

A regular meeting of the School Board of said district was held in the Administrative Offices on the above date. The meeting was called to order by President Joseph at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Haidle, Joseph, Thorne and Zinger

Member Absent: Bajema

Kent ISD Staff Present: Superintendent Konarska, Assistant Superintendents Hagerty, Koehler, Smith, and Recording Secretary Conners; Directors Finkel, Grandy, Kaufman, Peraino, VanderJagt, VanderPloeg and Weese; Principals Johnson, Kimber and Kraus.

Guests: Sheree Bos, Jason Kalis, Katie McClintic

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Zinger, it was resolved to approve the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of October 15, 2012.

Ayes: Members Thorne, Zinger, Haidle and Joseph

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Zinger, supported by Member Haidle, it was resolved that the bills from October 1, 2012 through October 31, 2012 be allowed and orders drawn on the Treasurer for the amount summarized in the accounts payable report:

a. General Education	\$ 3,537,641.19
b. Special Education	34,974,361.87
c. Career Technical Education	804,488.13
d. Cooperative Education	81,561.42
e. Capital Projects:	
1) General Education	0.00
2) Special Education	9,972.52
3) Career Technical Education	45,432.85
f. Skutt Scholarship Fund	1,000.00
g. Trust & Agency	17,410.09
h. Internal Service Fund	34,317.13
 TOTAL	 \$ 39,506,185.20

Ayes: Members Zinger, Haidle, Thorne and Joseph

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Thorne, it was resolved to approve personnel recommendations regarding resignations and terminations, appointments, new assignments and/or contract adjustment, leaves of absence, and temporary contract employees. A copy of the recommendations is included with the legal minutes of this meeting. Superintendent Konarska stated that he had reviewed the recommendations with Assistant Superintendent Sullivan prior to this meeting and that they were all routine in nature.

Ayes: Members Haidle, Thorne, Zinger and Joseph

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Zinger, it was resolved to approve a resolution regarding the collection and notification to local units of government for 2013 summer taxes and authorization for the Board Secretary to sign the notice. Assistant Superintendent Hagerty stated that a number of districts collect summer taxes. This resolution is brought to the Board every November. He stated that the per parcel amount is set by the taxing unit, which we monitor. Member Haidle asked for clarification on how charges are set for each parcel. Assistant Superintendent Hagerty stated that Kent ISD is billed once for each parcel, not for each levy (GE, SE, CTE).

Ayes: Members Thorne, Zinger, Haidle and Joseph

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Zinger, supported by Member Thorne, it was resolved to accept the annual financial audit for Kent Intermediate School District for 2011-12.

Assistant Superintendent Hagerty introduced Bruce Dunn, auditor from Maner Costerisan. He thanked Director Stephanie Weese and her staff for doing an outstanding job. Mr. Dunn stated that the process went well, with no surprises. He reviewed the audited 2011-12 Financial Results and the School District Supplemental Comments for 2012. Mr. Dunn complimented Kent ISD saying that we have an excellent story to tell, and do a good job explaining who we are. He noted that Kent ISD also does a good job in transparency and mapping out their short term and long term plan. Mr. Dunn reviewed statements 62, 63, 65 and 68 and how these will affect Kent ISD. He had no recommendations on internal control.

Mr. Dunn stated that Kent ISD had good support from the top, good planning, good people, good talent and that they take the job seriously. He stated Maner Costerisan works with over fifty (50) school districts and many other ISDs and that Kent ISD is top-notch, and works closely with Maner Costerisan with questions on taxes, liability, risks, and other legalities throughout the year.

President Joseph thanked Maner Costerisan for meeting with President Joseph and Member Thorne earlier in the year and for the insight they provided on the audit process. Member Haidle extended her thanks to all the staff for the unqualified audit, and for the amount of effort and time spent on keeping track of grants and reporting this correctly. Member Haidle asked for clarification on what a “misstatement” is, how unfunded liability affects our funds and how statement # 68 will impact the work here at the Kent ISD. President Joseph thanked Mr. Dunn and said he was pleased with the audit and that spending was below the forecasts.

