

**KNOX COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
6:30 P.M. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018
MINUTES**

	AGENDA	MOTION	SECOND	VOTE
1.	CALL TO ORDER			
2.	PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE			
3.	PRAYER BY PASTOR JAMES ADCOCK			
4.	ADOPTION OF AGENDA	Mrs. McIntire	Mr. Fletcher	6-0

The chair entertained a motion to adopt the Revised Agenda for the February 20, 2018, regular meeting as presented. Transitional Kindergarten and Lowe's Operation Playground Grant were removed from the agenda. Transitional Kindergarten was removed due to changes at the State level in terms of funding.

5.	PUBLIC COMMENTS The Board President entertained comments from patrons on items not on the prepared agenda. There were no public comments.
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6.	MINUTES FROM JANUARY 15, 2018 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND BOARD OF FINANCE MINUTES.	Mr. Kemble	Mrs. Ritchie	6-0
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7.	SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS Mr. Pugh spotlighted Emma Gillard, 6 th grade student at KMS, for receiving the Youth Power and Hope Award for the State of Indiana. The award was given based on students who give back to their community. Emma discussed the projects she did for the community in order to receive the award. Emma received a trip to Indianapolis along with other students in the State who received the award. Emma said that she wants to change the world by helping people. Mrs. Ritchie asked how she applied for the award. Emma stated that she had to write a paper and list all the service projects she has done over the years.
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8.	PERSONNEL
A.	Extracurricular Appointments The Superintendent recommended the Board approve the extracurricular appointments as listed on the personnel report.

Carrie Stone	Junior Class Sponsor	January 16, 2018
Tiffany Binkley	Volunteer KMS Track Coach	January 26, 2018
Austin Heise	Varsity Assistant Track	February 12, 2018
Davey Johnston	Volunteer Varsity Track	February 12, 2018

B.	Resignations The Superintendent recommended the Board approve the resignations as listed on the personnel report.
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Gloria Carroll **Elementary Custodian** **February 2, 2018**
Davey Johnston **Asst. Varsity Track Coach** **February 12, 2018**

- C. Transfer
The Superintendent recommended the Board approve the transfer as listed on the personnel report.

Jessica Domikaitis **KCES Part Time Cust. to Full Time** **February 5, 2018**

- D. New Hires
The Superintendent recommended the Board approve the new hires as listed on the personnel report.

Jean Knowlton **Part Time KCES Lunch Aide** **February 7, 2018**
Sarah Finneran **Substitute Teacher** **February 20, 2018**
Josh Sponaule **Volunteer 5th Grade Girls Bball** **February 13, 2018**

The Superintendent recommended the Board approve items A, B, C & D
Mrs. McIntire Mrs. Ritchie 6-0

9. Hearing on Second Amendment to Lease
Notice was served that the Knox Community School Corporation will hold a hearing on Second Amendment to Lease.

- A. Proof of Publication **Mr. Fletcher Mrs. McIntire 6-0**
The Superintendent presented for approval the proof of publication published in The Leader on January 18, 2018.

- B. Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Execution of Second Amendment to Lease
The Superintendent recommended the approval of the adoption of the resolution authorizing execution of the second amendment to lease. **Mr. Kemble Mrs. McIntire 6-0**

- C. Adoption of Resolution Assigning Construction Contracts to Building Corporation
The Superintendent recommended the approval of the adoption of resolution assigning construction contracts to Building Corporation once received. **Mr. Fletcher Mr. Kemble 6-0**

- D. Adoption of Resolution to Approve Master Continuing Disclosure Undertaking and Issuance of Bonds
The Superintendent recommended the approval of the adoption of resolution to approve master continuing disclosure undertaking. **Mrs. Ritchie Mr. Fletcher 6-0**

- E. Public Comments
The Chair entertained public comments regarding Hearing on Second Amendment to Lease. There were no public comments.

- F. Hearing Closure **Mr. Yankauskas Mr. Fletcher 6-0**
The Chair entertained a motion to close the hearing regarding amendment to lease.

10. INSTRUCTION

- A. Transitional Kindergarten **REMOVED FROM AGENDA**
The Superintendent will discuss and recommend implementing a transitional kindergarten program at the elementary.

