

## KEWANEE COMM SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MAY 17, 2021

### I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL FOR REGULAR SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Kewanee Community Unit School District No. 229 was held in the Kewanee CUSD #229 Petersen Auditorium with President Johnson calling the Meeting to order at 6:00pm. Roll call showed the following Members present: Stabler, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen and Johnson. Superintendent Sullens was also present.

### II. EXECUTIVE SESSION OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

At 6:02 pm Member Christiansen seconded a motion made by Member Steffen to enter into Closed Session to consider (C) (1) 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*. Voice roll vote showed all present Members voting aye. The motion carried.

At 7:20 pm Member Christiansen seconded a motion made by Member Steffen to adjourn the Closed Session meeting. A voice roll call was heard with all present Members voting aye. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

### CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL FOR OPEN SESSION MEETING

President Johnson called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30pm. This Open Session continued in the KHS Petersen Auditorium. Roll call showed the following Board Members present: Stabler, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen and Johnson. The audience included staff members: T Brown, D Hodge-Bates, J Anderson, J Bryan, T Atwell, and KEA President R Kapacinkas. Members from the community included R Orwig and J Russell from the Kewanee Radio Station. Recording secretary H Leckey-Hughes and Superintendent C Sullens were in attendance as well.

### III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

### IV. INVITED GUESTS

A. KHS Group Interpretation Team

Principal Bryan announced that most of the KHS Group Interpretation Team is on the Senior Trip this evening and therefore there are no invited guests.

### V., VI. & VII. MINUTES, FINANCIAL, TREASURER'S REPORT, AND BILLS AND PAYROLL CONSENT AGENDA

President Johnson asked for a motion for a Consent Agenda and acceptance of Items V, VI & VII. Member Steffen seconded the motion made by Member DeBord to approve consent Items V, VI & VII. The roll showed Members Stabler, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

### VIII. COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

Roy Orwig addressed the Board of Education concerning the requirements of students/parents having to

wear masks while outdoors during band concerts. Mr. Orwig wants to see more focus on education and less on wearing masks that he feels are not necessary. Dr. Sullens stated that the District works closely with the Illinois Dept. of Public Health and the local health department and follows their guidelines. He stated that the more people who are vaccinated the sooner we will be “returning to normal”.

## **REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION**

### **A. Superintendent**

1. Congratulations to our Retirees: Gayle Burhorn; Rita Burrow; Vicky Thompson; Mary Bates, Robert Robinson and Gayle Gerard.

Dr. Sullens congratulated the 2021 retirees and noted that he appreciates all of the contributions these people have made to the District. The District wishes them the best of luck and enjoyment in their retirements.

2. Summer Food Program Sites: Central School, KHS, Neponset Grade School, Belle, Irving, Lyle, YMCA, Fairview/Housing Authority, Lakeland Terrace & Prairie Green

Sullens reported that once again the District will be serving summer meals at Central, KHS, Neponset, Belle, Irving, Lyle, YMCA, Fairview, Lakeland & Prairie Green.

3. Review of 2020/2021 Budget

Dr. Sullens noted we will be presenting the Amended Budget at next month’s board meeting. The Budget will be posted and advertised as required by law.

4. Flags at All Schools Returned to Regular Height

Sullens announced that Flags are now to be returned to regular height. For the past year the Governor has had a proclamation to have flags flown at half-staff in recognition of COVID-19 deaths.

5. Mrs. Vickrey – Star Courier Teacher of the Year

Dr. Sullens congratulated Mrs. Jennifer Vickrey (Central Jr. High) who was recognized at Star Courier Teacher of the Year.

