

KENT CENTER SCHOOL

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KENT CENTER SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

APPROVED-Minutes-December 2016

The Kent Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, December 1, 2016 at the Kent Center School at 6:00 p.m. Present were: Vice Chairman/Acting Chairman Allan Priaulx, CiCi Nielsen, Dana Slaughter, Martin Lindenmayer, Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso, Robert Ober, Patricia Chamberlain, Pamela Vogel, and Jonathan Moore. (Florence Budge, absent). Also present were: John Mauer, Ane Starr, Nancy Ackerman, and members of the press.

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

1. Approval of Agenda

CiCi Nielsen made a motion to approve the agenda and the motion was seconded by Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso and approved unanimously.

2. Election of Officers

Patricia Chamberlain called for the election of officers.

- Patricia Chamberlain asked for nominations for Chair. Martin Lindenmayer made a motion to nominate Allan Priaulx for Chair and the motion was seconded by CiCi Nielsen. Nominations were closed. Patricia Chamberlain called for a vote and the Board voted unanimously to elect Allan Priaulx as Chair of the Kent Board of Education.
- Patricia Chamberlain asked for nominations for Vice Chair. CiCi Nielsen made a motion to nominate Martin Lindenmayer for Vice Chair and the motion was seconded by Allan Priaulx. Nominations were closed. Patricia Chamberlain called for a vote and the Board voted unanimously to elect Martin Lindenmayer as Vice Chair of the Kent Board of Education.
- Patricia Chamberlain asked for nominations for Secretary. CiCi Nielsen will remain the Secretary for the Kent Board of Education and no vote was taken.

3. Approval of the minutes of meeting of November 3, 2016 meeting

Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2016 meeting, the motion was seconded by CiCi Nielsen, and approved unanimously.

4. Communications:

a) High School Student Report- Trisha Worthington
Housatonic Valley Regional High School student Trisha Worthington discussed her positive experiences at school, including her involvement with music and athletics. Trisha explained that her teachers at KCS helped her to prepare for high school. The Board thanked her for her efforts.

- b) Comments from Public - None
- c) Written- None

5. Principal's Report – Florence Budge (written)

Florence Budge was ill today and was not able to attend the meeting.

6. High School Report – Jonathan Moore

Jonathan Moore gave the Board an update on some of the recent happenings at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. He discussed personalized learning, the Every Student Succeeds Act, and stressed the importance of communicating thoughts to legislators. Allan Priaulx thanked Jonathan on behalf of the Board for his hard work on the Board.

7. Committee Reports:

a) Building Committee – Capital Plan – Marty Lindenmayer

Martin Lindenmayer gave an update on the recent happenings of the Building Committee. The KCS window replacement project is moving forward. The Committee is going over details and putting together a plan to finalize the Capital Plan with the Board of Finance.

b) Budget – CiCi Nielsen

CiCi Nielsen gave an update on the budget process and discussed how the Board needs to take a look at the actuals in the budget and looking ahead to next year.

c) Wellness – Gonzo Garcia-Pedroso

Gonzo Garcia-Pedroso reported that there will not be another meeting until January.

d) ABC Meeting – Jonathan Moore

Jonathan Moore gave an update on the Assistant Superintendent search and reported that the job has been posted. The ABC Committee approved a new meeting date of the 4th Wednesday of the month. On December 13th from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the KCS library, there will be a focus group meeting to discuss with the consultant views and thoughts on the Assistant Superintendent position.

8. Superintendent of Schools' Report – Patricia Chamberlain

Pam Vogel, Assistant Superintendent

- Patricia Chamberlain read highlights from the December Superintendent's Report, including information on the CABE/CAPPSS Conference, Policy Highlights of the ESSA and its focus on English learners, and the Limited English Proficiency Program.
- Pam Vogel presented two articles for the Board to read and asked for questions. There was a discussion about grading practices and Pam Vogel stressed the importance of studying the research and creating consistency of grading practices across the region. Allan Priaulx said that there is a need to revisit this topic and to include this topic as a formal agenda item in the future. Board members discussed the importance of preserving the autonomy of each school.

9. Old Business:

a) Administration of Medication by School Personal Policy 5141.21– 2nd Reading

Martin Lindenmayer made the motion to approve the Administration of Medication by School Personal Policy 5141.21. Dana Slaughter seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

b) Capital Plan to Board of Finance

The Capital Plan will be presented to the Board of Finance once it is approved by the Board.

10. New Business

Allan Priaulx proposed that the Board should add a new committee to investigate the availability of private and foundational grants for KCS for any and all purposes. Dana Slaughter was named Chairman of committee. Patricia Chamberlain recommended creating a list of ideas. There was also a discussion about making a provision at the meetings for teachers to come and give presentations and to make observations about grading policies or any other areas of interest. This will be placed on the agenda starting next month.

11. Comments- Allan Priaulx thanked The KEA on behalf of the Board for inviting Kent BOE members to a social event. Martin Lindenmayer thanked the school for their Veteran's Day celebrations and offered to more involved with school projects in the future. Lynn Worthington asked for follow up information about the Backyard Habitat committee and Allan Priaulx suggested that the Building Committee talk to Bill Hurley about the location of the outdoor classroom.

12. Adjourn

CiCi Nielsen made the motion to adjourn at 7:14 pm. Rob Ober seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristin K. Richards, Board Clerk

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