

Kingsley Area Schools
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 13, 2023

Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodations for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in this meeting.

7:00 P.M. Call to order the Regular Meeting of the Kingsley Area Schools Board of Education.

Meeting called to order by Board President Tony Temple at 7:00 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

All members present.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1st – Vivian 2nd – Max Unanimous Carries w/ changes

III. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes

- a. Regular Meeting January 9, 2022
- b. Board Workshop January 30, 2023
- c. Special Meeting January 20, 2023

2. Employee Retirements

- a. Retirement of Justine Reinhart/Middle School Teacher effective June 30, 2023
- b. Retirement of Robert Keena/High School Teacher effective June 30, 2023
- c. Retirement of Melissa Newell/High School Teacher effective June 30, 2023
- d. Retirement of Kelly Knight/High School Teacher effective June 30, 2023
- e. Retirement of Linda Gursinski/Elementary Para Professional effective June 30, 2023
- f. Retirement of Todd VanSlembrouck/Assistant Facilities Director effective June 30, 2023
- g. Retirement of Cathie Bott/Elementary Support Staff effective June 30, 2023
- h. Retirement of Sue Billiau/Elementary Para Professional effective June 30, 2023

3. Employee Resignations

- a. Resignation of Michaela Weber/Preschool Aide – exit interview via Google Form to be offered.
- b. Resignation of Nicole Nix/Preschool Aide – exit interview via Google Form to be offered.

4. Payment of bills

- a. We ask the Board for a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$416,346.10.

1st – Max

2nd – Vivian

Unanimous

Carries

IV. ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS

1. From Brittany Moen – set meetings to address new Thrun policies with policy committee in next 6 weeks.
2. Elementary School Principal Report
Ms. Goethals –
 - Collecting names and enrollment for the 2023-2024 preschool year.
 - College and Career Day scheduled by Ms. Emily Ruby, Elementary School Counselor, on April 28th for Elementary students.
 - Reading Month is coming up in March 2023.
 - Literacy Night was rescheduled and will take place on February 21.
3. Middle School Principal Report
Ms. Miller -
 - Welcome new staff Leah Kitchin and Mike Libby.
 - Middle school spelling bee was a success. The winner was a sixth-grade student who will be moving on to the State competition.
 - Kindness Week was a success.
 - Book Wars assembly scheduled for February 22nd.
4. High School Principal Report
Mr. Rapes –
 - Snowball themed spirit week and Snowball dance was successful during the week of 2/6.
 - Band Solo & Ensemble was a huge success. Nine different KAS students participates and volunteered their time.
 - Seven Kingsley students took home a Division 1 rating and two students a Division 2 rating for their performances. Thank you to our band teacher,

Mr. Dubay, for all of your hard work and dedication and our students for being so welcoming and working so hard!

- Proposed traditional 6-hour school period day for consideration by the board.
- SAT Prep continues and began on January 22 at no cost to our students.
- Students will be traveling to the Band Festival in Gaylord on February 25.

5. Athletic Director's Report.

- Mr. Miggenburg unavailable due to scheduling conflict.

V. BOARD REPORTS/REQUESTS

- Heather Bartelmay – none
- Kelly Saxton – Enjoyed the workshop on 01/30. Looking forward to upcoming workshop scheduled 2/23.
- Vivian Snyder – none
- Max Anderson – Finance committee met on 02/08 and had good discussion. One of the school busses was totaled after going into a ditch and two new busses are on order. There are a total of 3 new busses in the budget for this school year. Finance committee discussed the cost of an SRO and the custodian shortage at length. Budget preparations are being made for the upcoming school year. It was also discovered that KAS has not been charging adequate rental fees for building use, which will be updated.
- Ian McKinley – none
- Tina Schelich – none
- Tony Temple – requesting that building administrators contact the Board to inform them of things that happen on school property before they find out via social media or other channels.

