

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE KINGSTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
OCTOBER 21, 2009
CIONI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Bowers, P. Boyle, J. Childs, C. Farrell, D. Fletcher, K. Germain, M. McCoy, J. Shaughnessy and M. Tack

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: G. Gretzinger, R. Pritchard, J. Prebill, S Miller, MS. Corsones

OTHERS PRESENT: Public, Media

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Fletcher, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All board members were present.

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME: Marie Anderson

Ms. Anderson welcomed the Board and gave a brief report on the start of school and the changes that are happening with the closing of the school campus. Questions and answers followed.

Aramark Report – Eleanor Mills

Ms. Mills introduced Noreen and gave a brief report on the opening of school and the changes that took place to address the long lines. The Board thanked them for preparing dinner, and questions and answers followed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chris McKeever, Jr., a high school sophomore spoke regarding the recent changes at the high school and the requirement of wearing ID badges.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Ms. Bowers; seconded by Mr. Shaughnessy, the board members unanimously agreed to adjourn into executive session @ 6:25 p.m. to discuss matters leading to the employment of particular individual(s); the review of programs and placements of students with disabilities; the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property; but only when publicity would substantially affect their value, and collective bargaining under the Taylor Law.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

The board members returned to public session at 7:45 p.m.

ACTION PERTAINING TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution #2009-BOE24

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is hereby authorized to direct a comprehensive medical, psychological and psychiatric examination and evaluation of Employee No. 929, in accordance with the provisions of Section 913 of the Education Law, based upon a memorandum from the Superintendent to the Board, dated September 29, 2009; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby directs that Employee No. 929 submit her medical records, from the last two years to the designated physician(s) at or before such examination/evaluation.”

Dr. Fletcher read to above resolution. Ms. Bowers made a motion to adopt the above resolution; seconded by Dr. Tack. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution #2009-BOE25

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves and authorizes the President to sign and issue a letter setting forth the Board of Education’s response to KTF grievance #0809-5 as presented to the Board on August 14, 2009.

Dr. Fletcher read the above resolution; seconded by Dr. Tack. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A high school parent expressed concern for student athlete who is not allowed to be in the high school after 9th period until her coach arrives for practice at 4 p.m.

Mr. Tim Moss from Maple Ridge thanked the Board and Administration for all their efforts for student safety and for closing the campus.

RESOLUTIONS (Consent Agenda)

Dr. Tack made a motion to adopt the consent agenda; seconded by Ms. Germain. A brief question and answer period followed. Dr. Tack made a motion to table B34 Authorization – Retainer Agreement; seconded by Ms. Bowers. Dr. Fletcher advised amending the consent agenda since there was a motion and a second on the floor to adopt the consent agenda. Dr. Tack made a motion to amend the consent agenda by removing B34; seconded by Ms. Germain. The motion to amend the consent agenda carried unanimously. The motion to adopt the consent agenda as amended carried unanimously.

Resolutions:

Student Services

- 2009-S 10 Committee on Preschool Special Education Recommendations
- 2009-S11 Committee on Special Education Recommendations
- 2009-S12 504 Recommendations

Personnel

- 2009-P27 Professional Personnel – Appointments, Reinstate, & LOA
- 2009-P28 Professional Personnel – Technology Liaison (Crosby)
- 2009-P29 Professional Personnel – Home Teachers
- 2009-P30 Professional Personnel – Night School
- 2009-P31 Professional Personnel – Substitute Teachers
- 2009-P32 Professional Personnel – Teachers in Charge
- 2009-P33 Professional Personnel – Winter Coaches
- 2009-P34 Professional Personnel – Curriculum Audit Coordinator
- 2009-P35 Professional Personnel – Tops (JFK)
- 2009-CS09 Civil Service – Appointments, Change of Status, Resignations and Terminations

Business Services

- 2009 - B29 Donation – Kingston Kiwanis
- 2009 – B31 Donation – Kingston High School “Tiger” Band Boosters
- 2009 – B35 Authorization – Change Orders
- 2009 – B37 Authorization – District Planning Services – 5 Year Capital Plan

Resolution #2009 – B34 Authorization – Retainer Agreement

Dr. Tack made a motion to table the above resolution; seconded by Ms. Bowers. Discussion followed. The motion carried 8-1. No: Mr. Farrell

Ms. Bowers pointed out the donations on the consent agenda by the Kiwanis Club and the Kingston High School Tiger Band Booster Club.

