

**KEWANEE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #229
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING-OCTOBER 16, 2023**

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 6:00 pm, Member DeMay seconded a motion made by Member Dev 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 7:05 pm Member Dev seconded a motion made by Member DeMay 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 7:30pm. 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 Brown, C Douglas, D Hodge-Bates, D Brants, R Kapacinskas, K Jurgensen, G Jurgensen, S Saey, S DeSmit, J Bartelt, M Nelson, A Cernovich, C Eads, N Taylor, M Reiter, A Reiter, D Reiter, C Osborne, L Nolan, B Hunter, A Conner, L Harrison, A Miler, M Miler, J Grebner, J Peart, L Murphy, M Dyer, J Goffrier, H Abernathy, P Diaz, E Diaz, K Diaz, E Martinez, J Gustafson, A DeVenney, A Clementz, M Gayer, B Gayer, L Rux, J Miler, Tom Miler, R Price, E Lindenmeyer, B Krohn, H Peed, J Peed, E Robinson, A Johnson, J Haage, W Corral, M Gustafson, K Johnson, K Laue, J Bennett, J Carlson, L Yarger, L Bridgewater, L Salisbury, H Strickler, J Hogeboom, T Conover, R Allen, E Allen, S Burkhart, A Weston, T Coyne, A Binek, H Safiran, H Barnes, B Kirsch, A Kirsch, N Kubiak, K Yelm, H Olalde, R Comer, G Gerard, P Schneider, H Verscha, V Miles, A Breese, S Breese, W Landsiedel, S Humphrey, E Burkhart, J Duytschaver, J Chapman, P DeSmit, G Komnick, D Price, and M Berry from the Kewanee Voice. 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.

SINE DIE

Board entered a Public Hearing concerning the Intent of the Board of Education to sell Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 for the purpose of increasing the Working Cash Fund of the District at 7:31 pm.

ROLL CALL BY SECRETARY

The roll call showed Members DeMay, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, and Johnson all present.

DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD

Superintendent Sullens stated that the District intends to sell bonds to replace the current Working Cash bonds that will be paid in full, December 2023. He stated that the tax rate is estimated to stay approximately the same rate.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

President Johnson called for a motion to adjourn Sine Die at 7:34 pm. Member Christiansen made a motion to approve.

Member Dev seconded the motion. A voice vote was heard with all Members voting aye. No nay votes were heard. The motion carried.

SINE DIE

INVITED GUESTS

Russ Rumbold of Gorenz and Associates presented an overview of the Audit report for fiscal year 2023. Mr. Rumbold provided handouts with an overview of the FY23 Audit to Board Members. As of June 30, 2023, the total fund equity for the District was \$78,235,971. Most of this amount is made up of fixed assets which includes the buildings, the contents of the buildings, the buses and etc. If the fixed assets of \$57,347,251 are removed as well as funds that are restricted for special purposes such as the Debt Service, IMRF, Capital Projects and those types of funds, the net equity of the Operating Funds the balance as of June 30, 2023 was \$16,242,103. The District's financial profile score improved to a 3.8 out of 4.0.

The audit showed that a majority of District's funding (53%) comes from the State's Evidence Based Funding. Many of the District funding categories have stayed consistent. These categories include Real Estate Taxes, Other Local Revenue, and Other State Sources.

Mr. Rumbold discussed the breakdown of expenses by Operating Fund. For the Education Fund the majority of the expenses were salaries and benefits. Salaries and benefits make up 59% of the Operating expenses. The District has an operating expense per pupil amount of \$13,045.

Mr. Rumbold informed the Board that the On behalf payments is the amount the State is to pay into TRS on behalf of the District. It is a revenue and expense so it doesn't impact the District. The on behalf amount for fiscal year 2023 was \$5,041,676.

Mr. Rumbold stated that there were no findings for internal control or for compliance.

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 VI, VII & VIII. Member DeBord seconded the motion made by Member Steffen to approve consent Items VI, VII & VIII. 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

Ali Breese, 4th grade teacher at Central, stated that it is crucial to recognize the pivotal role that educators play in our future. She stated that no one becomes a self-made physical therapist or self-made chiropractor. She stated that they learned their skills from a teacher. She stated that their years of experience should be acknowledged and respected. Mrs. Breese stated that many of the educators feel disrespected by the Board and don't feel valued for the tireless work they put into educating our students. She asked the Board, why they were there if not for the students, teachers, and staff. She stated that educators feel like the Board doesn't have their backs and doesn't feel like the Board is here for the right reasons. She stated that education is the foundation of our society and the educators are the pillars of that foundation. Mrs. Breese stated that educators deserve respect, deserve to be treated better, and deserve to be paid as if the world depends on it, because it does.

