

**KANKAKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 111
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
January 11, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Kankakee School District No. 111, Kankakee County, Illinois, was held at 5:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria at Kankakee High School, 1200 West Jeffery, Kankakee, Illinois.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Jess Gathing, Jr.
 Karen Johnston, President
 Angela Shea
 Barbara A. Wells, Secretary

Members absent: John Coghlan (*entered at 6:53 PM)
 Amelia Davis, Vice President
 Joseph Lightfoot (*entered at 6:00 PM, left at 7:00 PM)

A quorum was declared present.

Closed Session

At 5:30 p.m., motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Shea, to adjourn to the Library for closed session to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body and negotiations. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Gathing, Shea, Wells, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The closed session was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

At 7:00 p.m. the regular session was reconvened.

Meeting with the Board were:

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

There were no news media reporters present.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Celeste Shea and Korina Manning, two Kankakee High School students.

Public Hearings

At 7:03 p.m. a motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Shea, to adjourn for a public hearing concerning the intent of the Board to Issue \$400,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds to Increase the District's Working Cash Fund.

ROLL CALL VOTE – Ayes: Coghlan, Gathing, Johnston, Shea, and Wells. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Board President, Karen Johnston, stated that the purpose of the bond sale was to increase the working cash fund of the District. She then asked the Board for any further comments. Hearing none, President Johnston then asked the public for any written comments. Receiving no written comments, President Johnston asked the public for oral comments. There were no oral comments.

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

Roll
Call

Closed
Session

Reconvene

Pledge

Public Hearings

At 7:06 p.m. a motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Gathing, to adjourn for a public hearing concerning the consideration to authorize a permanent interfund transfer in the amount of \$1,615,467.01 from the School District's Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Education Fund.

ROLL CALL VOTE – Ayes: Gathing, Shea, Wells, Coghlan, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Board President, Karen Johnston, stated that this is a Resolution of the Board of Education for directing the school treasurer to permanently transfer moneys from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Education Fund. She then asked the Board for any further comments. Hearing none, President Johnston then asked the public for any written comments. Receiving no written comments, President Johnston asked the public for oral comments. There were no oral comments.

At 7:07 p.m., motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Wells, to close the public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE—Ayes: Coghlan, Gathing, Shea, Wells, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

At 7:07 p.m., motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Shea, to reconvene regular session. ROLL CALL VOTE—Ayes: Shea, Wells, Coghlan, Gathing, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Superintendent's Report

The following information was reported:

➤ **Good News**

School	Name	Explanation
Kennedy	Basketball Tournament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Congratulations to the Kennedy Boys' Basketball Team who won the Holiday Tournament held at King on December 16th. This team was undefeated the entire season! All of the games played against King were within a few points. It should be a great 7th grade team at KJHS next year!
	No Excuses University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The No Excuses University sponsors a Christmas card exchange between classes across the country. This year 295 classes participated. Each class made and sent five cards to five different schools. Kennedy received ten addresses and created and mailed ten Christmas cards to classes in New York, California, Texas, Illinois, and Missouri. The special needs students really enjoyed writing, creating, and mailing the cards.
	Donors Choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On December 9th, a Donors Choice project for 30 new ukuleles was fully funded at Kennedy Middle Grade School. Fourteen donors contributed to the project, including matching donations from companies such as AT & T and Spark. This project would not have been completed without the support of Mrs. Kotovsky's former co-workers from Champaign who donated \$600 towards the \$1,500 total. Mrs. Kotovsky's parents also graciously offered to purchase four extra ukuleles. These ukuleles will be utilized with all 4-6th graders. Not only is it allowing for kinesthetic use and fine motor development, it also promotes continuing to learn the language of music as they read chords and social skills such as perseverance, patience, and dedication.
Mark Twain	Donations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students at Olivet Nazarene University's Education Program donated \$460 for student uniforms. They earned the funds through successful online and popcorn fundraisers. Wal-Mart donated \$1,000 in gift cards to Mark Twain. These gift cards will provide classroom materials and items for the school.

