KENT INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT Kent County, Michigan October 15, 2012

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 6:01 p.m.

Members Present: Bajema, Haidle, Joseph, Thorne and Zinger

Member Absent: None

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

Guests: Jane Krehe, Sheree M. Joseph Bos and Erin McGovern

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Zinger, it was resolved to approve the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of September 17, 2012.

Ayes: Members Haidle, Thorne, Zinger, Bajema and Joseph
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Zinger, supported by Member Thorne, it was resolved that the bills from September 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012 be allowed and orders drawn on the Treasurer for the amount summarized in the accounts payable report:

a.	General Education	$ 2,212,164.41
b.	Special Education	22,007,677.11
c.	Career Technical Education	659,403.40
d.	Cooperative Education	36,636.41
e.	Capital Projects:	
	1) General Education	0.00
	2) Special Education	56,185.44
	3) Career Technical Education	0.00
f.	Skutt Scholarship Fund	500.00
g.	Trust & Agency	3,828.47
h.	Internal Service Fund	28,870.93
	TOTAL	$ 25,005,266.17

Ayes: Members Thorne, Zinger, Bajema, Haidle and Joseph
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Zinger, supported by Member Haidle, 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 and the addendum as provided at the Board table. A copy of the recommendations is included with the legal minutes of this meeting.

Assistant Superintendent Sullivan noted the addendum that had been added to the personnel recommendations. She stated that the current personnel recommendations are typical for this time of year with bus drivers having changes in their assignments or additions to their runs. There are typically not many leave of absence or medical leave requests at this time of year.

Ayes: Members Zinger, Bajema, Haidle, Thorne and Joseph
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Zinger, it was resolved to approve payment of Act 18 funds to local districts and charters in the amount of $34,420,586. Assistant Superintendent Hagerty stated that this is the second of three payments. Local districts received one payment last month, they receive another payment of Act 18 funds now, and the remaining balance is paid out in April. Member Haidle asked if other ISD's have Special Education millages, as she remembers previously when individual students wanted to come to Kent ISD because of the services we offered. Superintendent Konarska said that the majority do have Special Education millages, but we are known to have good resources and services.

Ayes: Members Bajema, Haidle, Thorne, Zinger and Joseph
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Bajema, it was resolved to combine and approve all amendments to the 2012-13 General Education, Special Education, Career Technical Education, and Cooperative Education budgets. Assistant Superintendent Hagerty stated that the three major budgets are close to actual and are in good shape. He attributed this to the great job the team did putting the budget together earlier in the year, resulting in no real significant changes or amendments. The only significant change was an increase in Perkins funds.

Member Haidle asked for clarification on the Cooperative Education budget. Assistant Superintendent Hagerty stated that this budget had two sub funds, one includes local district services (business, technology and data initiatives) and the other includes Kent Innovation High School and the Hybrid School program. These are separated in order to track them better. Member Haidle asked for clarification on technology. Assistant Superintendent Hagerty stated the Kent ISD technology consortium currently provides technology for three districts – Sparta, Kent City and Comstock Park. Member Haidle asked if any other regions other than Region 1 were looking at this support. Superintendent Konarska stated that this is a collaborative pilot which other districts are closely watching, however it would not be a benefit to some larger districts. Assistant Superintendent

Hagerty stated that the close proximity of the three pilot districts also helps increase the benefit received. Member Zinger asked why the Hybrid School and Kent Innovation High were not separated and tracked individually. Assistant Superintendent Hagerty stated that he can track them individually by account number. He created the two sub funds to separate the schools from business services. President Joseph thanked Assistant Superintendent Hagerty for keeping a good eye on all the budgets.

Ayes: Members Haidle, Thorne, Zinger, Bajema and Joseph
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Zinger, supported by Member Haidle, it was resolved to approve the disposition of surplus equipment pursuant to Board policy. Kent ISD will offer the equipment to the constituent districts on a first-come, first-serve basis. Any equipment remaining would be sold in bulk to a vendor or disposed of in an appropriate manner pursuant to Board policy. Assistant Superintendent Hagerty stated that this is the same process we use throughout the year, and local districts benefit from and do use the surplus equipment.

Ayes: Members Thorne, Zinger, Bajema, Haidle and Joseph
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Zinger, it was resolved to approve the second reading of policy 3440.01 – Technology Stipend. Assistant Superintendent Sullivan stated that at this point out of pocket expenses are recovered through the filling out of a reimbursement form. Member Haidle commended Assistant Superintendent Sullivan for the writing of this policy and felt it was written exceptionally well.

