

**KANKAKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.111**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**  
**July 22, 2024**

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The Board of Education meeting of Kankakee School District No. 111, Kankakee County, Illinois, was held at 6:01 p.m. in the cafeteria at Kankakee High School, 1200 W Jeffery St., Kankakee, IL 60901.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll Call

Members Present: Mary Archie  
Suzy Berrones, Board Secretary  
Chris Bohlen, Board President  
Jess Gathing, Board Vice President  
Deb Johnston

Members Absent: Tracy Verrett (entered at 6:09 pm)  
Darrell Williams ( entered at 6:12 pm)

A quorum was declared present.

Closed Session

**Closed Session**

At 6:01 pm, a motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Johnston, 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.

Reconvene

The Regular Session was reconvened at 6:59 p.m.

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

Pledge

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.

**Superintendent's Report**

- ❖ Good News

Superintendent's  
Report

School	Event	Explanation
Early Childhood	Donation	Early Childhood thanked the Bourbonnais Friendship Festival for the \$1000.00 donation.
All	Extended School Year (ESY)	The 2024 Extended School Year (ESY) services were strong this summer and included almost 80 students. Kudos to the staff for their strength and commitment throughout the first part of the summer!
KHS/Girls Flag Football	Donation	KHS thanked the Chicago Bears for donating \$2500.00 to help start the Girls Flag Football Team.

- ❖ Instruction
  - Dr. Gilbert updated the board on registration and registration numbers and also discussed the district-wide open house on Monday, August 26th.
- ❖ Finance
  - Mr. Neal discussed the up-to-date budget.
- ❖ Personnel
  - Ms. Fountain discussed open positions throughout the district.

Dr. Lance discussed the leadership team and the training they went through.

#### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

#### **Consent Agenda**

- ❖ The following **Board Minutes** were submitted for approval:
  - Regular Board Minutes July 8, 2024 (Closed & Regular Session)
- ❖ The **Regular Bills** were presented for approval.
- ❖ The **Donations** were presented for approval.
- ❖ The **Head Start Policy Council Information** was presented for approval.
- ❖ The following **Personnel Items** were presented for approval.

Name	Position	Effective Date
<b>Resignation (Support Personnel)</b>		
Dylan Gutierrez Gomez	Paraprofessional at KJHS	July 1, 2024
<b>Appointment (Licensed Educational Professional)</b>		
Jennifer Adams	Kindergarten Teacher at Taft	August 19, 2024
Greg Blanchette	Permanent Substitute at KHS	August 19, 2024
Sarah Ganster	Spanish Teacher at KHS	August 19, 2024
Tia Gunby	English Instructor at KHS	August 19, 2024
Michelle Koler	English Teacher at KHS	August 19, 2024
Josephine Lafi	Academic Interventionist at Edison	August 19, 2024
Theresa Lindstrom	Proegler School PFA Teacher	August 19, 2024
Shelby Meentz	Special Education Instructor	August 19, 2024
Talyn Robertson	Science Instructor at KJHS	August 19, 2024
Amanda Sandy	6th Grade Instructor at King	August 19, 2024
Marla Styck	Special Education Co-Teacher at KHS	August 19, 2024
<b>Appointment (Support Personnel)</b>		
Stephanie Ambrose	Lunch Room Monitor at King	August 19, 2024
Raymond Harris	Groundsman	July 23, 2024

Public Comments

Consent Agenda  
Board Minutes

Payroll & Regular Bills  
Regular Bills  
Donations  
Head Start Policy  
Council  
Personnel Items

