

**KILDEER COUNTRYSIDE  
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 96**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
Minutes for December 14, 2021**

**Call To Order**

Mr. Tepper called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the mat room of Ivy Hall School.

**Roll Call**

Present: Julie Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools  
James Strezewski, Amy Feygin, Renee Klass, Dina Manka, Mike Burns, Cynthia Zarkowsky and Marc Tepper

Remote: None

Late: None

Absent: None

**Appointment of Superintendent**

With no objection from Board members, Mr. Tepper moved this item to the beginning of the meeting. A motion was presented by Mrs. Klass to appoint Mrs. Kathryn E. Sheridan as the Superintendent of Schools for Kildeer Countryside CCSD 96 beginning July 1, 2022. Mr. Strezewski seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, the motion carried:

Aye: Klass, Manka, Burns, Zarkowsky, Strezewski, Feygin and Tepper

Nay: None

Mr. Tepper thanked School Exec Connect, especially Dr. Shimp and Dr. Yonke, along with parents, community members, administrators, teachers, support staff and students, who participated in all of the focus groups to help develop the new superintendent profile. Mrs. Sheridan thanked the Board members noting that she has been dedicated to KCSD96 for 13 years and is thrilled to assume the superintendent role. She looks forward to continuing innovation in the District, using her own children as motivation to treat every child as if they were her family. The Board took recess at 7:10 to celebrate the appointment.

**Welcome to Visitors**

President Tepper called the meeting back to order at 7:30 and welcomed members of the faculty, community, and press to the meeting. Meghan Bird led the Pledge of Allegiance. Members of the audience introduced themselves. Mr. Tepper asked if anyone wished to address the Board. The following individual spoke:

Maria Bickers

Mr. Tepper noted that Mrs. Schmidt had not received any emailed comments to be read at this meeting.

### **Approval of Minutes**

#### **November 2021**

A motion was presented by Mr. Burns and seconded by Mrs. Zarkowsky to approve the minutes of November 16, 19, 29 and 30, 2021, as presented. All members present voted Aye, the motion carried.

### **Financial Statements**

Mr. Hitcho presented the financial reports, noting that all reports were in order. He added that the District has made two 3-year investments, with a yield of between .70-.75 basis points. With no questions or comments forthcoming, Mr. Tepper directed the business office to place the following Financial Statements for the month of November 2021 appropriately on file in the business office: Treasurer's Report, Budget Reports, and Activity Report.

### **Board Reports**

#### **Finance Committee**

Mr. Strezewski stated a public hearing on the tax levy would be held at this meeting. The Finance Committee recommended approval of the Tax Levy Resolution, the 2022-2023 Fee Schedule, the FY21 Financial Audit, and the December 2021 bills.

Policy Committee – None at this time.

#### **Legislative Update**

Mrs. Schmidt reported that HB2778, which allows for retroactive COVID-related paid leave, passed unanimously in the State House and Senate, although it sounds as if the Governor may veto the bill. She suggested board and community members reach out to Rep. Didech.

Mr. Tepper noted that the Troops to Teachers program, established to address the teacher shortage, has been reestablished and will help to replenish the pool of teachers in Illinois.

#### **ELC Update**

Mrs. Klass reported the ELC met and conducted routine business. She reported the ELC has leased additional space to expand the Transition Program into a service-based model customized to each student. The rent for the new space will be paid by Stevenson High School.

#### **Thought Exchange Partnership Update**

Mrs. Manka reported the next meeting of TEP will be held on January 13, 2022, where presenters will discuss the framework for teaching and learning.

#### **Guiding Coalition on Interculturalism Update**

Mrs. Zarkowsky reported the GCI will meet again on January 12, 2022. She added that following the presentation at the Joint Annual Conference, District 96 has received positive feedback and comments, and that several school districts have reached out for more information.

Space/Facilities/Innovation Committee – None at this time.

### Human Capital and Adult Leadership Committee

Mrs. Zarkowsky reported the next meeting will be January 10, 2022.

### Other

Mrs. Schmidt reported that a parent survey has been circulated asking for topics of interest for parent education programs. This survey is part of the Board's goals for the 21/22 school year.

Mr. Tepper reported that Simon Kampwerth, Jr. has been elected president of the IASB. Mr. Tepper has been elected to the IASB executive committee, and he noted he was the only member from north of I-80.

Mr. Tepper shared that Kildeer First Grade students sent colorful thank you letters to the Board members.

### **Administrative Reports**

#### Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Schmidt reiterated the District's priority to maintain in-person learning with a minimum of disruption through application of mitigation measures. Positivity and Transmission rates have continued to move upward, keeping Lake County in the High Transmission phase.

District 96 has hosted its second round of vaccine clinics for 5 – 11 YO students. A link has been shared with parents to upload their child's vaccination card. One hundred and seventy employees received their booster shot through the District 96 clinics and currently 55% of employees have received the booster.

There is concern with the supply of Binax Now testing kits provided at no cost by the State, which are used for testing symptomatic students and adults on campus and for the test-to-stay protocol. District 96 has begun looking for other suppliers and will work with the State on funding. Superintendents are advocating for modification to the quarantine requirements based on the number of students vaccinated. Currently there are 70 students learning remotely.

