

**KANKAKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 111  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
December 14, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Kankakee School District No. 111, Kankakee County, Illinois, was held at 6:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at Steuben Elementary School, 520 South Wildwood Avenue, Kankakee, Illinois.

ROLL CALL

Members present:     John Coghlan  
                              Jess Gathing, Jr.  
                              Angela Shea  
                              Barbara Wells, Secretary

Members absent:     Amelia Davis, Vice President  
                              Karen Johnston, President (\*entered at 6:19 PM)  
                              Joseph Lightfoot (\*entered at 6:07 PM)

A quorum was declared present.

**Closed Session**

At 6:04 p.m., motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Gathing, to adjourn to closed session to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; and pending litigation. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Coghlan, Gathing, Shea, and Wells. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The closed session was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

At 7:03 p.m. the regular session was reconvened.

Meeting with the Board were:

Dr. Geneva A. Walters, Superintendent  
Laura Fisher, Assistant Superintendent  
John Thomas, Assistant Superintendent  
Robert Grossi, Director of Business Services  
Vicki Scott, Recording Secretary

News media reporter, Mr. John Dykstra, was present from The Daily Journal.

**Public Hearing**

At 7:03 p.m., motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Gathing, to adjourn for a public hearing concerning the Intent of the Board to sell \$400,000 School Fire Prevention and Safety Bonds of the District. ROLL CALL VOTE—Ayes: Coghlan, Gathing, Lightfoot, Shea, Wells, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

There were no written or oral public comments.

At 7:05 p.m., motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Wells, to close the public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Gathing, Lightfoot, Shea, Wells, Coghlan, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

At 7:06 p.m., motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Shea, to reconvene regular session. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Gathing, Lightfoot, Shea, Wells, Coghlan, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Roll  
Call

Closed  
Session

Reconvene

Public Hearing

Close  
Public Hearing

Reconvene

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students from Steuben Elementary School.

Pledge

**Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Walters reported the following information:

Superintendent's Report

➤ Good News Items

Good News

School	Name	Event
Edison & Aroma Park	Donations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Moose Lodge sponsored two families for Christmas gifts and a food basket.</li> <li>The Faith Reformed Church presented Edison with a \$916 check. They also brought hats, gloves, and boots for their students.</li> <li>The Kankakee Rotary Club provided all third grade students with a dictionary.</li> <li>The Kiwanis Club donated winter coats, hats, and gloves to many students in need.</li> <li>The Garden of Prayer provided a "Christmas Giveaway Extravaganza" to five Edison families.</li> <li>The Telecom Pioneers sponsored the <i>All Children Shall Have Shoes</i> project for the 43<sup>rd</sup> year.</li> <li>The YMCA's Service Club once again purchased winter coats for students in need.</li> </ul> <p>Edison is very thankful for all the donations.</p>
Steuben	Donations  Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Kiwanis Club of Kankakee provided 25 winter coats to students in need.</li> <li>The YMCA Service Club provided 11 winter coats to students in need.</li> <li>The Kankakee Telecom Pioneers donated 11 pairs of shoes selected during a shopping trip to Sears.</li> <li>The Kankakee Valley Beverage Association donated 10 shopping trips to Wal-Mart.</li> <li>Steuben is fortunate to have 88 Secret Santa's who are fulfilling the "Wish Lists" for many Steuben students.</li> <li>Ms. Evelyn DeJesus, a social worker, was awarded a \$250 scholarship towards curriculum training to implement the Mindful Schools Program. This program helps teach students to handle difficult emotions with mindfulness.</li> </ul>
Proegler	Donations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AT &amp; T Pioneer volunteers provided a child size rocking chair for Mrs. Daniels' classroom.</li> <li>Sandy Hoevet and her band of 20+ community volunteers provided all the makings for all 400 Head Start students to decorate gingerbread houses and cookies the first week in December. Volunteers came from the following community and city organizations – Riverside, City of Kankakee aldermen, Beecher Manor, Vandruen Farms, Peoples Bank, HomeStar Bank, Bishop McNamara, Kankakee County Sheriff's Department, Midland Bank, Presence St. Mary's, Goodberlet, Dr. Snow's Dental Office, Village of Grant Park, and Flossmoor School District.</li> <li>Asbury Interfaith Kids Locker donated 10 large bags of clothing, scarves, mittens, and toys for Head Start children.</li> <li>Head Start staff donated many needed items to the</li> </ul>