- B. Alternative School/Redskin Academy
 Dr. Ratliff gave a presentation on the proposed alternative school classroom for Knox Community School Corporation.
 Dr. Ratliff discussed the needs of our students who would benefit from an alternative school.
 Dr. Ratliff said with *The Crossing* closing in Knox it has been difficult for our students to go to an alternative school. She stated that currently we only have two students enrolled there.
 Dr. Ratliff stated that this class would not be located in the high school.
 Dr. Ratliff said that the class would be focused on electronic learning but also tie into our vocational programs. She said the goal is for the student to graduate.
- Dr. Reichhart said that this will also help with those students being home schooled.
 Dr. Reichhart stated that eventually he would like for it to be for grades 7-12 but for the startup it will be grades 9-12.
 Dr. Reichhart stated that the program will consist of one teacher to every fifteen students as well as one aide. He said the students would be half a day in the class the other half either at a job or vocational program.
 Dr. Reichhart said that the Corporation has young mothers at the high school who might find this beneficial. He also stated that students who are not successful in the typical high school setting might succeed and thrive in this type of setting.
 Dr. Reichhart said that this will give many students a fresh start. Between grants and bringing home school students back the Corporation will capture ADM monies.
- Dr. Reichhart said the goal is to start at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year. He stated that he plans to report back to the Board once everything has been finalized.
- Mrs. McIntire asked if other students from other Corporations would be allowed to attend. Discussion was held and it was determined that depending on the enrollment would other students be allowed to participate.
- Dr. Reichhart stated that this is not a class for trouble makers but for those who need a fresh start. He added that ideally he would like the classroom to be close to the Superintendent's office.
- The Superintendent recommended the Board approve implementing an alternative school on the Corporation campus. **Mr. Fletcher Mrs. Ritchie 6-0**

- C. Lowe's Operation Playground Grant REMOVED FROM AGENDA
 The Superintendent recommended the Board approve the grant that was awarded to KCES to be used for the purchase of playground equipment.
- D. 2019 Graduation Date **Mr. Kemble Mrs. McIntire 6-0**
 The Superintendent recommended the Board approve the revised 2018-2019 school calendar. The date for commencement will be changed to May 31, 2019 instead of June 7, 2019.

11. BUSINESS

- A. Treasurer's Report
 The Corporation treasurer was available to answer questions regarding the treasurer's report.
- B. Vendor Usage Report
 The Corporation treasurer presented a vendor usage report to the Board.

- C. Claims **Mrs. McIntire Mr. Kemble 6-0**
The Superintendent recommended the Board approve claims numbered 30-143 and food service claims 985-1005.
- D. Woodworking Tools
The Superintendent discussed with the Board woodworking tools left over from when Knox had a shop class.
Dr. Reichhart stated that Dr. Harmon, Oregon Davis Superintendent, has asked to lease, buy or borrow our tools because Oregon Davis does offer a shop class.
Mr. Yankauskas asked if we have any idea how much the items are worth.
The Board said they would like to donate the items to Oregon Davis.
The Board agreed that it would be worth it to see the tools used and students being taught how to use these tools properly.
- E. Sale of Student Laptops **Mrs. Ritchie Mrs. McIntire 6-0**
The Superintendent recommended the Board approve the sale of 1000 student laptops.
Mr. Landrum reported that there is one company who has agreed to buy the devices at a minimum price of \$265.00 per device. He stated that if the company appraises the laptops higher they will give us more.
Mr. Landrum said the Corporation will be keeping one hundred devices to be used in areas where the Chrome Book might not work as well.
- F. Donation **Mrs. Ritchie Mr. Fletcher 6-0**
The Superintendent recommended the Board accept the donation from A.L. Olson Real Estate in the amount of \$500.00 to be used for delinquent lunch accounts at the elementary.
- G. Transfer of Funds **Mr. Kemble Mrs. McIntire 6-0**
The Superintendent recommended that the Board authorize a transfer of up to \$100,000.00 from the Bus Replacement Fund to the Rainy Day Fund.
Mrs. Fort explained why it is necessary to make this transfer.
Dr. Reichhart defined the meaning of appropriated dollars and how the State requires spending those dollars.

12. COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM ADMINISTRATORS & THE BOARD

Mr. Barnes thanked staff, parents and students for their patience and help with recent traffic events. He said they are looking into ways to improve the traffic flow.

Mr. Barnes thanked Miss Shidaker, Mrs. Nantz and Mr. Beever for their assistance with testing.

Mr. Barnes congratulated Cheryl Welter Foundation recipients, Jenny Fletcher and Charlene Libey.

Mr. Pugh stated that ISTEP begins next Tuesday at KMS. He thanked Miss Shidaker and Miss Hensley for their assistance with testing.

