



**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF  
KENILWORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
THE 23<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF MAY 2019**

The meeting was called to order by President Evan Lukasik at 5:05 p.m. Upon roll call, the following board members answered as being present: Mr. Evan Lukasik, Mr. John Gottschall, Mrs. Suzanne Nelson, Mr. Andrew Stone and Dr. Lisa Metzger Mugg, and Mrs. Mia Sachs was absent.

Mr. Lukasik called for a motion to go into closed session to consider information related to specific employee matters.

*Mr. John Gottschall moved to go into closed session to consider information related to specific employee matters. Mr. Andrew Stone seconded the motion.*

**Roll Call:**

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Mr. Evan Lukasik			
Mr. Andrew Stone			
Mrs. Suzanne Nelson			
Dr. Lisa Metzger Mugg			
Mr. John Gottschall			
			Mrs. Mia Casey Sachs

The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0 with two members absent.

The Board entered closed session at 5:06 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:41 p.m.

Upon roll call, the following board members answered as being present: Mr. Evan Lukasik, Mr. John Gottschall, Mrs. Suzanne Nelson, Dr. Lisa Metzger Mugg and Mr. Andrew Stone. Mrs. Mia Sachs was absent.

Also in attendance were:

- Dr. Crystal LeRoy, Superintendent/CSBO
- Dr. Lisa Leali, Chief Education Officer
- Ms. Zuica Donev, Director of Student Services
- Dr. LeViis Haney, Principal
- Mr. Chike Erokwu, Board Secretary

Community: Mrs. Angela Lascola, Mrs. Kim Goff, Mrs. Bernadette Slovitt, Mrs. Jennifer Arra, Mr. Patrick Brennan, Mrs. Toulia Sideris, Mrs. Judi Conaghan, Mrs. Laura Romisher, Mrs. Beth Beeler, Mr. Luke Xue, Ms. Hillary Kallop, Mrs. Sarah Halack, Ms. Allison Dempsey, Mrs. Julie Ruck, Mrs. Cathleen Sheridan, Mrs. Katie Nahrwold, Ms. Marjorie Bransfield, Mr. Jack Kelly, Mrs. M'Liz Simonds, Mrs. Katie White, Mr. Chris Jerome and Mr. Chad Emigholz.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**



Mr. Evan Lukasik invited public comment.

Mrs. Julie Ruck (541 Kenilworth Ave.) noted that she would like to address the Board as a parent of a child enrolled in the District. Mrs. Ruck recommended the Board review the exit interview from Mrs. Kendra Wallace to better understand the circumstances surrounding the principal position at Sears.

Mrs. Marjorie Bransfield (748 McClain Ave.) thanked the Board members for their service to the District. Mrs. Bransfield noted she believes the District has a systemic dysfunction and needs leadership change. Mrs. Bransfield encouraged the Board to consider bringing back Mrs. Wallace as principal.

Mr. Chris Jerome (561 Kenilworth Ave.) questioned how the District arrived at a position where a principal with strong credentials is leaving the District. Mr. Jerome thanked Dr. Haney for his time at Sears. Mr. Jerome noted there is a pattern of administrative turnover that must be addressed.

Mrs. Katie White inquired as to how vacation days are tracked in relation to the payout and carryover of administrative vacation days.

### **FINANCIAL**

Kenilworth Village Manager Mr. Patrick Brennan gave a presentation discussing the potential creation of a Kenilworth Tax Increment Financing District. Mr. Brennan discussed the potential economic impact of a TIF district as well as the effect that the TIF District could have on Kenilworth School District No. 38. Mr. Brennan noted that the Village will consider ordinances related to the TIF at the June and July board meetings.

Board members discussed the TIF, potential uses for TIF generated funds and the difference between a referendum and a TIF. The Board did not collectively support or challenge the idea of a TIF.

### **BOARD GOVERNANCE**

Mr. Lukasik led a board discussion on options for determining the Board's committee structure. After discussion, board members indicated they would look to return to the formal committee structure with 2-4 board members serving on the following committees: Communications/Policy, Building and Finance, Education and Personnel. Board members discussed potentially separating the Communications/Policy committee into two separate committees. Board members discussed the importance of remaining disciplined with how committees are structured. Mr. Lukasik will solicit additional committee interest from individual board members and attempt to have committee assignments finalized by the end of next week.

### **EDUCATIONAL**

Dr. Leali led a discussion on the Educational Delivery Audit Action Plan. Board members questioned the ability of the Administration to complete the action plan tasks given the anticipated onboarding of a new principal. Board members discussed the measurements for various action plan items.

