

**KANKAKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 111
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
September 28, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Kankakee School District No. 111, Kankakee County, Illinois, was held at 6:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at Edison Primary School, 1991 East Maple Street, Kankakee, Illinois.

ROLL CALL

Members present: John Coghlan
 Amelia Davis, Vice President
 Jess Gathing, Jr.
 Karen Johnston-Gentry, President
 Joseph Lightfoot
 Angela Shea

Members absent: Barbara A. Wells, Secretary (*entered at 6:34 PM)

A quorum was declared present.

Closed Session

At 6:31 p.m., motion was made by Davis, seconded by Lightfoot, to adjourn to closed session in the Library to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Coghlan, Davis, Gathing, Johnston-Gentry, Lightfoot, and Shea. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The closed session was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

At 7:02 p.m. the regular session was reconvened.

Meeting with the Board were:

Dr. Genevra A. Walters, Superintendent
Laura Fisher, Assistant Superintendent
Rob Grossi, Director of Business Services
John Thomas, Assistant Superintendent
Vicki Scott, Recording Secretary

There were no news media reporters present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students from Edison Primary School. The students then performed the song, *Welcome to My School*, in both English and Spanish.

Superintendent's Report

➤ Good News:

School	Event	Explanation
Kennedy	Donation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lana Witthoft and the Veterans of Foreign Wars donated an American flag for Kennedy's flag pole.
KHS	Honor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> James Pentuic has been named a Commended Student in the 206 National Merit Scholarship Program which is based on the PSAT test. Commended students placed among the top 5% of more than 1.5 million students who entered the competition. James has demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success. On Thursday, September 24th, the Kankakee High School Interact President, Taylor Johnson, was honored at the Kankakee Rotary luncheon for Interact Student of the Month. The KHS Interact Club is planning a great year with activities in the community and with the local Rotary Club.

Roll Call

Closed Session

Reconvene

Pledge

Superintendent's Report

Principal's Report ~ Ms. Kathleen O'Connor, Principal at Edison

- Ms. O'Connor presented a brief overview of Edison's fall AIMSweb data results, an introduction to their SIP goals, and shared Edison's celebrations and challenges. Ms. O'Connor stated that the data showed that Edison's staff has their work cut out for them as much improvement is needed in 2nd and 3rd grades and many interventions have been put into place.

The goals at Edison align with Dr. Walters goals.

- Improve student achievement at every grade level
- Increase parent and community involvement at the building level
- Equity plan is infused into their SIP
- Maintain a positive school climate

Edison's celebrations include: intervention decisions are student centered, individualized, and data driven; introducing student led conferences for the first time at parent/teacher conferences in October; building climate is one that is positive and inviting; and student engagement is improving because of the teachers. Their challenges are as follows: co-teaching has been a challenge this year; exciting as well as challenging to begin using two new curriculums (math & reading) this school year; college and career readiness academy classes are new this year; and teachers are learning about the new STEM units.

Ms. O'Connor said that she had two students that she would like to recognize – Camani Tharpe and Tamyia Miller. Mrs. Irvin, a kindergarten teacher, needed help in the technology lab and suggested that a couple of third grade technology magnet students help her class in the lab. Camani and Tamyia are the third grade students from Mr. Cross's technology magnet class that help Mrs. Irvin's class and it is a win/win situation for all. Tamyia was presented with a uniform shirt that had her name and "Tech Buddies" on it. Camani was not present to receive his shirt.

Ms. O'Connor recognized Bev Diedrich, a teacher at Edison, because she is retiring at the end of this school year with 34 years of service to the District.

The presentation concluded with Ms. Ferry, assistant principal, introducing the staff.

Public Comments

The following public comments were made.

Name	Topic
Cassandra McCullough	Asked the district to consider moving magnet into one building.
Teresa Fuentes	Expressed concern that the district was thinking about moving to grade centers because the students and parents will lose the community feeling that is offered now. She has been very pleased with Mark Twain and the Bright Beginnings Program.

Although responses to public comments are not normal, in light of the Community Open Forum on school cuts, Dr. Walters clarified that changes for grade centers are for College and Career Academy classes. The magnet classes, excluding math magnet (depending on the decision made on Aroma Park) will stay in the buildings they are in, for the most part.

Amendment to Agenda

President Johnston-Gentry asked for a motion to amend the agenda to remove the closed session minutes from item G.1.