Dr. Fletcher inquired if board members would accept a walk in resolution. Board member agreed.

Resolution #2009 – B38 Authorization – Change Order

Dr. Tack made a motion to adopt; seconded by Mr. Farrell. Discussion followed. Dr. Fletcher made a motion to remit the resolution to the Audit & Finance Committee for further discussion; seconded by Ms. Bowers. Further discussion followed. The motion carried 7:2: No: Mr. Farrell and Mr. McCoy.

BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOGNITION

Mr. Gretzinger read the Governor's Proclamation and presented all Board Members with Certificates of Appreciation. He extended his personal thanks and gratitude to the Board for all that they do.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Curriculum Audit Update & ARRA Funding

Ms. Corsones reported that with the changes in leadership at the State Ed department everything with respect to finalization has been stalled, however she has been informed that they do not anticipate any issues in moving forward. The committees have started to meet; curriculum sub committees are mapping as required, instructional sub committee is looking at instructional models that are being used, and the data sub committee is starting to process the data to the new system.

Ms. Corsones reported that the ARRA funds are currently in year one of two years of funding. Ms. Miller reported that they have been working on targeted arrears and they have been addressing every initiative. A brief discussion followed.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Approval of Minutes – September 16, 2009

Mr. Farrell made a motion to adopt the minutes of September 16, 2009; seconded by Mr. McCoy. The motion carried unanimously.

CDEP

Dr. Fletcher stated that most of the discussion at the last CDEP meeting was on the curriculum audit which has already been discussed. He stated that there are significant integration and some inconsistencies in district goals, CDEP goals and audit goals and that the district should look at what parameters should be in place to align and integrate goals and how the district will measure those goals in the future. Discussion followed.

Board members asked that a separate meeting be set aside to discuss goals and the parameters for measuring district improvements. Ms. Bowers suggested the November 18th meeting if possible.

Carnegie Committee

Mr. Shaughnessy reported that the last meeting was in September with KSQ reporting that State Ed Department had given preliminary approval and he has not heard anything further. He brought forward the following resolution for board consideration.

Resolution 2009-B36–Authorization–Carnegie Learning Center proposal for construction administration

Mr. Shaughnessy made a motion to adopt the above resolution; seconded by Mr. Farrell. Discussion followed on the alternatives for management of the construction projects. The motion carried unanimously.

Dietz Stadium Commission

Mr. McCoy stated that the proposed preliminary improvement plan was in the last packet and they are hoping that some of the materials will be donated. He stated that a new truck had been purchased to plow the stadium parking lot.

Audit & Finance Committee

Dr. Fletcher stated that there was a meeting on October 20th and he brought forward the following resolutions:

Resolution 2009-BOE 20 – Claims Auditor Report

Mr. McCoy made a motion to adopt the above resolution; seconded by Mr. Farrell. A brief discussion followed. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2009-BOE21 – Treasurer’s Report

Mr. McCoy made a motion to adopt the above resolution; seconded by Mr. Farrell. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2009-B30 – Budget Calendar

Mr. Farrell made a motion to adopt the above resolution; seconded by Mr. McCoy. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Fletcher stated that the committee had a preliminary discussion on budget parameter recommendations and the committee requested administration come back to committee with general information to begin the 2010-2011 budget process. A brief discussion followed on the proposed mid year governors cuts.

Dr. Fletcher added that Medicare compliance was also discussed.

Policy Committee

Ms. Bowers stated that the committee met on October 6th and will meet again on November 10th. The committee recommends the following resolutions:

Resolution #2009-BOE22–Policy Eliminations – Policies 5310 & 5600

Mr. Farrell made a motion to adopt the above resolution; seconded by Mr. Shaughnessy. Ms. Bowers gave a brief explanation for the committee’s recommendation for eliminating the policies. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution #2009-BOE23–Policy Adoptions – Policies 0320, 1050, 2210, 2350 & 5710

Mr. Farrell made a motion to adopt the above resolution; seconded by Dr. Tack. Ms. Bowers gave a brief explanation for the committee’s recommendation for adoption. The motion carried unanimously.

