

**KANKAKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 111  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
January 9, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Kankakee School District No. 111, Kankakee County, Illinois, was held at 5:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria at Kankakee High School, 1200 West Jeffery, Kankakee, Illinois.

**ROLL CALL**

Members present: John Coghlan  
Karen Johnston, President  
Joseph Lightfoot  
Angela Shea

Members absent: Amelia Davis, Vice President (\*entered at 5:56 PM)  
Jess Gathing, (\*entered at 5:34 PM)  
Barbara Wells (\*entered at 5:36 PM)

A quorum was declared present.

**Closed Session**

At 5:30 p.m., motion was made by Lightfoot, seconded by Coghlan, to adjourn to the Library for closed session to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Coghlan, Lightfoot, Shea, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The closed session was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

At 7:00 p.m. the regular session was reconvened.

Meeting with the Board were:

Dr. Geneva A. Walters, Superintendent  
Robert Grossi, Assistant Superintendent  
Felice Hybert, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Kathleen O'Connor, Assistant Superintendent  
Vicki Scott, Recording Secretary

There were no news media reporters present.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Illinois State Scholars from Kankakee High School.

**Superintendent's Report**

The following information was reported:

**1. Illinois State Scholars**

Mr. George Harris introduced the Illinois State Scholars and their parents. Board President, Karen Johnston, and Superintendent Walters presented Certificates of Excellence to the following Kankakee High School Illinois State Scholars:

- Shakari Cunningham
- Alyssa Olszewski
- Zachary Runner
- Jay Volkmann
- Diane Wei

Roll  
Call

Closed  
Session

Reconvene

Pledge

Superintendent's  
Report

State Scholars

**2. Good News**Good  
News

School	Name	Explanation
Steuben	Honor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, Alderman Stacy Gall and Alderman Michael O'Brien from the City of Kankakee presented Steuben with a United States of America Flag. The flag was flown over the United States Capitol Building on June 7, 2016, on behalf of the students and faculty at Steuben. This was made possible through the request of the Honorable Robin L. Kelly, member of Congress. This is a great honor and will be flown with the same distinction at Steuben.</li> </ul>
Avis Huff	Project Next Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avis Huff had five students participate in the Project Next Generation Program at the Kankakee Public Library during first semester. This program included mentoring, technology training, and academic enrichment designed to foster civic awareness of the military obligations of U.S. citizens. The students met with local veterans with National Association of Black Veterans Pembroke Chapter #0084 and other veterans to learn of their experiences in the military and during war. The students developed empathy for the emotional, physical, and financial impact that resulted for the veterans and their families. Project Next Generation also fosters an appreciation for the service of military veterans in the defense of our great country.</li> <li>Two of the IMPACT/CIPS students have been invited to participate in a paid student mentor position with Project Next Generation for the winter session.</li> <li>The Homeless Coordinator, Dr. Cynthia Levy, and the staff at Avis Huff distributed over 100 bags of hats, gloves, and personal hygiene items during the month of December to some of District #111's students that are registered as homeless.</li> </ul>
KJHS	Donation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Kankakee Junior High School thanked the Kankakee Federation of Labor for their generous donation of hats, gloves, and scarves they provided for their students.</li> </ul>

**3. State of the District – Mid-Year Update**

Mid-Year Update

Dr. Walters presented a mid-year update which included the following:

- Mission Statement – Kankakee School District 111 will celebrate the unique diversity our students possess while providing visionary educational opportunities.
- Vision Statement – Kankakee School District 111 will be recognized as being progressive, innovative and creative. We work together to build ONE community with strong partnerships. We are ONE district committed to increasing student achievement. We have ONE vision of producing globally productive citizens. We do this for the diverse needs of ALL children.
- Reviewed Kankakee School District's Strategic Plan
- Compared PARCC data from 2015 and 2016
- Presented the percentage of 8<sup>th</sup> graders passing algebra I in 2015 and 2016
- Reviewed the percentage of graduating seniors enrolling in a 2 or 4 year college within 12-16 months
- Showed the graduating class of 2014 remediation rates in community colleges
- Reviewed the advanced placement class offerings and the dual credit and early college program
- Stated that Kankakee School District staff has attended 9,381.5 hours of professional development and has issued 7,237 CPDUs during that same time frame
- The financial update included: 2017 budget projects \$700,000 surplus outside of capital projects, the district has spent \$682,00 less in salaries & benefits in 2017 vs. 2016, State of Illinois is about 5% behind (\$1,750,000) in its payments vs. its 2016 payment rate, and the

district has spent \$572,000 towards capital projects year-to-date.

- Reviewed the three strategic goals
- Shared the first semester business/community partnerships

Dr. Walters concluded her presentation by stating that the goal is to see an increase in our percentage of students who are successful over time. The District hopes to increase student engagement in classrooms and start to see a steady increase in performance over all grade levels.

#### **Principal's Report** – George Harris, Principal at KHS

Mr. Harris stated that Kankakee High School has made a lot of accomplishments this year. They have been changing mindsets at Kankakee High School. He said they met with the Center for School Improvement and they helped develop a School Improvement Plan.

