

KANKAKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.111
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
September 9, 2024

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The Board of Education meeting of Kankakee School District No. 111, Kankakee County, Illinois, was held at 5:00 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at Mark Twain Primary School 2250 E. Court St., Kankakee, IL 60901.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call

Members Present: Mary Archie
Christopher Bohlen
Jess Gathing, Board Vice President
Deb Johnston
Tracy Verrett

Members Absent: Suzy Berrones, Board Secretary (Absent)
Darrell Williams, (Absent)

A quorum was declared present.

Closed Session

Closed Session

At 5:00 pm, a motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Archie, to adjourn to closed session to discuss:

- ❖ The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors, or specific volunteers of the district, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor, or volunteer of the District or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity.

Meeting with the Board were:

Dr. Teresa A. Lance, Superintendent
Shemeka Fountain, Assistant Superintendent of HR
Harrison Neal, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
Dr. Kelly Gilbert, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum
Rachel Thornton, Recording Secretary

Stephanie Markham from the Daily Journal was present.

Public Hearing

Public Hearing

The public hearing was called to order at 7:02 pm.

Chris Bohlen, the board president, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

FY 2024-2025 Budget Presentation - Mr. Neal presented the budget. He discussed the budget process and the conditions for the budget process.

Pledge

Mr. Ellington-Snipes asked about the R3 money being awarded.

At 7:15 pm, the Public Hearing was adjourned.

Reconvene

The Regular Session was reconvened at 7:16 p.m.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent's
Report

- ❖ Good News

School	Event	Explanation
Edison	Donation	Dr. Gilbert thanked Michelle Hamlyn, who donated several

		boxes of pencils to Edison's students.
Mark Twain	Donation	Dr. Gilbert thanked City Life for donating school supplies for Mark Twain students.
Taft	Donation	Dr. Gilbert thanked Mary Archie for donating several boxes of new school uniforms to Taft students.

- ❖ Instruction
 - Dr. Gilbert discussed last week's school leadership meetings, TNTP, September Goals, and Immunizations.
- ❖ Finance
 - Mr. Neal did not present.
- ❖ Personnel
 - Ms. Fountain discussed Grand Canyon University.

Principal's Report

Dr. Sims welcomed the community, staff, and students and introduced her staff. Dr. Sims discussed Mark Twain's theme this year, building stronger foundations and the key focus areas. Dr. Sims discussed IAR and Star data from last year, 5 Essential Survey data, demographics, attendance rates, 2024-2025 Goals, and discussed highlights.

Principal's Report

Public Comments

Name	Topic
Michaiah Clark	Ms. Clark discussed a meeting regarding her job with the Youth empowerment program. She was paid on the 15th and 30th—funds from the 30th were taken out of her account.
Aaron Clark	Mr. Clark expressed his concerns regarding the Youth Empowerment Programs being gone.
Octavia Smith	Ms. Smith discussed her name not being in the board packet and asked why her name was not in the packet.
Dr. Genevra Walters	Dr. Walters discussed wanting to dismantle rumors about the Youth Empowerment Program and her son..
Luke Shepherd	Mr. Shepherd discussed school safety, the safety road, and the porta potties at the trailers.
Robert Ellington-Snipes	Mr. Ellington-Snipes discussed his concern with the termination of Frank Menzies
Chief Roy Wells	Chief Wells discussed Mr. Menzies contributions to the kids of the district.
Saniyah White	Ms. White asked questions about Youth Empowerment.
Barbara Wells	Mrs. Wells spoke about the Youth Empowerment Program and how cutting the Youth Empowerment Program is disappointing and an outrage. Also asked if we made an effort to get the money.

Public Comments

Consent Agenda

- ❖ The following **Board Minutes** were submitted for approval:
 - Regular Board Minutes August 23, 2024 (Closed & Regular Session)
- ❖ The **Regular Bills** were presented for approval.
- ❖ The **Overnight Field Trip Request** was presented for approval.
- ❖ The following **Personnel Items** were presented for approval.

