

**KANKAKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 111  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
December 12, 2011**

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The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Kankakee School District No. 111, Kankakee County, Illinois, was held at 6:15 p.m. in the Teachers' Lounge at Edison Primary School, 1991 East Maple Street, Kankakee, Illinois.

ROLL CALL

Members present:     John Coghlan  
                              Amelia A. Davis  
                              Karen Johnston-Gentry, President  
                              Jill Pristach, Vice President  
                              Dana Washington

Members absent:     Jerome C. Shapiro (Entered at 6:17 p.m.)  
                              Barbara Wells (Entered at 6:20 p.m.)

A quorum was declared present.

**Closed Session**

At 6:15 p.m., motion was made by Pristach, seconded by Coghlan, to adjourn to closed session to discuss a student discipline issue, personnel and negotiations. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Davis, Johnston-Gentry, Olszewski, Pristach, Shapiro, and Kramer. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The closed session was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

At 7:02 p.m. the regular session was reconvened.

Meeting with the Board were:

                  Colleen Legge, Superintendent  
                  Jeanette Kreuz, Assistant Superintendent  
                  Dr. Linda Mitchell, Assistant Superintendent  
                  Beth Yacobi, Assistant Superintendent  
                  Vicki Scott, Recording Secretary

There were no news media reporters present.

**Public Hearing for the 2011 Tax Levy**

At 7:03 p.m., motion was made by Shapiro, seconded by Coghlan, to adjourn for a public hearing concerning the 2011 Tax Levy. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Coghlan, Davis, Pristach, Shapiro, Washington, Wells, and Johnston-Gentry. Nays: none. Motion carried.

There were no public comments made.

At 7:05 p.m., motion was made by Shapiro, seconded by Pristach, to close the public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Davis, Pristach, Shapiro, Washington, Wells, Coghlan, and Johnston-Gentry. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The presentation of the 2011 Tax Levy was provided by Jeanette Kreuz, Assistant Superintendent.

Mrs. Kreuz reported that no changes occurred to the Tax Levy since the tentative levy was presented to the Board on November 14, 2011.

Roll  
Call

Closed  
Session

Reconvene

Tax Levy  
Public Hearing  
& Presentation

The 2011 tax levy will be collected by the County Treasurer and remitted to the school district between July 2012 and January 2013. We estimate that the gross assessed value as well as the net assessed value will increase by approximately 3% over last year (the actual assessed values will not be finalized until late March of 2012 by the County Assessor's Office).

The total Estimated 2011 Levy is \$17,265.760 which represents revenue growth of \$729,565 over the 2010 Levy. The revenue growth is due to the inclusion of three TIF's which expired at the end of the 2009 property tax year.

The net amount of money actually extended and collected for 2011 will probably be about 98% of this request after factoring in the effects of tax increment financing district abatements, enterprise zone abatements, property tax cap implications, property tax appeal board decisions and non-payments.

The County Clerk's Office will calculate the actual impact of property tax caps on existing property in March 2012. The levy rate adjustment factor and the adjusted levy rates will be forwarded to the District at that time. It is anticipated that the overall levy growth, excluding the amount required for bond and interest payments, will be limited to the Consumer Price Index for 2010 (currently estimated to be about 1.5%).

At 7:09 p.m., motion was made by Shapiro, seconded by Pristach, to reconvene regular session. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Pristach, Shapiro, Washington, Wells, Coghlan, Davis, and Johnston-Gentry. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students from Edison. The students also performed two songs.

**Superintendent's Report**

Ms. Legge reported the following information:

- **Good News Items**

<b>Date</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Event</b>
November 2011	Edison	The Risser Neighborhood Group	The Risser Neighborhood Group donated \$250 to Edison Primary to purchase needed school supplies.
November 2011	Mark Twain Kennedy	The Kankakee Community Association for Home and Community Education	The Kankakee Community Association for Home and Community Education donated school supplies to Mark Twain and Kennedy.
November 2011	Kennedy	Jennifer Morehead, Director of Research Funds at Governor's State University	Jennifer Morehead, Director of Research Funds at Governors State University donated "Teaching the Constitution" materials to the Kennedy Library for Constitution Day held in September.
December 2011	KHS	Tara Capelle	Ms. Capelle donated a ceramics wheel to the KHS Art Program.
December 2011	Aroma Park Steuben Taft Kennedy	Girl Scout Troop #150 St. Mark United Methodist Church	Girl Scout Troop #150 and St. Mark United Methodist Church donated over 120 items - hats, gloves, and scarves to Aroma Park, Steuben, Taft, and Kennedy. The girl scouts had a community project called "Warm for Winter" and they collected money, shopped for the hats, gloves, and scarves, and then voted on the schools that would benefit from this project. St. Mark's helped them with the collection of items.