Mr. Pugh reported that the KMS eLearning day was a big success and the more they do it the more comfortable students and parents are with the process.

Dr. Ratliff congratulated the girls' basketball team on a successful season.

Dr. Ratliff thanked Rhonda Cavinder for her hard work on the winter formal. She stated this event is a Relay for Life fundraiser.

Dr. Ratliff commended John Tow for plowing off the entire parking area for the dance.

Dr. Ratliff discussed boys' sectional at Twin Lakes next week.

Dr. Ratliff discussed the indoor percussion event being held at Weinberg Gym this Saturday.

Miss Shidaker reported on ISTEP starting next week. She said there will be 1100 students testing in our Corporation. She broke down the testing areas and the grade levels taking the test.

Mr. Yankauskas asked about an email that he received regarding the proposed changes to school accountability standards.

Miss Shidaker said the State wants to make several changes to the current accountability standards.

Dr. Reichhart stated student performance on those standardized test are based on socioeconomic status and are not the best way to measure schools achievement.

Dr. Ratliff said that one of the high school changes they are proposing are students be required to pass the SAT test in order to graduate.

Mr. Barnes commented on the school accountability grade and his concerns with the elementary and how they want to put a cap on how a student's improvement from year to year could count toward the school's letter grade.

Mr. Pugh stated that he has similar concerns for the middle school.

Dr. Reichhart encouraged everyone to attend the meeting in South Bend on Thursday, Feb. 22nd.

Dr. Reichhart said that the State thinks testing is the barometer of achievement in our school and we disagree.

Mrs. Ritchie said that she is happy that the eLearning days have been implemented and thanked everyone involved with getting it going.

Mrs. McIntire said it is important to discuss our safety committee and drills with the recent school shooting in Florida.

Dr. Reichhart stated that the Corporation has a school safety committee and each teacher has a school safety plan for different situations.

Dr. Reichhart said that he has a meeting with Nick Bourff, Starke County Prosecutor, as well as all county school safety specialist and Superintendents will be in attendance.

Dr. Reichhart said more secure entry ways will be a consideration.

Mrs. McIntire asked if anyone has looked into the social media policy for employees.

Mrs. McIntire wanted to mention the past PTO situation. She said it has been three years ongoing and still no answers.

Mrs. McIntire said Shelly Kemble came to the Board in 2015 regarding possible accounting discrepancies with the past PTO.

Mrs. McIntire stated that Mrs. Ritchie received an email a while back from Tammie Taulbee saying playground equipment had been ordered. The elementary has yet to receive that playground equipment.

Mrs. McIntire said it is sad that no one can do anything about this and the money has not gone to our students.

Dr. Reichhart said the PTO is not under the jurisdiction of the school corporation because of IRS tax purposes. He said it is similar to band boosters and athletic boosters.

Mrs. McIntire said this same person is also on the athletic booster board.

Dr. Reichhart stated that he realizes it is frustrating and the only thing the Board can do is request the State Police do an investigation but it would have to be done outside the Board and unfortunately our hands are tied.

Mr. Dulin said that he has reached out to Tammie Taulbee regarding the PTO situation and asked if she would be willing to help with the purchase of playground equipment with the past PTO funds. She told Mr. Dulin she would have to speak with her attorney before talking to him and she would get back with him. Mr. Dulin said that was two weeks ago and he hasn't heard anything back yet. Mr. Dulin said that this needs to be resolved because the money was raised for our students. Mr. Dulin said he is not insinuating that anyone took the money but it has not been spent for the purpose it was raised for.

Mr. Dulin said that there has been a lot of talk regarding school colors and he recommends giving the girls' basketball team the blue uniforms for personal use and order them new red ones.

Mr. Dulin reminded the Board that the March 5th work session will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Dr. Reichhart reported that there have been leaks in the roof at the high school.

Dr. Reichhart reported that currently Knox has had four eLearning days.

Dr. Reichhart reported that there has been another accident on school property where damage was done to a fence and two staff vehicles. He stated that the driver had a medical emergency and as a result lost control of the vehicle.

Dr. Reichhart thanked Miss Shidaker for her help with ISTEP.

Dr. Reichhart thanked Mrs. Krueger for helping organize the bond project information folders.

13. **ADJOURNMENT** 7:55p.m. **Mrs. Ritchie Mr. Fletcher** **6-0**

The Board will hold a Public Work Session on Monday, March 5, 2018, beginning at 5:30 p.m.
The next Regular Board Meeting will be Tuesday, March 20, 2018, beginning at 6:30 p.m.