

KELLOGGSVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting – December 13, 2021
Report No. 21-76

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES OF MEETING

Virtual/Regular Meeting – November 22, 2021

ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Marihugh, Mrs. Reidzans, Mrs. Tanis, Ms. Townsend, Ms. Sellers, and Mrs. Ward

Absent: Mrs. Groters

Also present: Samuel L. Wright, Superintendent

Eric Alcorn, Director of Human Services

Jeff Owen, Director of Instruction

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

President Ward called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board and Visitors recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

The next regularly scheduled board meetings will be held:

December 13, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m. Board of Education Center

January 10, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. Board of Education Center (Organizational)

January 24, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. Board of Education Center

February 14, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. Board of Education Center

February 28, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. Board of Education Center

COMMUNICATIONS - None

VISITORS

President Ward welcomed visitors.

- *Mr. Joel Jakubowski, Parent; Inquired on the reasons for the district closure on November 22 & 23rd. Parents were notified that the closure was necessary due to the rise in COVID cases and staff shortage – he asked for clarification of those reasons.*
- *Mr. Wright stated that the district has a registered nurse on staff that monitors student and staff positivity rates, which are reported to local health officials and are trending very similar to this same time last year. Last year however, there were only half of the student population in-person vs. this year. The amount of staff out was concerning due to substitute shortages and lack of staffing to provide instruction and support for our students. The decision was made in the best interest of students and staff in an effort to curb the rising trend so that instruction for the school days between Thanksgiving and Christmas break are able to remain in-person.*

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Mrs. Tanis, seconded by Ms. Sellers, to approve Consent Agenda items 21-65, 21-66, 21-67, 21-68, 21-69, and 21-70.

21-65 Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from 11/08/21

21-66 Approval of Personnel Report

21-67	Approval of Expenditure Report		
	General Fund:	\$682,621.78	Food Service: \$32,078.79
	Child Care:	\$0.00	Capital Projects: \$967,042.17
21-68	Approval of 2 nd Reading Policy Updates		
21-69	Approval of Summer Tax Resolution		
21-70	Approval of Bond Authorizing Resolution		
Yeas: 6	Nays: 0		MOTION CARRIED

ACTION

A. Approval: Board Goal "C"

It was moved by Mrs. Reidzans, seconded by Ms. Townsend, to approval Goal "C" as presented. This goal addresses the planning and budgeting for the new \$11.3 million bond, ESSER 3 money, and the sinking fund. Budget plans were presented and discussed.

Yeas: 6 Nays: 0 MOTION CARRIED

B. Approval: ESSER 3 Survey Results

It was moved by Mr. Marihugh, seconded by Mrs. Tanis, to approve the ESSER 3 survey results as presented. Part of the requirement to receive ESSER 3 money is to gather input from our community, staff, and students. A survey was sent out to all stakeholders on 11/11/21 and results were compiled on 11/15/21. The results were shared with the Board and discussion took place on the feedback that was received.

Yeas: 6 Nays: 0 MOTION CARRIED

PROPOSAL - None

INFORMATION & REPORTS

A. KVS Update

Ms. Travis gave a detailed update on the Kelloggsville Virtual School (KVS) program that began at the start of the 2021-22 school year. There are currently a total of 107 students enrolled in the program which includes 20 students from the collaborating districts of East Grand Rapids and Shelby. She highlighted curriculum platforms and technology supports, student engagement and community building activities, and intentional writing assignments that take place in a virtual environment. Two (2) KVS teachers, Mr. Ferrell and Mr. Vanderkamp, were present to share with the Board a "Day in the Life" from a student's perspective. She concluded her report by sharing the results of a survey sent to KVS students and parents, highlighting some of the positive feedback received.

B. COVID Regulations

Mr. Alcorn shared a summary of the OSHA Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) implementation requirements, which requires vaccination/testing for employers with over 100 employees. Based on the most recent information, MIOSHA and OSHA have suspended activities related to the enforcement deadline, pending litigation developments which will most likely extend timelines and further litigation delays. Regardless, law firms are recommending employers take steps to make sure they are ready to comply if the law passes.