6. City of Kewanee – Downtown TIF Expansion

Sullens updated the Board of Education on the City of Kewanee Downtown TIF Expansion. Dr. Sullens met with City Manager Gary Bradley; Mayor Gary Moore and Wethersfield Superintendent Shane Kazubowski in regards to the new downtown TIF expansion this afternoon. The TIF was originally enacted in 2015. Dr. Sullens and Mr. Kazubowski are working closely with the Mayor and City Manager to make sure that the school districts do not get short changed in the process. There is a meeting scheduled for May 24<sup>th</sup> with the Mayor and City Manager to mitigate any future loss to the districts.

### **B. Mrs. Dena Hodge-Bates – Principal, Neponset Grade School**

1. Title I Annual Review Report

Mrs. Hodge-Bates reviewed the Consolidated 21-22 Title I Annual Review plan and goals. Board members were given summary packets.

Bates also reported on the Neponset Track team successes. Neponset placed 5<sup>th</sup> at Sectionals held at Hall. Preston Stabler placed 1<sup>st</sup> in high jump and the 110m hurdles. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys placed

first in the 4x1 relay. Preston Stabler broke the high jump record twice. He set the new record and then broke his own at 5'10". The boys 4x1 relay team also broke the Neponset Grade School record. Members of the team included Preston Stabler, Nathan Verbout, Payton Quart and Alonso Corral. Marlee Bates placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the shot-put and discus. The last conference meet is next Wednesday. There is no IESA State competition this year due to COVID-19.

**C. Mr. Atwell – KHS Athletic Director**

Sports Update

Coach Atwell reported that the Girls Track Sectional will be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup> in Geneseo. The IHSA State Tourney will be at EIU on June 11<sup>th</sup>. The Boys Track Sectionals will be held on June 9<sup>th</sup> at Geneseo. The IHSA State Tourney will also be held at EIU on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Softball IHSA Regional Seeds will be this week as will the IHSA Regional Baseball Seeds.

The Brockman Invite was modified due to Covid-19. The 75<sup>th</sup> Brockman was won by the KHS Boys and Kewanee was the overall champions. This year's King was Malcon DeJesus III and the Queen was Kira Bond.

Mr. Atwell noted the loss of former KHS student athlete Mr. "Ed" Tunnicliff and handed out information on Mr. Tunnicliff's athletic accomplishments at KHS.

**D. Mr. Bryan – KHS Principal**

Alternative Prom and Graduation

Mr. Bryan informed the Board of Education that an Alternative Prom was held this year due to COVID-19 rules. A "drive-in" movie night was scheduled for May 9, 2021 which was moved into the gym due to weather. Approximately 40 students attended and were served tacos from Azteca De Oro food truck.

Graduation was held yesterday outside due to COVID restrictions at the KHS stadium. This is the first time in 40 years the event was held outdoors. Mr. Bryan thanked the maintenance, janitorial staff and everyone involved for their assistance in preparing the stadium for the event. Dr. Sullens congratulated all the graduates. 112 students graduated this year with 44 graduates receiving awards. \$108,000 was given out in scholarships and awards this year.

Member DeBord asked if valedictorians and salutatorians chose their own topics for their speeches. Mr. Bryan stated that the students start working on their speeches with Mrs. Carmichael and Mrs. Romanelli approximately a week prior to graduation. Mr. DeBord stated that the students did an amazing job.

8<sup>th</sup> grade promotion will be held on May 20, 2021 at 7pm at the KHS stadium.

**IX. SUPERINTENDENT COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Sullens reported that there is a future project being considered for a band equipment storage addition at KHS.

**X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**XI. NEW BUSINESS  
(Consent Items A-E)**

- A. Consideration and Approval of Districtwide Parental Involvement Policy
- B. Consideration and Approval of Belle Alexander Parental Involvement Policy
- C. Consideration and Approval of Irving Parental Involvement Policy
- D. Consideration and Approval of Central Parental Involvement Policy
- E. Consideration and Approval of Neponset Parental Involvement Policy

President Johnson called for a motion on Consent Items A-E. Member Christiansen made a motion to approve. Member DeBord seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed Members Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, Stabler and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

