

## KEWANEE COMM SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MAY 16, 2022

### 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 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.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

At 6:01pm Member Dev 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 7:23pm Member Stabler seconded a motion made by Member Steffen to adjourn the Closed Session meeting. Voicercall 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 staff members: R Baney, J Anderson, J Bryan, T Brown, D Hodge-Bates, T Atwell, M Rachel, C Rohrig, H Mirocha, M Mirocha, M Mirocha, B Pann, and J Russell from the Kewanee Radio Station. Recording secretary H Hughes and Superintendent C Sullens were in attendance as well.

### 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

Mr. Bryan read and presented a Board Resolution recognizing Mya Mirocha and coaches Marland Rachel and Carl Rohrig. Mya Mirocha qualified for the IHSA State Bowling Tournament.

Bill Pann was honored by the Board of Education as a retiree. He served 44 years as a bus driver. Mr. Pann spoke and gave an overview of his career in the Kewanee School District as a teacher, coach, event worker, and bus driver.

### 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 Christiansen 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

Mr. Bryan wanted to thank Mr. Pann for his service to the District. He appreciates everything Mr. Pann has done as a teacher, coach, and bus driver over the years.

### REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

#### Superintendent

Congratulations to our Retirees- Christopher Gustafson, Bill Pann, and Laura Greenhagen

Dr. Sullens congratulated retirees Christopher Gustafson, Bill Pann, and Laura Greenhagen. Chris Gustafson is a longtime Kewanee #229 teacher, assistant principal, and coach. Laura Greenhagen is a longtime employee in the

District cafeteria. Bill Pann was a longtime bus driver. Dr. Sullens wishes them the best in their retirement.

#### Summer Food Program Sites: Central School, KHS, Neponset Grade School, Belle, Irving, Lyle, YMCA, Fairview Homes, & Reagan Townhouses

Dr. Sullens stated that once again the District will be offering free breakfasts and lunches over summer break. The locations serving meals this year include Central School, KHS, Neponset, Belle, Irving, Lyle, Fairview Homes, Reagan Townhouses, and the YMCA. Free meals are available to anyone under 18 years old.

#### Review of 2021-2022 Budget

Dr. Sullens informed the Board that the FY 22 budget will be amended. The ad will appear in the paper this week. With the budget, Dr. Sullens stated that at the beginning of the year we estimate our income and expenses. This year we will need to amend to budget for the ESSER III dollars and what will be spent within this fiscal year. The projects that are being voted on tonight won't be paid until FY23.

#### Evidence Based Funding-\$200,937 (June 2022)

Dr. Sullens informed the Board that we are expecting a check for \$200,937 from the State Board of Education. This amount is what we were shorted due to an enrollment coding error in the EBF formula. The funds are expected to be received before June 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### Excess Soil from KHS Turf Project/Discussion of Park District/Sale of Soil/Retention of Soil

Dr. Sullens updated the Board on the upcoming turf and lighting projects. Dr. Sullens stated that May 23 the process of installing the new lighting will begin. Next week Byrne and Jones will begin to remove the top soil from the football field. Dr. Sullens and JR Salisbury have been in contact over the phone and Skype with the project manager. Initially it was believed that we would have approximately five inches of good top soil. Now it is believed that it could be upwards of ten to twelve inches. The turf committee came up with ideas of uses for the excess top soil. The decision to offer the soil to the Park District came from current state of the soccer field. Currently, teams won't play Kewanee because they don't feel that the field is suitable to play on. Referees have threatened to report the field to the IHSA. Dr. Sullens stated that he and JR Salisbury have spoken with Andy Dwyer, Park District Director. Dr. Sullens and Member Salisbury attended the May Park District Meeting to pitch their offer. The offer stated that if the School District gave the Park District top soil worth approximately \$50-60,000 that in return the annual fees paid to the Park District wouldn't increase for ten years.

After meeting with Park Board members, Dr. Sullens stated that the feeling he got was that they aren't interested in going through with the project. Dr. Sullens stated that the Park Board has a meeting this coming Thursday, but believes that it is best to move on.

President Johnson stated that he is disappointed in the lack of interest. He believes that with cooperation both organizations would gain and the taxpayers would benefit.

Member Salisbury stated that he believes when two taxing bodies are working together that it is a win-win for the taxpayers.

#### Foundation - Dual Credit

Dr. Sullens stated that the Foundation held the 30 Trips for 30 Years event at Midland Golf Club. The sold out event was a fundraiser to support Dual Credit Scholarships.

#### Foundation Video

Dr. Sullens informed the Board that the video that was shown at the Foundation's fundraiser will be on either the District's or Foundation's website soon. Dr. Sullens also stated that the District plans to create additional videos for the website highlighting new additions to the District.

