

KENT CENTER SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

APPROVED-Minutes- October 2015

The Kent Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, October 1, 2015 at 6:00 pm at Kent Center School. Present were: Chairman Paul Cortese, Allan Priaulx, Dana Slaughter, Florence Budge, Superintendent Patricia Chamberlain, Asst. Superintendent Pam Vogel, and Jonathan Moore (CiCi Nielsen and Gonzalo Garcia-Pedroso, absent). Also present were members of the press, teachers Lee Sohl and Pat Ciccone.

Paul Cortese called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

Paul Cortese asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

- Allan Priaulx made a motion to:

Approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Dana Slaughter and approved unanimously.

2. Approval of the minutes of the September 3, 2015 meeting

Paul Cortese asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2015 meeting.

- Allan Priaulx made a motion to:

Approve the minutes of the September 3, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded by Dana Slaughter and approved unanimously.

3. Comments from the public-None**4. Communications:**

- a) High School Student Report-none
- b) Comments from Board of Education and Public

Superintendent Patricia Chamberlain welcomed new Assistant Superintendent Pam Vogel to the meeting and the members of the Board of Education introduced themselves.

- c) Written-none

5. High School Report – Jonathan Moore

Jonathan Moore gave an update on the recent happenings at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. Students are enjoying the use of the school's new Chrome book computers, which are new additions to technology program this year. During the summer, the school worked on going from 16 wi fi hotspots to a total of 64. Mr. Moore also noted that the school's literary magazine, Acorn, would return to the school this year. There was a discussion about long-range goals and it was suggested that we try to make sure that the Region 1 board is consistent with all of the schools in the region. Allan Priaulx asked for more student participation at the Board meetings in general.

6. Principal's Report- on file

Principal Budge read highlights from her October Principal's Report. She said that the Open House was a great success and that there was a great turnout. The first evacuation drill of the year was successful and the students did a great job. Principal Budge gave an overview of upcoming school events during the month of October.

7. Committee Reports:

a) Wellness – Allan Priaulx

Allan Priaulx gave an update on the recent happenings of the Wellness Committee, including a discussion of the Kids Marathon program and the Tower Garden project. The committee had a meeting on September 24. The Wellness Policy is to be brought before the Board when it is complete. There was a continued discussion of increased recess at Kent Center School. New scheduling developed allowing 7th and 8th graders to get to lunch earlier. There will be a mental health presentation focusing on cyber bullying and Internet safety. Trooper Fisher has been invited to come in to help with the program. The Student council is new leadership for this academic year.

b) Building – Paul Cortese

Florence Budge gave an update on the roof project. The Building Committee will make a recommendation to finalize the warranty on the roof.

c) Budget – CiCi Nielsen – None

There was a discussion about the roles of the Kent Boards of Education and the Board of Finance. Chairman Paul Cortese stated that it is preferable to conduct Board of Education business at the board's regular monthly meeting. There needs to be a clarification of roles in terms of relations with the Board of Finance. The roles of Board of Finance members are financial, while the roles of Board of Education members are educational. There will be an upcoming mini session with the Superintendent to discuss members' roles. Kent Board of Education members' Email and cell phone information is readily available for correspondence through the Kent Center School website.

d) ABC Committee – Jonathan Moore

Jonathan Moore gave an update on the ABC Committee. There was a meeting on September 23, which covered the new contract for the Superintendent and the 7000 series. After October meeting, a draft version of the 7000 series will be presented to the board. Shared policy has to be unanimously approved or there will have to be another solution.

8. Superintendent of Schools' Report: (written-on file)

Patricia Chamberlain read highlights from her October Superintendent of Schools report. Official enrollment of Region One schools information was presented and declining enrollment is an issue. Three legislative updates were presented. Internet safety program is to be required in the future. There are many steps to take to move these initiatives forward.

a) Assistant Superintendent

Assistant Superintendent Pam Vogel gave a presentation on the District school improvement plan. A District lead team will help students to reach the goals that they need to for academic success. All of the different schools in Region One have a different curriculum and that is seen as a problem. There should be common agreement on

national and state standards. We don't have a choice; we have to adhere to state standards. Curriculum mapping will take place by forming teams of teachers in all subjects. How we assess and teach is individualized but all classes must cover the same curriculum and standards. This will be an electronic way to house curriculum with District lead teams working on student achievement data. An SBAC testing overview was presented.

b) Announcements- None

9. Old Business - None

10. New Business:

a) School Lunch Technology – Gonzolo Garcia-Pedroso, absent
Paul Cortese read Gonzolo Garcia-Pedroso's report about what other schools are using for school lunch programs. Options include a portal for parents to deposit money and point of sale options. Lunchtime software is currently being used in Sharon and Salisbury. A quote was estimated at \$4,500-\$5,000 for the implementation of this technology.

b) Parenting Leave-tabled until November meeting

Dana Slaughter made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. and the motion was seconded by Rob Ober and approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristin K. Richards, Board Clerk

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