Pledge

Superintendent's Report

Good News

December 2011	Aroma Park Edison Lafayette LCC Mark Twain Steuben Taft Kennedy King	AT & T Telephone Pioneers, Kankakee Life Member Club	The AT & T Telephone Pioneers, Kankakee Life Member Club began the "All God's Children Shall Have Shoes" program in 1971 and for forty years have been providing new shoes to those in need at Christmastime. This year the Pioneers purchased new shoes for 114 District students. The District transported the students to Sears where the students picked out a new pair of shoes.
December 2011	Steuben	Kankakee Valley Chapter of the Autism Society of America	Ms. Wilkins from Steuben was one of four recipients of a mini-grant from the Kankakee Valley Chapter of the Autism Society of America. Ms. Wilkins will use the \$1,000 min-grant to purchase two iPads which will help transition and reinforce autistic children in the general education setting.

Principal's  
Report**Principal's Report**

Kathleen O'Connor, Principal at Edison Primary School, provided the following information:

Ms. O'Connor reported on a program unique to Edison Primary School – the Computer Magnet Program. Edison offers one strand of computer magnet at each grade level addressing different aspects of technology related to vocabulary and actual skills. The magnet students use technology to enhance learning, increase productivity, and promote creativity.

Edison held a Computer Magnet Open House on November 8<sup>th</sup> and had a great turnout as many parents/guardians came to see the magnet classrooms.

Ms. O'Connor said that the computer magnet teachers are responsible for all district initiatives. The teachers are utilizing NETS (National Education Technology Standards) to ensure basic technology operations and concepts are covered at various grade levels. These standards are developed by ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education) to ensure students are proficient in various areas of technology by certain grade levels.

Ms. O'Connor stated that technology is changing everyday and as educators we have no choice but to make sure we stay abreast of these technology advancements. The Common Core Standards have technology and digital media embedded throughout the standards which our students will be expected to navigate. The School Code recently made changes saying that our K-12 students must receive education on internet safety and appropriate on-line behavior.

Public  
CommentsConsent  
Agenda**Public Comments**

No public comments were made.

Board  
Minutes**Consent Agenda**

The following items were presented:

Bills

1. The following Board minutes were presented for approval:
  - **November 14, 2011-Regular Meeting (Regular & Executive Session Minutes)**
  - **November 29, 2011-Special Meeting (Regular & Executive Session Minutes)**
2. The Payroll and Related Bills were presented for approval. (See Insert A.)
3. The Regular Bills were presented for approval. (See Insert B.)
4. The Workers' Compensation Insurance premium coverage which is up for renewal on December

Workers'  
Comp  
InsuranceOvernight Trip  
Request

- 15, 2011 was presented for approval. The administration recommended that the Board of Education approve the renewal premium of \$892,826 from Indiana Insurance Company as presented by the Deuschle-Gilmore Insurance Agency of Kankakee.
5. An overnight trip request to Galesburg, Illinois, for the KHS Boys' Varsity Basketball Team was presented for approval. The proposed overnight trip of the Boys' Varsity Basketball Team to Galesburg, Illinois on January 15<sup>th</sup> is necessary because the following day's game is at 9:00 a.m.
6. The annual letter of certification verifying that the Bessie Gray Music Trust funds are being used as intended was presented for approval. Several years ago the district was honored to receive the Bessie Gray Music Trust and annually the district recertifies that the funds received are utilized for the purpose intended. The trust was established to provide the District with funds to purchase music and music supplies for the use of the pupils in the high school and the grade schools.
7. The Head Start Program Policy Council document was presented for approval.
  - October Financial Status Report for Base
8. The Resolution to release the Executive Session Minutes and destroy the tapes as follows was presented for approval: (See Insert C.)
  - **Minutes to Release to the Public**  
July 11, 2011
  - **Tapes for Destruction**