Wendy Corral, Art Teacher at Belle, Irving, and Neponset, stated that she went to Kewanee Schools from pre-k until she graduated in 2015. She stated that she had a great understanding of the impact that the educators of this District have on students. She stated that some had such an impact that she pursued a career in art education. Ms. Corral stated her parents, immigrants from Mexico, were ecstatic that she was pursuing a Bachelor's degree, because due to their own hardships they were unable to pursue higher education. She stated that with a degree she believed that she would have a higher income, be able to support herself, and save for her future. Ms. Corral stated that she is struggling to pay her bills each month in the job she thought would never put her in this position. She stated that she is doing a job that required a degree that she had to take out loans for. She stated that she knew she would have to repay the loans but thought her pay would be sufficient to pay them and it has not been. She stated that as the cost of living rises she is still being paid the same as last year and along with some coworkers is living paycheck to paycheck. She stated that she vividly remembers the first time she didn't have the money to buy groceries. She stated that she had to ask for help just to buy food. Ms. Corral stated that she has been offered other jobs that would significantly ease the financial burden but has turned them down because she loves her students and job in Kewanee. She stated that she thought she would be paid enough to stay in her hometown but there is going to come a

point where she will have to make a change in order to live comfortably. She stated that she would like to get her Master's degree but wondered how that would be possible if she can barely pay for the Bachelor's. She also stated that she wondered if it would be worth getting a Master's in this District based on everything she has read and is learning. Ms. Corral stated that she wants to stay in Kewanee but if somewhere else is going to value her then what choice does she have. She stated that she wants to be able to save money and live her life and not just survive it. She stated that she doesn't know why there isn't a contract and doesn't know why people in power who have the knowledge that their educators are struggling don't do something to get them a fair contract. Ms. Corral stated that they are valuable and what makes Kewanee simply the best.

Jessica Hogeboom, 4th grade teacher at Central, stated that at the last Board Meeting it was mentioned that many staff members don't have a Master's degree. She stated that if the Board wanted to fund her Master's to please go ahead because she is already \$45,000 in debt and will not put herself into more debt before she can even buy a home. She stated that there is only \$10,000 pool to fund degrees and that will only be reimbursed once you prove you have a passing grade at the end. She stated that she went to college and is not sure why her degree doesn't prove that she is a highly qualified individual. Ms. Hogeboom stated that she did the math and if she was an hourly staff member she would be making less than or equal to minimum wage. She stated that she made more than minimum wage when she worked at Taco Bell. She stated that society told students to go to college to afford to live in this world, but she can't pay her bills. She stated that everyone in the room has mentioned they are struggling. She stated how horrible it was to treat seventh year teachers as first year teachers like they haven't been loyal to this District. She stated that there are teachers who have been with the District over ten years and lost six years due to the freeze. Ms. Hogeboom stated that they aren't considered at their full experience level on the pay scale and the Board won't consider giving the steps back. She stated that the Board is single handily setting them up for financial failure. She stated that the Board should be thanking the teachers who stuck out the last six years even though their pay wasn't increasing. She stated that she was only a second year teacher so she wasn't terribly behind in the pay schedule, but if she would have been a fifth, sixth, or seventh year teacher she would have gone somewhere else. She stated that other District are looking at ours as a joke. Ms. Hogeboom stated that we pride ourselves on our renovations and how are athletes and scholars are doing but we can't pay our teachers. She stated that we praise our students for their athletic and academic achievements. She stated she wondered where her praise, recognition, and reward for working so hard her entire life to get here. She stated that they haven't had a contract for two months and one day and wondered why they weren't the number one priority. She stated that if the Board said the students were their number one priority that they were lying because if they were you would make sure teachers and staff are happy and willing to continue working. Ms. Hogeboom stated that the Board wants them to be respectful but they have been nothing but disrespectful towards staff, especially during the last two meetings. She stated that the Board waited until staff weren't allowed to speak to make comments on how we don't know what we are fighting for. She stated that the Board was stalling and asked for what. She asked if they were trying to get through the football season, so they don't have to deal with a potential strike and not be able to play. Ms. Hogeboom stated that the contract needs finalized tonight.

