

KANKAKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.111
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
March 24, 2025

The Board of Education meeting of Kankakee School District No. 111, Kankakee County, Illinois, was held at 5:02 pm. in the cafeteria at Kankakee Junior High School, 2250 E Crestwood St, Kankakee, IL 60901.

ROLL CALL

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

Roll Call

Members Absent: Mary Archie (entered at 5:10 pm, exited at 7:10 pm, reentered at 7:15 pm)
Tracy Verrett (entered at 5:07 pm)
Darrell Williams (entered at 5:10 pm, exited at 6:10 pm, reentered at 6:15 pm)

A quorum was declared present.

Closed Session

Closed Session

At 5:02 pm, 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).

The Regular Session was reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

Reconvene

KJHS Student Ambassadors 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

Superintendent's
Report

❖ **Good News**

School	Event	Explanation
KJHS	Building Treat	Thank you, Mr. Bohlen, for treating KJHS with your famous cookie delivery. They were delicious and appreciated!
LCC	Donation/ Recognition	LCC Would like to thank the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Kiwanis Club- We appreciate the shopping trip and generous donation of shoes for our students.❖ Last week, our 5th-8th grade students had the opportunity to hear from five outstanding community

		<p>members who generously spoke about how their roles contribute to fostering respect within our community. A huge thank you to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Stephanie Vanderweide (CSL Behrings) ❖ Leo Jaramillo (City of Kankakee – Economic Development Navigator) ❖ Angelina Gear (Visit Kankakee County) ❖ Alicia Kleinert (MCA Senior Adult Day Center) ❖ Bill Yohnka (Kankakee Riverfront Director)
KHS	Recognition	<p>KHS would like to thank the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Members of the class of 1960 for visiting KHS on March 17, 2025 to tour the school and eat lunch with the staff and students. ❖ On March 19th, KHS hosted a community partnership breakfast in the Community Center for over 25 organizations. This event allowed KHS staff and administration to learn about the resources available to the community and their students. KHS would like to thank all of the community partners for coming out.

- ❖ **Instruction**
 - Dr. Gilbert discussed the ReMINDed proposal, an update of the curriculum/instruction audit, summer learning, an e-learning plan survey, and the Five Essential Survey.
- ❖ **Finance**
 - Nothing was reported or presented.
- ❖ **Personel**
 - Dr. Henderson started by discussing the new and improved People Services Department, the end-of-the-year Gala, recruitment efforts, and current vacancies.

Principal's Report

Mrs. Glenn started by introducing her staff and retiree, Kieth Wilson. She discussed the themes for past and future years, enrollment, ISBE designation history, improvement plans and goals, extracurricular activities, and clubs. Mrs. Glenn showed a brief video and asked if there were any questions.

Principal's Report

Public Comments

Public Comments

Name	Topic
Robert Ellington-Snipes	Mr. Snipes discussed the expulsion hearing and asked the board to consider an alternative placement for the student being brought for expulsion.
Keith Wilson	Mr. Wilson discussed his passion for teaching and thanked the prior administration for allowing him to teach.

Consent Agenda

- ❖ The following Board Minutes were submitted for approval:
 - Regular Board Minutes March 10, 2025 (Regular Session & Closed Session)
 - Special Board Minutes March 17, 2025 (Regular Session)
- ❖ The **Regular Bills** were presented for approval.
- ❖ The **Head Start Council Information** was presented for approval.
- ❖ The **Illinois High School Association Membership** was presented for approval.

Consent Agenda
Board Minutes

Regular Bills

- ❖ The **Illinois Elementary School Association Membership** was presented for approval.
- ❖ The **Overnight Trip Request** was presented for approval.
- ❖ The **Disposal of Surplus Equipment at Montessori/LCC** was presented for approval.
- ❖ The following Personnel Items were presented for approval.