Consent Agenda
Board Minutes
Regular Bills
Payroll & Regular
Bills

Personnel Items

Name	Position	Effective Date
Resignation (Licensed Educational Professional)		
Aaliyah Henry	Instructor at Avis Huff	September 2, 2024
Kara Johnson	SEL Coach at Steuben	August 16, 2024
Brittany Parsons	Permanent Substitute at KJHS	Never Started
Venus Wisinski	Bilingual Education Teacher at KHS	August 20, 2024
Resignation (Support Personnel)		
Michale Akins	Custodian at KJHS	August 20, 2024
Zion Ali	Broadcasting Support at KHS	August 22, 2024
Kiara Barnes	Family Support Specialist at Proegler	August 28, 2024
Mary Benjamin	Paraprofessional at Proegler	December 20, 2024
Madeline Ingram	Speech Language Pathologist at Avis Huff	September 3, 2024
Daniel Lopez	Food Service Cashier at KHS	August 23, 2024
John Maass	Student Support Services Driver	August 23, 2024
Alison Ortega	Paraprofessional at King	August 15, 2024
Joann Velasquez	Paraprofessional at King	Never Started
Appointment (Licensed Educational Professional)		
Terry Roundtree	Learning Partner	September 10, 2024
Elizabeth Shepherd	Academic Interventionist	September 10, 2024
Appointment (Support Personnel)		
Eboni Bynum	Full-Time Bus Monitor at Bus Depot	August 19, 2024
Francis Falcon Patino	Paraprofessional at Mark Twain	TBD
Amaria Harbour	Paraprofessional at Kennedy	TBD
Nevaeh Hunt	Childcare Worker at Proegler	September 10, 2024
Charmaine Johnson	Full-Time Bus Monitor at Bus Depot	August 19, 2024

Resignation/
Retirement

Appointment

Terri Mephan	Paraprofessional at KHS	September 16, 2024
Tyrone Norsworthy	Full-Time Bus Driver at Bus Depot	August 19, 2024
Heather Sherrill	1:1 Nurse at Proegler	TBD
Shirlene Simpson	Full-Time Bus Monitor at Bus Depot	August 19, 2024
Jason Taylor	Full-Time Bus Monitor at Bus Depot	August 19, 2024
Frank Ward	Student Support Interventionist at KHS	September 10, 2024
Reeshema Welch	Paraprofessional at Kennedy	TBD
Keyandria White	Hub Monitor at KHS	September 10, 2024
LaTasha Zarate	Childcare Worker at Proegler	September 10, 2024
Emmett Zumwalt	HVAC Technician	September 16, 2024
Appointment (Extra Duty Assignment)		
Molina, Andrea	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Roach, Maria	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Junior, Carleen	Head Clerical Non Clerical Support	2024-2025 School Year
Ewing, Ernest	AVIS Paraprofessional Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Nelson, Micheal	AVIS Paraprofessional Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Morris, Keri	AVIS Paraprofessional Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Davis, Lori	Head Clerical Non Clerical Support	2024-2025 School Year
Crowell, Jocelynn	6th Grade Girls Head Basketball Coach	2024-2025 School Year
Lopez, Stacey	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Soto, Luz	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Sterling, Vielka	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Soto, Luz	Head Clerical w/ more than 1 Clerical Support	2024-2025 School Year
Bell, Reginald	6th Grade Boys Head Basketball Coach	2024-2025 School Year
Kropp, Michelle	Fall Play- Pit Orchestra/Production Assistant	2024-2025 School Year
Brittingham, Jenica	Fall Play Assistant Director	2024-2025 School Year
Benoit, Brad	Spring Musical Assistant Director	2024-2025 School Year

Brittingham, Jenica	Spring Musical Director	2024-2025 School Year
Brittingham, Jenica	International Thespian Society Sponsor	2024-2025 School Year
Quinones, Kevin	Assistant Soccer Coach- Boys	2024-2025 School Year
Render, James	Drumline Director	2024-2025 School Year
Grill, Karen	KHS Content Specialist- World Language	2024-2025 School Year
Wyderski, Vanessa	KHS Content Specialist- ELA	2024-2025 School Year
Johnston, Brent	KHS Content Specialist-Science	2024-2025 School Year
Lingo, Shelly	KHS Content Specialist- History	2024-2025 School Year
Benoit, Brad	KHS Content Specialist- Fine Arts	2024-2025 School Year
McCasland, Tara	KHS Content Specialist- Math	2024-2025 School Year
Robertson, Amy	KHS Content Specialist- Advanced Placement Program	2024-2025 School Year
Peters, Kyle	KHS Content Specialist- Physical Education	2024-2025 School Year
Wilkins, Melissa	KHS Content Specialist- Special Education	2024-2025 School Year
Perez, Juana	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Ramirez, Lluvia	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Sanchez, Crystal	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Vinardi, Sarah	Head Clerical w/ more than 1 Clerical Support	2024-2025 School Year
Parnell, LeRoy	Assistant Girls Basketball Coach	2024-2025 School Year
Hollowell, Jodie	K-6 Content Specialist	2024-2025 School Year
Gaytan, Miriam	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Velma, Jan	Head Clerical w/ more than 1 Clerical Support	2024-2025 School Year
Parnell, LeRoy	6th Grade Girls Head Basketball Coach	2024-2025 School Year
Smith, Jasmin	Head Cheerleading Coach- 8th Grade	2024-2025 School Year
Davila, Ronda	KHS Content Specialist- Business	2024-2025 School Year
Hoffman, Christy	KJHS Content Specialist- Math	2024-2025 School Year

