



**Kenowa Hills Public Schools
Education inspired.**

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Preliminary Minutes

Monday, March 28, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Central Elementary, 4252 3 Mile Road NW, Grand Rapids, MI

I. Routine Business

- A. A regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at Kenowa Hills Central Elementary, 4252 3 Mile Road NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan.
- B. President Hart opened the meeting with a moment of silence.
- C. Members Present: Courtade, Gustinis, Hart, LaBotz, Roberts, Szczepaniak, Truskoski; Superintendent Hopkins, Assistant Superintendent Dinkelman and Director Gilchrist are also present along with Student Representative Elise Zahrt. Student Representative Alex Cappendyk is absent.
- D. Motion by Courtade supported by LaBotz to approve the agenda. **Motion approved 7 - 0.**

CALL TO ORDER

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL

APPROVE AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENT

II. Public Comment - four attendees provided comments.

The purpose of this meeting is to conduct Board of Education business. There will typically be no attempt to comment or give answers at this meeting. Audience members who wish to make comments are invited to complete the appropriate form located at the entrance. Each speaker has a maximum of three (3) minutes to address the board. Inquiries requiring a response will be referred to the superintendent in the cases where contact information is provided. We ask all individuals making public comments to follow our board policy. Any person in violation of the policy for disruptive conduct will be asked to leave. Any threats or suggestions of violence will be turned over to law enforcement.

III. Hearings and Correspondence

- A. Recognition
 - 1. Superintendent Hopkins introduced Athletic Director Kim Moffett who recognized Kaia Schank who competed and finished 5th at the state wrestling tournament. Her wrestling coach shared high recognition of her growth in this new program and her amazing mindset taking her to the state level. Kaia has set the stage for Kenowa Hills in the area of girls wrestling.
 - 2. President Hart expressed her appreciation to Melissa Courtade for serving on the Government Board. This is a huge time commitment which also provides very important information to our board.
 - 3. President Hart appreciated receiving the board packet on Thursday.
- B. Correspondence
 - 1. Donation of free passes by the 3 Mile Project for middle school students.
 - 2. Donations of classroom supplies by Courtney Slonecki and The Crosby Family to Central Elementary.
 - 3. Donation of snacks and disinfecting wipes by Jennifer and Ella Jones to Central Elementary.
- C. Board Communication - Members reported on various events in which they participated during the past couple of weeks.

RECOGNITION

CORRESPONDENCE

BOE
COMMUNICATION

IV. Discussion/Information Item

A. Central Elementary Spotlight, Dr. Cherie Horner

1. Dr. Horner provided data regarding effects the pandemic had on student academics and mental health. Returning to school has proven to increase the number of students who are chronically absent after spending so much time at home. Those students who struggled to attend before the pandemic are more likely to experience chronic absenteeism.
2. Additional emotional and behavior support has been provided to help with issues that have become more prevalent when students returned to school. Dr. Horner shared details about the staff and their positions to support students.
3. With the issues of positions being short staffed, Dr. Horner expressed great appreciation for all those that helped Central Elementary in areas of need above and beyond their regular position. Member Szczepaniak expressed the need to compensate student teachers to help keep students interested in the teaching field. Director Gilchrist shared there is discussion at the state level regarding grants to help support students entering the teaching programs at local universities.

BUILDING SPOTLIGHT

B. Student Representative Reports, Elise Zahrt and Melissa Courtade on behalf of Alex Cappendyk

1. Representative Zahrt suggested employing more of a professional work place environment for group projects, especially at the high school, as some students go directly into the work force.
2. Member Courtade shared the update from Representative Cappendyk.

STUDENT REPORT

C. Finance

1. Student Device Purchase
 - a. Director Gilchrist provided details about the purchase request. The request is to purchase student devices following our replacement cycle.

FINANCE

D. Motion by Szczepaniak and supported by LaBotz to add action item F. to the agenda to approve the student device purchase. **Motion approved by 7 - 0.**

ADDITIONAL MOTION

E. Superintendent Hopkins' Report

SUPERINTENDENT

1. Bond Construction Update
 - a. Six renovated classrooms have been completed. The newly renovated spaces are being used by childcare. The new wing will not be completed by spring break. Before and after school childcare for school-age students will remain at Central Elementary until school resumes in August.
 - b. Middle School construction will begin over spring break. The first phase of classroom renovations will begin this summer.
 - c. Member Hart questioned if there has been any research on the vape detectors. The technology currently available is not reliable according to Director Gilchrist.
2. COVID Update
 - a. No reported COVID cases as of this morning.

V. Action Items

- A. Motion by Courtade supported by Roberts to approve the Consent Agenda. **Motion approved by 7 - 0.**
 - 1. March 14, 2022 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
- B. Motion by Szczepaniak supported by LaBotz to take action on the proposed high school course proposals for the 2022-2023 school year - 1) Honors Biology and 2) Recreation Event Planning and Administration. Report #22-029. **Motion approved by 7 - 0.**
- C. Motion by Courtade supported by Roberts to approve the proposed 2021-2022 Second (March) Budget Amendment. Report #22-030. **Motion approved by 7 - 0.**
- D. Motion by LaBotz supported by Szczepaniak to approve the recommended resolution regarding temporary changes to substitute teacher requirements. Report #22-031. **Motion approved by 7 - 0.**
- E. Motion by Courtade supported by Roberts to take action on the recommendation to publish 170 Kent ISD School of Choice openings and unlimited State of Michigan 105C School of Choice openings for the 22-23 school year. Report #22-032. **Motion approved by 7 - 0.**
- F. Motion by LaBotz supported by Courtade to approve the purchase of the student devices using bond funds as presented by the Technology Department. **Motion approved 7 - 0.**

VI. Future Items for Consideration

- A. Future Meetings
 - 1. 04/13/22 6:00 pm Committee of Whole Meeting - Administration Building
 - 2. 04/25/22 7:00 pm Regular Board of Education Meeting - Early Childhood Ctr
 - 3. 05/09/22 6:00 pm Committee of Whole Meeting - Administration Building
 - 4. 05/23/22 6:00 pm Regular Board of Education Meeting - High School ****NOTE TIME****
 - 5. 05/25/22 9:00 am Board of Education Retreat - location to be determined
- B. Go-Around

VII. Adjournment

- A. Seeing no additional agenda items, President Hart adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS
CONSENT AGENDA
HIGH SCHOOL COURSE PROPOSALS Report #22-029
FY22 2ND BUDGET AMENDEMENT Report #22-030
POLICY CHANGE Report #22-031
SCHOOLS OF CHOICE Report #22-032
CHROMEBOOK PURCHASES
FUTURE MEETINGS
ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Eric-John Szczepaniak, Secretary