

KEWANEE COMM SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OCTOBER 17, 2022

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: Stabler, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, and Johnson. Superintendent Sullens was also present for the Closed Session.

President Johnson called for a motion to amend the meeting agenda to add a second closed session (if necessary). The second closed session would be 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/2021*.

Member Dev 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 heard. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF REGULAR SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING

At 6:02pm, Member Christiansen seconded a motion made by Member Stabler 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/2021*. Voice roll vote showed all present Members voting aye. The motion carried.

At 7:15 pm Member Dev seconded a motion made by Member Steffen 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: Stabler, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, and Johnson. The audience included: M Copeland, J Duytschaver, E Jackson, C Hamerlinck, C Heeren, R Wilder, K McAdam, A Simpkins, J Anderson, D Brants, R Baney, T Brown, and J Russell from the Kewanee Radio Station. 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

Russ Rumbold of Gorenz and Associates presented an overview of the Audit report for fiscal year 2022. Mr. Rumbold provided handouts with an overview of the FY22 Audit to Board. As of June 30, 2022, the total fund equity for the District was \$70,700,552. Most of this amount is made up of fixed assets which includes the buildings, the contents of the buildings, the buses and etc. If we subtract the fixed assets of \$45,708,783 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 (Ed Fund, the Building Fund, Transportation Fund, and the Working Cash) the balance as of June 30, 2022 was \$15,910,144. The District's financial profile score improved to a 3.7 out of 4.0. The District's score did drop this year due to additional debt issued during the year.

The audit showed that a majority of District's funding (51%) 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. Federal Sources have increased in the last couple of years. This is due to the IDEA Funding flowing

through the District versus going directly to Henry Stark Special Education District. Federal funds have increased due to COVID funding dollars (CARES, ESSER II, ESSER III grants).

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 60% of the Operating Fund expenses. Since 2018, the revenues have outpaced expenditures each year.

The District has an operating expense per pupil amount of \$12,497. This is \$3242 less than the state average.

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 2022 was \$4,474,978.

Mr. Rumbold discussed the investment collateral of the District. The Auditors look to see if there is enough collateral to cover the District's investments. The District currently has the appropriate amount of collateral for investments.

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

Randi Wilder, KHS Cheer Advisor and Chelsea Hamerlinck, Central Junior High Cheer advisor presented to the Board. Ms. Hamerlinck stated that the benefits of competitive cheer include the discipline that it offers, it requires time, preparation, hard work, and focus. She stated that both winning and defeat allow for learning opportunities and promote teamwork, build confidence, and self-esteem. Ms. Hamerlinck informed the Board that the deadline to sign up with the IESA is November 11th. The squad of twelve would like to compete in the cheer and routine divisions.

Ms. Wilder stated that the high school squad would be eligible for scholarships and the chance to be on the All-State Team. Ms. Wilder informed the Board that adding Competitive Cheer will give students additional opportunities to gain skills and possibly continue cheering in college.

Dr. Sullens verified with the coaches that the junior high squad wanted to participate in two competitions and the high school squad wanted to participate in three competitions. Ms. Wilder stated that the squad wanted to participate at two invitational events and the IHSA Sectional. Member Christiansen asked for clarification of the Competitive Cheer seasons. Ms. Hamerlinck stated it was an extended season and would end in Mid-February. Ms. Wilder stated that the competition season falls within the regular winter cheer season for the high school. Member Christiansen also asked if volleyball players who cheer for the winter sports season would have any issues. Ms. Wilder stated that there is an overlap of about one week at the beginning of the winter cheer season. But that would only affect practices and that the first competition isn't until December 17th.

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 Stabler 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.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

None

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent

Flu Vaccines at Individual Buildings

Dr. Sullens stated that flu vaccine clinics have been offered at all of the schools. Dr. Sullens thanked OSF for holding these clinics for students and staff.

Recognition of Honorary Boilermakers

Dr. Sullens stated that Chris Bral, Teresa Bryner, and Bill Pann were named Honorary Boilermakers at KHS this year.

KHS Class Reunions: Classes of 1962, 1972, & 1982

Dr. Sullens updated the Board on tours that have been given in conjunction with Class reunions. All of the groups have been impressed with the additions that have been made at Kewanee High School.