Lenfield, Sarah	KJHS Content Specialist- Student Services	2024-2025 School Year
Bretzlaff, Pete	KJHS Content Specialist- Social Studies	2024-2025 School Year
Foster, Shane	KJHS-Content Specialist- English	2024-2025 School Year
Brown, Brandon	KJHS Content Specialist-Physical Education	2024-2025 School Year
Mhkwanazi, Vincent	KJHS-Content Specialist- Science	2024-2025 School Year
Medina, Cristina	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Santos, Karina	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Anderson, Karen	Head Clerical w/ more than 1 Clerical Support	2024-2025 School Year
Stevenson, James	Junior High Head Basketball Coach- 8th Grade Boys	2024-2025 School Year
Brown, Lisa	K-6 Content Specialist	2024-2025 School Year
Santoyo, Alicia	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Chavez, Maria	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Wilson, Aubrey	K-6 Content Specialist	2024-2025 School Year
Wilkins, Jennifer	K-6 Content Specialist	2024-2025 School Year
Hamilton, Jamie	K-6 Content Specialist	2024-2025 School Year
Gregoire, Gena	K-6 Content Specialist	2024-2025 School Year
Hop, Heather	K-6 Content Specialist	2024-2025 School Year
Cole, Renee	K-6 Content Specialist	2024-2025 School Year
Calderon, Maria	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Hatcher, Ruth	Head Clerical w/ more than 1 Clerical Support	2024-2025 School Year
Moreno-Lopez, Diana	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Lopez-Moreno, Diana	Head Clerical Non Clerical Support	2024-2025 School Year
Matthews, Jamie	K-6 Content Specialist	2024-2025 School Year
Wheeler, Ashley	K-6 Content Specialist	2024-2025 School Year
Salgado, Leslie	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year

Crutcher, Tamika	Head Clerical w/ more than 1 Clerical Support	2024-2025 School Year
Reyes, Beatriz	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Diaz, Alexandra	Bilingual Clerical Stipend	2024-2025 School Year
Diaz, Alexandra	Head Clerical Non Clerical Support	2024-2025 School Year
Internal Appointment (Administrative Personnel)		
Stephanie Morgan-Harris	Staff Engagement and Recruitment Coordinator	September 10, 2024
Internal Appointment (Licensed Educational Professional)		
Jennifer Adams	Teacher at Steuben	August 19, 2024
Rosa Camargo Solis	Bilingual Interventionist at Mark Twain & Steuben	August 19, 2024
Portia Castile	2nd Grade Instructor at Edison	August 19, 2024
Jordyn Chapel	5th Grade Instructor at Edison	August 19, 2024
Melissa Denoyer	5th Grade Dual Language Teacher at Kennedy	August 19, 2024
Melissa Guzman	5th Grade Dual Language Teacher at Kennedy	August 19, 2024
Sydnee Hansen	SEL Coach at Mark Twain	August 19, 2024
Jared Harris	Physical Education Instructor at Kennedy	August 19, 2024
Sarah Longtin	ESL Teacher 3rd Grade at Montessori	August 19, 2024
Lisa Mulder	Interventionist/5th Grade Teacher at King & Kennedy	August 19, 2024
Jared Randle	Floating Instructor at Kennedy	August 19, 2024
Latoya Smiter	ELA Instructor/SEL Coach at Kennedy & KHS	August 19, 2024
Jaelah Steele	Instructor at Kennedy	August 19, 2024
Meg Weston	SEL Coach Montessori & Edison	August 19, 2024
Internal Appointment (Support Personnel)		
Torean Castile	Student Safety Interventionist at Kennedy	August 19, 2024
Ernest Ewing	Student Safety Interventionist at Avis Huff	August 19, 2024