The Administrative Cabinet will present section 2 of the action plan at the June board meeting.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**Freedom of Information Act Requests** – Dr. LeRoy noted that the District received one FOIA Request since last meeting, which was processed and responded to in a timely manner.



**Report from the Superintendent** – Dr. LeRoy briefly reviewed the District’s wellness initiatives and thanked the District wellness committee members for their support throughout the year.

**CSBO’s Report** – Dr. LeRoy fielded questions on the monthly financial and investment reports. Dr. LeRoy noted that debt service payments fell between fiscal years which resulted in an over budget line item for debt for the 2019 fiscal year. During discussion, Dr. LeRoy noted that the District has taken on the expense of paying for field trips; field trips had previously been paid for by the JSSPVA.

Dr. LeRoy gave an update on the District’s Master Facilities Plan. Dr. LeRoy noted that the District has begun preliminary discussions on learning communities. Dr. LeRoy discussed the District’s facilities plans in relation to the potential new Village House Project.

**Principal’s Report** – Dr. Haney noted that the Discipline and Ethics Committee met this month to review and discuss District policies. Additional language around the term bullying will be presented for inclusion in District policy in the coming month.

**Chief Education Officer’s Report** – Dr. Leali noted that Township public officials have formed a coalition to discuss issues in the Township with respect to how children can make healthy choices.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Lukasik noted that the Consent Agenda contains an item related to the acceptance of employee resignations. Mr. Lukasik noted that Dr. Haney has submitted his resignation. Mr. Lukasik noted the Board only recently received Dr. Haney’s resignation and will not immediately have a decision made with regard to how to fill the position. Mr. Lukasik noted that the Board is fully committed to transparency as they go through the process of filling the vacancy. Mr. Lukasik invited a board discussion on the subject.

Dr. LeRoy noted that the Board could look internally to fill the position, conduct a full search for an interim or full-time principal or utilize contracted teams of retired principals to fill the principal vacancy in the interim.

Dr. LeRoy highlighted the pros and cons of each option. Dr. LeRoy recommended the Board utilize an internal interim principal candidate due to the timing of the search with respect to the professional hiring cycle of principal candidates. Dr. LeRoy noted the Board would need to select a candidate immediately should they hope to have a principal in place by July.

Board members discussed the options for filling the vacancy. The Board did not make a decision on how to proceed; a personnel committee meeting will be scheduled to further discuss next steps on filling the principal vacancy.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Lukasik called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

*Mr. John Gottschall moved to approve the Consent Agenda to include the approval of: minutes from the April 30, 2019 Reorganizational Meeting, minutes from the May 2, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting and closed session, minutes from the May 15, 2019 Special Meeting and closed session, monthly financial report for April 2019, investment report for April 2019, accounts payable for April 16, 2019 to May 23, 2019, acceptance of employee resignations.*

Mr. Andrew Stone seconded the motion.



Roll Call:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Mr. Evan Lukasik			
Mr. Andrew Stone			
Mrs. Suzanne Nelson			
Dr. Lisa Metzger Mugg			
Mr. John Gottschall			

Mrs. Mia Casey Sachs

The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0 with one member absent.

Dr. LeRoy noted that the consent agenda includes the resignation of Mr. Chike Erokwu as Communication Coordinator. Dr. LeRoy commended Mr. Erokwu for the job he has done in his position over the years and thanked him for his service to the District.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Discussion of and Potential Approval of FMLA Request for 1.0 FTE Non-Certified Staff –**

*Mrs. Suzanne Nelson moved to approve the FMLA Request for 1.0 FTE Non-Certified Staff. Mr. John Gottschall seconded the motion.*

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Mr. Evan Lukasik			
Mr. Andrew Stone			
Mrs. Suzanne Nelson			
Dr. Lisa Metzger Mugg			
Mr. John Gottschall			

Mrs. Mia Casey Sachs

The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0 with one member absent.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Village House Update** – Mr. Gottschall summarized the Village House project and gave an update on Village House fundraising to this point. Approximately \$1.7 million has been raised through public and private donations through May 2019. An additional \$2.8 million needs to be raised in order to secure the amount needed to move the project forward. Mr. Gottschall noted he has spoken to Village House fundraising chairs – Mr. Scott Wallace and Mrs. Mindy Kelly – and they have informed him that they are certain they can raise the required money. Mr. Gottschall asked the Board to consider backstopping the remaining \$2.8 million in order to move forward with the project in a timely manner.