Dr. Sullens also wanted to mention that the District paid off the QZAB Bonds. This was a federal interest free loan of \$1,000,000. The District had to match ten percent. In 2007, the District spent the funds on roofs throughout the District, bought teacher laptops, and SMART boards were installed.

Mrs. Baney-KHS Principal

Fall Sports Update

Mrs. Baney gave a Fall Sports update. Mya Mirocha placed 8th at the IHSA State Golf Meet. The KHS Tennis team competed at the IHSA Sectional at Geneseo and no one advanced. The KHS Soccer Team finished their season in the IHSA Regional Semifinals with a 2 OT loss to Monmouth Roseville. The KHS Cross Country Team will be at Regionals in Seneca on October 22nd. KHS Volleyball will be competing against Riverdale at the Orion Regional on Monday, October 24th. The football team will finish the regular season on Friday, October 21st versus Newman.

Senior Night and Special Band Performance-October 21st

Mrs. Baney stated that Senior Night will be held at the football game on October 21st. The KHS Marching Band will be giving a special performance prior to the Senior Night festivities.

Mr. Anderson-Central Principal

Paula Sands Live on October 18th

Mr. Anderson informed the Board that Mrs. Bruty and Mrs. Smith, counselors at Central, would be on Paula Sands Live during the October 18th show. They would be discussing Bullying Prevention and the District's participation in the Great Apple Crunch. He stated that the Great Apple Crunch was on October 13th and each student was given an apple. Mr. Anderson stated that at Central School they had Chief Welgat there to help hand out apples.

KHS/Central Choir Concerts

Mr. Anderson stated the KHS and Central Choir Concert was held on October 13th. He stated that the students did a wonderful job. Mr. Anderson also informed the Board of an upcoming Central Band Concert on October 18th.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMITTEE REPORTS

KHS Stadium Turf/Lighting-Field Event Striping (late October)

Dr. Sullens stated that the striping for the field events will be done in late October.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Belle & Neponset Classroom Additions

Dr. Sullens stated that the projects are moving along well. Crews hope to have the Neponset roof on by Thanksgiving. The Belle crew is pouring the floors, adding trusses and decking, and installing the roofing within the next two weeks.

KHS Ag Addition and Belle Gym Addition

Dr. Sullens stated that the iron workers have been hard at work on the Ag Addition. They hope to have it enclosed within two weeks. The HVAC system is delivered and ready to be installed. The Belle gym has three sides up.

Irving School Main Entrance (start date late October)

Dr. Sullens stated he met with the contractor and the architect to go over the plans. He stated that work on the concrete stairs will begin this month. The goal is to have the concrete work done in November. The remainder of the project will be started once the doors are delivered. The plans are to go from three doors to two handicap accessible doors and remodel the secure entrance.

Consideration and Approval of Policy 7:286

Dr. Sullens recommended approving Policy 7:286. Member Christiansen seconded a motion made by Member Dev to approve. A roll call vote showed Members Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, Stabler, and Johnson voting aye. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration and Approval of the 2021-2022 School District Audit, Transfers, and Adjustments as Recommended by the Auditors

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the 2021-2022 School District Audit, Transfers, and Adjustments as recommended by the Auditors. Member Salisbury seconded a motion made by Member Steffen to approve. A roll call vote showed Members DeBord, Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, Stabler, Dev, 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 chosen to be the District Delegate at the Joint Annual Conference. Member Christiansen will serve as the alternate. No vote was necessary.

Consideration and Approval of Chromebooks Bid

Dr. Sullens stated that five bids were received. The low bid was from HPI International in Brooklyn, New York. Their bid was for \$160,293. Each of the 700 units with a Google license was \$228.99. The next bid was for \$160,825 from Bluum.

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the Chromebook bid from HPI International. Member Steffen seconded a motion made by Member Salisbury to approve. The roll call vote showed Members Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, Stabler, Dev, DeBord, and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried.

Consideration and Approval of KHS Graduation Date and Jr. High Promotion

1. KHS Graduation Date: May 21, 2023 at 1:00 pm
2. Jr. High Promotion Date: May 22, 2023 at 7:00 pm

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the KHS graduation and Central Junior High promotion dates. Member Stabler seconded a motion made by Member Steffen to approve. The roll call vote showed Members Salisbury, Steffen, Stabler, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried.