January 7, 2010	February 16, 2010
January 11, 2010	March 8, 2010
January 19, 2010	March 22, 2010
January 25, 2010	April 12, 2010
February 8, 2010	June 14, 2010

The minutes were reviewed by the Superintendent and the attorney as required by law.
9. The following personnel items were presented for approval:

Staff Member	Position	Effective Date
<b>Resignations-Certified Personnel</b>		
Phyllis Howery	Teacher/Part-Time Interventionist/Math at KJHS	November 20, 2011
Stephen LeClair	Teacher/Keyboarding & Tech Literacy at KJHS	January 13, 2012
<b>Resignations-Support Personnel</b>		
Eurethia Love	Teacher Aide/SpEd/BD at IMPACT	December 20, 2011
Racheal Morrow Smith	Teacher Aide/ILC Supervisor at Kennedy	December 20, 2011
<b>Resignation-Extra-Curricular Personnel</b>		
Peter Bretzlaff	Head Varsity Soccer Coach at KHS	November 4, 2011
<b>Appointments-Certified Personnel</b>		
Denise Onderwater	Part-Time Title I Reading Interventionist at Kennedy	December 13, 2011
Patricia Matyasec	Part-Time Title I Reading Interventionist at Steuben	December 13, 2011
<b>Appointment-Support Personnel</b>		
Traci Annis	Cafeteria Helper at KHS	December 13, 2011
<b>Appointments-Extra-Curricular Personnel</b>		
Jeanne Benson	Spring Musical Accompanist at LCC	December 13, 2011
Michael Birr	Spring Musical Tech Coordinator at LCC	December 13, 2011
Lori Buckman	Spring Musical Music Director at LCC	December 13, 2011
Robert Ellington-Snipes	Black History Program Accompanist at LCC	December 13, 2011
Candace Jackson	Black History Program Assistant Director at LCC	December 13, 2011
Latrice Johnson	Black History Program Technical Director at LCC	December 13, 2011
Julie Tomisek	Spring Musical Orchestra Director at LCC	December 13, 2011
Alicia Young	Black History Program Director at LCC	December 13, 2011
<b>Leaves of Absence-Support Personnel</b>		
Amanda Culp	Cafeteria Helper at Lafayette	11/10/11 – 12/31/11
Kelly Blogg	Cafeteria Helper at Proegler	11/14/11 – 01/01/12
Katherine James	Cafeteria Helper at Proegler	11/29/11 – 01/02/12

Bessie Gray Music Trust

Head Start

Executive Session Minutes

Personnel

Resignations

Appointments

Leaves of Absence

Tax Levy

Ms. Legge provided the Board with a brief summary of the above items.

Motion was made by Shapiro, seconded by Coghlan, to approve the above listed consent agenda items as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Shapiro, Washington, Wells, Coghlan, Davis, Pristach, and Johnston-Gentry. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**2011 Tax Levy**

The 2011 Tax Levy Resolution, Certificate of Tax Levy, and Certificate of Compliance were presented for approval. (See Insert D.)

Health Clinic Bid Results

Motion was made by Shapiro, seconded by Pristach, to approve the Resolution, Certificate of Tax Levy, and the Certificate of Compliance for the 2011 Tax Levy as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Washington, Wells, Coghlan, Davis, Pristach, Shapiro, and Johnston-Gentry. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**Health Clinic Renovation Bid Results**

The recommendation to accept the bid from Heritage Development and Construction Company, Inc. for the Health Clinic Renovation at the Junior High School in the amount of \$644,000 was presented for approval.

In July 2011 the District was awarded a \$500,000 competitive grant for the expansion of the Health Clinic at the junior high school. The bid opening was held on November 22, 2011 where ten bids were received for the project. The bids were reviewed by JH2B Architects. Heritage Development and Construction Company, Inc. was the lowest bidder for this project at a price of \$644,000. The project will be funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Working Cash Bond Issue.

Mrs. Wells asked why the plumbing costs are 15.7% of project cost and the industry average is 11.5%. Mrs. Kreuz responded that Mr. Hultsch from JH2B Architects did not have a clear answer why the local average was above the industry average.

