KEWANEE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #229 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING-JANUARY 16, 2024

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 High School Petersen Auditorium with President Johnson calling the Meeting to order at 6:00pm. Roll call showed the following Members present: DeMay, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, and Johnson. Superintendent Sullens was also present for the Closed Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF REGULAR SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING

At 6:01 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/2022*. Voice roll vote showed all present Members voting aye. The motion carried.

At 7:08 pm Member Christiansen seconded a motion made by Member Dev to adjourn the Closed Session meeting. 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 7:32pm. This Open Session continued in the Petersen Auditorium at Kewanee High School. Roll call showed the following Board Members present: DeMay, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, and Johnson. The audience included: R Baney, T Atwell, D Brants, K Callahan, H Ince, J Janey, A DeSchepper, A Janey, and J Russell from Kewanee Radio. Recording secretary H Hughes and Superintendent C Sullens were also in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

INVITED GUESTS

Mrs. Baney presented the KHS FFA members and advisors with a Board Resolution honoring them for their 3 Star Chapter Recognition from the National FFA Organization. FFA Members Abigail DeSchepper, Jaxon Janey, and Hannah Ince were in attendance along with advisor Kindra Callahan. Abigail DeSchepper explained to the Board that being named a 3 Star Chapter is a big deal. She stated that in order to receive the honor you have to be recognized as a Gold Star Chapter by the State FFA. She stated that only 10% of Chapters in each State are eligible to receive a ranking. Hannah Ince informed the Board that of the approximate 9000 Chapters in the United States that less than 400 Chapters receive the 3 Star Ranking. Both Hannah Ince and Abigail DeSchepper thanked the Board for their support of the KHS FFA Chapter.

President Johnson stated that when attending the Illinois School Board Conference, he went to the Ag Education Booth. He stated that the gentleman manning the booth noticed he was from Kewanee and said the whole State knows what is being done in Kewanee.

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 DeBord seconded the motion made by Member Steffen to approve consent Items V, VI & VII. The roll showed Members DeMay, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes. The motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

None

REPORT FROM ADMINISRATION

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Superintendent

Winter Break Repairs/Upgrades

Dr. Sullens stated that the Maintenance crews having been working on many projects over winter break. He stated that they have done a fabulous job of snow removal over the last week.

FOIA Requests

Dr. Sullens stated that the District had not received any FOIA requests this month.

E-Learning Days

Dr. Sullens stated that ISBE allows Districts to use five E-Learning days. He stated that these days are counted as attendance days and do not have to be made up at the end of the year. He stated that these days allow summer school to begin prior to Memorial Day most years. He stated that Principals were checking in with staff during the E-Learning days.

District Library Grant

Dr. Sullens stated that the District's library grant was approved in the amount of \$1539.90. He thanked Ruth Kapacinskas for submitting the grant.

Mrs. Baney-KHS Principal

KHS IL State Scholars

Mrs. Baney informed the Board that Jillian Bennison, Eleanor Burkhart, Laryn Conley, Victoria Dennison, Alexander Hager, Willow Marshall, Joshua Ogorzalek, Jackson Silvis, and Avery Yepsen were named Kewanee High School's 2023-2024 Illinois State Scholars.

KHS Musical-Sponge Bob Square Pants the Musical

Mrs. Baney informed the Board that *Sponge Bob Square Pants the Musical* was presented twice to the public over the prior weekend. She stated that on Thursday the cast performed the show for students from Central and that on Wednesday there would be a performance for Belle, Irving, and Neponset students. Mrs. Baney stated that the cast and crew did a fantastic job with the musical. She thanked the Board for their support of the KHS Theater Program. She stated that the stage and background combined the use of technology and Mrs. Blake's artistic creativity. Mrs. Baney informed the Board that Chase Palm and Jacie Hinton did a three article piece on the musical for the Kewanee Voice through the student journalism program.

KHS Winter Sports Update

Mr. Atwell informed the Board that post season begins for Winter Sports this week.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMITTEE REPORTS None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration and Approval of IRS Mileage Rate for 2024 (2024- 0.67; 2023- 0.655)

Dr. Sullens recommending approving the IRS Mileage Rate for 2024. Member Salisbury seconded a motion made by Member Steffen to approve. The roll call vote showed Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, DeMay, and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried.

