

KANKAKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.111
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
March 10, 2025

1

The Board of Education meeting of Kankakee School District No. 111, Kankakee County, Illinois, was held at 5:07 pm. in the multi-purpose room at Taft Elementary School 1155 W Hawkins Ave, Kankakee, IL 60901.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Suzy Berrones, Board Secretary
Christopher Bohlen, Board President
Jess Gathing, Board Vice President.
Cynthia Veronda
Tracy Verrett
Darrell Williams

Roll Call

Members Absent: Mary Archie (entered at 5:12 pm, exited 5:48 pm, reentered 5:50 pm , exited 6:02 pm
reentered 6:03 pm)

A quorum was declared present.

Closed Session

At 5:07 a motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Veronda to go into closed session and discuss:

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with [the Open Meetings Act]. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).
- Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).
- Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).

Closed Session

The Regular Session was reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

Reconvene

Chris Bohlen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge

Meeting with the Board was:

Dr. Teresa A. Lance, Superintendent
Dr. Kelly Gilbert, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum
Dr. James Henderson, Interim Assistant Superintendent of HR
Mr. Harrison Neal, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

Stephanie Markham from the Daily Journal was present.

Superintendent's Report

- ❖ Let your Light Shine
 - Chloe Kearney KHS Senior
 - Tania Coyotl-Enriquez LCC 8th Grade
 - Megan Limas LCC 8th Grade
- ❖ Good News

Superintendent's
Report

School	Event	Explanation
Mark Twain	Donations	Mark Twain thanked the Kiwanis Club for providing students with new shoes.

Taft	Donations	<p>Taft thanked the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiwanis Club, for providing students with a new pair of shoes. • Still I Rise for the classroom donations for all of the teaching staff.
KJHS	Donation & Recognition	<p>KJHS thanked and congratulated the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Let's Ketchup is a local non-profit organization rooted in Integrity, Empathy, and Progress. KJHS thanked Let's Ketchup for its continued support and the resources it provides. Let's Ketchup's work is seen, appreciated, and making a difference at KJHS! ❖ The 7th-grade Boys' Basketball team finished their season with a record of 19-2, securing fourth place in the state. The team is extremely proud of its student-athletes and coaches.

- ❖ Instruction
 - Dr. Gilbert discussed the proposals for the curriculum audit, the updated remote learning policy, the visible learning conference, and the E-Learning plan.
- ❖ Finance
 - Mr. Neal discussed the budget update, and several items on the agenda.
- ❖ Personnel
 - Mrs. Tarcy Sealock was recognized as the East Central Regional Teacher of the Year in Illinois. Dr. Henderson did not present.

Principal's Report

Ms Leftridge introduced her staff and thanked them. She discussed student demographics, school improvement goals in math and reading, IAR Scores, STAR scores, attendance stats, and attendance goals. She also recognized her retirees.

Principal's Report

Public Comments

Public Comments

Name	Topic
Joanne Lewis	Ms. Lewis discussed her issues with the district regarding her student at KJHS.

Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda
Board Minutes

- ❖ The following **Board Minutes** were submitted for approval:
 - Special Board Minutes February 6, 2025 (Regular Session)
 - Regular Board Minutes February 10, 2025 (Regular Session)
 - Special Board Minutes February 24, 2025 (Regular Session)
- ❖ The **Regular Bills** were presented for approval.
- ❖ The **Payroll & Related Bills** were presented for approval.
- ❖ The **Purchase of Laptops for Staff Members** was presented for approval.
- ❖ The **Purchase of Chromebooks and Protective Cases** was presented for approval.
- ❖ The following **Personnel Items** were presented for approval.

Regular Bills
Payroll & Related Bills
Purchase of Laptops for Staff
Purchase of Chromebooks and Protective Cases for Students
Personnel Items

Name	Position	Effective Date
Resignation & Retirement (Licensed Educational Professional)		

Resignation

Sarah Bowman-Steffes	CCA Instructor at King	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Vicy Cordova	Elementary Teacher at Mark Twain	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Steven Elliott	Elementary Teacher at Steuben	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Valarie Johnson	CCA Instructor at King	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Susanne Osei	School Guidance Counselor	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Ami Scott	CCA Teacher at King	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Angela Shannon	Special Education Teacher at Taft	February 10, 2025
Deana Sirois	CCA Instructor at Kennedy	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Destiny Stone	CCA Instructor at Kennedy	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Resignation & Retirement (Support Personnel)		
Carolyn Jennings	Cafeteria Helper at KJHS	February 11, 2025
Paul Morley	Culinary Chef at KHS	February 27, 2025
Sergio Parks	Instructional Facilitator at Avis	June 30, 2025
Mitzi Rosales	Medical Assistant at KJHS	March 7, 2025
Appointments (Licensed Educational Professional)		
Keri Johnson	ESL Resource Teacher	August 18, 2025
Appointments (Support Personnel)		
Latoya Jones	Special Education Paraprofessional at King	March 11, 2025
Anton Kuhar	Technology Support Specialist	TBD
Appointments (Extra Duty Assignment)		
Alex Iverson	Head Powerlifting Coach	2024-2025 School Year
Emmanuel Jackson	Podcast Club	2024-2025 School Year
Lyn McIntosh-Daniels	Interact Club	2024-2025 School Year
Dennis Pommier	Assistant Softball Coach	2024-2025 School Year
Donya Tetrault	Special Olympics Assistant Track Coach	2024-2025 School Year
Melissa Wilkins	Special Olympic Assistant Track Coach	2024-2025 School Year
Internal Appointment (Support Personnel)		