Working Cash Bonds

Motion was made by Pristach, seconded by Wells, to approve the bid from Heritage Development and Construction Company, Inc. for the Health Clinic Renovation at the junior high school as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Wells, Coghlan, Davis, Pristach, Shapiro, Washington, and Johnston-Gentry. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**Resolution of Intent to Issue Working Cash Fund Bonds of the District**

The recommendation to approve the BINA (Bond Issue Notification Act) Resolution and to direct the administration to publish notice of said BINA Hearing was presented for approval. (See Insert E)

The administration recommended the approval of the BINA resolution as provided by our Bond Counsel, Chapman and Cutler, and to direct the administration to publish notice of said BINA hearing to be held on January 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria at Kankakee High School.

President Johnston-Gentry stated that in view of the current financial condition of the District, the Board of Education would consider the adoption of a resolution declaring its intention to issue working cash fund bonds pursuant to Article 20 of the School Code and directing that notice of such intention be published.

Secretary Shapiro read the resolution declaring the intention to avail of the provisions of Article 20 of the School Code of the State of Illinois, as amended, as to issue Working Cash Fund Bonds of Kankakee School District Number 111, Kankakee County, Illinois, and directing that notice of such intention be published in the manner provided by law.

Motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Pristach, to approve the BINA Resolution and to direct the Administration to publish notice of said BINA Hearing as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Coghlan, Davis, Pristach, Shapiro, Washington, Wells, and Johnston-Gentry. Nays: none. Motion carried.

President Johnston-Gentry said, "I hereby call a public hearing concerning the intent of the Board of Education of Kankakee School District Number 111, Kankakee County, Illinois to sell \$6,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds. The public hearing will be held at 7:00 o'clock P.M. on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of January 2012, in the cafeteria in the Kankakee High School, 1200 West Jeffery Street, Kankakee, Illinois, in the District, concerning the Board's intent to sell the Bonds and to receive public comments regarding the proposal to sell the Bonds (the "Hearing")."

#### **Agreement with PMA Securities for Sale of Working Cash Bonds**

An agreement with PMA Securities to provide the professional services as financial advisor in connection with the issuance of \$6,000,000 in General Obligation Limited School Bonds, Series 2012 for a total of \$24,350 was presented for approval.

Mr. Coghlan questioned the cost of the professional service with regards to the plus \$750 for the electronic distribution system. Bob Lewis, a representative from PMA, explained that in the past the official statement that the District has to distribute to potential bond holders was printed by an outside firm for a fee of \$1500; in addition they did an electronic distribution. In order to lower the cost to the clients PMA developed their own in-house distribution system for half the cost.

Motion was made by Coghlan, seconded by Washington, to approve PMA Securities to provide the professional services as financial advisor as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Davis, Pristach, Shapiro, Washington, Wells, Coghlan, and Johnston-Gentry. Nays: none. Motion carried.

#### **Dual Language Magnet**

A Dual Language Magnet Program offered for kindergarten students beginning in the 2012-2013 school year was presented for approval.

A Dual Language Magnet will be offered for kindergarten students beginning in the 2012-2013 school year. This new program will be housed at Mark Twain Primary School. While kindergarten will be the only grade level added in year one of this program, this program will expand, one grade level per year through the sixth grade over the next seven years.

Mrs. Wells asked if this program would be mirrored to the program at Head Start and if those students currently in the dual language program at Head Start would be targeted for the kindergarten program. Mrs. Yacobi, Assistant Superintendent, responded that the Head Start Program was a pilot program to see if there were community interest in participating in a dual language program. Yacobi further stated that the Head Start students are eligible to apply as well as all students in the district. Superintendent Legge said that there are a number of district students who don't qualify for Head Start so those students would never have the opportunity to get in the dual language magnet program if we moved Head Start students into the seats. Wells responded that not every slot would have to go to a Head Start student, but it would make the program more successful. After further discussion, Yacobi closed by stating that there will be an agreement between parents and the school with the criteria stated and clear expectations.

Motion was made by Pristach, seconded by Wells, to approve a Dual Language Magnet Program for kindergarten students as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Pristach, Shapiro, Washington, Wells, Coghlan, Davis, and Johnston-Gentry. Nays: none. Motion carried.

