



**THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
KENILWORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 38, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
THE 21ST DAY OF JUNE 2021**

President, Mr. Evan Lukasik, called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. Upon Roll Call, the following Board members answered as being present: Mr. Paul Anderson, Mr. Bill Graham, Mrs. Mia Casey Sachs, Mr. Ashish Kaura, and Mr. Evan Lukasik.

Dr. Lisa Metzger-Mugg and Mr. Stephen N. Potter were absent.

Also present were Ms. Kate Donegan, Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Bailey, Business Manager, Dr. Stephanie Helfand, Principal, Mr. Martin Heffner, Assistant Principal and Mrs. Julie M. Campanaro, Recording Secretary.

Also present were faculty and staff members, Mrs. Anne Trueman, Mrs. Toula Sideris, Ms. Angela Lascola, Mrs. Deb Keegan, and Mrs. Emily Hayden. Present also were representatives from DLA, Mr. Steve Wright, Ms. Tracey Biederstadt, and Ms. Heather Juhl. Mr. Jack Hayes from Frederick Quinn was also present.

Mr. Lukasik began the meeting with a statement highlighting aspects of the school year including the accomplishment of finishing the school year teaching in person and maintaining many of the traditions treasured by the community. He recognized the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders in this accomplishment. He took a moment to recognize the *Panther Pride* honorees for the third trimester, and welcomed public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Lukasik invited public comment. There was no public comment.

FINANCIAL

Dr. Bailey asked the Board to authorize payment of bills for June and July between this Board meeting and the next scheduled in August in order to pay the bills in a timely fashion.

Mr. Lukasik inquired if there was any Board member opposed to authorize this payment of bills after Mr. Ashish Kaura has reviewed them. There were no objections and Dr. Bailey was so directed.

NEW BUSINESS

RESPONSIBILITY, KINDNESS, HONESTY, RESPECT



Discussion and Approval for Design Development Based on the Schematic Design and Associated Budget.

Mr. Lukasik invited the representatives from DLA Architects to present their newest renderings of the design plan. Ms. Heather Juhl reviewed several slides highlighting updates and changes to the design since the last Board meeting highlighting the changes driven by comments and suggestions made by the Board. The renderings featured items like gender-neutral restrooms, accessibility, and durability of furnishings and other design elements and materials. She responded affirmatively that the renderings do show the repositioning of the basketball hoops. Ms. Biederstadt and Ms. Juhl assured the Board that the designs meet all of the requirements of universal design and are fully accessible. Ms. Juhl highlighted progress on the design for the Library Technology Center (LTC), learning stairs and green wall. The LTC design allows multiple ways to utilize the space and the two-way display cases will display the MAC museum curated over time. Aspects of the design of the lower level will support STEM learning and DLA is still looking at different materials and floor patterns for the cafenasium.

Mr. Jack Hayes addressed the budget of the schematic design. The budget now is at \$16,623,645. The schematic designs show what it will look like artistically but it does not represent the structural aspect of actually building and renovating. Other factors will come into play from civil structural mechanical electrical and start to put in more realistic and substantive costs. Mr. Hayes reported that it was discovered, since the development of the schematic design budget, some additional information from the village, with regard to what they will require for the water main. The Village is requiring pulling off from the main near Ivy court instead of the southwest corner of the building. This was unexpected and will require more excavation more piping or site restoration and consequently higher costs. The Board will have to make decisions on other alternative features such as installing an elevator in the addition. The next round of budgeting will be done in late July or early August and it is during this time that these final key decisions will be made. Unknowns like labor and materials costs will be clearer and these decisions will lead to bidding in December and contracts awarded in spring 2022. Between now and then, the Board will need to determine wish lists, and “must haves” and further meetings with groups like sustainability and DEB will have to be held. The Board will need to establish processes for this decision-making.

Mr. Lukasik thanked Mr. Hayes and the DLA representatives for the work done to date and welcomed further collaboration as the construction project moves forward.

CORRESPONDANCE

Ms. Donegan told the Board there had been only one Freedom of Information request made since the last Board meeting from the Illinois Education Association concerning salary schedules and job descriptions for positions the district does not have and responded to accordingly.



