

**KITTATINNY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
March 22, 2018**

***STATE MANDATED REQUIREMENT – BOARD MUST COMPLY AND MAY NOT
DEFEAT BY MAJORITY NO VOTES.**

The Regular Meeting of the Kittatinny Regional High School Board of Education was held on Thursday, March 22, 2018 in the High School Library. The Board President, Mr. Cooper, called the meeting to order with the salute to the flag and the statement that the meeting was being held in conformity with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Members Present: Mr. Carl D. Cooper, President
 Ms. Eleanore Shaffer, Vice-President
 Mrs. Judy Youngs
 Mr. Robert Greene
 Mr. James Hunt
 Mrs. Moira Douglas
 Mr. David Ormesher
 Mrs. Barbara Andrews

Members Absent: None

Also present were Mr. Craig Hutcheson, Superintendent, Mrs. Kathleen Kane, Business Administrator, Mrs. Lorraine Walther, Assistant Board Secretary, and Public.

At 7:00 pm, the Board President, Mr. Cooper, called the meeting to order **Call to** with the salute to the flag and the statement that the meeting was being **Order** held in conformity with the Open Public Meetings Act as follows:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Kittatinny Regional High School Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted: The New Jersey Herald, the Sunday New Jersey Herald, Constituent Municipal Buildings, Constituent Boards of Education, and the Kittatinny Regional High School.

A motion was made by Ms. Shaffer, seconded by Mrs. Andrews and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the Work Session Minutes of February 8, 2018, the Regular Minutes of February 15, 2018, and the Executive Session Minutes of February 8 and 15, 2018.

A motion was made by Mrs. Andrews, seconded by Mrs. Youngs and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the Financial Statements of the Treasurer of School Monies and the Secretary's Report of February, 2018.

PRESENTATION:

Dr. Galipeau's students gave a presentation on 21st century learning spaces and how they would like to turn room E106 into a 21st century learning space.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:27 p.m., the following resolution was approved by Mr. Greene, seconded by Mr. Hunt and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present: **Executive Session**

WHEREAS, The Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, PL 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Kittatinny Regional Board of Education is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Kittatinny Regional Board of Education, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that a closed session of this Board of Education (where the public shall be excluded) will be held at this time for the purpose of discussing: negotiations & personnel.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the action of the Board with regard to the above entitled matters shall be disclosed to the public at a later date and to the extent that the same is not prejudicial to the interests of the parties involved, and would not result in a possible invasion of their right of privacy.

At 7:50 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Greene, seconded by Ms. Shaffer and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to adjourn Executive Session, the results of which will be made public this evening. **Adjourn Executive Session**

CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank you card along with pictures from Cheryl and Katie Williver from the ACDA All Eastern Junior High Honors Choir trip.

COMMENDATIONS

- Thomas Hontz, Sarah Calderon, Julia Al-Nawal and Danny Shackleton for planning and running an outstanding Memorial Service for school shooting victims around the country on March 14, 2018. This was a voluntary service attended by most of our student body.
- The following students for being named Students of the Month for February:
 - 7th: Sierra Tillman; Josh Garcia
 - 8th: Mary Doherty; Quentin Meng
 - 9th: Vanessa Riscinti; Brendan Smith
 - 10th: Madeline Sofio; Kevin O'Dea
 - 11th: Hailey Gregory; Jack Sweatt
 - 12th: Aimee Oliver; Derek Kays
- Aiden Van Wingerden for being chosen as the Junior High Caring Award recipient.
- Caitlin Carbone for making another generous donation to the YNA Said fund.
- Wrestling Team for winning the NJAC Colonial Division.
- Wrestling District II winners:
 - 1st Place – Calvin Brook, Jacob Mafaro, Zach Mafaro
 - 2nd Place – Perry Maio, Michael Callahan
 - 3rd Place – Patrick Franco, Michael Nelson
- Wrestlers Zach Mafaro, 6th Place finish at the NJSIAA Wrestling Championships and Calvin Brook for becoming a state qualifier and competing in the state wrestling tournament in Atlantic City.
- Girls Varsity Basketball team for winning the NJAC Colonial Division, qualifying for the State Sectionals and making it to the second round, and for winning both the Delaware Valley Tournament and the NJAC Colonial Division Championship for the third year in a row.
- Girls Swim team for qualifying for State Sectionals.
- Congratulations to both Jake Riva and Samantha Russell for their performances at this year's NJSIAA Meet of Champions.
- Junior High Boys and Girls Basketball teams for placing 2nd in the Hardyston Tournament.

PETITIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

- Amy Deposito, Wantage – I am reading a statement on behalf of Maryanne Doherty who is a New Jersey licensed social worker. This prepared statement involves the situation that is going on at the McKeown School, so if I say I it's really Maryanne. Maryanne's been involved in a case since July of 2017 for the victim's mother called me her son disclosed what was going on at the school of sexual abuse he endured at the hands of another classmate at least two years prior at the McKeown School. On July 13, 2017 I went to the McKeown School and told the principal, Dr. Goodwin, what the victim had said. She was physically shaken and distraught and said she had to notify Craig Hutcheson the Superintendent, she told the victim's mother to sue the school. Mr. Hutcheson arrived, the victim's mother retold the story, and then wrote it in a statement for him. He always referred to the actions as alleged and said that he would contact the State Police and DCP&P. Later that same afternoon the victim's mother and father went to the state police

PETITIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE – con't

barracks as well and eventually were told the case would be transferred to DCP&P due to the ages of those involved. To make a long story short after conducting some preliminary interviews the case worker assigned went on vacation and the ball was dropped. No information was ever provided to the victim's parents. Mr. Hutcheson assured the victim's parents and me that he would follow all procedures and await guidance from involved agencies. He expressed no concern about both boys starting school in September of 2017 at McKeown since everything conveyed was alleged. He felt they could meet both the victim and the alleged abuser's IEP goals while keeping everyone safe. I asked Mr. Hutcheson if he would notify the board attorney and he said no and explained he handled a majority of the school's legal matters; therefore, saves untold sums of money. I ask if he would start an HIB investigation as required by the state law and he said yes. As of this evening McKeown has still not commenced an investigation as per the HIB policy. As this case has gone on it has become widely known that this alleged abuser not only assaulted this victim for two years but other children as well. He has harmed small animals and brings a large knife in front of other children and most recently made a verbal threat to blow up the McKeown School. It is my understanding that he was given a three day out of school suspension for this, but I would like to know as a condition of being returned to the school was he required to be evaluated by a child psychiatrist. It has been eight months since this abuse was reported to McKeown, they have thumbed their noses at the law and Hampton residents. In another three months this school year will end and the alleged abuser will be on his way to Kittatinny Regional High School. McKeown has chosen to ignore one red flag after another are they biding their time until he moves up to Kittatinny Regional and becomes their responsibility? You're hearing this horrendous history from the people directly involved and soon you'll receive this child's records as he moves to Kittatinny Regional. I have stated that it is too late for the victim in this case who was failed in every way by McKeown and it remains to be seen if it's too late to help the alleged abuser, but what is clear are the mandates schools are charged with. Those and plain common sense tell any reasonably intelligent person that this child needs extensive intervention. You are charged with insuring his rights while also keeping the Kittatinny Regional High School population safe. Please heed the warnings of all who have spoken to McKeown and are speaking to you now regarding this issue. It would be one more in a long line of catastrophe's that once again failure to intervene despite numerous red flags leads to yet another preventable tragedy. Thank you.

- Kate Christie-Matteson, Sparta – I'm an alumni of Kittatinny Regional High School class of 1995. I regret to be here tonight since I spent six years of my life at this school and there's still staff members sitting in this room whom I greatly respect and so it's with regret that I have to deliver this message to this audience tonight about this unfortunate situation. As I said my name is Kate Christie-Matteson and I currently live in Sparta, New Jersey. I'm here tonight to relay my experience over an ongoing incident at McKeown School in which I have become involved for various reasons. This situation involves a student who attends sixth grade at McKeown who has several allegations against him including sexual assault and who will soon be a student at Kittatinny if swift action isn't taken by either administration. I'll briefly qualify as to why this situation has become

PETITIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE – con't

important to me as I stated I'm a Kittatinny graduate and have first hand knowledge as to the history of this school, second my daughter attended seventh and eighth grade at Kittatinny, while my husband and I were Stillwater residents before encountering several incidences that caused me to remove her from this school district. Most crucial being a deeply negative experience with your Superintendent that made it clear to me that I would not be able to raise my daughter in this district. Let alone the three younger daughters I still needed to send through Kittatinny. Most importantly I have been close friends with the original victim's family for years and know first hand what they have been through. Not only with their own child who has suffered but how they have suffered as a result of the horrendous treatment of your Superintendent as well as his administration and now knowing the board of ed President of Hampton and the complicit board members. I also have close family members who will be attending Kittatinny in the next few years and I have every reason to fear for their safety in your school if something is not done very soon. I'd also like to add I have been approached by teachers and staff who in their fear to speak out because of the culture of silence and fear their Superintendent has created have asked that I be there voice when it comes to this matter. Word may have limited knowledge as to the events which have been occurring at McKeown since July of 2017 and were taking place even before that both on school grounds and on the buses. It is now March of 2018 and this situation has yet to be properly handled with new revelations occurring almost weekly. I'm addressing tonight the Kittatinny board because in a few short months this child will be attending your school. The facts of this case are that this child was sent to a restrictive school environment for behavior issues in first grade, he reentered McKeown in fourth grade. Allegations against him were reported the summer after his fifth grade year and are alleged to have been occurring for quite some time. To be clear there have been multiple other alleged incidents regarding sexual assault both documented and anecdotal. Pictures of the child with weapons, testimony from community member that the child carries weapons that could kill small animals. A police report entered with the state police in Augusta explaining that the child put a knife to another child's throat and most recently last week or the week before a bomb threat the school chose to suspend the child for three days. For months now concerned community members have been attending board meetings pleading for the Hampton board of education to remove the child from the school not only for the safety of the entire school but because this child clearly needs serious intervention that may in fact save his own life in the future but to no avail. The Superintendent and board have met these parents with snickering, laughing, and coldness. The victim's family in particular have been vilified by the Super and the board and there reputation have been dragged through the mud. If you only knew like I do how your Superintendent has treated this victim and family throughout this process I find it hard to believe that as decent human beings you can find any excuse for his behavior. It has also been revealed and not denied that the school failed to accurately follow their own HIB policies regarding this matter and even held a meeting on January 3, 2018 which was not properly noted to the public in which no members of the public attended. When challenged by a lawyer that this was in direct violation of the sunshine law at a very peculiar time during the course of this matter why this meeting

PETITIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE – con't

wasn't noticed and why no members were present at this meeting the board of education in an open public session did not deny that the meeting was held in private. During this meeting a report was produced which I just handed to you to be sent to the parents basically backing up your Superintendents position on the matter and denying any wrongdoing and insisting that the community members who were concerned were all a part of a massive social media rumor campaign. Nothing could be further from the truth. I urge the board tonight to take into serious consideration the allegations against this student and whether you want to agree with your Super that he shouldn't receive a more proper education that would benefit your student body and the student himself elsewhere. I urge you to consider the implications of ignoring numerous red flags like other schools have done only to end up with horrendous tragedies on their hands that they will live with for the rest of their lives because that's where this is headed if this child does not receive the help that he needs. Several parents at McKeown have called for your Superintendents resignation as well as the resignation of the Principal and the Vice Principal. The Hampton board of education is now complicit in your Superintendent extensive cover up of this incident. The responsibility for how to handle this will now fall on Kittatinny's shoulders. My understanding is that a board of education, as elected officials, are expected to hold a Superintendent to a level of behavior that includes wise decision making and following of the laws for the best interest of the students and community. Yet it seems to me that your Superintendent has things the other way around and is running the show without any expectation of ever having to answer to any body whether it be elected, staff, or the community. Please take control of this situation and do what is best for your school. It is being revealed and more will most certainly be revealed that there is a clear inability for your schools highest position of authority of Superintendent to handle issues of school and student safety in a manner that best protects the student body. This indicates that your system is broken from the top and cannot function properly. In this condition when a Superintendent cannot accurately assess and judge a risk and protect their school it is a recipe for a tragedy to occur; this is just such a scenario. Thank you for listening.

- Joan Joossen, Branchburg, NJ – the reason I'm here is because I've been on the outside of this case since I first heard about in August of 2017. If I might digress for just a minute I did some research before I came up here, in 2015 according to the New Jersey Department of Child Welfare there were 9,689 victims of abuse or neglect for people under the age of 18, 8.8% of that 9,600 were sexual, every 98 seconds an adult is molested, every 8 minutes a child is molested, that's nationwide not just in New Jersey. Of those children 34% are under the age of 12, 66% are between the ages of 12 to 17, and 7% occurs at school, the abusers, 2.3% are under the age of 18. So what we're dealing with here is not something that's out in outer space it's a real issue and a real problem and as an outsider looking in, I don't have any kids, I'm not a lawyer, I'm not a doctor, I don't play one on TV, but what I'm seeing from the outside looking in at this particular case is gross negligence on the part of the board in dealing with the people involved in this issue; not just for the abused child but for the abuser as well. It's unfathomable to me when there's allegations of sexual abuse that more isn't put into the allegations why they are summarily

PETITIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE – con't

dismissed as a he said, he said kind of issue. This is something that should be taken seriously and it's never been taken seriously by anybody on the McKeown board. I know for a fact that the parents of the victim had pleaded with the board in McKeown to remove the abuser, alleged abuser, from the school; that was denied. They then pleaded with the board to allow their child to transfer to another school, to a different environment, that too was denied and the youngster spent nine weeks being home schooled before his approval came through for him to go Stillwater. The first period he went to Stillwater he made the honor roll what does that have to tell you. This is now a child who enjoys going to school instead being terrified that something is going to happen to him in a place where he should be extremely safe. The fact that the abuser, alleged abuser, is going to be here next year doesn't make me feel any better. It's just, the kid needs help, something that we all can agree on, child abusers are not born that way they become that way because something has happened to them, neglect, their own abuse, whatever, but this is something that develops and the fact that this is a child who started this in the fifth grade is pretty darn frightening because records indicate that abusers continue their pattern and all through their lives they will not only become abusers but pedophiles and God help us if that happens. And the other thing that bothers me and I've said this before is the fact that so much effort has been made to defame the parents of the alleged victim they have been mistreated verbally and in writing. They have been accused of money hungry and looking for financial gain; when nothing is further from the truth. All they want is for their son to be able to go to school and get a decent education so he can live up to the possibilities of his potential. They're decent hard working folks and they don't deserve this, neither does the child, neither does the abuser for that matter. He should be helped this is, to me, as an uneducated psychologist, he's screaming for help. Everything he does is a cry for somebody to help him to pay attention to him and unless you do he's just going to keep on doing it. The facts show that he just keeps repeating over and over and over again. Children are afraid of him and yet one child made the mistake of saying that he didn't want to have lunch with him was called into the office and chastised for being a bully and had an HIB report written up about it because he was afraid to eat lunch with this child. That doesn't sound like justice to me so I urge you folks to especially when you're facing the fact that he's coming here next year to think long and hard about what you want to do about this. You want to sweep it under the rug you're going to have big issues in the future and I'd hate to wake up next week, next month, five years from now and have to attend a memorial service of the student body for people at Kittatinny that lost their lives because this child went on a rampage and that's what this is leading up to. So I thank you for your attention.

- Mr. President my name is Tom Knutelsky, my comments tonight will be something different than what you've heard, I will gladly yield the floor for any other people that want to come up and talk about the similarities of what was just discussed I don't want to take anyone's place at the moment. Seeing none I'm just going to offer you my comments, I'm from Fredon Township. Mr. President and members of the board I am the Father of three boys that go here to Kittatinny, one is a Junior, he's sitting with me over to the side, and two seventh graders. These are student athletes that represent Kittatinny high

PETITIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE – con't

school as ambassadors to this school. What I'm noticing in terms of the budgetary process, I'm noticing things that isolated might not seem big but combined it's starting to be systemic in terms of maybe our athletic department not being where it needs to be. There's a couple of gutters that are falling down on our KMFL building, I am a volunteer, I volunteer and just until recently I was a board of ed member so sometimes I know your plight, but as a volunteer I work very hard in shaping our youth leagues, our football league and our lacrosse league, to bring student ambassadors and athletes up into this group and noticing these little things like the gutter falling down on the building that's been like that for seven or eight months, our website when you go to our website at Kittatinny and you click in the athletics tab and you click on all the sports, when you click on that nothing comes up it's just the name of the sport, there are no pictures, there are no commendations that we hear at the board meeting, things that the public should be able to hear. Like I said these little things when you separate them aren't very big but when you bring them together it just shows that our athletic department is not going the way I think it needs to go and there are other parents don't think it needs to go. The real reason why I'm here tonight in regard to that has to do with the busing incident that happened just recently down to Pequannock where our 51 member lacrosse team drove on one bus down to Pequannock about an hour with all their equipment in other peoples vehicles stacked on top of one another. I'm just thinking since its budget season since we have a robust athletic sporting teams, we have youth coming up that our numbers are actually going to swell in terms of athletics that we can afford maybe two buses so that people aren't sitting on top of one another which I feel is a safety hazard. Things like that I would really like the board to consider in the future and again through the budgetary process I don't want to hear no anymore I don't want to hear we're working on it. I want us to work towards a mean in order to give these student athletes, these ambassadors, a great place to represent their school. They don't feel like they are being heard, they don't feel like they're getting everything they need; again weight room, field paintings, there's so many examples. When you look at them separately they're miniscule but when you add them together it looks like the athletic department is not going where I think it should go or could go. And again they are ambassadors, they are some of the best brightest kids that really represent our school district and our towns as they go to other areas. I think they should be celebrated a little bit more, not told no, not told that the budget has to be cut and we can't afford this, not told I need to sit with three other adult males in a seat for an hour cramped up with my equipment. Again thank you for your time with this, I appreciate your efforts as a board, appreciate everything you do here as volunteers, and I look for change in the future and I hope I can be part of that. Thank you very much.

- Dave Santonastaso, class of 2015, former student, a lot of my teachers are in the audience tonight; 68 Halsey Hampton. These are real issues, safety issues, I mean that should be a no brainer, it's embarrassing, it really is, that these types of things happening. I was I mean they're not up they're over on the flat bed but we used to get awards and we were some place to be, excited to go to school every day I was excited to come here and it may just be me but it seems like things are changing for the worse and these crowds that are coming to these meetings. I've been to my share of board of ed meetings and these

PETITIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE – con't

crowds are going to keep getting bigger if things don't change. The topic that was brought up previously about this poor student from McKeown it's not unfounded, the topic is not unfounded, that is in my opinion being swept under the rug. Something needs to be done about it, alright if you want to pass the buck, that's not what I was taught here in this building, I wasn't taught to pass the buck, I was taught to take responsibility, do what I say I'm going to do, okay, and to me that's just ridiculous and another thing these teachers they taught me, I graduated here, went to community college for two years graduated with my associates degree, and now I'm in Rutgers Newark university studying political science and I could not be happier and if it wasn't for this school, I cursed my parents for years for moving me up here from Bergen county, but if it wasn't for going to this school I don't know if I'd be in college because these people taught me everything I know, math, I was an awful math student, I graduated from community college dean's list my entire two years. Science, couldn't do a lick of science, not a problem, environmental science, biology, all in college no problem – they fixed me. The fact that they are being demonized and not shown the respect that they deserve is again embarrassing. You guys really need to think about where you want to move forward from here and you need to give them the respect they deserve, you guys need to show them the respect you would want from them. The golden rule I was taught here since seventh grade so I yield but things need to change. Thank you.

- Mr. Cooper – I personally just want to make one comment as I don't see how we're demonizing the teachers here.
- Mr. Santonastaso – may I offer a rebuttal
- Mr. Cooper – as long as you make it short because you've used up most of your five minutes.
- Mr. Santonastaso – I will make it short, demonizing in a sense that as I said I used to get here ten after seven every morning for four years straight, freshman to senior year, majority, all of my teachers, almost all of them unless the ones that had a serious commute and got caught in traffic were always here before I was. Now the idea that they aren't hard working, okay
- Mr. Cooper – that's never been stated
- Mr. Santonastoso – I didn't say
- Mr. Cooper – no but you're saying we're demonizing them
- Mr. Santonastaso – I'm simply stating the idea that if you guys are not going to show them the respect at least sitting down, having the conversations that need to be had, instead of again passing the buck, then I think you guys really need to think about
- Mr. Hunt – we've been negotiating for a year now
- Mr. Santonastaso – I'm aware, a year
- Mr. Hunt – so is it an automatic assumption that it's the board
- Mr. Santonastaso – no, I've been following the issue very carefully
- Mr. Hunt – how can you follow the issue negotiations are private
- Mr. Santonastaso – I've been following the time line, sir
- Mr. Hunt – okay but do you know anything about negotiations

PETITIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE – con't

- Mr. Santonastaso – negotiations are private, sir
- Mr. Hunt – thank you, so I think you are making a lot of statements here that you really have no knowledge of so I care to take offense to being accused of demonizing and talking bad about our hard working teachers because we don't do that. We respect our teachers, I'm not sure
- Mr. Santonastaso – it is my opinion that if you respected your teachers you would show them the respect they deserve and
- Ms. Shaffer – like what?
- Mr. Hunt – and give them whatever they want
- Mr. Santonastaso – no see that's the problem, that's what I'm talking about, you showing me what,
- Mr. Hunt – well, I
- Mr. Santonastaso – no, that's fine
- Mr. Hunt – I just don't understand where you're
- Ms. Shaffer – no finish what you want to say
- Mr. Santonastaso – no, no, I yield the floor
- Barbara Taylor, Stillwater – my daughter Jess is a senior here at Kittatinny. I would like you to make you aware of the impact the current situation with the teachers is having on the students. Jess missed three days of school a few weeks ago because she was chosen as the youth leadership representative for New Jersey at a national conference for the NRCA. Before she left she made arrangements with her teachers to make up any work any tests that she would miss, but due to the current situation it has been extremely difficult for her to do that. Jess will be attending the University of Pittsburgh in September and she plans to audition for their marching band drumline in April, two weeks from now. Normally she would be able to get help preparing for that audition but due to the current situation there is no help available. Jess is taking two AP classes and two honors classes, this is a typical load for a lot of the students here, a lot of them have a much heavier load than that. The teachers who teach these classes make themselves available to the students before school, after school, during free periods, during lunch, these kids are driven to do their very best and they use that extra time to do that but due to the current situation that extra help that they need to help them succeed isn't available. My daughter is just one student, multiply this by hundreds of students and the impact of this current situation is enormous so I would like to know why has a contract agreement with the teachers not been finalized in nine months and what can you do to resolve this situation immediately before more harm is done to these students. Thank you
- Genie Morrison, Hampton – five kids have gone through this school, my youngest is graduating in just a few months. Four out of five are really good kids one got into a little bit of trouble, it's a great school and I do appreciate everything. My Grandson was touched by this boy, it's a known fact. You're not, you're hands are tied and I know, I've said it at every meeting Mr. Hutcheson and you know I've had. He's going to be your problem in a few months, six short months he's coming up here, you can't guarantee his safety God forbid he touches somebody and they just do something. Right now he's

PETITIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE – con't

picking on five and six year olds, that's who he's picking on. Allegedly he pulled a knife on a Senior, the Senior told him to run along. He pulls a knife on the wrong person what's going to happen to that boy. He's going to be your problem because unfortunately Hampton is not doing anything, McKeown. What's it gonna take, I'm sitting over there starting to tear up about the memorial that you all had for Florida. I don't want Hampton making the news, I like our little country that we have our little nest that we all live in. What if he snaps, what if he comes into this school I appreciate, he is getting because he's got a knife, he's got a knife there's pictures of this knife at the last meeting. I've got it on video of him pulling a knife, playing with it, just be ready he's coming. I really from the bottom of my heart, stop thinking about money and do something, stop being afraid of the lawsuits that are coming, do something please. Thank you

- Mr. Cooper – I'd like to read a little statement from the board of ed: It has come to our attention through this meeting and from our administration that a number of parents have expressed concerns about a number of issues including the lack of help teachers are providing our students at KRHS. We know there are always two sides to the story, there have been claims that this has been communicated through the classroom and to the students from some teachers and the board feels that this is terribly unfortunate. The issues expressed by parents are very concerning to us and please know that this board is not officially aware of any action or declaration regarding to any job actions by our teachers. We prefer to keep contract negotiations between the adults and out of the classrooms. We never want to have issues between the board and the staff negatively affect the students as this accomplishes nothing and only hurts the students of KRHS. These actions, if true, are certainly troubling to the board. Understanding this the Board will continue to work towards the goal of making sure each entity of our district is intact and moving forward. There has been a long history of working collaboratively with our staff to make sure that we as an institution are providing the best possible educational experience for the students at a fiscally responsible cost. With declining enrollment over the past ten years we have made the proper adjustments to our staffing that has appropriately been required. Today as you have heard we've lost \$80,000 in state aid to our district. This is concerning to us and to our communities, understanding that our median salary of \$84,540 is the 19th best median salary in the entire state of New Jersey is a clear indication of how much this board now and in the past has valued our staff that we truly feel are in the trenches providing these great educational opportunities to our students. The reality is sometimes districts face these issues and it is up to us as adults to keep our issues from affecting students and we will continue to work towards this goal and the ever important goal of keeping our local tax payers in mind.

FINANCE, BUDGET AND INSURANCE

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, I certify that as of March 22, 2018, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education.

Board Secretary

Date

- | | |
|---|---|
| A. A motion was made by Mr. Hunt, seconded by Mrs. Douglas and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to certify pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4 that as of March 22, 2018, after review of the appropriations section of secretary's monthly fiscal report and upon consultation with the Business Administrator to the best of our knowledge that no major account or funds has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4 and sufficient funds are available for the remainder of the fiscal year. | Certify Financial Statements |
| B. A motion was made by Mr. Hunt, seconded by Mrs. Douglas and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the following finance items: Payment of bills – March 2018 List of transfers – February 2018 | February Transfers / March Bills |
| C. A motion was made by Mr. Hunt, seconded by Mrs. Douglas and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the attached monthly travel for administration, Board members and staff as per Board policy. (Attachment F-1) | Monthly Travel |
| D. A motion was made by Mrs. Douglas, seconded by Mrs. Andrews and carried by a unanimous roll call vote of the members present to approve the following resolution: (Attachment F-2) | Tentative Budget for 2018-2019 |

The Board of Education of Kittatinny Regional School District hereby adopts the following tentative budget for the 2018-2019 school year:

The proposed budget includes sufficient funds to provide curriculum and instruction which will enable all students to achieve the Common Core State Standards/Core Curriculum Content Standards, and is in compliance with N.J.S.A.18A and N.J.A.C. Title 6 and 6A.