Appointment

Sonji Borders-Baptist	Cafeteria Helper at LCC	March 11, 2025
Salary Adjustment (Support Personnel)		
Janet Gayton	Head Start Assistant at Proeger	February 10, 2025
Leave of Absence (Licensed Educational Professional)		
Carolyn Klaus	Teacher at Kennedy	January 30, 2025-TBD
Leave of Absence (Support Personnel)		
Latisha Davis	Cashier at Kankakee High School	February 4, 2025 through March 18, 2025
Octavia Smith	Childcare Worker at Proegler	January 31, 2025-February 17, 2025
Termination (Licensed Educational Professional)		
Thomas Gullickson	Permanent Sub at KJHS	February 14, 2025
Termination (Support Personnel)		
Jemel Gilbert	Bus Monitor at Bus Depot	February 13, 2025
Alejandra Perez	Paraprofessional at Proegler	February 14, 2025

A motion was made by Veronda, seconded by Gathing, to approve the consent agenda as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Archie, Berrones, Gathing, Veronda, Verrett, Williams, and Bohlen. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

Action Items

1. Approval of the Resolution Authorizing Non-Renewal of Non-Tenured Teachers Other Than Final-Year Probationary Teachers.

A motion was made by Berrones, seconded by Gathing, to amend the resolution authorizing non-renewal of non-tenured teachers other than final year probationary teachers and remove Elizabeth Weaver, Heather Spengler, Laroy Ruffin, Zachary Ganger, Jordyn Chapel and Diane Beaupre. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES- Berrones, Gathing, Veronda, Verrett, Williams, Archie, and Bohlen. NAYS-none. Motion carried

A motion was made by Berrones, seconded by Veronda, to approve the amended resolution authorizing non-renewal of non-tenured teachers other than final-year probationary Teachers. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES- Gathing (Abstain), Veronda, Verrett, Williams, Archie, Berrones, and Bohlen. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

2. Approval of Recommended Expulsion - #402-001-2025

A motion was made by Gathing and seconded by Berrones to approve recommended expulsion as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Verrett, Veronda, Williams, Archie, Berrones, Gathing, and Bohlen. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Board Member Expense Reimbursement.

A motion was made by Veronda, seconded by Verrett, to approve the board member expense reimbursement as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES- Verrett, Williams, Archie, Berrones (Abstain), Gathing, Veronda, and Bohlen. NAYS- none. Motion carried.

4. Approval of LED Lighting for the Gyms at Mark Twain Primary, Steuben Primary, Taft Primary and Exterior Lighting at Avis Huff.

Termination

Action Items

Resolution Authorizing
Non-Renewal of
Non-Tenured Teachers
Other Than Final-Year
Probationary Teachers.

Amendment

Recommended
Expulsion -
#402-001-2025

Board Member
Expense
Reimbursement

LED Lighting for the
Gyms at Mark Twain
Primary, Steuben
Primary, Taft Primary
and Exterior Lighting at

A motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Williams, to approve the LED lighting for the Gyms at Mark Twain Primary, Steuben Primary, Taft Primary, and Exterior Lighting at Avis Huff, as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Williams, Archie, Berrones, Gathing, Veronda, Verrett, and Bohlen. NAYS- none. Motion carried.

5. Approval of J.L Adler and Sheet Metal, Inc Bid for the 2025 Roof Replacement at Mark Twain School Project Number 2025.005.

A motion was made by Williams, seconded by Archie to approve the J.L Adler and Sheet Metal, Inc Bid for the 2025 Roof Replacement at Mark Twain School Project Number 2025.005 as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Archie, Berrones, Gathing, Veronda, Verrett, Williams, and Bohlen. NAYS- none. Motion carried.

6. Approval for Purchase of Updated Firewall for the District Network.

A motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Williams, to approve the purchase of updated Firewall for the District networks as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Berrones, Gathing, Veronda, Verrett, Williams, Archie, and Bohlen. NAYS- none. Motion carried.

7. Approval of Visible Learning Conference Proposal.

A motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Berrones, to approve the Visible Learning Conference proposal as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Gathing, Veronda, Verrett, Williams, Archie, Berrones, and Bohlen. NAYS- none. Motion carried.

8. Approval of Partnership with Curriculum Management Solutions, INC. to Complete the Curriculum.

A motion was made by Williams, seconded by Gathing, to approve the Partnership with Curriculum Management Solutions, INC. to complete the Curriculum as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Veronda, Verrett, Williams, Archie, Berrones, Gathing, and Bohlen. NAYS- none. Motion carried.

9. Approval of Purchase of a 2025 Ford Transit Cargo Van from Court Street Ford.

A motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Williams, to approve the purchase of a 2025 Ford Transit Cargo Van from Court Street Ford as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Verrett, Williams, Archie, Berrones, Gathing, Veronda, and Bohlen. NAYS- none. Motion carried.

Information & Proposals

1. Previous Bill Run
2. January 2025 Monthly Report
3. January 2025 Statement of Revenues & Expenses
4. Head Start Information
5. FOIA Request
6. Minimum Wage Increase Information

Old Business

Announcements

Adjourn

At 8:04 p.m., a motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Archie, to adjourn the meeting—all ayes; motion carried.

SIGNED: _____

Christopher Bohlen, President

ATTEST: _____

Suzy Berrones, Secretary

APPROVED MARCH 24, 2025

Avis Huff.

J.L Adler and Sheet Metal, Inc Bid for the 2025 Roof Replacement at Mark Twain School Project Number 2025.005.

Purchase of Updated Firewall for the District Network

Visible Learning Conference Proposal

Partnership with Curriculum Management Solutions, INC. to Complete the Curriculum.

Purchase of a 2025 Ford Transit Cargo Van from Court Street Ford.

Information & Proposals

Old Business

Announcements

Adjourn