Consideration and Approval of Closed Session Minutes and Approve Them as Remaining Closed (through December 31, 2023) and destruction of verbatim records prior to July 1, 2022.

Dr. Sullens recommended approving that Closed Session Minutes remain closed through December 31, 2023 and the destruction of verbatim records prior to July 1, 2022. Member Christiansen seconded a motion made by Member Salisbury to approve. The roll call vote showed Members DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, DeMay, Dev, and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried.

Consideration and Approval of Seniority List and Years of Continuous Service List

- 1. Certified Staff Seniority List 2023-2024
- 2. Certified Staff Years of Continuous Service 2023-2024
- 3. Union Years of Continuous Service 2023-2024
- 4. Non Union Years of Continuous Service 2023-2024

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the Seniority list and Years of Continuous Service List as presented. Member Dev seconded a motion made by Member Christiansen to approve. The roll call vote showed Members Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, DeMay, Dev, DeBord, and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried.

Consideration and Approval of 2024 KHS Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the list of 2024 KHS Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees as presented. Member DeBord seconded a motion made by Member Salisbury to approve. The roll call vote showed Members Salisbury, Steffen, DeMay, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried.

<u>Consideration and Approval of Updates to the Kewanee High School Handbook (Exam Policy & Service Hours)</u> Dr. Sullens recommended approving the Updates to the Kewanee High School Handbook as presented. Dr. Sullens stated that these were minor changes to the handbook. Member Christiansen seconded a motion made by Member Steffen to approve. The roll call vote showed Members Steffen, DeMay, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried.

Consideration and Approval for The Superintendent to Apply for Electric Buses at the Superintendent's Discretion (if current guidelines change to be favorable for the District)

Dr. Sullens informed the Board that Federal funding is available for electric buses. The grant currently requires older models and/or diesel buses to be traded in. Dr. Sullens stated that currently the District has no diesel buses and the oldest bus is less than five years old. He stated that if funding becomes available that the District could qualify for without trading in a bus that he would be interested. He stated that the grant requires approval from the Board to apply for the grant. Member DeBord seconded a motion made by Member Salisbury to approve. The roll call vote showed Members DeMay, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried.

ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION PERSONNEL:

Resignations

Hannah Bridgewater

KHS Assistant Volleyball Coach-Effective Immediately

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

Retirements

None

Hires

Brittney Krohn	Central Band Director (Position Created in New Contract)
Alex Binek	Central Band Director (Position Created in New Contract)
Katie Yelm	KHS Musical-Music Director (Position Created in New Contract)
Joan Becker	Head Nurse (Position Created in New Contract)
Alicia Toliver	Bus Aide
Elec Arndt	KHS Stage Manager (1/2)
Kim Ellenberger	P/T Teacher and P/T Substitute (Position Created in New Contract)
Corey Tavares	Central 5 th /6 th Boys Basketball Coach
Marcus Throneburg	Central 5 th /6 th Boys Basketball Coach

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the above hires. Member Dev seconded a motion made by Member DeBord to

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approve. The roll call vote showed Members DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, DeMay, Dev, 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.

Leaves

None

Student Teachers None

Transfers

None

Volunteers Bob Fornander

KHS Musical

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

Renewal/Non-Renewal of Stipend Positions

None

OTHER ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION

None

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS AND BOARD OF EDUCATION

None

Moment of Silence for John Jagers-Father of Jon Jagers (Central Resource Officer) and Former Board Member Moment of Silence for Sandra "Sandi" Verdick- Grandmother of Dayton Ince (KHS Boys Basketball Coach) Moment of Silence for Sandra Powell – Grandmother of Katelyn Yelm (Music/Choir Teacher)

ADJOURNMENT

Member Dev seconded a motion made by Member Christiansen to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote from Members DeMay, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, and Johnson was heard all voting aye. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.

JEFF JOHNSON, PRESIDENT

JON DEBORD, SECRETARY