INFORMATION ITEMS

Superintendent's Report

Ms. Kate Donegan gave a presentation on student assessment data. She said it was her belief that assessments should provide useful information, which is reported out to parents and then responded to appropriately. She started with discussing AIMSWeb data, which though used beyond second grade, is used as the district's primary source of information for kindergarten through second grade because these grade levels do not take MAP. Ms. Donegan next reviewed MAP data for the other grade levels through eighth grade in her presentation. The Board asked Ms. Donegan what her conclusion was from the data presented. She said that when reviewing data we look at both the achievement percentiles of our students and our target growth. The district still needs additional data points to determine target goals. The district needs to know where we are before we can determine where we want to go. When asked, the Board was told that high achieving districts would have 70% of their students making target growth. This target was missed in some grade levels and subject areas. Her overall conclusion from the data presented was that there appeared to be a drop in some areas and this data did not compare well with other school districts'. This will be watched closely and collaboratively to consider the best approach to improvement. She stated that the past school year was a hard year and not reflective of the norm. She cited the fact that the teachers were not able to provide normal interventions and remote learning presented some additional obstacles as well. She did not want the school to make big changes based on two years of data with one of those years being an anomaly. She would like another year of data in order to make any major recommendations.

Mr. Lukasik thanked her for her presentation.

Business Manager's Report

Dr. Bailey referred the Board to details in his report.

He gave a presentation on the FY22 Budget. The Board was hopeful to have seen more current expenditure information in the budget at this point in the school year and asked Dr. Bailey to include this in his next presentation. The tentative budget will be presented in August and presented for approval after a public hearing, in September.

Dr. Bailey next led a discussion of legislation to make taxing districts whole for property tax refunds. In his discussion, he referred to information sent to the district from legal counsel. If signed by the Governor, it automatically increases taxing district levies to make taxing districts whole for all refunds that result from Property Tax Appeal Board ("PTAB") reductions, Circuit Court Orders in assessment cases, and Certificates of Error resulting from assessment mistakes. This relieves the burden of lost revenue budgeted for staffing, services, and supplies lost to taxpayers that appeal for refunds.

RESPONSIBILITY, KINDNESS, HONESTY, RESPECT



Dr. Bailey next gave a cost analysis for the district with regard to the district's costs compared to other similar districts. In his analysis, he referred to salaries and benefits of faculty and staff that contribute to the district's cost per pupil, which is at the top of comparable school districts in Illinois. He stated that the district's taxpayers pay a "premium" tax relative to nearby communities in the township to sustain this level of per/pupil expenditure. There are minimal retail sales to provide additional tax revenues in Kenilworth. The Board members expressed concern that with the tax revenue so high it could make the district more attractive to district consolidation. Ms. Donegan and Dr. Bailey cited ways they have attempted to curtail this trend by reducing costs wherever possible, examining expenditures with a more critical lens and utilizing zero-based budgeting wherever possible.

The Board asked Dr. Bailey to keep them apprised as the new school year progresses.

Building Report

Dr. Helfand cited highlights from the written report including a girls' scout silver award project, installing a "free library" on the school campus, highlights from the recent teacher appreciation week and administrative professional's day and Illinois Green School project, "Handprints for the Planet".

Future Ready Learning Goals

Dr. Helfand gave a presentation on Future Ready Learning Goals and responded to questions from the Board members. She described professional development that took place this year and will continue into the next school year, with David Stephen of New Vista Designs. He also provided guidance during the Visioning Sessions for the Master Facilities Plan. The workshop encompassed the investigation of key elements that contribute to successful achievement and where the school is and where they want to be. Year one of the multi-year approach is focused on curriculum and instruction. The faculty audited the curriculum review cycles and currently used curriculum resources, developed a new 5-Year curriculum review cycle, and on June 7-8: prioritized standards in all content areas with Larry Ainsworth, a recognized expert in the field of curriculum. Additionally, the faculty discussed the benefit to creating an Integrated Teaching and Learning System. They worked collaboratively towards developing this program at Sears. The program is based on the elements of integrated Social and Emotional Learning, MTSS, Equity, Student Leadership and Strategic Planning. This work will continue in 2021-2022 school year. Dr. Helfand responded to questions from the Board and said that six committees will be working on aligned goals during summer retreats.

Master Schedule

Mr. Marty Heffner gave a presentation on the new Master Schedule. He highlighted aspects of the new schedule including, equitable planning time, common planning time, Intervention and Physical Education (PE) aligned for Elementary, Junior High Intervention Period, more frequent



Specials Rotation (Elementary - Three Day, Fifth Grade runs a Junior High Specials Rotation; Junior High - Four Day), and Math alignment for New Trier Math and for students who are grade-level accelerated. In order to allow common grade level planning time all junior high periods will be 50 minutes. Mr. Heffner noted there would be a longer 50-minute lunch as well because of the 50-minute standard period length. Intervention will be provided during specials or World Language but that has not been fully planned out at this time. Also new is the ability to choose a special for music (vocal, band and orchestra) beginning in 4th grade with exposure. Notably, World Language minutes will increase beginning in 5th grade. Mr. Heffner concluded by asking the Board members if they had any questions.

