The 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 Bajema at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Bajema, Haidle and Joseph
Members Absent: Grifhorst and Thorne

Kent ISD Staff Present: Superintendent Caniff, Assistant Superintendents Hagerty, Koehler, Smith, Sullivan, and Recording Secretary Conners; Directors Baine, Finkel, Ghareeb, Peraino, and VanderPloeg; Principals Kiley, Kraus, Lovelady-Mitchell and Stamas; Rusty Anderson, Marc Schulz

Guests Present: Nikki Vegen, Robert Menaker, Jamie See

President Bajema welcomed all visitors and provided an opportunity for comments.

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Joseph, it was resolved to approve the minutes from the January 18, 2016 regular School Board Meeting.

Ayes: All present
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Joseph, supported by Member Haidle, it was resolved that the bills from January 1, 2016 through January 31, 2016 be allowed and orders drawn on the Treasurer for the amount summarized in the accounts payable report:

a. General Education $ 5,880,997.10
b. Special Education 4,892,613.19
c. Career Technical Education 484,615.98
d. Cooperative Education 58,513.38
e. Capital Projects:
   1) General Education 0.00
   2) Special Education 533,019.91
   3) Career Technical Education 0.00
f. Skutt Scholarship Fund 0.00
g. Trust and Agency 13,555.96
h. Internal Service Fund 0.00

TOTAL $ 11,863,315.52

Ayes: Members Haidle, Joseph and Bajema
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.
Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Joseph, it was resolved to combine and approve personnel action items F.1.a-c.

It was resolved to approve the personnel recommendations regarding resignations and terminations, appointments, new assignments and/or contract adjustments, leaves of absence, and temporary contract employees. A copy of the recommendations is included with the legal minutes of this meeting.

It was resolved to approve the hiring of three (3) Early Literacy Coaches. Member Haidle asked about the budget for these positions. Assistant Superintendent Smith stated that we originally received a grant for one position, and later we received additional grant money to add two more positions. This will cover ½ the cost of each position and will allow us to provide targeted support to nine eligible districts. This work aligns with the Kent ISD vision and the 3rd grade reading goal established by KISA. Superintendent Caniff stated that these positions could be filled with retired educators as allowed from the critical shortage list, which could potentially further stretch the dollars.

It was resolved to approve the reclassification of the open Student Management System Technician position to Student Management System Coordinator – Professional Position.

Ayes: Members Joseph, Haidle and Bajema
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Joseph, supported by Member Haidle, it was resolved to approve developing specifications and seeking bids for the 2016-17 capital outlay, replacement equipment and building improvement requests. Assistant Superintendent Hagerty stated that as in the past, the total amount requested is equal to the anticipated change in taxable value. Assistant Superintendent Hagerty and Member Haidle thanked Director Peraino for the work done to complete this well presented report.

Ayes: Members Haidle, Joseph and Bajema
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Joseph, it was resolved to approve the striking of personal property taxes from previous tax rolls of multiple taxing units as presented.

Ayes: Members Joseph, Haidle and Bajema
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.
Upon motion of Member Joseph, supported by Member Haidle, it was resolved to approve the request for 31 Kent Career Technical Center and HSECA students to participate in the HOSA State Competition April 14-16, 2016 in Traverse City, Michigan.

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

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Joseph, it was resolved to combine and approve the property transfer requests items F.5 – F.7.

It was resolved to approve the property transfer of Permanent Parcel # 41-02-28-300-029 from Cedar Springs Public Schools to Kent City Community Schools. This request has been approved by both districts affected and is mutually agreed upon in order to combine adjacent properties owned by the same party.

It was resolved to approve the property transfer of Permanent Parcel # 41-10-08-200-043 from Comstock Park Public Schools to Rockford Public Schools. This request has been approved by both districts affected and is mutually agreed upon in order to combine adjacent properties owned by the same party.

It was resolved to approve the property transfer of Permanent Parcel # 41-22-29-100-037 from Caledonia Community Schools to Byron Center Public Schools and Permanent Parcel # 41-22-29-100-033 from Byron Center Public Schools to Caledonia Community Schools. This request has been approved by both districts affected and is mutually agreed upon in order to combine adjacent properties owned by the same parties.