#### **Proposed Curricular Changes for 2012-2013 School Year**

Proposed curricular changes for the 2012-2013 school year were presented for approval. The administration recommended that the Board of Education to approve the curricular changes proposed at the last BOE meeting. These include changes in science and social science at the high school; Spanish at the junior high and high school; PE, business, and art at the high school; and the addition of an AVID course.

Motion was made by Pristach, seconded by Washington, to approve the proposed curricular changes for the

PMA Agreement

Dual Language  
Magnet

Discussion

Proposed  
Curricular ChangesOld  
Business

2012-2013 school year as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE--Ayes: Shapiro, Washington, Wells, Coghlan, Davis, Pristach, and Johnston-Gentry. Nays: none. Motion carried.

#### Old Business

#### 1. ROTC Program

Mrs. Washington inquired about the progress of offering a ROTC program at the high school. Mrs. Yacobi said a call was made to Great Lakes and the program for a high school is called Jr. ROTC. The first thing the district would need to do is determine which armed forces services we would offer. The Army is not expanding their services at this time. The district would have to apply and it is usually a 1 ½ years of planning. Yacobi further explained that some armed services offer grants and others don't. Some things to consider are the funding and do we have the facilities to support the program. Mrs. Pristach suggested we poll the students to see how many would be interested in the program and if interested, in what services. Superintendent Legge said that could be done.

#### 2. Special Board Meeting ~ January 3, 2012

Superintendent Legge reminded the Board Members that there is a Special Board Meeting with Jeff Cohn for Board training on January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 p.m. President Johnston-Gentry asked the Board Members to forward any possible training topics to her as soon as possible.

#### Information and Proposals

The following items were provided for information:

1. Response to Public Comments from previous meeting.
2. Board of Education Committee Meeting Minutes
  - Curriculum Committee Meeting ~ November 9, 2011
  - Policy Committee Meeting ~ November 15, 2011
  - Human Resources Committee Meeting ~ November 29, 2011
  - Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting ~ November 30, 2011
3. Board of Education Policy Changes (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)
  - 2:250 Board of Education - Access to District Public Records
  - 3:60 School Administration - Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal
  - 4:80 Operations - Accounting and Audits
  - 5:90 Personnel - Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
  - 5:100 Personnel - Staff Development Program
  - 6:60 Instruction - Curriculum Content
  - 6:150 Instruction - Home and Hospital Instruction
  - 6:160 Instruction - English Language Learners
  - 6:190 Instruction - Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities
  - 6:255 Instruction - Assemblies and Ceremonies
  - 6:300 Instruction - Graduation Requirements
  - 7:260 Students - Exemption from Physical Activity
  - 7:305 Students - Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries
4. Report on 2011 IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Conference ~ Dana Washington & John Coghlan
 

Mrs. Washington thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend and said she felt the Board as a whole would benefit from attending together. Washington was very impressed with the electronic board packets. She would like to see the district purchase Board iPads for approximately \$4,200 to be used for board packets. She had researched the cost of paper, toner, time, etc. and said that within six months more than \$4,200 is spent. Washington feels it would be to the District's advantage if the board members could have iPads. Superintendent Legge said she would do some research and speak with the technology department and Mrs. Kreuz.

Mr. Coghlan also thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the conference. He concentrated on areas that he knew little about – new common core standards and the changes coming to teacher evaluations. The one seminar he received the most out of was conducted by a professor at ISU and a former superintendent regarding the mechanics and ideas of union negotiations.
5. Head Start Program ~ Policy Council Minutes

Information

Response to Public  
Comments  
Board Committees  
Policy Changes  
2011 Joint  
Conference Report  
Head Start  
State Revenue  
Financial  
Staff Absences  
Suspension Report

6. State Revenue Update
  - As of December 12, 2011, the total outstanding debt for this year is \$3,067,304
7. Revenue & Expenditure Accounts Report/Budget Summary Report
8. Financial & Fund Balances Report
9. Staff Absence Report
10. Suspension Report

Adjourn

President Johnston-Gentry reviewed the calendar dates and wished everyone a happy holiday season. She also reminded everyone about the Holiday Tournament being held at Kankakee High School on December 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>.

At 8:13 p.m. motion was made by Shapiro, seconded by Pristach, to adjourn the meeting. All ayes; motion carried.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Johnston-Gentry, President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jerome C. Shapiro, Secretary

vs

**Approved: January 9, 2012**