Dr. LeRoy discussed the benefits of the Village House to the school, noting the building could be used for additional conference space, a lunchroom solution and a practice gymnasium among other uses.

Board members discussed the idea of committing an additional \$2.8 million to the project in upfront costs. Dr. LeRoy inquired as to what would happen should the District fund the additional community portion and the fundraising chairs are unable to come up with the additional donations. Board members discussed the District’s financial commitment to the project, noting the District is already funding upfront expenses and fees on top of the commitment in lease payments.



**Discussion of Board Member Vacancy** – Mr. Lukasik noted the Board has asked the KCAC to recommend a candidate for consideration to fill the seat vacated by Mrs. Melissa Ross. Mr. Lukasik encouraged interested applicants to learn about the position by visiting the KCAC website. The deadline for applicants is May 31.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Discussion of and Potential Approval to Carry Over/Pay Out Vacation Days from the 2018-2019 school year for Ms. Zuica Donev, Dr. Lisa Leali and Dr. Crystal LeRoy** – Dr. LeRoy noted that the District uses a standardized absence recording system that is common to area school districts. Dr. LeRoy stated she is unaware of anyone misusing the absence system. Dr. LeRoy noted that administrators generally coordinate absences to ensure administrative presence at the school each day. Absences can be entered for a variety of reasons including off-site meetings, professional development, sick days and vacation days.

Board members encouraged administrators to use vacation days in keeping with the District’s wellness initiatives.

*Mr. Andrew Stone moved to approve carry over/pay out of vacation days from the 2018-2019 school year for Ms. Zuica Donev, Dr. Lisa Leali and Dr. Crystal LeRoy as discussed in closed session. Mrs. Suzanne Nelson seconded the motion.*

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Mr. Evan Lukasik			
Mr. Andrew Stone			
Mrs. Suzanne Nelson			
Dr. Lisa Metzger Mugg			
Mr. John Gottschall			
			Mrs. Mia Casey Sachs

The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0 with one member absent.

**Discussion of and Potential Acceptance of Retirement Request for 1.0 FTE Non-Certified Staff** – Dr. LeRoy noted that a previously approved resignation has been requested to be changed to a retirement request.

*Mr. John Gottschall moved to approve a retirement request for a 1.0 FTE non-certified staff member. Mrs. Suzanne Nelson seconded the motion.*

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Mr. Evan Lukasik			
Mr. Andrew Stone			
Mrs. Suzanne Nelson			
Dr. Lisa Metzger Mugg			
Mr. John Gottschall			
			Mrs. Mia Casey Sachs

The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0 with one member absent.



**Discussion of School Consolidation Legislation** – Dr. LeRoy noted that there are significantly more school districts in Illinois when compared to other states. Illinois lawmakers are considering legislation that could potentially result in local municipalities voting on whether to consolidate school districts. Mr. Stone noted he believes the District should register opposition to legislation in the form of a letter. Board members agreed with the statement and asked Dr. LeRoy to join similarly sized districts in voicing opposition to the legislation.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Lukasik invited public comment.

Mr. Jack Kelly (627 Park Drive) thanked Dr. Haney for the job he has done as principal of The Joseph Sears School. Mr. Kelly asked the Board to remain transparent in communicating their plan for the principal search. Mr. Kelly also asked the Board to follow through with whatever plan they decide on. Mr. Kelly noted he believes the school is thriving, but needs to address the issue of administrative turnover. Mr. Kelly further inquired about the consolidation process and whether the District has any say in consolidation based on its size in relation to other school districts.

Mr. Chad Emigholz (417 Cumnor Road) inquired as to the contributions related to the Village House project.

**ADJOURN**

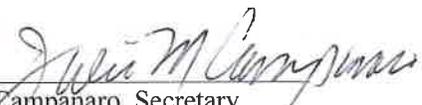
There being no further business, Mr. Lukasik entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

*Mrs. Suzanne Nelson moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Lisa Metzger Mugg seconded the motion.*

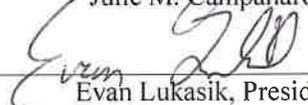
The motion carried with all yeases.

The Board adjourned at 10:29 p.m.

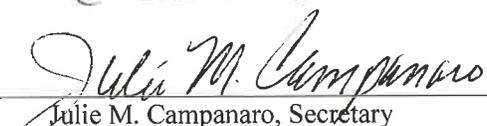
Attest for Distribution: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Julie M. Campanaro, Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Evan Lukasik, President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Julie M. Campanaro, Secretary