		Manteno Veteran's Home for Veteran's Day as a way to honor those who have served this country.
Montessori	Donations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ann Lane from St. John's Church donated numerous new toys to Montessori Magnet from the Josh Meadows to Needy Families organization.</li> <li>Montessori is continuing to raise money for Karen Dannenhauer's leg surgery.</li> </ul>
Kennedy	Donations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sixteen students received shoes this December through the Telephone Pioneers.</li> <li>Sixteen students received coats, gloves, and hats from Kiwanis.</li> <li>The YMCA provided coats for 10 students.</li> <li>The Garden of Prayer arranged shopping sprees for six Kennedy families.</li> <li>The First Assembly of God Church provided five students with Thanksgiving baskets and five students with Christmas baskets.</li> <li>Two students received Christmas baskets from the Moose Lodge.</li> <li>Riverside Hospital provided 20 families with Christmas for the whole family.</li> <li>The "Shop with a Cop" program will bring four students to shop with a Police Officer.</li> </ul>
	Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Energizing Student Potential Workshop: On October 28, 2015, 70 teachers from 40 northern Illinois schools spent two days at the Museum of Science and Industry and they received hands-on STEM training on light, thermal energy, electrical energy labs, chemical energy, and engineering problems. Mrs. Beatty, Mr. Rennewanz, and Mrs. Orr attended the workshop. They received free access to experiments, materials, and teacher training to energize students. The teachers then presented various STEM experiments and activities to other classes at Kennedy. Participating schools will be able to take field trips and get out into the community with the sponsoring companies – Excelon, ComEd, Nicor, People's Gas, Northshore Gas, and BP America.</li> </ul>
	After School Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"10th Inning" After School Program: Between October 29th and November 19th, Ms. Salinas hosted an after school program using the computer lab called "10th Inning". The objective of the program was to offer a place for students to do their homework and/or practice educational skills using the district's approved websites and staffed with volunteer teachers helping students with homework, projects, accessing websites, etc. "10th Inning" started as a pilot program and due to the overwhelming positive response the program had, the program will resume February 25th, 2016. We hope more students can take advantage of it! Five</li> </ul>

	Computer Art Club	<p>teachers volunteered their time to assist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computer Art Club: Mrs. Matthews, Art Teacher at Kennedy, has started a weekly Computer Art Club where the students meet weekly in the computer lab to collaborate and work on projects such as designing, writing, interviewing, photographing, and blogging on a student created website.</li> </ul>
KHS	Honors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Zonta Club has a Z Club with seven area schools involved plus one home schooled student. At a recent meeting officers were elected and all three were from Kankakee High School. Alex Palacios was elected President, Taylor Johnson - Vice President and Mackenzie Kinkade - Secretary/Treasurer.</li> <li>• Deena Cassady, Director, and Angela Kanak, Assistant Director, proudly announced that the Kankakee High School fall play “Darcy and Elizabeth” has been accepted to perform at the Illinois State Theatre Festival. This is the largest high school theatre festival in the country with over 4000 students in attendance. Their students will perform their play twice on January 9<sup>th</sup>. The adjudicators who came to see the show on opening night said, “I think your theatre department is Kankakee High School’s best kept secret.” This is a huge honor! We congratulate the following students on their accomplishments: Morrissa Alexander, Jose Batana, Kylah Eason, Juan Garcia, Julisa Garcia, Julia Gaskin, Catherine Groth, Jazmine Hoskins, Kayla Johnson, Taylor Johnson, Gabby Keller, Timothy Keown, Mackenzie Kinkade, Isaiah Lane, Caitlyn Martin, Kenyon Mendrela, and Lizzy Padilla.</li> </ul>