Consideration and Approval of Kewanee High School Handbook Change

Dr. Sullens informed the Board of the change to the KHS Handbook. This would be a minor change to the policy of wearing a head covering at school. The new wording would state "No head coverings are to be worn/carried during the school day." The prior wording stated that no head coverings are to be worn/carried from 8am-2:30pm. Dr. Sullens stated that this change is needed due to Early Bird classes and after school programs.

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the change to the Kewanee High School handbook change. Member Salisbury 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 heard. The motion carried.

Consideration and Approval of Adding Competitive Cheerleading for KHS & Central Junior High

Dr. Sullens recommended adding Competitive Cheerleading for KHS and Central Junior High. 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 heard. The motion carried.

Consideration and Approval of KHS Cheerleading and Dance Travel to Hawaii

Dr. Sullens stated that the students travelling to Hawaii would need to miss school to accommodate the trip. For that to be excused that would need to be approved by the Board. Dr. Sullens stated that he and Mrs. Baney had spoken with coaches to ensure that Administration would have an itinerary and travel plans for the students.

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the travel of the KHS Cheerleaders and Dance team members. Member Steffen seconded a motion made by Member Stabler to approve. The voice vote showed Members Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, Stabler, Dev, DeBord, and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried.

Consideration and Approval of Community Solar Project (change in the current billing procedures)

Dr. Sullens stated that the Community Solar Project had previously been approved. The Federal government has changed

how they are issuing credit back to the District. Dr. Sullens stated that the District won't see any difference because we work with a third party on our billing. Therefore, on our end there will be no change.

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

ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION PERSONNEL:

Resignations

KHS Secretary-Effective 10/5/2022	Elizabeth Carrillo
KHS Contest Play	Haley Hamilton
Substitute Cafeteria Worker	Terry Unakis

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

Retirements

Koreen Jurgensen	Belle Teacher	Retirement-Effective End of 2025-2026 School Year
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Dr. Sullens recommended approving the above listed retirement. Member Christiansen seconded a motion made by Member Steffen to approve. The roll call vote showed Members Christiansen, Salisbury, Steffen, Stabler, Dev, DeBord, and Johnson all voting aye. There were no nay votes heard. The motion carried.

Hires

Central ROE 21 st Century Aide	Sarah Taets
Central ROE 21 st Century Aide	Maya Davis
Central ROE 21 st Century Aide	Emily Araiza
Central ROE 21 st Century Aide	Paige Yordy
Neponset 21 st Century Teacher	Emma Reidner
KHS Secretary (10 month)	Yasmy Blas
Resource Officer (P/T)	James Mock
Neponset Cheerleading Advisor	Tatum Drury
KHS Swim Coach	Kali Stoops

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the above hires. Member Steffen seconded a motion made by Member Dev to approve. The roll call vote showed Members Salisbury, Steffen, Stabler, Dev, DeBord, Christiansen, 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

Long Term Subs

None

Student Teachers

None

Transfers

LuAnn Scott	From Lyle Cafeteria Worker to Lyle Custodian
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Dr. Sullens recommended approving the above listed transfer. Member Christiansen seconded the motion made by Member
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Steffen 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.

Volunteers

KHS Football

Kramer Matzen

Americorp

Mayra Diaz

Central Jr. High Boys Basketball

Brandon Ince

Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the above listed volunteers. Member Johnson seconded a motion made by Member Stabler 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.

Renewal/Non-Renewal of Stipend Positions

None

OTHER ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION

Expulsion of Student A-2023 for gross misconduct until August 2023. The student can request reentrance in January 2023 if academic progress has been made.

Dr. Sullens recommended the expulsion of student A-2023 due to gross misconduct. Member DeBord seconded a motion made by Member Dev to approve. 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.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS AND BOARD OF EDUCATION

None

Moment of Silence for Bettie Sortwell-Retired Bus Driver/Custodian

Moment of Silence for Ronald Hewitt-Former Regional Superintendent of Schools

Moment of Silence for Jacque Verscha-Former Bus Driver

Moment of Silence for Chris Becker-Brother in law of Joan Becker (Central School Nurse)

Moment of Silence for Betty Mahnesmith-Mother of Becky Henkins (Belle Aide)

ADJOURNMENT

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

The open meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

JEFF JOHNSON, PRESIDENT

JON DEBORD, SECRETARY