Cheryl Osborne, KHS teacher, stated that she knows being a school board member is a thankless position and there is a lot of responsibility and pressure. She stated that the Board Members chose to serve because they care about the Kewanee School District. She stated that she knows that most if not all Board members have had children go through the Kewanee School System. She stated that the educators, coaches, etc. in the District have helped your children succeed in academics, athletics, and other extracurricular activities that helped them prepare for future success. She stated that she believes that the Board values teachers and don't disrespect staff. Mrs. Osborne stated that when she thinks of the Board and those who are self-employed or high executives in organizations they have had a chance for advancement in their lives and careers. She stated that when you succeed you advance in your career but teachers don't have that opportunity for advancement. She stated you don't get to be manager of the business department, a teacher is a teacher their first year and a teacher in their twenty-fifth year. She stated that she was unsure of why the Board was so resistant to the salary schedule. She stated that she understands that during the freeze there was a higher base raise. She stated that a teacher who began teaching in 2016 would have been teaching for seven years and they should have moved with a base raise and an experience raise. They should be a step eight this year. She stated that because of the freeze these educators are still a step one, while they have received a percentage raise. She stated that a teacher who started two months ago is also a step one and they are making the same pay. She stated that it wasn't fair and it was not only a loss of income but a loss of self-esteem. She asked the Board if they have an issue with the salary schedule to tell the educators and public why. She stated she didn't understand why the Board was so resistant to the salary schedule because the teachers are telling you they need it to feel valued. Mrs. Osborne stated that the negotiations have gotten two sided but we should be on the same side. She stated she doesn't like the hostility and feel we should all be on the same side. She stated that it shouldn't be educators versus the Board but the educators and Board

against teacher turnover or inability to hire good teachers. She stated that we should be on the same team and need to negotiate and come up with a solution that works for both sides. She stated that would be a win for everybody.

Jacob Doan, KHS teacher, thanked those on both sides who have tried to keep cool heads and low blood pressure through this. He stated that at this point we have proven that both sides are very good at fighting but we need to listen to the compromisers. He stated that at this point the pain, bleeding, and agony are hurting our schools and our students. He stated that we need to find common ground as much as we can. He stated that this is a community wide screaming match and anyone who has been in a screaming match knows you never go away thinking the other side had a logical point. Mr. Doan stated that the compromisers have realized this but the rest of us have forgotten. He stated that we are not Admin, not teachers, and not hourly workers, we are now and hopefully most of us will always be Boilermakers.

Jessica Carlson, 5th grade teacher at Central, stated that she has sixteen years of teaching experience. She stated however, according to the pay scale with the salary freeze she is sitting at year six. She stated that she had a few points she wanted to address with the Board. She stated that there was a comment made at the last Board meeting about the lack of teachers with Master's degrees or who are Board certified. She stated that having a Master's degree doesn't make someone a good teacher. She stated that there are not enough classes that someone could take to better prepare themselves for being a teacher than experience in the classroom with students. She stated that if the Board did a little research they would see that District with higher rates of Master's degrees provide incentives and financial assistance to teachers. She stated secondly, it was previously stated the comparison of salary schedules published was not comparing apples to apples. She stated that she could make five to thirteen thousand dollars more if she were to leave Kewanee and go teach at a District that is smaller, more rural, and closer to her hometown. She stated that she doesn't care the reason they pay more the point is that they pay more. She stated that she wasn't falling for the argument that Kewanee's retirement is better. She stated that she still had over twenty years of teaching left to go and her family is struggling now. Mrs. Carlson stated that she can't continue to mentally and financially struggle like she is right now. She stated that she loves her students and her Central family. She stated that when you see her resignation letter know that it is because contract after contract the Board has chosen to pay our educators unfairly and chosen not to compensate them for our years of experience. She stated that those who choose to go into the field of education typically have compassion for others. She stated that educators want to see their students become successful adults and ignite a love of learning and desire to better themselves. She stated that in education struggle is an important part of the learning process. She stated the struggling can help teach skills like problem solving, determination, and promote confidence and growth mindset. She stated that another important part of education is knowing when to step in and provide support when you see others struggling. Mrs. Carlson stated that over the past several months the Board has seen several educators stand before you or write telling you about their struggles. She stated that these struggles include physical, emotional, mental, and financial. She stated that when you make six figures it seems you lose sight of the financial struggles that the other in the field of education are having. She stated that she is standing there tonight with her sixteen years of experience telling you how it is the time you need to step in and provide some support to our educators. She stated that they can't continue struggling like we are and teacher burnout is real. She stated that we are currently facing a teacher shortage because we are overworked and underpaid. She stated that if the Board wanted to show a little compassion to the students and educators of the Kewanee District they should stay after the meeting tonight and get the contract settled. Mrs. Carlson stated that the Board needs to pay the educators fairly and compensate them for their years of experience. She stated that they need to stop stalling and get it figured out tonight.

