OCTOBER 21, 2019 KENT ISD SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

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 Haidle at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Bajema, Drake, Haidle and Joseph
Member Absent:  Rettig

Kent ISD Staff Present: Superintendent Caniff, Assistant Superintendents Philipps, Koehler, Sullivan, and Recording Secretary Conners; Directors Baine, Dymowski, Finkel, Karsten, Kaufman, Lamar, Lovelady-Mitchell, Meyers, Peraino and Stamas; Principals Bush, Graham, Hendry and Kiley; Susan Brummel, Steve Dieleman, Alissa Hofstee, Megan MacNaughton, Kirsten Rice, Denise Washington

Guests: Sherrie Blankenship, Amber Fox, Jason Kalis, Joan Meyer, Carol Paine-McGovern, Andrea Reynolds

President Haidle welcomed all visitors and provided an opportunity for public comment.

The following individuals addressed the board:
Joan Meyer - Staff issue
Jason Kalis - Staff issue

President Haidle welcomed guest Sherrie Blankenship, a lead auditor at Maner Costerisan. She invited Ms. Blankenship to share a report on the 2018-2019 financial audit. Ms. Blankenship stated that the audit went very well, thanks to competent Kent ISD staff and the cooperation received from the entire business department. We received an unmodified opinion, which is the highest level given. Ms. Blankenship reviewed the findings in the 2018-2019 financial audit.

Ms. Blankenship reviewed the balance sheets at the fund level. She reviewed the net change in fund balances. The General Fund was down $135,000; the Special Education fund was up almost $1.4 million; the CTE fund was up $1.1 million and the Governmental funds were down $892,000.

The budgetary comparison schedules showed that Kent ISD stayed very close to the original set budgets. Maner Costerisan completed single audits on the Special Education cluster and on the Federal Grant programs and Perkins funds and had no findings.

Sherrie Blankenship summarized the findings and classified Kent ISD as a low-risk auditee. The clean, unmodified opinion of the Auditor’s Report showed no areas of concern. She reviewed GASB Statement No. 84 effective 2020 year end regarding reporting Fiduciary Activities and GASB Statement No. 87 effective 2021 year end regarding leases. Agency funds effected by GASB 84 include scholarship funds and student activity funds. Blankenship commended Kent ISD and thanked Assistant Superintendent Philipps and Director Baine for their work and cooperation while completing this audit. Assistant Superintendent Philipps stated that it is rare to receive such a clean audit with no recommendations and he thanked the business office for their work preparing for the audit.
Board members asked about the Switch company tax abatements and their effect on Kent ISD. Assistant Superintendent Philipps stated that Kent ISD is reimbursed by the state for lost revenue and the tax abatements hit local districts harder than the ISD. Switch is appealing the enhancement millage to the Michigan Tax Tribunal but the case is presently being held in abeyance.

President Haidle asked about a cyber vulnerability assessment. Director Finkel stated that Kent ISD is currently refreshing their cyber security plan and could execute a third-party review to ensure the best possible protection. Kent ISD is hosting a Ransomware preparedness workshop on October 31 for local districts to share strategies, best practices and next steps in the event of a security breach.

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Bajema, it was resolved to approve the minutes from the Regular School Board Meeting of September 16, 2019, the minutes from the Special School Board Meetings of September 20, 2019 and October 1, 2019 and the minutes from the Closed School Board Meeting of October 1, 2019.

Ayes: All present
Nays: None

*Motion declared to have carried.*

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Bajema, it was resolved that the bills from September 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019 be allowed and orders drawn on the Treasurer for the amount summarized in the accounts payable report:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. General Education</td>
<td>$6,574,100.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Special Education- Center Programs</td>
<td>161,439.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Special Education</td>
<td>15,052,049.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Community Service (Enhancement Millage)</td>
<td>8,512,584.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Career Technical Education</td>
<td>513,272.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Cooperative Education</td>
<td>119,466.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student/School Activity Fund</td>
<td>13,924.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Capital Projects:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1) General Education</td>
<td>45,706.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Special Education</td>
<td>1,409,940.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Career Technical Education</td>
<td>292,921.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Skutt Scholarship Fund</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Trust &amp; Agency</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Internal Service Fund</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$32,695,405.31</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ayes: Members Bajema, Drake, Joseph and Haidle
Nays: None

*Motion declared to have carried.*

Upon motion of Member Joseph, supported by Member Bajema, 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. It was also
resolved to approve the personnel addendum presented at the table. A copy of the recommendations is included with the legal minutes of this meeting.
Ayes: Members Drake, Joseph, Bajema and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Bajema, supported by Member Joseph, it was resolved to approve the creation of a new Teacher Consultant for the Visually Impaired position.

Ayes: Members Joseph, Bajema, Drake and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Bajema, supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to approve the creation of a new Project Coordinator Position for the Help Me Grow system. Director Karsten stated that this position is funded through the Early Childhood County millage and the position will help implement the strategic plan and work with the community to offer all early childhood services through one access point.