VI. DISCUSSION ONLY

1. MASB Board of Directors Election
 - Candidates for MASB Board of Directors Election considered. Candidates included Kenneth Stahl, Nicolette Brown, and Doug Parks.
2. Appointment of Amy Kinney to the Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) as nominated by Kristin Goethals.
 - Elementary School Principal Kristin Goethals presented for the Board's consideration.
3. Post Assistant Facility Director Todd VanSlembrouck's position to the school website and hire a replacement on or before 04/01/2023 in order to train the replacement before Mr. VanSlembouck's retirement date of 06/30/2023.
 - None.

4. Entering into contract negotiations with Grand Traverse Sheriff's Department for School Resource Officer position for 2023 - 2026 utilizing Sec 97 School Resource Officer Grant. District cost outside of grant award is estimated at \$48,000 per year (9 months each year) for each of the three (3) school years.
 - Per Brad Reyburn – the cost of the SRO may be anywhere from \$36,000 to \$48,000 annually depending on whether or not we enter into contract negotiations.
 - Per Tony Temple – an SRO is a need, not a want at this point. An SRO would hopefully decrease negative behaviors in the school and has been successful in the past. This was a position which used to exist and was never backfilled.
 - Per Ian McKinley – concerns about the cost of an SRO while other new and returning positions are also being posted as well and so much of the budget being used for administration.
 - Per Tina Schelich – feels KAS in the last couple of years has gone from “for service to for profit”. Does not feel there is enough secretarial or support staff in place at the schools.
5. Hiring of Melinda Boudot as GSRP Assistant Teacher.
 - Ms. Goethals provided a short summary of Ms. Boudot's qualifications. Ms. Boudot has a degree in Psychology and experience providing care to children.
6. Hiring of Samantha King as GSRP Assistant Teacher.
 - Ms. Goethals provided a short summary of Ms. King's qualifications. Ms. King has a degree in Elementary Education and experience working in a preschool and daycare.
7. Changing the High School daily schedule to a traditional 6 period day Christopher Rapes to present.
 - Presentation by Mr. Rapes via PowerPoint.
 - Requesting consideration to change the current high school schedule from an A-day, B-day block schedule to a traditional 6-period day.
 - Pros: (Included but not limited to) Less learner fatigue, stronger retention of subjects and material, more classes in a day, more flexibility for CTC students.
 - Cons: (Included but not limited to) Some electives would not be offered until junior year, not preferred by some teachers.
 - Statistics show that the middle school students who enter high school consistently trend down in performance once entering a block schedule. The only difference in the schedule between the high school and middle school.
 - The new schedule would reduce the amount of time students have to skip class or feel the need to leave and “wander” the halls during class.

- All staff input and concerns are heard and considered and this process will not be taken lightly if put into effect.
 - Goal is to transition more students away from dual enrollment and Edgenuity and do more in-person classes again.
8. Reading of our Bylaws and Code of Ethics.
 - None
 9. MSBA Board 101 to be taken by all members by 3-30-2023 please present Tony with your certificate of completion. Paid for by the school.
 - Get in touch with Brittany Moen or Mary Bogart to sign up for MASB training.
 10. Upcoming Board of Education Workshop 2-26-2023.
 - Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) to present two different sessions during a seven-hour workshop on 2/26 for the Board of Education and Mr. Reyburn.
 11. Recap of Board of Education Workshop 1-30-2023 – Policies and Updates taking place.
 - Very eye-opening and humbling training. All members appreciated the experience and opportunity. It was learned that some policies were updated as of July 2022 and never adopted by the Board, and these will need to be updated in the near future to be able to catch up to the annual July update schedule.
 12. Communication cadence with the superintendent and the board.
 - Expectations of the Board regarding transparency and communication from the Superintendent. Mr. Reyburn will alert the Board when he is out of District, provide Friday updates weekly to the Board, has an open-door policy outside of meeting times, and will alert the Board to immediate issues that take place on school grounds that raise concern or cause injury.
 13. Posting of an assistant principal at KAS High School and Middle School.
 - Concerns from Ian McKinley about the cost of all the new positions. Inquiring as to whether the cost would be better spent in the Elementary School and Preschool to increase space or reduce class size.
 - Per Brad Reyburn – our current Schools’ fund balance is \$3.8 million dollars and we will be receiving approximately \$668,000 from the State of Michigan this coming school year. The \$668,000 would cover all new positions including the request for two assistant principals, a new Elementary School art teacher, and the Student Resource Officer.
 14. Posting of one full time secretary for KAS High School to be split between athletics and counseling.