- Dr. Walters introduced Fire Chief Ron Young and Captain Mike Casagrande from the Kankakee Fire Department who presented a “Safe School” traveling trophy to Steuben Elementary School. This program was developed three years ago by the Kankakee Fire Department as an incentive for schools to do well in all safety drills. The schools are awarded points during fire drills for the schools evacuation time, accountability time, and use of safety equipment. Congratulations to Steuben for receiving this award for the second year in a row.

School Safety Award

**Principal’s Report – Cynthia Veronda, Principal at Steuben Elementary School**

Mrs. Veronda began her presentation by sharing a video that showed how Steuben is using technology in instruction. She then reviewed Steuben’s School Improvement Plan (SIP): Student Performance, Culture/Climate, Financial Resources, Building/Grounds, and District Accountability. Mrs. Veronda stated that their SIP goal is to align with the district’s goal with having 80% of their students responding to core instruction for Tier 1. She then reviewed Steuben’s data.

Principal’s Report

Mrs. Veronda concluded her presentation by introducing her staff.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments made.

Public Comments

**Consent Agenda**

The following items were presented:

Consent Agenda

1. The following Board minutes were presented for approval:
  - **November 9, 2015-Regular Meeting (Regular & Executive Session Minutes)**
  - **November 30, 2015-Special Meeting (Regular & Executive Session Minutes)**
2. The Regular Bills were presented for approval. (See Insert A.)
3. The Payroll and Related Bills were presented for approval. (See Insert B.)
4. The Workers' Compensation Insurance renewal was presented for approval.
5. The recommendation to join the Hospital Purchasing Services (HPS) Co-Op was presented for approval.
6. The Resolution for the release of Executive Session Minutes and Destruction of Recordings was presented for approval (See Insert C.)
7. The KHS Drama Program overnight trip request was presented for approval.
8. The KHS overnight trip request to Six Flags Grad Nite was presented for approval
9. The Head Start Policy Council documents were presented for approval.
10. The following personnel items were presented for approval:

Staff Member	Position	Effective Date
<b>Resignations-Administrative Personnel</b>		
John Thomas	Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources at LCC	June 30, 2016
<b>Resignations-Certified Personnel</b>		
Susan Funk	Instructional Coach/Learning Partner at Lafayette	December 31, 2015
Melissa Schaller	English Teacher at KHS	December 18, 2015
<b>Resignations-Support Personnel</b>		
Calvin Works	Paraprofessional at King	December 9, 2015
Dorphiuse Rawls	Liaison/Community Mentor at KJHS	December 18, 2015
Angela Guzman	Paraprofessional, Full-time at Mark Twain	December 18, 2015
<b>Appointments-Certified Personnel</b>		
Brenda Kenyon	Music/Choir Teacher at Mark Twain/KJHS/KHS	January 4, 2016
Kimberly Cousin	English Teacher at KHS	January 4, 2016
Kelly Fifer	Special Education/Co-Teacher Districtwide	January 4, 2016
Celia Britton	Algebra Teacher at KHS	January 4, 2016
Patrick Costello	Physical Education Teacher at Kennedy	January 4, 2016
<b>Appointments-Support Personnel</b>		
Carleen Junior	Human Resources Secretary at LCC	December 16, 2015
Caitlyn Collins	Head Start Teacher Assistant at Head Start	On or before December 29, 2015
Tinerio D. Johnson-Fossier	Night Custodian at King	On or before December 29, 2015
Jacqueline Kulovitz	Data Systems Assistant at LCC	January 4, 2016
Cubie Ramsey	Detention Supervisor/Hall Monitor at KHS	On or before December 29, 2015
Alphonse Baptist	Night Custodian at KHS	December 15, 2015
<b>Appointments-Extra-Duty Personnel</b>		
Lelia Collins	Intervention Services at Head Start	December 14, 2015
Tewaine Wicks	Assistant Boys Basketball Coach at KHS	December 14, 2015
Curtis Crossley	Assistant Boys Basketball Coach at KHS	December 14, 2015
Jevon Wesby	Assistant Girls Basketball Coach at KHS	December 14, 2015
Rita Carson	Head Volleyball Coach at KJHS	December 14, 2015
Antonio Young	Black History Program Technical Director/Districtwide	December 14, 2015
Robert Ellington-Snipes	Black History Program Music Director/Districtwide	December 14, 2015
Jodette Giannakopoulos	Extra-duty compensation: student lunch break(s) at KHS	December 14, 2015
Candice Frye	Extra-duty compensation: student lunch break(s) at KHS	December 14, 2015
Kelly Guzzo	Extra-duty compensation: 6+ preps at KHS	December 14, 2015
Jason Volkman	Extra-duty compensation: 6+ preps at KHS	December 14, 2015
David Knudson	Extra-duty compensation: 6+ preps at KHS	December 14, 2015
Sean Dailor	Extra-duty compensation: 4 preps at KHS	December 14, 2015