Resignation/Retirement

Appointment

Valnika King	Cafeteria Helper at Steuben	August 19, 2024
Emily Klaczynski	Head Start Paraprofessional	August 19, 2024
Mireya Leal-Resendiz	Bilingual Paraprofessional at Steuben	August 19, 2024
Jada Lockett-Bonds	PFA Paraprofessional at Mark Twain	August 19, 2024
Gisela Morales-Ayala	Head Start Paraprofessional	August 19, 2024
Grace Pagliaro	Paraprofessional at Montessori	August 19, 2024
Maria Toledo	Paraprofessional at Steuben	August 19, 2024
<b>Appointment (Extra Duty Assignment)</b>		
Mayra Campos	Hispanic Heritage Celebration Director	2024-2025 School Year
Deisi Rodriguez	Hispanic Heritage Celebration Director	2024-2025 School Year
<b>Internal Appointment ( Licensed Educational Professional)</b>		
Jennifer Carroll	Full-Time Special Education Teacher	August 19, 2024
<b>Internal Appointment (Support Personnel)</b>		
Sonji Borders-Baptist	Night Lead Custodian	July 1, 2024
Catalina Chaca-Gonzalez	Full-Time Paraprofessional	August 19, 2024
Araceli Fajardo	Cook at LCC	August 19, 2024
Angela Garcia	Head Start Teacher	August 19, 2024
Bernice Salinas	Cook at Taft	August 19, 2024
Chaquita Taylor	Cook at KHS	August 19, 2024
<b>Leave of Absence (Support Personnel)</b>		
Taylor Huff	Childcare Worker	June 3, 2024-July 13, 2024
<b>Termination (Licensed Educational Professional)</b>		
Kathleen Sanzotta	Permanent Substitute	June 3, 2024

Leave of absence

Termination

A motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Williams, to amend the consent agenda, change Greg Blanchette to a Social Studies Instructor, and approve it as amended. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Archie, Berrones, Gathing, Johnston, Verrett, Williams and Bohlen. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

#### Action Items

1. Approval of a contract with Molly Lovell, Speech Pathologist.
2. Approval of contract with Theresa Jackson, Board Certified Behavior Analyst.
3. Approval of Contract with Charles Parsons, Psychologist.

A motion was made by Gathing and seconded by Berrones to approve action items 1, 2, and 3 at the same time, the Contracts with Molly Lovell, Speech Pathologist Theresa Jackson, Board Certified Behavior Analyst & Charles Parsons,

Action Items  
Contracts with  
Molly Lovell,  
Theresa Jackson  
Charles Parsons.

Psychologist, as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Berrones, Gathing, Johnston, Verrett, Williams, Archie, and Bohlen. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Resolution for Spending Until Authorization of Annual Budget.

A motion was made by Gathing and seconded by Williams to approve the Resolution for Spending Until Authorization of Annual Budget as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Gathing, Johnston, Verrett, Williams, Archie, Berrones, and Bohlen. NAYS: none. Motion carried

5. Approval of Resolution for Authorization to Develop the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2025

A motion was made by Gathing and seconded by Johnston to approve the Resolution for Authorization to Develop the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2025 as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Johnston, Verrett, Williams, Archie, Berrones, Gathing, and Bohlen. NAYS: none. Motion carried

6. Approval of the Public Hearing Date for the FY 2024-2025 Annual Budget for September 9, 2024.

A motion was made by Gathing and seconded by Johnston to approve the Public Hearing Date for the FY 2024-2025 Annual Budget for September 9, 2024, as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Verrett, Williams, Archie, Berrones, Gathing, Johnston, and Bohlen. NAYS: none. Motion carried

**Information & Proposals**

1. Previous Bill Run
2. June 2024 Monthly Report
3. June 2024 Statement of Revenues & Expenses
4. June 2024 Cash & Investment Report

**Old Business**

**Adjourn**

At 7:22 p.m., a motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Archie, to adjourn the meeting—all ayes; motion carried.

SIGNED:

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Christopher Bohlen, President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Suzy Berrones, Secretary

**APPROVED AUGUST 12, 202**

Resolution for  
Spending Until  
Authorization of Annual  
Budget.

Resolution for  
Authorization to  
Develop the Tentative  
Budget for Fiscal Year  
2025

Public Hearing Date for  
the FY 2024-2025  
Annual Budget for  
September 9, 2024.

Information &  
Proposals

Old Business

Adjourn