

KEWANEE COMM SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING FEBRUARY 20, 2018

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL FOR SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Kewanee Community Unit School District No. 229 was held in the Kewanee CUSD #229 Administration Office with President Nolan calling the Meeting to order at 6:16pm. Roll call showed the following Members present: Padilla, Christiansen, Steffen, Salisbury, Johnson and Nolan. Superintendent Sullens was also present for the Closed Session. Board Secretary Leckey was absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

At 6:16pm Member Johnson seconded a motion made by Member Steffen to enter into Closed Session: * (C)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the District and (C)(2) to consider collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees (C)(5) the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body (C)(8) Security Procedures (C)(9) Student Disciplinary Cases (C)(11) Litigation * 5ILCS 120/2 Open Meetings *The School Code of Illinois/2017*. A voice vote showed all six present Members voting aye. Secretary Leckey continued to be absent. The motion carried.

At 7:30 Member Steffen seconded a motion made by Member Salisbury to adjourn the Closed Session meeting. Voice roll call showed all present Members voting aye. Member Leckey was absent. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL FOR OPEN SESSION MEETING

President Nolan called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:35pm. This Open Session continued in the Staff Development Room of the Administration Office. Roll call showed the following Board Members present: Padilla, Christiansen, Steffen, Salisbury, Johnson and Nolan. The audience included staff members: T Brown, J Anderson, J Bryan, D Hodge-Bates, J Stabler, T Atwell, R Kapacinskas, K Rogula and D Brants. Reporter M Helenthal of the Star Courier was in attendance to report on the meeting. Community members attending the meeting included M Kauffman from Cypress Creek Renewables, R Currier and A Ehnle. Recording Secretary D Simaytis and Superintendent C Sullens were in attendance as well. Member Leckey was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

President Nolan asked the audience to stand, if able, and join the Board in saying the "Pledge of Allegiance" to the flag.

INVITED GUESTS

Matthew Kauffman, a representative of Cypress Creek Renewables, presented a plan to build a solar farm along Kentville Road east of Kewanee. Mr. Kauffman stated that local taxing bodies could end up splitting \$350,000 if the Project goes forward. Cypress Creek is in the midst of creating the Payton Solar LLC Project and currently working with the Henry County Board to develop a county wide solar ordinance that would allow the Project to proceed. If installed, the electricity generated from the Project would be sold back to the power company, much like the wind farm process. The 70 megawatt solar farm would span over 650 acres of land. The company is already in negotiations with landowners and has secured agreements with several of them. Mr. Kauffman stated, "It would be one of the bigger projects in Illinois", "We think there are going to be significant benefits to Kewanee". If approved by Henry County, the construction of the solar farm could start as early as 2019.

MINUTES, FINANCIAL, TREASURER'S REPORT, AND BILLS AND PAYROLL CONSENT AGENDA

President Nolan asked for a motion for a Consent Agenda and acceptance of Items V a. (V b. was tabled), VI & VII. Member Johnson seconded the motion made by Member Steffen to approve consent Items V a., VI & VII. The roll showed Members Christiansen, Steffen, Salisbury, Johnson, Padilla and Nolan all voting aye. There were no nay votes. The motion carried with six ayes.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

None

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent Sullens:

Foundation Auction is Saturday, April 28th

Dr. Sullens conveyed that the Kewanee Schools Foundation Auction will be held on Saturday, April 28th at 2:00pm.

Community Black History Extravaganza – KHS Choir Performed

Sullens reported that the KHS Choir recently performed at the Community Black History Extravaganza that was held at the First Congregational Church on Sunday, February 18, 2018.

SB1947 & SB444 (20 fixes left) and Enrollment Data

Dr. Sullens informed the Board of Education that there are still 20 fixes left until SB1947 & SB444 can go forward. The State is requiring all enrollment data to be verified by tomorrow, February 20, 2018. The District's IT Department worked on this over the past few days to make sure our reporting was absolutely correct. The Illinois State Board of Education has been very cooperative assisting us in meeting all the enrollment compliances.