- Per Bray Reyburn - this position would not be covered by the State of Michigan funds, but would be used from the current fund balance. Even if this came out of the current fund balance, it would still be above 12%. We should be using the money towards the kids and bettering the school, not left in a bank.
 - Per Tony Temple – this is an old position with slight changes to the schedule and duties that was never backfilled when the former secretary left.
15. Posting one full time new art teacher position at the Elementary School.
- Position would be “Art on a Cart” – mobile art station with one Art teacher.
16. Posting positions online for individuals retiring on June 30, 2023, for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Positions would be voted on to be posted effective immediately.
 - Recruitment and retention to be discussed at a later date.
17. Safety Committee – meeting times and dates.
- Safety Committee to schedule a meeting in the coming weeks to discuss the school mapping project and SRO.
18. Contract for Jason Stowe as mentor for Brad Reyburn at \$1000 per week with one day on site and remote access weekly.
- Mr. Reburn is requesting the one day a week for mentoring and is going to seek out a local mentor through the ISD.
 - Per Max Anderson – if we do vote to approve, would the Board have the ability to cancel the contract when it is no longer needed? How long would the contract be?
 - Per Tony Temple – as long as we want it to be.
19. Re-include a copy of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) newsletter in Kingsley Schools newsletter.
- Per Vivian Snyder – can the Board consider an online option where we link the Downtown Development Authority’s website to the Kingsley Area Schools website?
 - Per Brad Reyburn – the new addition to be paid for by the DDA.
 - Policy Committee to meet to discuss advertising policies.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ms. Robin Lewis – concerned about the rate at which the new schedule for the high school is being considered. Requested that the school “slow down” and consider all options before making the choice. Suggested that the Board consider polling teachers and students before making a choice.

- Ms. Melinda Schaub on behalf of the band boosters – Solo & Ensemble was a huge success, over 800 kids attended and KAS kids actively helped facilitate. 12 KAS students competed in 9 events and took 4 top scores out of 9. KAS Band Director Lance Dubay is “top notch” and “phenomenal” in supporting the kids.
- Lori Tulppo – supportive of a mentor for Mr. Reyburn while he transitions. A lot of new staff – requires support. Concerned about potential schedule changes at High School and what that would mean for daughter who is a junior. Wants to know why the proposed policies are not on school website.
- Jenna WanWagoner – there had been “rumors” regarding the proposed new schedule and students are concerned. Recommending “transparency” from the high school administration and Board with the students during this process. On behalf of the DDA – the newsletter would run 3x a year as an additional to the Kingsley Newsletter and would not contain ads. DDA is a nonprofit government entity and is open to following School Board policy guidelines.
- Lydia Eggleston – changing the schedule to reduce jazz band electives is a bad idea.