Board Minutes

Bills

Insurance Renewal

HPS Co-Op

Executive Session Minutes

Trip Requests

Head Start

Personnel

Resignations

Appointments

Daniel Snipes	Extra-duty compensation: 4 preps at KHS	December 14, 2015
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Motion was made by Shea, seconded by Wells, to approve the above listed consent agenda items as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Lightfoot (Voted "no" on Item H.11. only), Shea, Wells, Coghlan, Gathing, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

### **2015 Tax Levy**

The 2015 Tax Levy was presented for approval. (See Insert D.)

Motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Gathing, to approve the 2015 Tax Levy as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Shea, Wells, Coghlan, Gathing, Lightfoot, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

### **Addendum to Grant of Easement to the City of Kankakee**

The recommendation to accept the addendum to grant of easement to the City of Kankakee was presented for approval.

Motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Lightfoot, to approve the addendum to grant of easement to the City of Kankakee as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Coghlan, Lightfoot, Shea, Wells, and Johnston. Nays: none. Abstained: Gathing. Motion carried.

### **Consideration and Action on a Resolution Authorizing, Directing, and Certifying a Supplemental Levy to the County Clerk, Sufficient to Pay Interest on Certain Outstanding Bonds of the District**

The recommendation of consideration on a Resolution authorizing, directing, and certifying a supplemental levy to the County Clerk, sufficient to pay interest on certain outstanding bonds of the district was presented for approval. (See Insert E.)

Motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Shea, to approve the Resolution Authorizing, Directing, and Certifying a Supplemental Levy to the County Clerk, Sufficient to Pay Interest on Certain Outstanding Bonds of the District as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE—Ayes: Gathing, Lightfoot, Shea, Wells, Coghlan, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

### **Old Business**

President Johnston asked Mr. Coghlan about the status of the Foundation. Mr. Coghlan responded that it is in the hands of the IRS.

### **Information and Proposals**

The following items were provided for information:

1. Report on the 2015 IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Conference
2. FY2016 Annual Employee Compensation Report
3. Head Start Policy Council Information
4. Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB)
5. State & Federal Revenue Report
6. Budget Update
7. Staff Absence Report

At 7:52 p.m. motion was made by Wells, seconded by Gathing, to adjourn the meeting. All ayes; motion carried.

2015 Tax Levy

Grant of Easement

Resolution

Old Business

Information

2015 Joint  
Conference Report  
Compensation Report  
Head Start  
Construction Bond  
Revenue Report  
Budget Update  
Staff Absences

Adjourn

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Johnston, President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara A. Wells, Secretary

vs

**Approved: January 11, 2016**