Daphne Gutierrez	Interpreter at KJHS & KHS	August 18, 2024
Dan Harris	Part-Time Parent Liaison at KJHS	August 19, 2024
Jason Salter	Student Safety Interventionist at King	August 27, 2024
Kala Scott Calvin	Student Safety Interventionist at Transition Site	August 19, 2024
Delories Spears	Paraprofessional at KJHS	August 21, 2024
Kristen Tolbert	Head Cook at Avis Huff	August 19, 2024
Termination (Licensed Educational Professional)		
Annette Brandy	Instructor at Taft	August 28, 2024
Termination (Support Personnel)		
Lavale Hill Sr	Security Officer	August 28, 2024
Frank Menzies	District Orchestra Director	August 20, 2024

Termination

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

Action Items

1. Approval to Adopt the FY2025 Fiscal Year Budget.

A motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Johnston, to approve the FY 2025 Fiscal Year Budget as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES- Gathing, Johnston, Verrett, Archie, and Bohlen. NAYS- none. Motion carried

2. Approve National Investigations, Inc. to Conduct Residency Checks and Investigations

A motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Johnston, to approve the National Investigators INC. to conduct residency checks and investigations as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES- Gathing, Johnston, Verrett, Archie, and Bohlen. NAYS-none. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Change Order for Community Center.

A motion was made by Gathing seconded by Johnston, to approve the change order for the community center as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Johnston, Verrett, Archie, and Bohlen ABSTAIN: Gathing. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

4. Approve Student and Adult Breakfast and Lunch Prices for 2024-2025 School Year

A motion was made by Gathing seconded by Johnston, to approve the student and adult breakfast and lunch prices for the 2024 -2025 school year as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Verrett, Archie, Gathing, Johnston, and Bohlen. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

5. Approve WIPFLI, LLC to Conduct a Forensic Audit of Finances Supporting Youth Empowerment Program and Other Related Programs.

A motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Johnston, to approve WIPFLI LLC to conduct a forensic audit of finances supporting the Youth Empowerment Program and other related programs. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Gathing, Johnston, Verrett, and Bohlen. ABSTAIN: Archie. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

Action Items
Adopt the FY2025
Fiscal Year Budget.

National
Investigations, Inc.
to Conduct
Residency Checks
and Investigations

Change Order for
Community Center.

Student and Adult
Breakfast and Lunch
Prices for 2024-2025
School Year

WIPFLI, LLC to
Conduct a Forensic
Audit of Finances
Supporting Youth
Empowerment
Program and Other
Related Programs

Fees for Stakeholder
Use of eFunds for
Schools.

6. Approve Fees for Stakeholder Use of eFunds for Schools.

A motion was made by Gathing seconded by Johnston to approve the fees for stakeholders' use of efunds for schools as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Archie, Gathing, Johnston, Verrett, and Bohlen NAYS: none. Motion carried.

Proposals for
Playgrounds and
Improvements at
Proegler, Mark
Twain, and Steuben
Schools

7. Approve Proposals for Playgrounds and Improvements at Proegler, Mark Twain, and Steuben Schools.

A motion was made by Gathing seconded by Johnston, to approve the proposals for playgrounds and improvements at Proegler, Mark Twain, and Steuben schools as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Gathing, Johnston, Verrett, Archie, and Bohlen. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

Notice to Remedy
for Mr. George
Harris.

8. Approval of Notice to Remedy for Mr. George Harris.

A motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Johnston, to table the notice to remedy for George Harris as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Gathing, Johnston, Verrett, Archie, and Bohlen. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

Contract with
Thought Exchange.

9. Approval of Contract with Thought Exchange.

A motion was made by Gathing seconded by Johnston, to approve the contract with Thought Exchange as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Johnston, Verrett, Archie, Gathing, and Bohlen. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

Information &
Proposals

Old Business
Announcements

Information & Proposals

1. Updated 2024-2025 School Calendars
2. FOIA Request

Adjourn

Old Business

Announcements

Adjourn

At 8:21 p.m., a motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Johnston, to adjourn the meeting—all ayes; motion carried.

SIGNED: _____
Christopher Bohlen, President

ATTEST: _____
Suzy Berrones, Secretary

APPROVED SEPTEMBER 23, 2024