Professional Development for FY19 will include Ruby Payne

Sullens noted that FY19 Professional Development Sessions will include two days with Dr. Ruby Payne, an educator, speaker, publisher and author who is best known for her book "A Framework for Understanding Poverty" and her work on the culture of poverty and its relationship to education. She is the founder of aha! Process, Inc., a Company that informs schools, businesses and other organizations about poverty.

National School Lunch Program Grants

Superintendent Sullens reported that the District has applied for another grant through the National School Lunch Program to replace the original serving line at Kewanee High School. The grant is for \$50,000 and the estimate to replace the line is \$49,900.

Mr. Bryan – KHS Principal:

Speech/Debate – Sectional & State Qualifiers

Mr. Bryan reported that 11 KHS students made it to the final round at Speech & Debate Regionals this year where A Kubiak, J Watson, S Nortman, K Witte, and G Ullinsky qualified for Sectionals. For the first time in Kewanee High School history we had a Performance in the Round and that Team placed third and also qualified for Sectionals. A Kubiak qualified for State competition in Humorous Interpretation and Oratorical Declaration, but unfortunately did not progress to the finals.

Principal Bryan noted that the Swim Team competed in Sectionals over the past weekend. KHS has one junior, one sophomore, and the rest of the Team is made up of freshman. The Sectional Competition was a great learning experience for our young team and a lot of fun.

Mr. Bryan also informed the Board that KHS English teacher Mrs. Baney was featured on WQAD-TV/Ascentra Credit Union's "Pay it Forward" Contest. Mrs. Baney was nominated by two of her students for providing student meals between school and extra-curricular practices/competitions. Baney noticed a need among the students, where many kids didn't have time to eat after school or before their extra-curricular activities. She decided to start making homemade meals for those in need. Mrs. Baney purchases all the food out of pocket and makes meals in her crock pot during class. Baney cooks for approximately 20-30 students per night and was awarded \$300 to help with some of the costs.

Mr. Anderson – Central Principal:

PARCC Testing - Preparation

Mr. Anderson reported that the PARCC Testing will begin in March with Neponset and Irving schools. Central School will begin the Tuesday after Spring Break. Third and fourth grades at Central will be taking one test every other day this year

instead of two tests per day, as they have done in the past. Junior High and fifth and sixth grades will be testing twice a day, two times per week. Mr. Anderson stated that our Tech Department will be available if there are any glitches.

Mr. Atwell:

Mr. Atwell gave his monthly report highlighting Regional, Sectional and State Wrestling. K Peterson and L Robinson placed 1st at Regionals. K Peterson, L Robinson, D Glague, J Burhorn, T Gromm, and N Thumma all qualified for Sectionals where Robinson placed 1st and Thumma placed 4th. At the Class A State Tournament Robinson placed 2nd at 152 lbs. and Thumma was defeated at 285 lbs. after two falls. Robinson finished the season as a 40-win Club Member, he becomes the only Wrestler to reach 40 wins twice, from KHS.

The Girls' Basketball Team lost their first game to Flanagan in the Regionals. The KHS girls' ended their season with a 14-15 record. Mitrese Smith was named All-Conference 1st Team.

The KHS Boys' Basketball Team was defeated in the Regional round last night against West Carroll.

The Kewanee Girls' Bowling Team had one Sectional qualifier. S Wyman bowled well but came up a few pins short of making it to State Competition.

The Boys' Swim Team placed 9th out of 13 teams and scored 20 Team Points at Sectionals.

Atwell noted that Baseball/Softball practices will begin on February 26th.

Member Steffen stated that the radio reception for the KHS basketball games has been very poor this year.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. KHS Soccer Field/Parking Lot Update

Dr. Sullens reported that the KHS Soccer Field/Parking Lot Project will continue as soon as the ground dries up and as weather permits.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Consideration and Approval of 2018-2019 School Calendar

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the 2018-2019 School Calendar. Member Christiansen seconded a motion made by Member Salisbury to approve. A voice vote was heard with all present members voting aye. Member Leckey was absent. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

b. Consideration and Approval of Resolution authorizing the issuance of general obligation alternate bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$2,700,000 for the purpose of improving the sites of, building and equipping additions to, and altering, repairing and equipping school buildings and facilities of the District.