Ayes: Members Bajema, Drake, Joseph and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Bajema, supported by Member Joseph, it was resolved to approve the creation of a new ASD Instructional Support Specialist position at the Pine Grove Learning Center. Director Dymowski stated that this position is due to the substantial increase in ASD students in the center programs. The ASD population has grown from 9 students in 1990 to 92 students in 2019. There are now 15 classrooms in local districts. We offer a continuum of supports from birth through adulthood for both families and students.

Ayes: Members Joseph, Bajema, Drake and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Bajema, supported by Member Joseph, it was resolved to approve the creation of a new part-time academic coach position for Launch U. Principal Bush stated that the Launch U population has doubled with the addition of the general associate degree track this year.

Ayes: Members Drake, Joseph, Bajema and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Bajema, supported by Member Joseph, it was resolved to approve the payment of Act 18 funds to local districts in the amount of $31,760,113 as authorized by the Kent Intermediate Superintendents' Association, Public School Academies, and the Parent Advisory Committee for Special Education. Assistant Superintendent Philipps reviewed the Act 18 payment schedule - $20 million was paid out in September, the October payment brings the total paid to districts to 75% of the projected funds and the remaining funds are paid out in April. President Haidle reminded
board members that the total unfunded liability is still over $29 million for local districts (16.9%), which equates to $319 per pupil that comes out of local general fund budgets.

Ayes: Members Bajema, Drake, Joseph and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Bajema, supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to approve the application maintenance contract from Bulb Digital in the amount of $31,360 for the continued support of the Our School Data application. Director Finkle stated that this continues work completed over the summer as we implemented a new program. This is money set aside for bugs and enhancements. He stated that the data warehouse is currently used throughout Kent county and by an additional five counties.

Ayes: Members Drake, Joseph, Bajema and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Joseph, supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to approve the bid from Lockwood Aviation Supply Inc. in the amount of $29,899 for the purchase of an aircraft engine used to support instruction in the Aviation Maintenance program.

Ayes: Members Joseph, Bajema, Drake and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Bajema, it was resolved to approve the bid from Doc’s Hydraulic Pneumatic Training in the amount of $28,300 for a Hydraulic Training system used to support instruction in the diesel program.

Ayes: Members Bajema, Drake, Joseph and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Bajema, it was resolved to approve the disposition of surplus equipment.

Ayes: Members Drake, Joseph, Bajema and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Bajema, supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to approve the nominees for open Parent Advisory Special Education (P.A.S.E.) seats for the 2019-2022 term as approved by our local education agencies. This includes the addition of two center program parents representing Kent ISD.

Ayes: Members Joseph, Bajema, Drake and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.
Upon motion of Member Joseph, supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to adopt a resolution authorizing Thrun Law Firm to intervene on our behalf regarding the Tax Tribunal Case for Switch, Inc. Assistant Superintendent Philipps reviewed the current dispute with SWITCH, Inc. and the effects that SB 455 would have on school funding. If we do not take steps now, we would not have a voice before the Michigan Tax Tribunal as this case moves forward.

Ayes: Members Bajema, Drake, Joseph and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Bajema, it was resolved to approve travel and expenses for two (2) board members to attend the NSBA Advocacy Institute Conference February 2-4, 2020 and one (1) board member to attend the Equity Symposium February 1, 2020 in Washington, D.C. with customary and allowable expenses covered.

Ayes: Members Drake, Joseph, Bajema and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Steve Dieleman presented a report on Project AWARE, a five-year program ending September 30, 2019 funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. He thanked administration for their support and the Interconnected Systems Framework Leadership team for their work on this grant during the past five years and provided an executive summary and extensive evaluation of the project for interested board members. He reviewed the highlights, recommendations and lessons learned through Project AWARE. He stated that all are responsible for the emotional development of students which is foundational for student success; and that Kent ISD is seen as a leader in School Mental Health services to provide a system of support and a catalyst to build partnerships. Programs are being developed that emulate the KSSN model and immediately involve family in the process of identifying and supporting students. The work in this area will continue even though the grant has ended.

Member Joseph reminded audience members that the board receives meeting information 3-5 days before the board meeting and has time to review the material, ask questions, and come prepared to act at the meetings.

President Haidle reported on the Behind the Scenes at the Capitol event which she attended on September 25. She enjoyed hearing from the new State Superintendent Michael Rice whose most memorable line was that we “must fund needs, not heads”. She informed the board that she has been involved in Cohort I of the DEI National Equity Project and shared that some of the initiatives will be coming to the board. Board policy regarding DEI for Kent ISD needs to be a shared document.
Ron Caniff informed the board that the second DEI cohort will be starting soon. He thanked Steve Dieleman for his Project AWARE presentation. He congratulated Duane Kiley and KTC on winning the “Community Partner Champion Award” from Michigan Rehabilitation Services. Duane will receive this award on Thursday in Lansing from the Director of Labor and Economics Opportunity. Superintendent Caniff reported that the KCTC and KTC open houses were well attended.

President Haidle reminded board members of the next meeting on Monday, November 18 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m. by President Haidle.

Minutes Approved: November 18, 2019

Andrea Haidle, President
Claudia Bajema, Secretary

/cc