Hailey Strickler, Resource teacher at Irving, has been a teacher at Central and Irving for six years and is paid as a first year teacher. She stated that she went into Resource because it was needed and also because she loves working with these kids. She stated that she deals with difficulties with student behavior but also celebrates with her students when after years of work they are able to return to class with their peers. She stated last week she celebrated with a student who finally mastered a list of sight words that they have been working on for years. She stated that she loves working with her students, she loves working in Special Education, and working in Kewanee. She stated that she feels there has been an implication that the educators are following the negotiation team blindly. She stated that these statements made imply that they are not aware of what's going on and this implication is blatantly untrue. Mrs. Strickler stated that she has spoken with teachers in other districts and has had job offers from other districts. She stated that they have seen what they would make in other districts if they were to choose to leave Kewanee but she really doesn't want to. She stated that when discussing education with family and other teachers, the question is why are you staying in Kewanee and that they could help her go elsewhere. She stated that she doesn't want to be the person who leaves her students but she isn't going to be left with a choice if she wants to start a family.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent

Flu Vaccines at Individual Buildings

Dr. Sullens stated flu vaccines were administered at all of the District buildings over the last two weeks. The vaccines were provided by OSF and the District Nurses.

Recognition of Honorary Boilermakers: Mary Simaytis and Kevin Yepsen

Dr. Sullens stated that Mary Simaytis and Kevin Yepsen were named Honorary Boilermakers during Homecoming celebration this year. Mary Simaytis was a graduate with the KHS Class of 1981 and Kevin Yepsen was graduate with the KHS Class of 1985. Dr. Sullens thanked them for their efforts over the years to help Kewanee students.

IASB Annual Merit Recognition: Jeff Johnson and Lori Christiansen

Dr. Sullens recognized Jeff Johnson and Lori Christiansen for retaining their Annual Illinois Association of School Boards Merit Recognition. He stated that it takes hard work and effort to retain the recognition

FOIA Requests

Dr. Sullens stated that no FOIA requests were received this month.

Mrs. Baney-KHS Principal

KHS Band Competition held at Kewanee High School

Mrs. Baney stated that Kewanee High School hosted their first and hopefully annual Marching Band Competition. KHS hosted six bands from the area and UTHS were named the winners. She stated that due to rain the competition had to be moved into the Brockman Gymnasium. She thanked Mr. Binek, Miss Krohn, Ms. Olalde, Mrs. Maxon, and the Music Boosters for all of their hard work with the competition.

KHS Homecoming

Mrs. Baney stated that the football team was victorious in the Homecoming game versus Hall. She stated that Melissa Fragoso and Brady Clark were name Homecoming King and Queen.

Manufacturing Day

Mrs. Baney stated that twenty-seven KHS students attended Manufacturing Day. Mrs. Baney stated that Mrs. Evans, Mr. Meyer, and Miss Ruemker also attended. Manufacturing Day was created by Dr. Marcus Bush the Associate Vice President of Economic and Workforce Development at Black Hawk College. Mrs. Baney stated that Jodi Workheiser from Black Hawk College put a lot of work into planning the day. Students started their day at the Black Hawk Skilled Trade Center and met with BHC President Dr. Thomas and State Representative Travis Weaver. She stated they then traveled to Martin Engineering and toured the floor. Students then returned to the Black Hawk Skilled Trade Center for a tour that included virtual welding. Student were able to learn about the BHC IGNITE program and the welding lab.

Fall Sports Update

Mrs. Baney gave the Board an update on KHS Fall Sports. She stated that the KHS Soccer Team will be playing in the Regional Championship for the first time in school history. Mrs. Baney informed the Board that the Fall Sports Senior Night will be held on Friday, October 20. She stated that at the game the Marching Band will be performing their full competition set with props.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

KHS Fieldhouse/Locker Rooms

Dr. Sullens stated that fieldhouse is watertight. Crews are waiting for roofing materials to arrive in order to complete the project. He stated that the materials were scheduled to arrive two weeks ago. He stated that they hope to get the football team in the fieldhouse before the end of the season.

Lyle Addition

Dr. Sullens informed the Board that they are still waiting on roofing materials to arrive. He stated they hope to get materials installed and be able to move into the area soon.