### Presentation 2022 Board Convention

Dr. Sullens shared that the District and the Kewanee Schools Foundation have been selected to present at the IASB Conference in Chicago this November. The presentation at the Share the Success panel will highlight the successes of the Kewanee Schools Foundation. President Johnson stated that over 80 applicants had submitted ideas to present and out of those applicants Kewanee Schools was chosen. President Johnson stated that Liz Breedlove is working hard on the presentation.

### Update on Property Tax Bills

Dr. Sullens stated that tax bills were sent out for Henry County and will be coming soon for Bureau County. Dr. Sullens informed the Board that due to errors from both courthouses the estimated assessed value was off. Therefore, the District figures were off a little. This will lead to a savings for the taxpayers. Next year the EAV for Henry County could be affected by the installation of wind turbines in the area.

### Dr. Tammy Brown-Title III-Received Special Notification from ISBE (Miler, Diaz, Comer, Guerrero)

Dr. Sullens wanted to announce that Dr. Brown and the District ELL staff have been recognized the State Board of Education for their work with ELL students. The District ELL staff includes Mrs. Comer, Mrs. Diaz, Mrs. Miler, and Ms. Guerrero.

### Avagrid-Midland-Wind Farm Project

Dr. Sullens stated that Avagrid-Midland will be installing wind turbines in the area. Thirteen will be installed in the Kewanee #229 District, twelve within Galva's school district, and one in Annawan's school district. District staff is working to estimate when the wind turbines will be added to the county EAV.

### **Mrs. Hodge-Bates-Neponset Principal**

#### Title I Annual Review Report

Mrs. Hodge-Bates presented the Annual Title Plans to the Board. The Title I Plans includes one Consolidated District Plan as well as individualized plans for each of the buildings. The Board was given an overview of how the Title funds were spent over the past year. Mrs. Hodge-Bates stated that funds were used to support the newly implemented curriculums, interventions, professional development, and SEL programs. Mrs. Hodge-Bates also reviewed the Parental Involvement Policies. Building policies are individualized and developed by staff within each building.

#### Neponset Track Sectional Update

Mrs. Hodge-Bates stated that Sectionals were held on May 6<sup>th</sup>. She informed the Board the even though no one qualified for State, athletes performed well. Ashley Luna placed 2<sup>nd</sup> after losing in a jump off in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade high jump.

### **Mr. Atwell- KHS Athletic Director**

#### KHS Sports Update

Mr. Atwell gave the Board an update of the spring sports at KHS. Girls Track had two athletes qualify for the State meet the weekend of May 20<sup>th</sup>. Larissa Meyer qualified in the High Jump and Makenna Peed qualified in the Shot, Discus, 100m, and 200m in the wheelchair division. The Boys Track team will compete at the Metamora Sectional on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Girls Softball played in the Quarterfinal game tonight (May 16<sup>th</sup>). They won 18-0 over Hall. They will play May 18<sup>th</sup> against Sherrard. Baseball will play in the Regional Semifinal on May 18<sup>th</sup>. KHS will play the winner of the Alleman and Sherrard game.

Mr. Atwell stated that Emma Crofton broke the school record in the Triple jump at the Geneseo Sectional. Xander Gruszczyk was the lone conference champion at the Three Rivers Conference Meet. He won in the Pole Vault event. Mr. Atwell stated that the Brockman Invitational this year was cancelled due to weather. Even with the cancellation the King and Queen were named. This year Jamiha Israel was named Queen and Niko Powe was named King.

### **Mr. Bryan – KHS Principal**

#### KHS Prom and Graduation

Mr. Bryan stated that students were able to have a traditional Prom this year. The students enjoyed the event. Mr. Bryan informed the Board that 118 graduates walked across the stage for Graduation this year. He stated that with all that the kids have been through the last couple of years, it was nice to have a traditional graduation ceremony. At graduation this year \$118,000 in scholarships were given out. Mr. Bryan wanted to thank the Foundation and the community for their support.

### Mrs. Callahan and the KHS FFA Chapter

Mr. Bryan informed the Board that the KHS FFA Chapter was honored as a Gold Program. The KHS FFA Chapter is one of 35 Chapters in the State to receive the honor. Five KHS students earned their FFA State Degrees. They include Mercedes Hasbrook, Ryan Kilstrom, Brendon Mason, Preslee Weida, and McKenzie Carton. Dr. Sullens added that the FFA banquet this year was phenomenal. They had 131 people in attendance, including industry leaders and Alumni.