VIII. ACTION

1. MASB Board of Directors Election
Motion made by Tina Schelich to vote for Kenneth Stahl.
2nd – Vivian Unanimous Carries
2. Motion to approve the appointment of Amy Kinney to the Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) as nominated by Kristin Goethals.
1st – Max Anderson 2nd – Tina Schelich Unanimous Carries
3. Motion to approve posting Assistant Facility Director Todd VanSlembrouck’s position to the school website and hire a replacement on or before 04/01/2023 in order to train the replacement before Mr. VanSlembouck’s retirement date of 06/30/2023.
1st – Vivian 2nd – Max Unanimous Carries
4. Motion to enter into contract negotiations with Grand Traverse Sheriff’s Department for School Resource Officer position for 2023 - 2026 utilizing Sec 97 School Resource Officer Grant. District cost outside of grant award is estimated at \$48,000 per year (9 months each year) for each of the three (3) school years.
1st – Kelly 2nd – Heather 6 years – 1 nay Carries

5. Motion to approve hiring Melinda Boudot as GSRP Assistant Teacher and Samantha King as GSRP Assistant Teacher.
1st – Tina 2nd – Kelly Unanimous Carries
6. Motion to post a position to hire one full time secretary for KAS High School to be split between athletics and counseling.
1st – Heather 2nd – Tina 5 yeas, 2 nays Carries
7. Motion to post a position to hire assistant principal at KAS High School to start the 2023-2024 school year.
1st – Tina 2nd – Vivian Unanimous Carries
8. Motion to post a position to hire assistant principal at KAS Middle School to start the 2023-2024 school year.
Ian – Motion to table 2nd – Tony 6 yeas, 1 nay Carries
9. Motion to approve posting for one full time new art teacher position at the Elementary School to start the 2023-2024 school year.
1st – Ian 2nd – Vivian Unanimous Carries
10. Motion to approve posting positions online for individuals retiring on June 30, 2023, for the 2023-2024 school year.
1st – Max 2nd – Kelly Unanimous Carries
11. Motion for Board of Education members to read and sign of the Board Code of Ethics.
No motion needed.
12. Motion to approve Contract for Jason Stowe as mentor for Brad Reyburn at \$1000 per week with one day on site and remote access weekly.
1st – Max – with the contingency that Tony maintains close contact to end services when needed. 2nd – Kelly – with the contingency that the topic be placed back on the March agenda for reevaluation. Unanimous Carries
13. Motion to re-include a copy of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) newsletter in Kingsley Schools newsletter.
1st – Heather 2nd – Tina Unanimous Carries
14. (ADDED) Motion to change the High School schedule from a block schedule to a traditional 6-period day.
Tina – Motion to table 2nd – Max Unanimous Carries

IX. BOARD ROUND TABLE

- Kelly Saxton – thank you to all of the retirees for your service. Solo & Ensemble was a big achievement.
- Vivian Snyder – wishes all retirees well. Was able to attend Solo & Ensemble and loved the event. Well done kids for doing so well and being so welcoming to our guests. Any decisions with the high school schedule should be for the good of the students.
- Ian McKinley – will exit interviews be provided for retirees? Kindness Assembly on Thursday was awesome. Could we do something like that for kids monthly? Is a music teacher or Music on a Cart next after the art teacher position is filled?
- Tina Schelich – Solo & Ensemble was a huge success. I acknowledge the proposed schedule change, but we need to remember that we shouldn't focus solely on one demographic. Open minded to extra-curricular solutions. There was a mass exit of preschool workers this past year, why? May want to consider an Early Childhood Coordinator at the Preschool. For the incident at the High School where the boy fell through the ceiling – how did the video get on social media and what discipline and accountability is being held for the incident?
- Max Anderson – Thank you retirees for all your service. Agrees with idea of exit interviews for the retirees. Special thanks to Kristin Goethals for everything she does.
- Heather Bartelmay – none

X. ADJOURNMENT

1st – Tony Temple 2nd – Kelly Saxton Unanimous Carries
Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Kingsley Area Schools Board of Education:

Tony Temple President Vivien Snyder Vice-President Kelly Saxton Secretary
Heather Bartelmay Trustee Tina Schelich Trustee Max Anderson Treasurer Ian McKinley Trustee

Mission Statement

"Kingsley Area Schools, together with family and community, share the responsibility to educate all students to become productive responsible citizens and lifelong learners."