Ayes: Members Zinger, Haidle, Thorne and Joseph

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Superintendent’s Report:

Superintendent Konarska introduced Allison Kaufman and Katie McClintic to demonstrate the new Kent ISD website. He stated that they had done a spectacular job working with all staff to develop this new site. Ms. Kaufman said that a committee of staff worked together to research the best design, and ended up combining the Ingham ISD looks with the Wayne ISD content to create the new Kent ISD site. She said they worked with a designer and looked at past statistics and staff needs to determine the layout of the site. Ms. Kaufman gave an overview of the site which included the following areas:

- *Front page – all schools at Kent ISD on the top left*
- *Three most popular sites prominently on first page based on past “hits” on our site*
- *Area Schools*
- *Administrative Services*
- *Jobs and Employment*
- *School Board*
- *Social Media Page*
- *Facilities*
- *Instructional Services*
- *Meetings & Calendars*

Member Zinger asked about the layout and making the site easily understandable for the public. He stressed the importance of pages being updated and fresh, especially when departments are in charge of their own site. Ms. Kaufman said that the website team will be doing spot checks to assure this is done. Superintendent Konarska said that staff has put a lot of time and energy into this and are motivated to keep it up to date, and will get continuous feedback on the site. President Joseph thanked the Communications Department for the completion of this great project.

Superintendent Konarska asked Assistant Superintendents Koehler and Smith to provide the Board with a brief update on their China Trip this past week. Assistant Superintendent Koehler stated that we have been working with Global Bridges Network, the U.S. agent for Weiming Education Group, since May on this project. Weiming Education Group is the largest private education provider in China. A group from Kent ISD, including some local board members, visited Weiming’s home office in Beijing and three residential schools in other cities. He stated that this trip provided very clear understanding of how this partnership could benefit our students in terms of creating

friendships, possible opportunities to travel back and forth, and an understanding of how large China and Asia are in terms of both importance and population. He stated that the city Beijing has 21 million people, almost twice the population of Michigan. He stated that the growth happening there is incredible. China has 1/3 of the world's cranes as they continue to build multiple large residential buildings, and the airport has grown from ten gates in 1999 to over 300 today. Assistant Superintendent Smith reviewed the academic culture and the similarities and differences between the cultures. He said that their day was very structured. The school day included academics in the a.m., a two hour lunch, and more academics in the p.m. Students were double dipping in math and science. They also do a lot of "drill and practice" which they are trying to get away from and become more creative, similar to the western culture. He stated that the kids they met were wonderful, friendly, know English, and were similar to U.S. kids. He said they take incredible pride in their government and history, and that each school is partnered with a college.

Member Haidle asked about the University Structure and the pressure to do well. Assistant Superintendent Smith said that there is a 20-1 rejection rate at Peking University. Member Zinger asked about the suicide rate, it is unknown what that is at this time. He also asked about the language and cultural difference and what happens when the children come over here. Member Haidle asked about the parental point of view and any problems with less structure. Assistant Superintendent Koehler said that the students coming here would eventually live in a cultural center that would help with the transition from their culture and also benefit our students. He said they desire our creativity, saying that their President, Lin Hao, wants better relations between our nations through students, and wants to make sure they understand our culture. The students would have sponsor families for weekends and holidays. The pilot program may start with host families. He indicated that the next steps include the Chinese delegate returning here in one week and working on finalizing a MOU and a public announcement.

Superintendent Konarska reminded everyone of the Board Work Session on December 3rd. He will be attending the National AESA conference in Tampa, Florida November 28 – December 1.

Items from Board Members:

Member Zinger said that he attended the MASB Conference in Detroit November 8-11 and that it went well. He stated that they had high numbers, which is unusual when it is held in Detroit. He said that the Delegate Assembly went well. He also spent a weekend at a School Board Conference in Illinois. Member Zinger complimented KCTC on the Green Restaurant Award and said that the celebration was nicely done.


Member Haidle asked Superintendent Konarska to talk about the Kent County Collaborative Impact Initiative at a future board meeting. She shared an article on brain flexibility and the importance of reaching children at a young age. Superintendent Konarska said that this is another reason why KSSN and Early Childhood programs are so critical.

Member Haidle and Member Zinger both indicated that they, along with Ron Koehler, will be attending the Federal Relations Network Conference January 26 – 29, 2013 in Washington D.C.

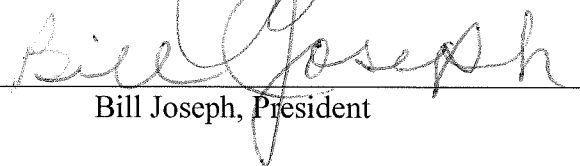
The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 17, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at Kent Intermediate School District's Educational Service Center in the Board Room.

The meeting was adjourned by President Joseph at 7:21 p.m.

Minutes Approved: December 17, 2012



Steve Zinger, Secretary



Bill Joseph, President

/cc