Mr. Bryan also informed the Board that Mrs. Callahan was named the winner of the Teachers Turn the Key Scholarship. Mr. Bryan stated that more information will be released at later date. Mr. Bryan stated that Mrs. Callahan's hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm is shown in the KHS Agriculture Program.

### **Mr. Anderson- Central Principal**

Mr. Anderson informed the Board that the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion was on May 19<sup>th</sup>. He also wanted to spotlight the State Qualifiers from the Central Junior High Track team. Anthony Padilla qualified in the hurdles, Nolie Charlet in the 800m, and Jendayia Crowe in the High Jump. The 4X100 relay team also qualified. The team consists of Jendayia Crowe, Dani Jo Currier, Kolbie Cernovich, and Kalei Rice. The State meet is the weekend of May 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Mrs. Philhower-Star Courier Teacher of the Year

Mr. Anderson informed the Board that Mrs. Philhower was named the Star Courier Teacher of the Year. Mr. Anderson stated that she is a phenomenal teacher who helps wherever is needed. She is also the elementary PBIS Coordinator. The Star Courier received eighteen letters from current and past students.

### Central Strawberry Festival and Art Fair

Mr. Anderson stated that it was great to have the Strawberry Festival back this year. It was so popular that they sold out. Mr. Nelson had the Art Fair setup in Steamer Gym.

### **SUPERINTENDENT COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### KHS Stadium Turf-Soil Removal to Begin May 23<sup>rd</sup>

Dr. Sullens stated that the project is set to start the week of May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Atwell reached out and track athletes will be able to use Bureau Valley facilities to practice as needed.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### KHS Welding/Cafeteria and Fine Arts Storage Project

Dr. Sullens reported that all of the areas are being used. The areas are completed except for a few cosmetic items.

#### Various Gym/Cafeteria HVAC Projects

Dr. Sullens stated that crews are continuing to make progress. Irving and Neponset are waiting on electrical upgrades. The projects are getting close to being completed.

#### Belle Gym Addition

Dr. Sullens stated that the project has begun. The cement pad is ready to go but they are waiting on beams and other materials. The project will not be complete before school begins in the fall.

#### KHS Ag Addition

Dr. Sullens stated that the Ag Addition has begun. The project will not be complete before school begins in the fall but hope to get it completed as soon as possible.

#### KHS Stadium Lighting (Musco-May 23<sup>rd</sup>)

The KHS Stadium lighting project is set to start the week of May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Consideration and Approval of Districtwide Parental Involvement Policy, Belle Alexander Parental Involvement Policy, Irving Parental Involvement Policy, Central Parental Involvement Policy, and Neponset Parental Involvement Policy

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the Districtwide Parental Involvement Policy, Belle Alexander Parental Involvement Policy, Irving Parental Involvement Policy, Central Parental Involvement Policy, and Neponset Parental Involvement Policy. Member Dev seconded a motion made by Member DeBord 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.

### Consideration and Approval of Districtwide Title I Plan, Belle Alexander Title I Plan, Irving Title I Plan, Central Title I Plan, Neponset Title I Plan

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the Districtwide Title I Plan, Belle Alexander Title I Plan, Irving Title I Plan, Central Title I Plan, and Neponset Title I Plan. Member Steffen seconded a motion made by Member Christiansen 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.

### Consideration and Approval of Gorenz and Associates, Ltd. To conduct the District's FY 2022 Audit

Dr. Sullens recommended approving Gorenz and Associates, Ltd. to conduct the District's FY 2022 Audit. Member Christiansen 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 Resolution Providing for an Inter-Fund Transfer from the Working Cash Fund to the Tort Immunity Fund

Dr. Sullens stated that this transfer is needed because the due date for District insurance policies have changed. This is a temporary transfer between funds until we receive the tax payment from the County.

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the Inter-Fund transfer from the Working Cash fund to the Tort Immunity fund. Member Salisbury 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 Bids for Belle Classroom Addition/Neponset Addition (2 classrooms/restrooms)

Dr. Sullens stated that the bids are for five 30' by 30' classrooms at Belle. The plan is to move the first grade classrooms to this area upon completion. In the future, the plan is to take three existing classrooms and convert them into two classrooms giving the kindergarten classrooms more space. The addition at Neponset is to create a STEAM room, restrooms, and a pre-k classroom to replace the existing temporary building. The temporary building was installed for pre-k in 1996. The District will be using ESSER III and local funds to pay for the project. The bids came in at three million dollars and with fees (architect, construction manager) the project total is \$3.7 million.

