**Parent Group Meeting Minutes**
February 28, 2019

**Attendance**
Board Members: Priscilla Lowe, Suzanne Jordan
KCSD Administration and Faculty: Dr. Padalino, Kristin Shufeldt, Karen Seery, Wanda Lobianco
Parents: Krissy Leiching (Graves), Malia Cordel (Chambers), Amanda Campbell (Edson), Joann Uhl (KHS)

**Discussions**

PTO/PTA Info on websites- send any information to Kristin Shufeldt or Karen Seery to post on school’s website

Board of Education Meet the Candidates Night-
Parent Group is responsible for coordinating Meet the Candidates.
- KHS Auditorium is reserved for May 14.
- Parent Group will pass out any hand-outs, pencils, paper, etc. PG will collect audience questions and run them up to the moderator who will read the questions over the microphone.
- League of Women Voters will MC the evening – moderator will ensure audience questions make sense and are not redundant.

There are four Board terms up for election – 2 for re-election, 1 vacancy, 1 vacancy to fill resigned board trustee’s 2-year term
- Lowest vote-getter will take Danielle Guido’s remaining 2-year term
- Steven Spicer is currently filling Ms. Guido’s term until elections

As of 2/28/19, only current incumbents are running. Attempting to attract new candidates as well as nominees from the Latino community.

If there aren’t enough candidates to fill all open seats, the Board can leave the seat empty, hold another election, or appoint someone.

Questions:
Will there be an interpreter? *We will ask one of the district’s Bi-lingual Family Workers*
Can audience questions be posted in advance? *We can send an email to promote this if we choose to do so.*
Can we add what the Board does when promoting Candidates Night? *Yes*
Hoax of Momo-

Letter went home to Robert Graves parents when the Hoax of Momo appeared back in the news around February 28.

Are there guidelines in place, or limitations of what children can see from a piece of communication like a letter getting sent home?

- Principals are encouraged to communicate how they see fit
- This particular topic did not go through the district
- There are not really guidelines for this type of communication. There is a general safety message regarding Internet use and safety for middle school level students and parents
- Principals and the district always try to keep parents informed

KCSD Community Budget Forum-

A preliminary budget forum will be held on March 13 in the Cioni Board Room at 6:00pm.

KCSD is awaiting the Assembly and Senate to update the Governor’s budget.

The budget appears to be the most challenging budget Dr. Padalino has seen, it is very tight with 1.45% tax levy limit. Tax levy limit is calculated yearly and is based on last year.

KCSD is looking very closely at expenses and what works and doesn’t work. The business office is looking into every budget.

We are unsure if more state aid will be available for KCSD. Dr. Padalino has started lobbying to get our needs out there as priorities. The Governor sets the aid formula. It is the first year with a Democratic House and Assembly.

Currently the district’s transportation costs are mounting. (per Suzanne)
- There are students being placed as far as 50 miles outside of the district lines
- The district does pay for the transportation of the students placed out of district
- (Amanda) Can we work with DSS so our students can be placed in Kingston? Can our students get priority to keep them closer and help with transportation costs?
- Can we ask the County Legislator about placements and students getting priority?

2019 Board of Education Elections and Budget Vote-

Elections are on Tuesday, May 21, 2019

The Ulster County Board of Elections will no longer permit KCSD (and other Ulster school districts) the use of their voting machines. An agreement was made with the Board of Elections where we will rent six voting machines for election day. Two machines will be placed at each of the three polling places.

Polling place locations: KHS, MCM and JWB
Voting hours will be from 3:00 PM – 9:00 PM, keeping the timeframe after-school (non-instructional) hours only. The new hours are for safety and security purposes as more voters and vehicles will be on school property.

**Redistricting**

Redistricting was mentioned briefly. The Board and Superintendent are currently looking into redistricting after the administrative offices move to the Meagher building. This will be a very big project if it happens. How do we “phase” this type of change so students do not get pulled away from their current school? Further discussions on this in the future.

**Next Meeting**

Will be held in the Chambers Elementary Library on Thursday, March 28, from 5:00-6:00pm

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<td>3/26/19 6:30pm vocal room</td>
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