FEBRUARY 17, 2020 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, Haidle, James and Rettig
Member Absent: Drake

Kent ISD Staff Present: Superintendent Caniff, Assistant Superintendents Philipps, Sullivan, and Recording Secretary Conners; Directors Baine, Finkel, Karsten, Lamar, Myers, Peraino and Stamas; Principal Graham

Guests: Megan MacNaughton, Clayton Powell

President Haidle administered the Oath of Office to new board member Sylvia James and welcomed her to the Kent ISD School Board.

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

Upon motion of Member Bajema, supported by Member Rettig it was resolved to approve the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of January 20, 2020.

Ayes: All members present (Sylvia James abstained from this vote)
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Bajema, supported by Member Rettig, it was resolved that the bills from January 1, 2020 through January 31, 2020 be allowed and orders drawn on the Treasurer for the amount summarized in the accounts payable report:

a. General Education $ 10,577,999.94
b. Special Education – Center Programs 284,820.35
c. Special Education 7,103,667.27
d. Community Service 341,116.10
e. Career Technical Education 965,644.98
f. Cooperative Education 20,379.32
g. Student/School Activity Fund 13,310.24
h. Capital Projects:
   1) General Education 288,784.44
   2) Special Education 77,027.60
   3) Career Technical Education 14,547.24

TOTAL $ 19,687,297.48
Assistant Superintendent Philipps noted that the expenses were running higher than last January due to the three-pay period month. We received a $200,000 grant that allows Kent ISD to provide a variety of services for homeless students including transportation, clothing, backpacks and supporting local district homeless services.

Ayes: Members Rettig, Bajema, James and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Bajema, supported by Member Rettig, 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. Assistant Superintendent Sullivan thanked the entire HR team for their teamwork this past month which helped cover some unexpected staff medical leave.

Ayes: Members James, Rettig, Bajema and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Rettig, supported by Member Bajema, it was resolved to approve the creation of three new Parent Educator positions for the Bright Beginnings program through funding received from the Kent County Ready by Five millage. Director Karsten stated that these extra positions will support families in Grand Rapids, Wyoming, Godwin Heights and Godfrey-Lee Public Schools.

Ayes: Members Bajema, James, Rettig and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Bajema, supported by Member James, it was resolved to approve the striking of personal property taxes from previous tax rolls.

Ayes: Members James, Rettig, Bajema and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Rettig, supported by Member James, it was resolved to approve the bid from Altra Products Inc. in the amount of $25,404.80 for the purchase of a 3D Electronic Measuring Tool to be used in the Auto Collision Repair program. Director Peraino stated that this purchase was part of last year’s capital outlay projects.

Ayes: Members Rettig, Bajema, James and Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.
Upon motion of Member Rettig, supported by Member James, it was resolved to approve the bid from Overhead Door Company, Inc. in the amount of $221,618.86 for the replacement of the coiling doors at KCTC. Director Peraino stated that the original garage doors are over fifty years old and difficult to repair. There is a plan to replace all the garage doors over the next three years.

Ayes: Members Bajema, James, Rettig and Haidle
Nays: None

*Motion declared to have carried.*

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

Ayes: Members James, Rettig, Bajema and Haidle
Nays: None

*Motion declared to have carried.*

Upon motion of Member James, supported by Member Bajema, it was resolved to approve the request for 26 Kent Career Tech Center students to participate in the Business Professionals of America (BPA) State Competition March 19-22, 2020 in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Ayes: Members Rettig, Bajema, James and Haidle
Nays: None

*Motion declared to have carried.*

Upon motion of Member Rettig, supported by Member Bajema, it was resolved to approve the request for 69 Career Tech Center and HSECA students to participate in the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) State Competition March 8-10, 2020 in Acme, Michigan.

Ayes: Members Bajema, James, Rettig and Haidle
Nays: None

*Motion declared to have carried.*

President Haidle gave a report on her recent trip to attend the NSBA Advocacy Institute in Washington D.C. She thanked Assistant Superintendent Koehler for organizing and leading this worthwhile trip and Kent ISD staff for providing input on various topics prior to her attendance. Topic areas included IDEA full funding (currently only at 14%), the national teacher shortage, e-rate funding and access for everyone to Wi-Fi services, Title IX funds available for school safety and polling results regarding education. A visit to the Swiss Embassy was arranged to learn more about their “school to work” integration program. She stated that this program was very impressive.

President Haidle also attended the National Equity Symposium held just prior to the Advocacy Institute. She reviewed the break-out sessions and key take-aways from this conference. She highly recommended attending the National Equity Symposium if given the opportunity and stated that “equity is an action word”. Member Bajema thanked President Haidle for attending and representing Kent ISD and the school board.

Superintendent Caniff reviewed some of the current diversity/equity work KISA is participating in with David Rease from the New York City Leadership Academy. He stated that a
root cause analysis was completed and was informative. Superintendent Caniff welcomed member Sylvia James and made introductions to the directors and principals in the room. He thanked Clayton Powell for attending as a representative of KTC. Superintendent Caniff informed the board that the Center Program closed Pine Grove school last Friday due to illness. Over 33% of the students and 25% of the staff were out ill. Director Finkel gave a report on Phase 2 of the WAN project. Director Myers stated that the Special Education department is hosting a LEAP conference for parents on March 14.

The meeting was adjourned by President Haidle at 6:54 p.m.

Minutes Approved: April 20, 2020

Andrea Haidle, President

Claudia Bajema, Secretary