

**KANKAKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 111**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**  
**October 26, 2015**

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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 Gymnasium at King Middle Grade School, 1440 East Court Street, Kankakee, Illinois.

ROLL CALL

Members present:     John Coghlan  
                              Amelia Davis, Vice President  
                              Jess Gathing, Jr.  
                              Angela Shea  
                              Barbara Wells, President

Members absent:     Karen Johnston-Gentry (\*entered at 6:10 p.m.)  
                              Joseph Lightfoot (\*entered at 6:12 p.m.)

A quorum was declared present.

**Closed Session**

At 6:08 p.m., motion was made by Wells, seconded by Gathing, to adjourn to closed session to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Coghlan, Davis, Gathing, Shea, and Wells. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The closed session was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

At 7:05 p.m. the regular session was reconvened.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students from King Middle Grade School. The students then read their pledge to be drug free for Red Ribbon Week, which is held in October. The students also presented Dr. Walters with a wreath for Red Ribbon Week and raffled off an additional wreath.

Meeting with the Board were:

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

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

**Amendment to the Consent Agenda**

President Johnston-Gentry requested a motion to remove Action Item H.1. and place it on the November 9<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Gathing, to remove Action Item H.1. as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Coghlan, Davis, Gathing, Lightfoot, Shea, Wells, and Johnston-Gentry. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Roll Call

Closed  
Session

Reconvene

Pledge

Amendment to  
the Agenda

**Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Walters reported the following information:

Superintendent's  
Report

1. **Good News**

Good News

School	Event	Explanation
Montessori	Honor Donations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Montessori student, Cameron Vinson, was accepted into a very prestigious orchestra festival. He will travel to ISU to play cello in the festival orchestra in November.</li> <li>Heidi Pommier donated many used uniforms to Montessori</li> <li>Monique Calhoun donated playground balls to Montessori.</li> <li>St. Johns United Church of Christ donated school supplies.</li> </ul>
King	Grant Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>King Middle Grade School has been awarded a grant for a YouthTouch Technology Integration System for elementary students. The commitment to elementary technology will help change the future for the King students.</li> <li>Caroline Viglia, Rosemary Sexton, Vicki Anderson, Hillary McDaniel, and Tracy Selock have all received from The Meemic Foundation for the Future of Education, a \$100 Book Fair grant.</li> </ul>
District	Team Quest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The local Team Quest Competition, sponsored by I-KAN Regional Office, took place the week of October 13th through 16<sup>th</sup>. In Team Quest Challenge, students from grades 3 through 12 are grouped in 4 member teams that compete against other student teams in their grade level. Other schools throughout the county had the opportunity to attend and compete. Students are asked to solve creatively designed questions as in a "Jeopardy" type format. Other activities may include physics applications, music history, art, word challenges, or practical mathematics applications. Activities include creative thinking and problem solving, focusing on cooperative learning with many in a game type format under specific time constraints. The theme for this competition was <b>"Get A Clue."</b></li> </ul> <p>Kankakee School District was well represented and received several trophies and placements. The teams that placed will move on to the sectional competition in February in central Illinois.</p>

2. Dr. Walters introduced the President of Kankakee Community College, Dr. John Avendano. Dr. Avendano thanked Dr. Walters and the Board of Education for accepting his offer to address the Board to talk about the successes of Kankakee High School students at KCC. Dr. Avendano said that KCC takes the role of educating our students seriously. He said the number of our students who enrolled at KCC from the class of 2014 is 67. KCC attracts 26% of all local high school graduates and that is the same from KHS – 26%. Dr. Avendano said that our students have done very well with KCC and they are proud of them.

Dr. Avendano shared some of Kankakee Community College's highlights:

- ❖ Expanded their presence with the North Extension Center and South Extension Center
- ❖ Extended their presence with the Manufacturing Industrial Technology Center
- ❖ Career Trades Program

He went on to say the majority of students enroll in the pre-health careers and the students do exceptionally well. He closed by thanking Kankakee School District for being an educational partner

with KCC and stated that they will continue to be a willing partner with the District.

### **Principal's Report – Mr. George Harris, King Middle Grade School Principal**

Mr. Harris started his presentation with reviewing King's AIMSWeb data: Reading CBM, MAZE Comprehension, Math Concepts & Applications, and Math Computation.

Next, Mr. Harris reviewed King's discipline data and compared the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the 2014-2015 school year data to the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the 2015-2016 school year data. He reported that referrals decreased by 17%, fights decreased by 66%, disrespect to staff decreased by 48%, and disruptive behavior increased by 33%.

Mr. Harris then communicated King's School Improvement Plan which includes: increase percentage of students at Tier 1 in reading, increase the percentage of students in Tier 1 math; increase percentage of parental involvement; decrease office discipline referrals by 20%.

Mr. Harris then reviewed the challenges and celebrations at King. The challenges include raising student scores in AIMSWeb, curriculum rigor, collaboration time, co-teaching, and parental support. The celebrations include the new curriculum, STEM activities, grants received, school environment, and after school programs. He concluded his presentation by introducing his staff.

### **Public Comments**

- The following public comments were made.

<b>Names</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Marty Whalen, President of Martin Whalen Office Solutions	All three addressed concerns regarding the District's new copy bid. Asked the District to return to a transparent bidding process and to adopt a policy so that debarred businesses can't do business with the District.
Tom Clocksin, Advantage Copier	
Kevin Clocksin, Advantage Copier	

### **Consent Agenda**

The following items were presented:

- The Board minutes of the following meeting were presented for approval:
  - October 13, 2015-Regular Meeting** (Regular & Executive Session Minutes)
- The following personnel items were presented for approval:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
<b>Resignations - Certified Personnel</b>		
Lori A. Buckman	Choir Director/Elementary Music at KHS/KJHS/MT	December 18, 2015
Lynnea Moncofsky	Hearing Impaired Teacher at LCC	October 15, 2015
<b>Resignation – Support Personnel</b>		
Debra Pitts	Assistant Software Support Specialist at LCC	November 6, 2015
<b>Appointment - Support Personnel</b>		
Melinda Velasco	Cafeteria Helper – 4 ½ hours/day at Kennedy	October 27, 2015
<b>Appointments – Extra-Curricular Personnel</b>		
Megan Graham	King Girls Volleyball	October 26, 2015
Heriberto Zavala	JV Soccer Coach at KHS	October 26, 2015
<b>Termination – Support Personnel</b>		
Luther Scott	Night Custodian at Edison	October 26, 2015

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

### **Old Business**

No old business was discussed.

Principal's Report

Public Comments

Consent Agenda

Board Minutes

Personnel Items

Resignations

Appointments

Termination

Old  
Business

**Information and Proposals**

The following items were provided for information:

1. Medical Compliance Report
2. 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Superintendent Walters announced that on November 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be a community forum at Kankakee High School at 6:00 PM to discuss the characteristics of a new high school principal. She said the district has secured the services of a search firm. She reiterated the fact that this is really important that community members and parents of students (pre-school through 12<sup>th</sup> grade) attend because this is a critical role for anybody in the community that has a student in any of the grade levels in Kankakee School District.

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

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Johnston-Gentry, President

ATTEST:

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

vs

**Approved: November 9, 2015**

Information

Medical Compliance  
Report  
150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Adjourn