Ayes: Members Zinger, Bajema, Haidle, Thorne and Joseph
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Zinger, supported by Member Haidle, it was resolved to approve the additional nominees for open Parent Advisory Special Education (P.A.S.E.) seats for the 2012-2015 term as approved by our local education agencies. Director VanderPloeg stated that these nominees were for vacant seats that were not filled in June. She stated that Charter School representation has improved. National Heritage Academies is more involved and the committee is growing. Member Haidle asked about the total number of seats on this Parent Advisory for Special Education committee. Director VanderPloeg stated that they typically have around 40 in attendance. There is a good core group and attendance is monitored.

Ayes: Members Bajema, Haidle, Thorne, Zinger and Joseph

Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.

Superintendent Konarska introduced Coordinator Erin McGovern to give the Board an update on the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) and the Great Start to Quality Program. Coordinator McGovern provided the Board with an overview of the programs which included information on program goals, enrollment numbers, transition feedback and a plan for next year, collaboration with LEA's, program evaluation information, and success stories. The Kent ISD has enrolled 973 children into this program and has 115 remaining slots. They continue to get enrollments and anticipate being full in the next month or so. There are currently 35 classrooms in 16 different districts. Kent ISD has hired 35 lead teachers, 35 associate teachers and 5 early childhood specialists for this program. The purpose is to provide consistencies and efficiencies throughout the county and encourage best practices. She is currently working to develop an electronic enrollment process in anticipation of possibly adding more districts and up to 800 additional children next year. The program is currently accepting enrollments for three year olds now for next year's program, not waiting until spring which will also improve the enrollment process. Coordinator McGovern stated that this is successful because of the partnership with local districts, which are more on board with the program and feeling more supported. Coordinator McGovern and Assistant Superintendent Hagerty did classroom visits to Sparta and Rockford to observe the current work. Coordinator McGovern is working with Special Education regarding Early Childhood programs.

Coordinator McGovern stated that the Great Start to Quality program is funded by a three year grant which has allocated $750,000 for fiscal year 2013. She stated that there are currently 995 licensed providers in Kent County. In December the State is releasing a statewide database and will be rating each provider (up to 5 stars). The Great Start to Quality program surveyed the providers to determine their professional development needs and is partnering with Grand Rapids Community College to provide training and improve the quality of the providers. The Great Start to Quality Kent Resource Center also provides six hours of orientation training to unlicensed providers, a requirement in order to receive State subsidy.

Member Haidle asked how families hear about and children become involved with GSRP. Coordinator McGovern said this is mostly through word of mouth and district newsletters. The program is targeted for children who will be 4 years old by December 1st and is geared to prepare them for kindergarten. It is not likely that they will be in the program for two years. Member Haidle asked if this program ties in with the Head Start program. Coordinator McGovern stated that there is some duplication; however, the Head Start program is unable to serve all the eligible children with their program. Coordinator McGovern has done some work with Head Start. Member Haidle asked about the credentials for teachers. Lead teachers are required to have a valid Michigan teaching license with an early childhood endorsement. Member Bajema asked about the credentials for the early childhood specialists. Coordinator McGovern stated that these specialists are required to have a Master's degree. Member Bajema asked if the two programs, GSRP and Great Start to Quality, are tied together. Coordinator McGovern stated that there is some overlap and that GSRP would receive a rating like other early childhood programs and receive professional development services and

support through Great Start to Quality and GRCC. Member Bajema recognized the importance of Early Childhood programs and commended Coordinator McGovern for the work that is being done.

Member Haidle asked about the budget for next year. Coordinator McGovern stated that the goal is to increase funding to provide full day programming for high risk children. Superintendent Konarska stated that there is a concern regarding pulling funding from K-12 education to support this, but stated that Early Childhood Education is a great investment. Member Bajema asked if the program worked with families. Coordinator McGovern stated that the program encompasses families by definition. However, the Bright Beginnings program has parent educators and works more directly with parents. Superintendent Konarska stated that this is a program supported by local superintendents that is increasing efficiency, living within the grant, and that the money for this program does not come from local districts. Coordinator McGovern thanked the human resources, business and IT departments stating that this work would not be possible without their support.

Member Haidle inquired about the MASB Legislative Priorities meeting on October 29th. Member Zinger stated that he will be attending the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to find out what work is important to the membership and the priorities that MASB should focus on.

Superintendent Konarska reminded board members of the KTC Open House on October 18th and the KCTC Open House on October 25th. He informed the board members of the upcoming KISA Superintendents' retreat this week which will focus on Early College and Middle College. Several presidents from local colleges will be joining the superintendents at this retreat. He stated that he is looking forward to this time, as lots of great ideas and programs such as Kent Innovation High and the Hybrid School have come out of past retreats. Superintendent Konarska reminded the Board of the October 29th legislative event and stated that legislative activities have been quiet because of the upcoming election.

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 19, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at Kent Intermediate School District's Educational Service Center in the Board Room.

President Joseph thanked the audience for their attendance. The meeting was adjourned by President Joseph at 6:54 p.m.

Minutes Approved: November 19, 2012

Steve Zinger, Secretary

Bill Joseph, President

/cc