Superintendent's Report

Good News

	<p>Gallery of Trees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Rotary Club donated dictionaries to all third grade students. • St. John United Church of Christ donated \$350 to Mark Twain's Preschool For All Program and provided Christmas gifts for a Mark Twain family. • The Pioneer Club took eight students to get new shoes at Sears. • The Kiwanis Club and the Y's Men donated coats to students. • Morning Star Baptist Church provided gifts for two families. • The Garden of Prayer Youth Center donated Christmas gifts to five families. • Mark Twain's PTO won first place in the children's voting division during the 37th Annual Gallery of Trees. Third grade students and PTO members decorated the tree with the theme of Star Wars. Congratulations to the PTO!
<p>KJHS</p>	<p>Area Honors Band</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sixteen Jr. High Band students were selected for the area Honors Band that is hosted by Olivet Nazarene University. They will be performing under the direction of Dr. Neil McMullien on January 14 in Kresge auditorium inside the Larsen Fine Arts Center on the campus of ONU. The students will spend the entire day on campus preparing for the evening concert. They will work in the large group and also work with other directors for sectionals with others that play the same instrument. <p>The students selected are: Cortney Coleman – Flute, Kayla Karraker – Flute, Annette Campos – Clarinet, Brittney Lane – Clarinet, Makayla Mondy – Clarinet, Madeline Gall – Bass Clarinet, Jayson Verrett – Tenor Sax, Christopher Cunnington – French Horn, Adrian Lopez – Trumpet, Robert Pentuic – Trumpet, Zachary Peeken – Trombone, David Sun – Euphonium, Robert Sowell – Euphonium, Alejandro Rivera – Tuba, De'Taurrean Taylor – Percussion, Lily Spiese – Percussion.</p>

Principal's Report – Greg Merrill, Interim Principal at KHS

Mr. Merrill stated that Kankakee High School is addressing concerns from previous years and moving forward to meet the needs of the students. He said that the following has been put into place at the high school this year:

- Double blocked classes
- CIPS Program
- Zero hour class and early release
- Resources for individual help
- Tutoring
- Four division chairs - each responsible for two departments
- Four assistant principals

Mr. Ronnie Wilcox, director of athletics and activities was introduced and spoke on athletics and uniforms. Mr. Rick Johnson, senior administrator, spoke next and explained that each grade level has a team consisting of a grade level administrator, one counselor, and one social worker, and that these teams will continue to follow

their students from year-to-year in order to get to know the students and their parents better. The one exception is the Freshman Academy Coordinator, who will remain constant with the freshman class. He said these teams look at academic and behavioral data and offers interventions for students to help them be successful. Next was Michele Brown, junior administrator. Ms. Brown reviewed data from the high school. She said there is a need to close the achievement gap and improve the reading and math scores. Ms. Joy Chase, sophomore administrator, and Mr. Neal Grimes, learning partner, shared information on the high school CIPS Program. Lastly, Tandalaya White, freshman academy coordinator, and Ms. Karen Brown, consultant, reviewed freshman data.

The division chairs introduced the staff within their departments and Mr. Merrill concluded by honoring four staff members who will be retiring at the end of the 2015-2016 school year: Mr. Rich Jones, Mr. Tim Annis, Mrs. Jeanne Benson, and Ms. Pam Kapchinske.

To conclude, Mr. Bob de Oliveira, Spanish teacher, presented Dr. Walters with a cookbook. His students managed and categorized all the recipes while several art students did the illustrations. His students hope to sell the cookbook for \$4 and use the money to take a trip to Chicago. Orders are being taken and donations are accepted.

Public Comments

The following public comments were made.

Name	Topic
Celeste Shea	Thanked the Board for the funding and ongoing support for the Robotics teams.