**(Consent Items F-J)**

- F. Consideration and Approval of Districtwide Title I Plan
- G. Consideration and Approval of Belle Alexander Title I Plan
- H. Consideration and Approval of Irving Title I Plan
- I. Consideration and Approval of Central Title I Plan
- J. Consideration and Approval of Neponset Title I Plan

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the Title I Plans (Consent Items F-J). Member Stabler seconded a motion made by Member Steffen to approve. The roll call vote showed Members DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, Stabler, Dev and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

- K. Consideration and Approval of KHS Brockman Gym HVAC Bid

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the Bid from Pipco, Peoria, IL for \$439,000 for the KHS Brockman Gym HVAC project. The costs for this project will be funded through ESSER funds. Member Steffen made a motion to approve. Member Salisbury seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed Members Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, Stabler, Dev, DeBord and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

- L. Consideration and Approval of Student Expulsion

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the Student A Expulsion 2021 through January 2022. Student may return upon request and meeting set criteria. Member Steffen seconded a motion made by Member Salisbury to approve. The roll call showed Members Salisbury, Steffen, Stabler, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

**XII. ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION PERSONNEL:**

**A. Resignations**

Central 6 <sup>th</sup> Gr Teacher & Patrol Supervisor	Torri Price	Effective End of 2020-2021
School Year		
Belle 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher	Melissa Bates	Effective End of 2020-2021
School Year		

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the above listed resignations. Member Stabler seconded a motion made by Member DeBord to approve. The roll call vote showed Members Steffen, Stabler, Dev, DeBord Christiansen, Salisbury, and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

**B. Retirements**

Belle Kitchen Server	Vicky Thompson	Effective 5/10/21
Administration Secretary	Mary Bates	Effective 7/2/21
District Maintenance	Robert Robinson	Effective 8/1/21

President Johnson called for a motion to approve the aforementioned retirements. Member Steffen seconded a motion made by Member Christiansen to approve. The roll call vote showed Members Stabler, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

**C. Hires I**

Central Title I Teacher/Long Term Substitute	Jill Bartelt
Central 6th Grade Teacher	Anabel Alva
Belle 1st Grade Teacher	Brook Hicks
Central F/T Paraprofessional	Shelbi Murphy
Belle Kitchen Server	Jeralynn Bickers
KHS Golf Coach	Ryan Hansen
Summer Custodial Worker	Denniko Powe Jr
Summer Cafeteria Worker	Contina Hernblom
Summer Cafeteria Worker	Sue Ingle
Summer Cafeteria Worker	Jeanna Moore
Summer School Teacher Belle Gr K	Wendy Goodrum
Cafeteria Substitute	Lacey Adams
Cafeteria Substitute	Charlie Brooks

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the above hires. Member Salisbury made a motion to approve. Member Steffen seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed Members Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, Stabler, and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

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

**D. Leaves**

Lori Yarger – Maternity Leave Approximately 8/6/21-End of Semester

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the Maternity Leave of L Yarger. Member Christiansen seconded a motion made by Member DeBord to approve. The roll call vote showed Members DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, Stabler, Dev and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

**E. Long Term Sub**

Central Resource Teacher	Kristen Adkison	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester 2021-2022 School Year
Central Title Teacher	LaNita Brown	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester 2021-2022 School Year
Central Elementary Teacher Gr. 6	Suzanne Burkhart	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester 2021-2022 School Year
Central Elementary Teacher Gr. 6	Dede Grice	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester 2021-2022 School Year
Central Computer Teacher	Alexandria Weston	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester 2021-2022 School Year
Neponset Elem P/T Music Teacher	Elise Swinford	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester 2021-2022 School Year
Belle Elementary Teacher Gr. 1	Gayle Burhorn	For Leave of L Yarger

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the Long Term Subs for 1<sup>st</sup> Semester of 2021-2022. President Johnson called for a motion. Member Dev made a motion to approve. Member DeBord seconded the