Anticipated Enrollment: 987

FINANCE, BUDGET AND INSURANCE – con't

| | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Local Tax Levy</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| General Fund | \$21,968,620 | \$14,452,065 |
| Special Revenue Fund | \$ 303,795 | \$ -0- |
| Debt Service Fund | <u>\$ 240,687</u> | <u>\$ 240,687</u> |
| Total | \$22,513,102 | \$14,692,752 |

Be it further resolved, that included in line 600, Budgeted Withdrawal from Local Share is \$415,000.00 for other capital projects. The total costs of these projects is \$415,000.00, which represents expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the Common Core State Standards/Core Curriculum Content Standards.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>E. A motion was made by Mr. Greene, seconded by Mrs. Youngs and carried by a unanimous roll call vote of the members present to approve the maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for travel and expense reimbursement for the 2018-2019 budget at \$55,000 as required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b). The Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to insure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.</p> | <p>Travel & Expense Maximum Expenditure for 2018-2019</p> |
| <p>F. A motion was made by Mrs. Youngs, seconded by Mr. Greene and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve and advertise the Public Hearing for the 2018-2019 school budget on April 26, 2018.</p> | <p>Post / Advertise Public Hearing for 2018-2019 School Budget</p> |
| <p>G. A motion was made by Mrs. Youngs, seconded by Mr. Greene and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve Resolution in support of Impact Aid. (Attachment F-3)</p> | <p>Resolution in Support of Impact Aid</p> |

FINANCE, BUDGET AND INSURANCE – con't

- H. A motion was made by Mrs. Youngs, seconded by Mr. Greene and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to accept the monthly bank balances for the following accounts:

**Monthly Bank
 Account
 Balance
 Report**

| Bank Accounts | 2/28/18 Balance |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Adult Education | \$69,545.30 |
| Cafeteria | \$117,654.48 |
| Driver Education | \$6,097.05 |
| Petty Cash | \$90.33 |
| School Store | \$9,769.77 |
| Student Activities | \$225,983.94 |
| Athletics | \$4,539.86 |
| Unemployment Trust | \$257,276.24 |

- I. A motion was made by Mrs. Douglas, seconded by Mrs. Youngs and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the banked cap generated in the 2018-2019 budget in the amount of \$4,000 for a total banked cap of \$181,017 available for 2019-2020.

**Banked Cap
 for 2018-2019
 Budget**

Information: KRHS Budget will be presented to municipalities in April/May.

PERSONNEL

- A. A motion was made by Mrs. Douglas, seconded by Mr. Greene and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the following substitute teachers pending completion of necessary paperwork and satisfactory criminal background check as recommended by the Superintendent:

**Substitute
 Teachers**

Robert Chirico
 Jennifer DeMartino
 Lauren Driscoll

- B. A motion was made by Mrs. Douglas, seconded by Mr. Greene and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve Ellen Kolonoski as proctor to administer Gifted and Talented screening assessment for incoming 7th grade students on Saturday, May 5 and May 12, 2018 for two hours each day (total of four hours) at a rate of \$40/hour, as recommended by the Superintendent.

**Proctor to
 Administer
 Gifted &
 Talented
 Assessment**

PERSONNEL – con't

- | | |
|---|--|
| C. A motion was made by Mrs. Douglas, seconded by Mr. Greene and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to accept the resignation of Joe Coltelli as Boys Head Basketball Coach, as recommended by the Superintendent. | Resignation Boys Head Basketball Coach |
| D. A motion was made by Mrs. Douglas, seconded by Mr. Greene and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to accept the resignation of Chris Cummins as Boys Head Soccer Coach, as recommended by the Superintendent. | Resignation Boys Head Soccer Coach |
| E. A motion was made by Mrs. Douglas, seconded by Mr. Greene and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to accept the resignation of Andrew Meyers as Girls Head Basketball Coach, as recommended by the Superintendent. | Resignation Girls Head Basketball Coach |
| F. A motion was made by Mrs. Douglas, seconded by Mr. Greene and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to accept the resignation of William Percey as Assistant Football Coach, as recommended by the Superintendent. | Resignation Assistant Football Coach |
| G. A motion was made by Mrs. Douglas, seconded by Mr. Greene and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to post/advertise for the following coaching positions, as recommended by the Superintendent: | Post / Advertise Boys Head Basketball, Boys Head Soccer, Girls Head Basketball, & Boys Assistant Football Coaches |
| Boys Head Basketball Coach Boys Head Soccer Coach Girls Head Basketball Coach Boys Assistant Football Coach | |
| H. A motion was made by Mrs. Douglas, seconded by Mr. Greene and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to post/advertise for Swim Instructor (Adult School Summer Swim) for the summer of 2018 at a rate of \$25/hour, as recommended by the Superintendent. | Post / Advertise Adult Summer Swim Instructor |

PERSONNEL – con't

- I. A motion was made by Mrs. Andrews, seconded by Mrs. Youngs and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the following Consultants for the Girls Lacrosse team, as recommended by the Superintendent:
- Consultants
for Girls
Lacrosse
Team**

Taylor Cooper
 Erin Douglas
 Jeffrey Shotwell

- J. A motion was made by Mrs. Andrews, seconded by Mrs. Youngs and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the following Summer School teachers and substitutes at a rate of \$40/hour, as recommended by the Superintendent:
- Summer
School
Teachers**

| Subject | Teacher | Certification |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Math | Heidi Meakin | Mathematics (K-12) |
| English & Lit Reading | Tara Pastor Poe | English (7-12) |
| Science | Barry Caffrey | Science (K-12) |
| Social Studies | Patrick Mahon | Social Studies (K-8) |
| Special Education/Sub | Kimberly Staerker | Teacher of the Handicapped |
| Substitute | Natasha Gialanella | Teacher of General Business Studies |
| Substitute | Kurt Heller | Science (K-8) |
| Substitute | Trevor Hunt | Substitute Teacher Cert. (K-12) |
| Substitute | Brittany Marinaro | Teacher of Students with Disabilities |