Mrs. Schmidt stated that with the appointment of Mrs. Sheridan as the next Superintendent, the search process has concluded.

### **Priority Items for Consideration and/or Action**

#### Public Hearing on Tax Levy

Mr. Tepper opened the public hearing on the tax levy at 7:59 p.m. With no comments or questions coming from the audience, Mr. Hitcho explained the process used to determine the tax levy. Mr. Tepper closed the public hearing at 8:04 p.m.

### Executive Session

#### Adjourn to Closed Session

A motion was presented by Mr. Strezewski and seconded by Mr. Burns to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of:

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body,

including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

- Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
- The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10)
- Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)

On a roll call vote, the motion carried:

Aye: Strezewski, Feygin, Klass, Manka, Burns, Zarkowsky, and Tepper

Nay: None

The meeting adjourned to closed session at 8:11 p.m.

#### Reconvene in Open Session

A motion was presented by Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. Strezewski for the meeting to reconvene in open session. On a roll call vote, the motion carried. The meeting reconvened in open session at 9:20 p.m.

Aye: Burns, Zarkowsky, Strezewski, Feygin, Klass, Manka, and Tepper

Nay: None

#### Approval of Closed Session Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Feygin and seconded by Mr. Strezewski to approve the minutes of the closed session. On a roll call vote, the motion carried:

Aye: Feygin, Klass, Manka, Burns, Zarkowsky, Strezewski, and Tepper

Nay: None

### **Action Items**

#### Employment, Appointment and Dismissal – Certified Staff

i. Resignations – None at this time

ii. Employment – None at this time

iii. Dismissal of Tenured Teacher

A motion was presented by Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. Strezewski to approve the resolution to dismiss Elizabeth Kramer, a tenured teacher. On a roll call vote, the motion carried:

Aye: Burns, Zarkowsky, Strezewski, Feygin, Klass, Manka, and Tepper

Nay: None

Employment, Appointment and Dismissal – Educational Support Personnel

i. Recommendations for Employment, Appointment and Dismissal

A motion was presented by Mr. Strezewski and seconded by Mrs. Manka to approve the memo presented by Dr. Dalton and Mrs. Jonas for the employment, appointment and dismissal of certain educational support personnel as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion carried:

Aye: Strezewski, Feygin, Klass, Manka, Burns, Zarkowsky, and Tepper

Nay: None

ii. Request for Increased FTE

A motion was presented by Mr. Burns and seconded by Mrs. Zarkowsky to approve the request for 2.0 FTE special education aides at Willow Grove, 1.0 FTE Intensive 1:1 aide at Willow Grove, and 1.0 FTE special education aide at Twin Groves. On a roll call vote, the motion carried:

Aye: Burns, Zarkowsky, Strezewski, Feygin, Klass, Manka, and Tepper

Nay: None

Consent Agenda

A motion was presented by Mr. Burns and seconded by Mrs. Manka to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

Presentation of Bills – December 2021 - to approve the December 2021 bills as presented in the following amounts:

Education	\$3,196,631.87
Operations	\$390,631.15
Debt Service	\$0.00
Transportation	\$629,013.43
IMRF	\$00.00
Social Security	\$00.00
Capital Projects	\$249,092.15
Working Cash	\$00.00
Tort Immunity	\$00.00
<u>Life Safety</u>	<u>\$00.00</u>
Totals	\$4,465,368.60

Approval of the 2021 Tax Levy – to approve the 2021 tax levy as presented;

Approval of 2022-2023 Fee Schedule – to approve the 2022-2023 fee schedule as presented, with a \$20 “early bird” discount if registered before April 15, 2022;

Acceptance of FY2021 Audit

To accept the FY2021 Audit completed by Eder, Casella & Company, as presented.

On a roll call vote the motion carried:

Aye: Burns, Zarkowsky, Strezewski, Feygin, Klass, Manka and Tepper  
Nay: None

**Discussion Items**

**Review of November Board Activities**

Mrs. Schmidt reviewed the summary of discussion and culture-building activities from the November Board/Administrative planning session. Mr. Tepper stated he appreciated the opportunity to spend time with the principals, assistant principals and administrators. Mrs. Klass noted that it is a good opportunity to reflect on priorities and challenges faced by the District. Mrs. Zarkowsky expressed her opinion that District 96 is unique in conducting this sort of planning day.

**Information Items**

**FOIA Requests**

The District received three (3) FOIA request(s) since November 16, 2021. All requests were responded to appropriately.

**Board Comments**

Board members discussed COVID protocols and emergency day protocols.

**Adjournment**

With no further business before the Board of Education, a motion was presented by Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. Strezewski to adjourn the meeting. On a roll call vote, the motion carried:

Aye: Burns, Zarkowsky, Strezewski, Feygin, Klass, Manka, and Tepper

Nay: None

Mr. Tepper adjourned the December 14, 2021, regularly scheduled meeting of the Kildeer Countryside Community Consolidated School District 96 Board of Education at 9:32 p.m. The next meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for January 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Date Minutes Approved:

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President, Board of Education

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Secretary, Board of Education

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