Motion was made by Gathing, seconded by Coghlan, to approve to amend the agenda to remove the closed session minutes from item G.1. as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Coghlan, Davis, Gathing, Lightfoot, Shea, Wells, and Johnston-Gentry. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

The following items were presented:

1. The following Board minutes were presented for approval:
September 14, 2015-Regular Meeting (Regular Session Minutes)
2. The **Head Start Policy Council Documents** were presented for approval.
3. The **Maintenance Vehicle Bid** was presented for approval.
4. The following personnel items were presented for approval:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Resignation – Certified Personnel		
Debra Chmielowiec	Special Ed/LDR at Kennedy	End of 2015-16 School Year
Resignation – Support Personnel		
Kelly Robinson	Paraprofessional/Self-Contained at LCC	September 30, 2015
Appointments – Certified Personnel		
Melissa Denoyer	Part-time Academic Interventionist at LCC	September 21, 2015
Cynthia Somerville	Part-time Academic Interventionist at King	October 6, 2015
Margaret Shay	Speech Pathologist at LCC	September 29, 2015
Appointments – Support Personnel		
Jonathan Dandurand	Paraprofessional-SpEd/Inclusion at KHS	September 29, 2015
Ronald Talamantes	Head Custodian at Kennedy	September 29, 2015
Mark Sheahan	School Treasurer (Title Change and Number of Work Days)	September 29, 2015
Termination – Support Personnel		
Keavia Johnson	Cafeteria Helper at Kennedy	June 4, 2015
Leave of Absence – Support Personnel		
Brian Shea	Head Groundsman at LCC	Jun. 30, 2015-Mar. 16, 2016

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

Action Items

1. **Intergovernmental Agreement with the Kankakee Valley Park District**

The Intergovernmental Agreement with the Kankakee Valley Park District was presented for approval.

Motion was made by Lightfoot, seconded by Gathing, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Kankakee Valley Park District as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Gathing, Lightfoot, Shea, Wells, Davis, and Johnston-Gentry. Abstained: Coghlan. Nays: none. Motion carried.

2. **Intergovernmental Agreement with the YMCA**

The Intergovernmental Agreement with the YMCA was presented for approval.

Motion was made by Shea, seconded by Coghlan, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the YMCA as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Lightfoot, Shea, Wells, Coghlan, Davis, Gathing, and Johnston-Gentry. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Old Business

There was no old business discussed.

Overnight Trip Request

Dr. Walters asked the Board members if they would have any concerns with allowing two students to attend the Project Unified Program’s “Bootcamp” on October 2nd & 3rd in Decatur, Illinois. The two students have been selected to be a part of this statewide leadership team. Penny Sylvester, Special Olympics Coach, will be their advisor. All Board members agreed that the students will be able to attend the overnight event.

Consent Agenda

Board Minutes

Head Start

Vehicle Bid

Personnel

Resignations

Appointments

Termination

Leave of Absence

Intergovernmental Agreement Park District

Intergovernmental Agreement YMCA

Old Business

Trip Request

Information and Proposals

The following items were provided for information:

1. The following personnel transfers were reported:

NAME	TRANSFERRED TO	EFFECTIVE DATE
Certified Personnel		
Alisa Webb	Special Ed Teacher at Taft	August 17, 2015
Support Personnel		
Sue Bennett	Parapro – Library Aide at Mark Twain	August 17, 2015
Keith Davis	Parapro – SpEd/BD at IMPACT	August 17, 2015
Kerry Glover	Parapro – SpEd/BD at IMPACT	August 17, 2015
Rochelle Glover	Parapro – SpEd/Self-Contained at LCC	August 17, 2015
Gene Harris	Parapro – SpEd/BD at IMPACT	August 17, 2015
Elaine Harper	Parapro – SpEd/Inclusion at Taft	August 17, 2015
Angela Parks	Parapro – SpEd/Inclusion at King	August 17, 2015
Bonnie Rudolf	Parapro – SpEd/Inclusion/ECE at Mark Twain	August 17, 2015
Maria Salcedo	Parapro – SpEd/Inclusion at Steuben	August 17, 2015
Belinda Smith	Parapro – SpEd/Self Contained at Steuben	August 17, 2015
Kendra Snapp	Parapro – SpEd/CIPS at KJHS	August 17, 2015
Terri Terrell	Parapro – SpEd/BD at IMPACT	August 17, 2015
Melissa Whitson	Parapro – SpEd/Inclusion at KHS	August 17, 2015
Denise Williams	Parapro – SpEd/Vocational at KHS/Jeffers Park	August 17, 2015
Mary Wilson	Parapro – SpEd/Inclusion at Steuben	August 17, 2015
Katrina Woodard	Parapro – SpEd/Self-Contained at Taft	August 17, 2015

2. 150th Anniversary
3. Freedom of Information Act – Request for Information.
4. Head Start Policy Council Information
5. Homecoming Highlights

Dr. Walters announced that the alumni homecoming dance has been cancelled. The 150th Anniversary will focus on Winter and Spring activities. The homecoming focus this year will be on the parade. The parade will kick-off at 12:30 PM from LCC on Friday, October 9th. The parade will travel down Court Street and end at the Kankakee Train Depot with a pep rally.

At 7:28 p.m., motion was made by Wells, seconded by Lightfoot, to adjourn the meeting. All ayes; motion carried.

SIGNED:

Karen Johnston-Gentry, President

ATTEST:

Barbara A. Wells, Secretary

vs

Approved: October 13, 2015