember her fondly.

12. Executive Session to Discuss Personnel Issue: Job Description for Facilities Manager and Compensation- Marty Lindenmayer made a motion, seconded by Melisa Cherniske, to move into Executive session at 7:46 pm, inviting Mary Cox to stay. The motion was approved unanimously. Melissa Cherniske made a motion, seconded by CiCi Nielsen to come out of executive session at 8:19 pm.

A motion was made by Melissa Cherniske, seconded by CiCi Nielsen, to increase the Head Facilities Manager position hourly rate 2%, on top of the already 3%, for the 2018-2019 school year. The motion was approved unanimously

13. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Cox, BOE Clerk