Belle Solar Farm Update

Dr. Sullens stated that the legal documents were reviewed by the District attorneys and returned to the Solar Farm Company's local legal counsel. After his review, it was forwarded to the company's corporate attorneys. The documents were sent back with revisions. Once the legal documents are settled, the project would have to go through a governmental filing process. Dr. Sullens stated that solar farms of this size are generally being approved rather quickly.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration and Approval of the 2022-2023 School District Audit, Transfers, and Adjustments as Recommended by the Auditors

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

Selection of Delegate and Alternate to the Joint Annual Conference

Member Dev was selected as Delegate and Member Christiansen was selected to be the Alternate.

Consideration and Approval of Chromebooks Bid (KHS & Central)

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the bid from Government Goods (formerly HPI) at \$250,392. Each unit with Google license was bid at \$312.99. Member Johnson 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 10 Year Life Safety Reports

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the 10-year Life Safety Reports for all buildings as presented in the Board packet. The reports were for each building except Central. Central's report will be presented at the Board meeting next month. Member Salisbury 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 heard. The motion carried.

ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION PERSONNEL:

Resignations

Janith Holmes	Cafeteria Sub-Effective Immediately
Matt Taylor	KHS Assistant Baseball Coach-Effective Immediately

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

Retirements

None

Hires

Madison Dearing	Central P/T Aide
Kyle Burzch	Central Jr. High Assistant Wrestling Coach
Ben Hunter	KHS Winter Weights Coach
Matt Clark	KHS Spring Weights Coach
Ryan Hansen	Neponset 21 st Century Teacher

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the above hires. Member DeBord 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. The motion carried.

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

Leaves

Madison Costenson-Segura Maternity Leave-Beginning approximately 1/2/24 for six weeks

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

Long Term Subs

None

Student Teachers

Annie Johnson 2nd Semester with Kindra Callahan at Kewanee High School
LaNita Brown October 2023 with Nicole Enderle-Central 6th grade

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the above Student Teachers. Member DeBord seconded a motion made by Member Christiansen 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.

Transfers

Erika VanDaele From Central P/T Aide to Central F/T Aide

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the above listed transfer. Member DeBord seconded a motion made by Member DeMay to 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.

Volunteers

Robert Flagg Central Jr. High Boys Basketball
Michael Tumbleson Central Jr. High Boys Basketball
Greg Ahlgren KHS Ag Class

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the above listed volunteers. Member Salisbury 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

Pam Schneider, 6th grade teacher at Central, stated that Meredith Byers with the IEA shared with the KEA that less than ten Districts in the State of Illinois are working without a contract. She stated that #229 is the second largest with U-46 in Elgin being the largest. She stated there is an urgency to get a contract settled. Ms. Schneider stated that she wanted to point out that when Board members get on the Board they are not employed by Dr. Sullens. She stated that they are allowed to have an opinion.

Suzanne Burkhart stated that she was there as a parent. She stated she wanted to acknowledge that KHS had to girls go to Sectionals for Golf, Eleanor Burkhart and Hope Peed. She stated that they didn't qualify for State but still a great accomplishment and no one seems to know about it. She wanted to recognize them for the accomplishment.

Mrs. Baney said she would like to apologize to Eleanor and Hope. She stated they were listed in the sports update but in her haste it wasn't mentioned.

Member Christiansen stated that she wanted to recognize that several students received their food handlers license. She stated that it was great and prepares them to enter the workforce. Member Christiansen said she wanted to give a shout out to the Key Club, Builder's Club, and K-Kids members for their participation in the Good Fellows Tag Days. She stated with their help a significant amount of funds was raised for the Christmas baskets. She apologized that so many took her comments about teachers having Masters degrees out of context. She stated that she was in no way commenting on our teachers here. She stated she knows that we have several young teachers and is not expecting everyone to have Masters degrees. She stated she was just using the other Districts for comparison.

Dr. Sullens stated that the Food Handlers License Program is a partnership with the local McDonald's. He stated that McDonald's pays the license fee for each student.

Moment of Silence for John Spets-Father of David Spets (Bus Driver/Retired Teacher), Grandfather of Jennifer Chapman (Central 5th Grade Teacher), Grandfather-in-law of Corey Tavares (KHS Teacher), and Former Kewanee School Board Member (1974-1985)

Moment of Silence for Prisiliano Chavez-Brother of Leticia Munoz (Irving 3rd Grade Special Ed Teacher)

Moment of Silence for Gerald Bumphrey-Brother of Mindy Bumphrey (Central 1 on 1 Health Aide)

ADJOURNMENT

Member DeMay seconded a motion made by Member Dev 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 8:45 pm.

JEFF JOHNSON, PRESIDENT

JON DEBORD, SECRETARY