Master Plan Facilities Committee

Mr. Shaughnessy stated that the last meeting was on September 16th and at that time reported that the committee recommenced Advisory Solutions for both the community survey and the demographic study but agreed that an RFP would be in order. The committee has not met since then waiting for the result of the RFP’s. The committee now brings forward the following resolutions:

2009–B32-Bid Award – Community Survey for KHS Renovation/Building Project

Mr. Shaughnessy made a motion to adopt the above resolution; seconded by Mr. McCoy. The motion carried unanimously.

2009–B33-Bid Award – Elementary Schools Demographic/Enrollment Projections, Building Capacity, and Grade Configuration Analysis

Mr. Shaughnessy made a motion to adopt the above resolution; seconded by Mr. Farrell. Mr. McCoy stated that he had the opportunity to meet Dr. Natale from Advisory Solutions and had a lengthy discussion with him at the NYSSBA convention and he was very impressed and he believes this is the right approach for taxpayers and the community. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Shaughnessy stated that he will report the Boards adoption of the above resolutions to the committee and the next meeting will be in two weeks and he will ask that Advisory Solution attend so that work can begin to implement their proposals.

NYSSBA Convention Attendee Report

Rev. Childs reported that the kick off speaker was very motivational and the message was to keep hope alive. He thought the message to keep hope alive would be to give our students a sense of well being and the message that you can accomplish what you need to when you have hope. He attended several workshops but the one that he focused on was the “overrepresentation of male minority students in special education in our state”. He stated that studies on

demographics and different cultures may dictate attitudes about education. He added that diversity training should be expanded to address this issue.

Mr. McCoy stated that he had attended several sessions but the one that he thought was the best was “understanding the role of parents in helping minority students value education” and it addressed that in most district the first parent/teacher interaction is when the student was in trouble when it might be better to have the parent involved in the classroom in a positive way rather than a negative way.

Mr. Farrell reported that he had attended the business meeting and that the resolutions that we supported from NYSSBA passed and the change in wording that the Board had requested was passed as well. He did not believe that any of the NYSSBA rejected proposals passed and that the three resolutions that our district proposed were passed almost unanimously and they complimented the district on how well they were written. He added that he attended some really good workshops and he agreed with Rev. Childs that retraining our staff to reach our minority students is a good idea. He also attended wellness workshops on childhood obesity and general wellness incorporated into classroom activities.

Ms. Bowers reported that she attended several as well and one was to meet the new commissioner and the new chancellor and she was impressed by the new commissioner and he seemed to have great vision. She added that she attended some policy workshops and has some ideas to bring back to the committee level.

Dr Fletcher reported that he had attended school board institute courses as well as several workshops and one in particular give by Mike Resnick, of the National School Board Association who spoke about ARRA, zero interest bonding loans, subsidies for math and science teachers, and building aid for energy savings. He added that he also attended workshops on school budgeting, building conditions surveys, and new regulations on Medicaid compliance.

Coffee & Conversation

Dr. Fletcher asked for volunteers for the years schedule. Mr. Farrell and Ms. Bowers volunteered for the November and Mr. McCoy volunteered for December. Dr. Fletcher asked that board members check their calendar and get back to Ms. Ellsworth.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing was offered at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Farrell asked what the new Cops Grant will buy us. Ms. Corsones explained that it will be for the purchase of equipment such as cameras.

Dr. Fletcher inquired about the posting for GW TOPS program. Discussion followed.

BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. McCoy stated that he was able to tour the next section of the Montessori program at GW and he encouraged other board members to tour it as well.

Dr. Tack announced that he attended a performance at Arlington High School of the Kingston Marching Band, they placed 2nd and it was an outstanding performance.

Ms. Germain congratulated the district on the Cops Grant.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business before the Board and on a motion by Dr. Tack; seconded by Mr. Farrell, the board members unanimously agreed to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

Camille Ellsworth
District Clerk