Superintendent Sullens recommended to approve authorizing the issuance of general obligation alternate bonds. This is the first step in the process of selling additional bonds to be paid back with County Wide Sales Tax Funds. Member Johnson seconded a motion made by Member Steffen to approve. The roll call vote showed Steffen, Salisbury, Johnson, Padilla, Christiansen and Nolan all voting aye. Member Leckey was absent. There were no nay votes from the Members present. The motion carried with six ayes.

ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION

PERSONNEL:

Resignations

KHS Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach	Brandon Ince	Effective 1/22/18
Central Playground/Cafeteria Supervisor	Susan Colgan	Verbal Resignation Effective 2/5/18

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the resignations of B Ince and S Colgan. Member Padilla seconded a motion made by Member Johnson to approve. The roll call vote showed Members Salisbury, Johnson, Padilla, Christiansen, Steffen and Nolan all voting aye. Member Leckey was absent. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried.

Retirements

None

Hires 1

KHS Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach	Corey Tavares	Effective F/18
Competitive Theater Assistant	Ellen Johnson (Dr. Horler Funds 17/18 and 21 st Century Funds 18/19)	
Substitute Custodian	Brandon Pickering	Began 1/25/18
Substitute Playground Supervisor	Spencer Gomez	Began 1/29/18
Substitute Cafeteria	Amanda Evans	Effective Immediately
Belle 21 st Century Student Assistant	Courtney Welgat	Effective Immediately
KHS Substitute Cheerleading Advisor	Misty Bruno	Effective Immediately

Dr. Sullens recommended the approval of the seven hires listed above. Member Salisbury seconded a motion made by Member Steffen to approve. The roll call vote showed Members Johnson, Padilla, Christiansen, Steffen, Salisbury and Nolan all voting aye. Member Leckey was absent. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

*All hires are contingent upon hires obtaining appropriate certification and qualifications prior to beginning job.

Internships

None

Leaves

Maternity Leave	Sarah Milnes	Began 2/8/18
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Superintendent Sullens recommended approving maternity leave for Sarah Milnes. Member Christiansen made a motion to approve, Member Padilla seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed Members Padilla, Christiansen, Steffen, Salisbury, Johnson and Nolan all voting aye. Member Leckey was absent. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

Long Term Sub

ISS Supervisor at KHS	Penney Grabbe	Maternity Leave for Sarah Milnes
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Dr. Sullens recommended approving P Grabbe as Long Term Sub for Sarah Milnes. Member Steffen seconded a motion made by Member Johnson to approve. The roll call vote showed Members Christiansen, Steffen, Salisbury, Johnson, Padilla and Nolan all voting aye. Member Leckey was absent. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

Transfers

None

Volunteers I

Lyle School	Sue Ahlgren	Effective Immediately
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KHS Group Interpretation

Johnny Williams III

Effective Immediately

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the above two volunteers. Member Christiansen seconded a motion made by Member Steffen to approve. The roll call vote showed Members Steffen, Salisbury, Johnson, Padilla, Christiansen and Nolan all voting aye. Member Leckey was absent. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

Student Teachers

None

Renewal/Non-Renewal of Stipend Positions

None

OTHER ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION

None

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

None

COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION

A Moment of Silence was held for Linus "Lynn" Bruning (father of Teacher Laura Nolan and Father-in-law of Dan Nolan).

Member Johnson asked if Board Members would be allowed to attend some of the presentations by Ruby Payne during the Teacher Institutes, to be held next school year. Dr. Sullens encouraged them to do so.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Christiansen seconded a motion made by Member Johnson to adjourn the Open Meeting. A voice vote from Members Padilla, Christiansen, Steffen, Salisbury, Johnson and Nolan was heard all voting aye. Member Leckey continued to be absent. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried with six ayes.

The Open Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

DAN NOLAN, PRESIDENT

MIKE LECKEY, SECRETARY