- K. A motion was made by Mrs. Andrews, seconded by Mrs. Youngs and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to reinstate regular working hours for Cheyenne Borkowski, Guidance Office Assistant, upon completion of Guidance Internship as of April 11, 2018. Hours will be 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Friday (29.5 hours per week or .786 FTE, Step 1), as recommended by the Superintendent.
- Guidance
Office
Assistant
Working
Hours**

- L. A motion was made by Mrs. Andrews, seconded by Mrs. Youngs and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve unpaid medical disability leave of absence for Elizabeth Henke as of March 12, 2018, as recommended by the Superintendent.
- Medical
Disability
Leave of
Absence**

- M. A motion was made by Mrs. Andrews, seconded by Mrs. Youngs and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve Zachary Fowler as substitute Athletic Trainer for the 2017-2018 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.
- Substitute
Athletic
Trainer**

PERSONNEL – con't

N. A motion was made by Mrs. Andrews, seconded by Mrs. Youngs and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the attainment of and payment to CSA for qualitative merit goal #1 (2.5%) for Superintendent to observe all 3rd and 4th year teachers (14 teachers) in a full 40 minute Danielson Model observation adding to the final determination of tenure for employees to be completed by March 30, 2018. Payment upon approval from the Executive County Superintendent, Dr. Rosalie Lamonte. (Attachment P-1)

**Attainment &
Payment of
Qualitative
Merit Goal to
CSA**

O. A motion was made by Mrs. Andrews, seconded by Mrs. Youngs and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the following Summer Swim Personnel, as recommended by the Superintendent:

**Summer
Swim
Personnel**

Suzanne Freund, WSI Instructor \$30/Hour
Dana Bitondo, WSI Instructor \$28/Hour
Frances Gely, WSI Instructor \$26Hour
Bethany Stobie, WSI Instructor, \$25/Hour

WSI Instructor (Substitute) \$20/Hour

Shannon Crane Jessica DeMartini
Lillian Kinney Brittany Marinaro

WSI (Volunteers)

Christine Freund

Lifeguard (Summer Swim, Barracudas, ESY Program & pool rental activities) \$8.44/Hour

Erica Campbell
Joyce Davis
Jack Freund
Christine Freund
Suzanne Freund
Lillian Kinney
Noah Maruska
Crystal McSherry
Thomas Mountford
Jake Riva
Kathleen Riva
Ciana Roman
Samantha Russell
Leah Santonastaso

CURRICULUM

- A. A motion was made by Ms. Shaffer, seconded by Mrs. Andrews and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the monthly suspension report. (Attachment C-1) **Monthly Suspension Report**
- B. A motion was made by Ms. Shaffer, seconded by Mrs. Andrews and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) report. (Seven investigated – NO HIB found.) (Attachment C-2) **HIB Report**
- C. A motion was made by Ms. Shaffer, seconded by Mrs. Andrews and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve proposed School Calendar for 2018-2019. (Attachment C-3) **Proposed 2018-2019 School Calendar**
- D. A motion was made by Mrs. Youngs, seconded by Mrs. Douglas and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve Summer School tuition rate of \$300 per subject. (All costs to be borne by parents with remaining funds from No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Title I.) **Summer School Tuition Rate**
- E. A motion was made by Mrs. Youngs, seconded by Mrs. Douglas and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve a “Week of Lights” for all varsity fall sports teams during the week of September 21, 2018 to September 28, 2018, sponsored by the Kittatinny Cougar Athletic Association. **Week of Lights**
- F. A motion was made by Mrs. Youngs, seconded by Mrs. Douglas and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve an admission charge of \$2 per student/senior citizen and \$3 per adult during the “Week of Lights” at Kittatinny Regional High School during the week of September 21, 2018 to September 28, 2018. Proceeds from the gate will cover employment costs and state police coverage. Any costs above the gate admission will be covered by the Kittatinny Cougar Athletic Association (KCAA). **Week of Lights Admission Charge**
- G. A motion was made by Mrs. Youngs, seconded by Mrs. Douglas and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve Junior Solar Sprints Competition on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Kittatinny tennis courts (if inclement weather, event will be held in gymnasium). Approximately 11-14 schools will participate with 240 attendees. (Fifth year that Kittatinny Regional High School will host.) **Junior Solar Sprints Competition**

CURRICULUM – con't

- H. A motion was made by Mrs. Youngs, seconded by Mrs. Douglas and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve Benefit Concert of the Arts on Thursday, May 17, 2018. Tri-M Society will host the evening which will consist of choral performances and the sale of items from our Wood Shop, Clothing, Graphics, 3D and 2D Art classes. Donation of \$5 to attend the concert. Proceeds from the event will go to New Jersey Seeds. **Benefit Concert of the Arts**
- I. A motion was made by Mrs. Youngs, seconded by Mrs. Douglas and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve Summer Swim Program to run June 26, 2018, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (Session I Testing), June 27, 2018 – July 6, 2018, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and July 9, 2018, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (Session II Testing), July 10, 2018 – July 18, 2018, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (July 19, 2018 will be the makeup day for either session.) Cost is \$75 (\$10 increase to cover cost of additional lifeguard required by 2018 NJ Bathing Code). All costs to be paid through attendance fees. **Summer Swim Program Dates**
- J. A motion was made by Mrs. Youngs, seconded by Mrs. Douglas and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve Summer Swim Mommy & Me Program to run June 27, 2018 – July 6, 2018 (Session I) and July 10, 2018 – July 18, 2018 (Session II). Both sessions will run from 10:00-10:30 a.m. (July 19, 2018 will be the makeup day for either session.) Cost is \$75 (\$10 increase to cover cost of additional lifeguard required by 2018 NJ Bathing Code). All costs to be paid through attendance fees. **Summer Swim Mommy & Me Program Dates**
- K. A motion was made by Mrs. Youngs, seconded by Mrs. Douglas and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the preliminary 2017 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Accountability Report as provided by the New Jersey Department of Education. (Attachment C-4) **Preliminary 2017 ESEA Accountability Report**
- L. A motion was made by Mr. Greene, seconded by Ms. Shaffer and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve Class of 2018 fundraiser for a Friendly's Breakfast on April 28, 2018 (in place of previously approved Applebee's fundraiser). Seniors will sell \$10 tickets to earn \$4 for their individual prom/trip expenses. **Fundraiser**