Mr. Lukasik thanked Dr. Helfand and Mr. Heffner for their presentations.

Diversity, Equity and Belonging (DEB) Report

Mrs. Mia Casey Sachs referenced her memo included in the Board documents. She said the committee would be taking the summer off to start fresh in the fall. Ms. Casey Sachs reported that the DEB Committee had drafted an Equity policy for the district. They planned to have it reviewed by the attorneys and the equity consultant they have been working with. Additionally, they will ask the faculty to review it before bringing the proposed policy to the full Board for adoption. Mrs. Casey Sachs stated having such a policy is vitally important and it will give our administration, as well as our faculty a framework to do the work and know they have the full support of the Board of Education. Mrs. Casey Sachs concluded with a short review of additional events revolving around “Juneteenth” in which the Committee participated.

NSSED Update

Mr. Lukasik stated that Dr. Metzger-Mugg was unable to participate in the full meeting this evening due to business travel but her report and information from NSSED is found in the Board documents. Ms. Donegan mentioned that Dr. Carrie De La Cruz had referred to getting an NSSED supported classroom at Sears for the 2021-2022 school year in the Building Report. She will follow up with Dr. De La Cruz on the status of the potential classroom but she felt this was an exciting opportunity for Sears. Any questions from the Board members may be directed to Dr. De La Cruz.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building & Finance

Mr. Lukasik noted that Mr. Potter had departed the meeting earlier due to travel reasons and noted that the minutes included in the Board documents for the June 4 Building & Finance meeting summarized discussions and activities by the committee. Ms. Donegan added that the committee is continuing to work through the security audit and there will be a more in-depth report at the August Board meeting. She stated also that Mr. Potter is working to put together a

RESPONSIBILITY, KINDNESS, HONESTY, RESPECT



work group to talk specifically about the Green Bay Trail issue and the security around that specific topic.

Policy Committee

Mr. Paul Anderson had nothing to report since there had not been a Board Policy Committee meeting since the last Board of Education meeting. Ms. Donegan mentioned that a new PRESS issue with recommended policy revisions is forthcoming in June.

OLD BUSINESS

Construction Update

Dr. Joe Bailey commented that there was nothing to report beyond what had already been discussed in the meeting. Currently the project is progressing satisfactorily with always a focus on remaining on or under budget and on time.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Lukasik asked if there were any questions regarding items on the Consent Agenda. There being none he entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Mr. Bill Graham motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Mia Casey Sachs seconded.

Roll Call:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Mr. Paul Anderson			
Mrs. Mia Casey Sachs			
Mr. Bill Graham			
Mr. Ashish Kaura			
Mr. Evan Lukasik			
			Dr. Lisa Metzger-Mugg Mr. Stephen N. Potter

The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0 with 2 absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Before inviting Public Comment Mr. Lukasik took a moment to recognize and thank Mrs. Julie Campanaro for her fifteen years of dedicated service to the district and the Board of Education.

RESPONSIBILITY, KINDNESS, HONESTY, RESPECT



She will be retiring at the end of June making this her last Board of Education meeting. He remarked on her willingness to support and help in any way needed, and stated she exemplifies the four cornerstones of the schoolhouse of kindness, honesty, respect, and responsibility. He thanked her for her service and wished her the best in retirement. He invited affirmation by applause. Mrs. Campanaro expressed her appreciation for his kind words.

Mr. Lukasik invited public comment. Mrs. Anne Trueman expressed her thanks on behalf of the teachers for extending the very generous bonus for everyone. It was truly appreciated.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mr. Bill Graham motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:03 p.m. Mrs. Mia Casey Sachs seconded the motion.

All Ayes. The meeting adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Attest for Distribution: *Mia Casey Sachs*
Mia Casey Sachs (Aug 18, 2021 09:57 CDT)
Mia Casey Sachs, Secretary

Approved: *Evan Lukasik*
Evan Lukasik (Aug 20, 2021 11:57 CDT)
Mr. Evan Lukasik, President

ATTEST: *Mia Casey Sachs*
Mia Casey Sachs (Aug 18, 2021 09:57 CDT)
Mia Casey Sachs, Secretary