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

Assistant Superintendent Smith presented an Instructional Services report highlighting the various ways we support student learning and quality instruction. Principal Kraus reviewed the Kent ISD vision and how it is applied at the Kent Career Tech Center. He reported that 95% of Kent ISD secondary program staff are participating in Classroom Learning Labs and receiving feedback from their peers on best practices. There is a strong focus on student engagement and collecting impact data for each program. Early identification and intervention systems are in place through programs such as KSSN which help struggling students with attendance and student performance. A positive school climate is promoted through MTSS, Capturing Kid's Hearts and the Be Nice campaign. He reviewed the data dashboard and the measurable improvements accomplished through these practices. Member Joseph asked about parent involvement. Principal Kraus reported that we now have dedicated staff that reach out and work with families, which has been very effective.

Marc Schulz reviewed the Early Warning System for Literacy developed with input from the Reading Now Network. He reviewed the personalized learning environments that are available to students that provide individualized plans and lessons to teachers and students through Edify. This new program is currently in week one of a thirteen week pilot. Assistant Superintendent
Smith reviewed the data dashboard and the importance of making the performance data available to everyone.

Principal Lovelady-Mitchell reviewed the promotional material for Kent Innovation High (KIH) and upcoming opportunities for parents and potential students to visit and learn about this project-based learning school. She provided information on the upcoming Innovator’s Showcase on March 10th. Rusty Anderson reviewed how current events such as the Flint water crisis can provide relevant projects that cross various standards and connect to the real world. He stated that they are working on how to build more connections and partnerships with area businesses and asked board members for their input on KIH. Superintendent Caniff congratulated staff on the successful Nova Now program that was recently hosted at KIH. Andrew Steinman has been invited to showcase the KIH program to the State Board of Education.

Assistant Superintendent Smith reviewed the “Take the Test” event which occurred on February 17th. Various community and educational stakeholders were invited to Kent ISD to take the state assessments. MLive covered the event and Miranda is doing a follow up segment on this event. He stated that we developed a template to be able to replicate this event in other communities so that people are more informed about the current requirements and assessments. Assistant Superintendent Smith also reviewed the recent “Fact or Fiction” Friday held at the ESC which featured 22 presentations from all departments at Kent ISD and showcased the many great programs we are currently involved in.

Member Haidle reported that she is not able to attend the NSBA Advocacy Institute that was rescheduled from January to June 12-14, 2016. She reviewed an Education Week article on the NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) regarding state by state comparisons and what is working to increase student achievement. She also reviewed an Education Week article regarding providing highly trained credentials for teachers that choose to work in low-socioeconomic-status, or SES, schools. Superintendent Caniff stated that Bill Smith is currently working with the DeVos Foundation to further develop teacher capacity in low-SES schools. This Smith reported that this program was started in Louisiana and has expanded to Kansas City, Washington, Denver, Memphis and now Michigan.

Member Haidle discussed the current Flint water crisis and its effect on the community. Member Joseph asked about the Common Core and how this program and various assessments are currently being used. Member Joseph thanked Mike Hagerty for the support he has given to ISD colleagues around the state. He stated that Kent ISD truly does lead learning.

Superintendent Caniff noted that the IT program at KCTC has achieved the most Microsoft certifications given in the State and commended Principal Kraus on this achievement. He reported that Joe Phillips, design lab instructor, was chosen to present at the Governor’s Education Summit on March 15th. He informed the board of a new Cyber Patriot club regarding cyber security that IT students are competing in for the first time this year.
Superintendent Caniff said that we have received one property transfer petition that requested a hearing with the board. He proposed that the hearing occur immediately following the March 21 regular board meeting, and the board members agreed. He also noted that per his contract his annual evaluation will soon be due and he will work with the board and staff to complete this process according to past practices.

President Bajema reviewed upcoming events. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes Approved: March 21, 2016

Andrea Haidle
Andrea Haidle, Secretary

Claudia Bajema, President

/cc