Consent Agenda

The following items were presented:

- The following Board minutes were presented for approval:
 - **December 14, 2015 (Regular & Executive Session Minutes)**
- The Payroll and Related Bills were presented for approval. (See Insert A.)
- The Regular Bills were presented for approval. (See Insert B.)
- The KHS trip request was presented for approval.
- The following personnel items were presented for approval:

Staff Member	Position	Effective Date
Resignation/Retirement-Administrative Personnel		
Rusti Merrill	Director of School Improvement at Lafayette	June 30, 2017
Appointments-Certified Personnel		
Kelly Fifer	Special Education Co-Teacher at Districtwide/Steuben	January 12, 2016
Lori Milner	Part-time Academic Interventionist at Aroma Park	On or before January 29, 2016
Christy Cooper	Part-time Academic Interventionist at Kennedy	On or before January 29, 2016
Rusti Merrill	Director of School Improvement (part-time) at LCC	July 1, 2016
Appointments-Support Personnel		
Albert Vine	Head Groundsman at LCC	November 30, 2015
Maurice Sullivan	Special Education Paraprofessional at KHS/CIPS	January 12, 2015
Yolanda Mosby	Paraprofessional at Mark Twain	On or before January 29, 2016
Antoinette Eldridge	Head Start Teacher Assistant at Proegler	January 12, 2016
Lori Velma	Principal's Secretary at Taft	January 12, 2016
Nathaniel Hill	Hall Monitor at KJHS	January 12, 2016
Appointments-Extra-Duty Personnel		
Deborah Johnston	Interim Assistant Athletic Director at KHS	January 11, 2016

Public
Comments

Consent
Agenda

Board
Minutes

Bills

Trip Request

Personnel

Resignations/
Retirements

Appointments

Jay Bohner	Assistant Boys Track Coach at KHS	January 11, 2016
Penny Sylvester	Special Olympics/Head Coach at KHS	January 11, 2016
Alicia Young	Director of Black History Program at LCC	January 11, 2016
Heather Marquardt	JV Girls Soccer Assistant Coach at KHS	January 11, 2016
Leave of Absence-Administrative Recommendation		
Larry Null	Assistant Director of Maintenance Department	December 7, 2015
Leave of Absence-Certified Personnel		
Christine McGovern	Special Education Teacher at King	Jan. 4 through May 11, 2016
Theresa Sobota	English Teacher at KHS	Jan. 6 through March 11, 2016
Leave of Absence-Support Personnel		
Rhonda Ayala	Paraprofessional/Special Ed at Kennedy	Jan. 4 through Feb. 19, 2016

Leaves of
Absence

Motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Wells, to approve the above listed consent agenda items as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Shea, Wells, Coghlan, Gathing, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Action Items

Action
Items

- Resolution Declaring the Intent of the District to Issue \$400,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds to Increase the District's Working Cash Fund.

Motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Shea, to approve the Resolution declaring the intent of the district to issue \$400,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds to increase the district's Working Cash Fund as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Coghlan, Gathing, Shea, Wells, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

- Resolution Authorizing a Permanent Transfer of Funds from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Education Fund.

Motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Gathing, to approve the Resolution authorizing a permanent transfer of funds from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Education Fund as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Gathing, Shea, Wells, Coghlan, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

- Qualified School Construction Bond Application

Motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Gathing, to approve the Qualified School Construction Bond application as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Gathing, Shea, Wells, Coghlan, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Old Business

Dr. Walters stated that we are working on the 150th Anniversary activities that will be held in the spring. We will be disseminating information in the next two to three weeks on a golf outing, 5-K run, and a cash bash.

Old
Business

Information and Proposals

The following items were provided for information:

- Personnel Transfers (Support Personnel)
 - Wendy Sotello to Head Cook (2) at Proegler, effective January 4, 2016
 - Tisha Robles to Principal's Secretary at Steuben, effective January 12, 2016
- 150th Anniversary
- 2014 Property Tax Collections Report
- Budget Update
- State & Federal Revenue Report
- Staff Absence Report

Information
Transfers
150th Anniversary
Property Tax
Budget Update
Financial Reports
Staff Absences

At 7:47 p.m. motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Wells, to adjourn the meeting. All ayes; motion carried.

Adjourn

SIGNED:

Karen Johnston, President

ATTEST:

Barbara A. Wells, Secretary

vs

Approved: February 8, 2016