- 90% on track to graduate
- 95% will attend on time for each class period
- Decrease ODR's by 25%
- Communication Protocols

He reported that the high school has the following consultants working with them this year and they have helped tremendously in their journey: EDUSights – Nancy Berkas, PE Consultant – Dr. Lambert, ICLE – Dr. Joe Graham, Freshman Academy – Karen C. Brown, and CSI – Lynn Carter and Christie Brinkley.

Kellie English, Assistant Principal, spoke on Bridging the Gap and Lead Higher AP. Tammy Williams, Assistant Principal, reviewed the number of offenses/referrals through 68 days 2015-16 vs. 2016-17. Mr. Harris reported on the percentage of students on track and Mr. de Oliveira, Assistant Principal, spoke on the academic supports offered to keep students on track for graduation. Mr. Butler, Freshman Academy Coordinator, spoke on the Freshman Academy and recognized the freshman teachers that were in attendance. Mr. Ronnie Wilcox, director of athletics and activities was introduced and spoke on athletics and their accomplishments.

Mr. Harris concluded his presentation with the introductions of the Kankakee High School staff.

#### **Public Comments**

The following public comments were made.

Name	Topic
Carl Moran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stated that he came before the Board two years ago regarding the LGBT Club gaining access to our school system using taxpayers funding. He stated this is still not right. He also spoke regarding Mr. Kinzinger and the fact that he is being punished for remarks he may have said in his classrooms. He asked the question of what weight is given to either side when those of you here who issued his punishment, which also includes the threat of loss of his job, were present to verify the validity of his accusers. He stated he was not here to defend Daron, but to find out where the moral compass is pointed, up or down.</li> </ul>
Steve Hunter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gave kudos to District 111 staff and Board members for great leadership and for the positive things happening in the district. Also spoke in terms of what has been transpiring regarding the KVPD. He stated there is a thing called intergovernmental cooperation and said there is a possibility that the district will be interfacing with the park district. The KVPD and KSD have one mission and that is dealing with kids. He said that he hopes the Board will do the right thing of interfacing with KVPD.</li> </ul>

Principal's  
Report

Public  
Comments

**Consent Agenda**

The following items were presented:

1. The following Board minutes were presented for approval:
  - **December 12, 2016 (Regular & Executive Session Minutes)**
  - **December 15, 2016 (Regular Session)**
2. The Payroll and Related Bills were presented for approval. (See Insert A.)
3. The Regular Bills were presented for approval. (See Insert B.)
4. The Head Start Policy Council Documents were presented for approval.
5. The following personnel items were presented for approval:

Staff Member	Position	Effective Date
Resignation/Retirement-Licensed Educational Professionals		
Catherine Bonzani	Business Teacher at KHS	December 21, 2016
Rebecca McBroom	Director, Head Start Program at Proegler	June 30, 2017
Appointments-Licensed Educational Professionals		
Beverly Diedrich	Special Education Consultant at Avis Huff	January 10, 2017
Lauren Ratliff	Physical Education Teacher at Kennedy	January 3, 2017
Viodelda Judkins	Migrant Teacher/After School Tutoring at King	January-April, 2017
Appointments-Support Personnel		
Charlene Haisma	Paraprofessional at Mark Twain	January 10, 2017
Lynn Zugenbuehler	Human Resources Coordinator at LCC	January 25, 2017
Coraly Garay-Salgado	Payroll Secretary at LCC	TBD
Appointments-Administrative Personnel		
Jennifer Way	Director of District Improvement at LCC	July 1, 2017
Larry Gray, Ed.D.	Principal at KJHS	July 1, 2017
Appointments-Extra-Duty Personnel		
Jacob Niemann	Assistant Coach, Varsity Baseball at KHS (Revised)	January 9, 2017
Thomas Stanfield	Assistant Coach, Varsity Baseball at KHS	January 9, 2017
Joshua Lindstrom	Assistant Coach, Sophomore Baseball at KHS	January 9, 2017
Brian Manering	Head Coach, Baseball at KHS	January 9, 2017
Leave of Absences-Support Personnel		
Michele Dandurand	Assistant Physical Therapist at Avis Huff	12/15/16 – 01/16/17
Kaitlin Walters	Library Paraprofessional at KJHS	01/16/17 – 5/31/17

Motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Coghlan, to approve the above listed consent agenda items as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Coghlan, Davis, Gathing, Lightfoot, Shea, Wells, and Johnston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

No old business was discussed.

**Information and Proposals**

The following items were provided for information:

1. Personnel Transfer (Administrative Personnel)
  - Charles Hensley to Principal at Montessori/Magnet effective July 1, 2017
2. Board of Education Policy Manual Change – 4:30-Revenue and Investments (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)
3. Head Start Policy Council Information
4. FOIA Requests/Responses
5. Budget Update
6. State & Federal Revenue Report
7. Staff Absence Report

Consent  
AgendaBoard  
Minutes

Bills

Head Start

Personnel

Resignations/  
Retirements

Appointments

Leaves of  
AbsencesOld  
Business

Information

Transfer  
Policy Change  
Head Start  
FOIA  
Budget Update  
Financial Reports  
Staff Absences  
Suspension Data

8. December Suspension Data

At 7:47 p.m. motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Lightfoot, to adjourn the meeting. All ayes; motion carried.

Adjourn

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Johnston, President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara A. Wells, Secretary

vs

**Approved: February 13, 2017**