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the bids for the Belle classroom addition and the Neponset classroom/restroom addition. Member Steffen seconded a motion made by Member Dev 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 Valley Construction to be Construction Manager for Belle Classroom Addition/Neponset Classroom Addition (Also CM for KHS Ag Addition and Belle Gym Addition)

Dr. Sullens recommended approving Valley Construction to be Construction Manager for the Belle and Neponset additions. Member DeBord seconded a motion made by Member Steffen 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 Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Certain Personal Property Owned by Kewanee Community Unit School District #229

Dr. Sullens stated that if approved he will work with a Board Member or two to sell the excess top soil from the turf project.

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the Resolution to authorize the sale of certain personal property owned by Kewanee CUSD #229. Member Stabler seconded a motion made by Member DeBord 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.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Various New and Revised Policies

No action required

**ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION**

**PERSONNEL:**

**Resignations**

Central 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher	Ashley Galle	End of School Year 2021-2022
KHS Sophomore Boys Basketball Coach	Corey Tavares	End of School Year 2021-2022
Neponset Jr. High Social Studies/Physical Education Teacher Volleyball Coach, Scholastic Bowl Coach	Abigail Stevenson	End of School Year 2021-2022
Central Computer Teacher	Heidi Nerud	
KHS Mathematics Teacher	Marisa Romanelli	End of School Year 2021-2022
Belle F/T Aide	Linda Cheline	End of School Year 2021-2022
Irving P/T Bilingual Aide	William Comer	Effective 5/23/2022
KHS Assistant Softball Coach	Donna Havelka	End of School Year 2021-2022

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the above listed resignations. Member Dev 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 heard. The motion carried.

**Retirements**

Bus Driver Bill Pann

Dr. Sullens recommended approving the above listed retirement. Member Johnson seconded a motion made by Member Christiansen 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**

**Vote #1 2022 Summer School**

Switch Funding Source

Laura Anderson	from ROE	to Title I
Kelli Jackson	from Title I	to ROE
Maya Padilla	from ROE	to Title I
Tiffany Platz	from Healthy Community	to ROE
Riley Hansen	from ROE	to District

Hire

Bus Aide-Neponset Linda Stetson

1 on 1 Aide-KHS  
Interpreter Irving/Belle  
Academic Advisor-KHS  
Pre-K Parent Coordinator-Lyle

Sherry Eggleston  
Ziaurahman Yousufzai  
Paula Evans  
Karen Rogula

Placement

Yasemin Onder  
Peggy Costenson  
Alicia Ralston

from TBD to Irving Grade 2  
from Central Grade 5 to Central Grade 4  
from Central Grade 6 to Central Grade 5

Summer Employment (not summer school)

Robert McKee  
Blaine Pickering  
Delaney Reynolds  
Cameron Conley  
Bethany Olalde  
Jersie Duytschaver  
Lisa Verbout  
Lynn Stoner

P/T Podcast Development  
Summer Custodial (40 hours)  
Summer Custodial (20 hours)  
Summer Custodial (20 hours)  
Summer Custodial (20 hours)  
Summer Custodial (20 hours)  
Summer Custodial (20 hours)-starting 7/1  
Summer Cafeteria

Trenton Terry  
Kaitlyn Witte

move from 20 hours to 40 hours summer custodial  
move from 20 hours to 40 hours summer custodial- starting 7/1

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

Vote #2

Layla Dev

Summer Custodial (20 hours)

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

Vote #3

Payton Weston  
Rick LaFollette

KHS Softball Assistant Coach (2/3 split position)  
KHS Softball Assistant Coach (1/3 split position)

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

Vote #4

Emma Lindenmeyer  
Cody Butler  
Brooklyn Pickering  
Shana Hinton  
Kirk Fristad  
Emma Lindenmeyer  
Emma Lindenmeyer

KHS Physical Education Teacher- Effective 2022-2023 School Year  
KHS Dean of Students-Effective 2022-2023 School Year  
Central 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball Coach-Effective 2022-2023 School Year  
Central Jr. High PBIS Coordinator-Effective 2022-2023 School Year  
Central ISS Supervisor-2 days per Week-Effective 2022-2023 School Year  
KHS Volleyball Assistant Coach-Effective 2022-2023 School Year  
KHS Girls Basketball Assistant Coach-Effective 2022-2023 School Year





Dr. Sullens recommended to approve the correction of assignment. Member Steffen 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.

**COMMENTS FROM VISITORS**

None

**COMMENTS FROM VISITORS AND BOARD OF EDUCATION**

None

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**Moment of Silence for Carol "Sue" Titlow-Mother-in-law of Sarah Titlow (KHS Teacher)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Member Christiansen seconded a motion made by Member Dev 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 8:59 pm.

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**JEFF JOHNSON, PRESIDENT**

**JON DEBORD, SECRETARY**