Head Start Policy
Council
IHSA
IESA
Overnight Trip
Disposal of Surplus
Equipment
Personnel Items

Name	Position	Effective Date
Resignation (Administrative)		
Sharon Sykes	Dean of Restorative Justice	June 30, 2025
Resignations (Licensed Educational Professional)		
Mariza Avalos	Dual Language Instructor at Kennedy	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Claudia Avila Campa	Permanent Substitute at Kennedy	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Jordyn Chapel	Instructor at Kennedy	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Zachary Ganger	Instructional Facilitator at KHS	June 30, 2025
Laroy Ruffin Jr.	Instructor at Kennedy	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Elizabeth Weaver	1st Grade Teacher at Taft	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Resignations (Support Personnel)		
Montserrat Cervantes	Paraprofessional at King	February 28, 2025
Stefanie Hipke	Head Start Education Support Staff	End of 2024-2025 School Year
Hellen Katongera	Paraprofessional at Edison	March 14, 2025
Crystin Ward	Cafeteria Helper at KJHS	March 7, 2025
Appointments (Licensed Educational Professional)		
Jennifer Fogel	Speech Language Pathologist	April 7, 2025
Vanessa Moss	3rd/4th Grade Teacher at Montessori	August 18, 2025
Susanne Osei	School Guidance Counselor	March 10, 2025
Appointments (Support Personnel)		
Cynthia Alvarez	Bus Monitor	TBD
Juanita Alvarez	Bus Monitor	TBD
Amie Byrne	Special Education Paraprofessional at Taft	April 7, 2025
Yanelli Garcia	Bus Monitor	TBD
Itanzia Hawkins	Bus Monitor	TBD

Resignation

Appointment

Kristen Isaacs	Cafeteria Helper at KHS	March 25, 2025
Internal Appointment (Licensed Educational Professional)		
Shelly Cromwell	1st/2nd Grade Teacher at Montessori	August 18, 2025
Emmagene Draper	1st Grade Fine Arts Teacher at Montessori	August 18, 2025
Internal Appointment (Support Personnel)		
Tia Johnson	Paraprofessional at Proegler	March 18, 2025
Salary Adjustment (Licensed Educational Professional)		
Keri Johnson	ESL Resource Teacher	August 18, 2025
Salary Adjustment (Support Personnel)		
Jasmine Hernandez	Head Start Teacher at Proegler	January 7, 2025
Leave of Absence (Support Personnel)		
Janet Gayton	Paraprofessional at Proegler	March 10, 2025-March 24, 2025
Termination (Support Personnel)		
Sandra Mendez	Bus Monitor	September 2, 2024

Termination

A motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Archie, 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 Gathing, seconded by Veronda, to approve the resolution authorizing the non-renewal of non-tenured teachers other than final-year probationary Teachers. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES- Berrones, Gathing, Veronda, Verrett, Archie, and Bohlen. NAYS: Williams. Motion carried.

2. Approval of Recommended Expulsion - #501-001-2025

A motion was made by Veronda and seconded by Berrones to approve the recommended expulsion # 501-001-2025 as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Gathing (Pass) (Abstain), Veronda, Berrones, and Bohlen. NAYS: Verrett, Williams, Archie. Motion failed.

3. Approval to Purchase ReMINDed, LLC for Social Emotional Learning Curriculum Development.

A motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Archie, to approve the purchase of ReMINDed, LLC for Social Emotional Learning Curriculum Development. as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES- Veronda, Verrett, Williams, Archie, Berrones, Gathing, and Bohlen. NAYS- none. Motion carried.

4. Approval for Purchase of Chrome Care Warranty for Student Chromebooks.

Action Items

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

Recommended
Expulsion -
#501-001-2025

ReMINDed, LLC for
Social Emotional
Learning Curriculum
Development.

Purchase of Chrome
Care Warranty for

A motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Veronda, to approve the purchase of Chrome Care Warranty for student Chromebooks. as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Williams, Archie, Berrones, Gathing, Veronda, Verrett, and Bohlen. NAYS- none. Motion carried.

Information & Proposals

1. Previous Bill Run
2. Head Start Information
3. FOIA Request

Old Business

Announcements

Adjourn

At 7:59 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 APRIL 14, 2025

Student
Chromebooks.

Information &
Proposals

Old Business

Announcements

Adjourn