If upheld, Mr. Alcorn reported on the process and requirements that the District will execute; communicate information to all staff regarding the ETS, provide a form for staff to submit with vaccination status and copy of vaccination card, hire an additional 1-2 part-time school nurses and create a testing schedule to comply with mandates for unvaccinated staff. He concluded by reporting that the District will be ready to comply if/when the emergency standard becomes effective to ensure that the District will not have to be penalized with an OSHA violation, which could result in a monetary penalty.

C. Instruction Update

Mr. Owen updated the Board on a new direction the District is moving to for K-5 reading instruction. He shared that early on; the whole-language reading method of instruction was taught to students to read by recognizing words as whole pieces of language but de-emphasized the importance of phonics instruction. Later on, researchers had the tools to analyze brain functions and noted significant discoveries on the reading process but the research was not published and universities did not provide instruction in teacher preparation programs. By using Orthographic Mapping and The Simple View of Reading, instruction will transition to a phonics-based reading formula which teaches students to apply phonetics and phonemics to decode words. Moving in this direction, he shared that all teachers have been trained in Phonics Fundamentals – structured phonics instruction with a heavy emphasis on Phonemic Awareness activities in all K-2 classrooms. In addition, different assessments will be used K-3 which gives specific information related to these concepts. Studies Weekly, Science and Social Studies magazines designed to build vocabulary and background knowledge will also be incorporated. He concluded his report by sharing the next steps, which will include using ESSER funds to purchase K-5 Reading and Writing curriculum materials, based on the science of reading and the purchase of decodable books to build student knowledge to improve the reading achievement of our students.

OTHER MATTERS - None

INTRODUCTION OF MATTERS BY BOARD MEMBERS

- Ms. Townsend – had the opportunity to hear one of the MASB Leadership Conference speakers, Brandon P. Fleming. She shared a brief summary of his presentation and the inspiring memoir he has written about his transformation from growing up in an abusive home and a drug-dealing dropout to an award-winning Harvard educator. She shared that the similarities of his childhood story and what some of our students may encounter are very similar, which tie in perfectly to the rationale of building our new STEM building. She thanked Ms. Travis and the staff of KVS for their efforts in providing a very successful virtual program for our students;
- Mrs. Reidzans – shared that she is very grateful of the KVS program and instructional platforms they use - the teachers and Ms. Travis are doing a great job and it is wonderful to see where this program will take us. She enjoyed hearing Ms. Townsend’s story and the impact of how such a dramatic effort can change the outcome of someone’s life. She is also excited to see the impact on the new direction the District is taking on reading instruction. She also thanked everyone for their hard work;

- Mr. Marihugh – was also able to attend the MASB Leadership Conference and shared a summary of the presentation that he attended by Debbie Stair, MASB Assistant Director of Leadership Development. The topic of the presentation was Leadership Styles and it focused on learning the characteristics of different personality types to enhance an effective leadership time and develop techniques to improve commination. He felt it was a very beneficial seminar with lots of insight. He shared appreciation for all that Kville does to provide and prepare our students - it is a great time for the district;
- Mrs. Tanis – also extended appreciation to everyone for the day-to-day operations that take place in the district - it could not be done without everyone’s help, adding that she appreciates the leadership of Mr. Wright;
- Ms. Sellers – shared that she is proud to be part of the Kelloggsville community. She thanked Mr. Jakubowski and Ms. Dessauer for attending tonight’s meeting and all of the presentations tonight on KVS, bond projects, curriculum updates, etc. She extended appreciation for everyone’s hard work;
- Mrs. Ward – echoed all of the comments by other board members - - we all have a lot to be thankful for;

ADJOURNMENT

President Ward adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Gary Marihugh, Secretary
Kelloggsville Board of Education

Beth A. Postma
Recorder

VISITORS: Beth Travis, Terri Ricketson, Jim Alston, Josh Vanderkamp, Luke Ferrell, Christina Dessauer, and Joel Jakubowski.