Information:

Homebound Instruction count for February 2018: 5

POLICY

- A. A motion was made by Ms. Shaffer, seconded by Mrs. Andrews and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve 1st reading of the following policies:
- First Reading
of Policies:
2224, 3100,
3510, 3515, &
4111/4211**
- #2224 – Non-Discrimination/Affirmative Action-Sexual Harassment (minor revision) (POL-1)
#3100 – Budget Planning, Preparation and Adoption (major revision) (POL-2)
#3510 – Operation and Maintenance of Plant (minor revision) (POL-3)
#3515 – Smoking Prohibition (minor revision) (POL-4)
#4111/4211 – Recruitment, Selection and Hiring (minor revision) (POL-5)
- B. A motion was made by Mr. Greene, seconded by Mrs. Youngs and carried by a unanimous roll call vote of the members present to approve 2nd reading and adoption of the following policy:
- Second
Reading &
Adoption of
Policy 6171.4**
- #6171.4 – Special Education

TRANSPORTATION – No motions at this time.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

- A. A motion was made by Mr. Greene, seconded by Mrs. Andrews and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to disqualify low bidders, Industrial Cooling Corp. and C. Dougherty & Co., for the omission of required documents in their bid submission, as per Board attorney.
- Disqualify
Low Bidders**

BUILDING AND GROUNDS – con't

- B. A motion was made by Mr. Greene, seconded by Mrs. Andrews and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve contract with Pennetta Industrial Automation in the amount of \$387,400 for state project #2465-050-18-1000, Chiller Replacement, as recommended by HQW Architects and the Board attorney. **Pennetta Industrial Automation**

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Industrial Cooling Corp. | \$ 347,000.00 |
| C. Dougherty & Co. | \$ 353,000.00 |
| Pennetta Industrial Automation | \$ 387,400.00 |
| Echelon Services | \$ 393,700.00 |
| Unitemp | \$ 398,400.00 |
| Liberty Mechanical Contractors | \$ 405,000.00 |
| Emcor Services | \$ 417,941.00 |
| EACM Corp | \$ 450,000.00 |
| Iron Mountain Mechanical | \$ 459,995.00 |
| AMCO Enterprises | \$ 538,000.00 |

- C. A motion was made by Mr. Greene, seconded by Mrs. Andrews and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to approve the following building use requests as per the time, date and place listed on the application as recommended by the Superintendent: **Building Use Requests**

Hampton Township Recreation Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 26, 2018 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the parking lot.

Learning and Continuing Education (LACE) Sussex County Community College for a line dancing instruction on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 from 4:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Hampton Recreation/Kittatinny Travel Softball for softball practice from March 15, 2018 to June 15, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on the varsity and junior varsity softball fields.

Information:

Mold Remediation in the Faculty Dining Room

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:30 p.m., the following resolution was approved by Ms. Shaffer, seconded by Mr. Hunt and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present: **Executive Session**

WHEREAS, The Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, PL 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Kittatinny Regional Board of Education is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Kittatinny Regional Board of Education, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that a closed session of this Board of Education (where the public shall be excluded) will be held at this time for the purpose of discussing: legal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the action of the Board with regard to the above entitled matters shall be disclosed to the public at a later date and to the extent that the same is not prejudicial to the interests of the parties involved, and would not result in a possible invasion of their right of privacy.

At 8:45 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Douglas, seconded by Ms. Shaffer and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to adjourn Executive Session, the results of which will not be made public this evening. **Adjourn Executive Session**

NEGOTIATIONS

LEGAL

CSA REPORT

Mr. Hutcheson reported on the following items:

- We had our ninth closing yesterday, now our graduation ceremony will be Friday, June 22nd. We have put out communications to the community in regards to if we have additional closings before April which we hope does not happen.
- The Impact Aid meeting was this past Saturday to Tuesday. We had some very good meetings; as a result we got an email from our national organization that indicated we had been zeroed out in 2018 and 2019. For 2018 an omnibus bill was passed that increased our funding by about \$4 ½ million for Federal properties and \$81 million for basic support, which is military and Native American lands. We probably won't see any increase because we have a number of new groups in the federal properties area but any funding increase at this point in time is positive.

CSA REPORT – con't

Now we have to hit 2019 and get the President to put it back into the budget along with the Congress and Senate to put it back into the budget. I am elected as the new President of Impact Aid starting at our June meeting. Our June executive committee meeting is June and June weekend in Oklahoma starts June 22nd, our graduation date. I will do graduation and then catch a flight out after that to attend the meetings.

- We did send letters to all of the municipalities in regards to the Impact Aid resolution, supporting Impact Aid and getting it back into the budget. Hopefully the municipalities will support that resolution and send it out to the Congress folks.
- Information in your packet about the 180 day requirement and legislative articles.

MISCELLANEOUS

Possible Executive Session for one or more of the exceptions allowable under the Open Public Meetings Act.

Reminder – Scholar Athlete Dinner is Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at the Lake Mohawk Country Club at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:50 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Ormesher, seconded by Mr. Hunt and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Kane
Board Secretary