

## **Board Briefs: Update from the Kent City Schools Board of Education**

At the July 15, 2014, regular board meeting held at 5:30 p.m. at Roosevelt High School library, the Board of Education took the following actions:

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

- Student Recognition: Recognized golf coach **Bryan Harvey** and **Coreena Wise** as a member of the golf team, which placed sixth at the state tournament last fall. Recognized **Randy McMullen**, who was a state and national winner in the wheelchair category at the track and field competition. Recognized athletes who competed in the Lake Erie Polar Bear Plunge to raise money for the Special Olympics, as well as student athletes who competed on Roosevelt's largest Special Olympics team in its history. Eleven qualified for the state meet. Recognized Special Olympics coach **Linda Ferlito** and volunteer **Jake Ferlito** for their contributions.
- Awarded a diploma to **Robert W. Frick**, a Korean War veteran who left Roosevelt before graduation.
- Heard a report from the Pool Committee given by community member **Dave Hall**, who summarized the committee's findings. They recommended that all Kent students learn to swim and that remaining space and pool time be focused on services for local residents. Hall emphasized that the pool will never be a profit generator, but that with a new focus on creative programming and marketing, revenues could be enhanced. The Board expressed its thanks and support and encouraged the Pool Committee to pursue its ideas and present more specific suggestions and a proposed budget.
- Announced the publication of the spring issue of FOCUS, the district's community newsletter.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- Recognized Aramark, as well as Food Service Director **Patty Anzo** and Aramark personnel **Art Boehm** and **Vanessa Mowrer**, as the Collaborative Organization of the month. They were specifically lauded for Aramark's contribution to the Kent City Schools Hall of Fame induction ceremony last April, as well as helping with Head Start students.
- Recognized Don Joseph Toyota Scion, as well as **Jess Joseph** and **Joe Marken**, for the generous donation of a new car, which was raffled off and raised over \$20,000 for parent teacher groups in the Kent Schools.
- Heard financial reports and approved the bills.
- Approved a resolution to transfer/advance funds.
- Approved a revised supplemental list, which according to the KEA contract must be reviewed every three years.
- Approved contracts for auxiliary services with Portage County ESC and PSI for St. Patrick's students. This annual item for St. Patrick's School personnel is paid for by Ohio Auxiliary Service dollars. Kent administration acts simply as a conduit between St. Patrick's School and the subcontracted service providers.

- Adopted school lunch prices for the 2014-15 school year with a 2 percent increase for Type A lunches for students and staff. This increase approximately matches the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for food away from home in the Akron-Cleveland area. Milk and reduced priced lunches will remain the same.
- Adopted annual school fees for 2014-15. The district made a concerted effort to continue to reduce fees from the previous year or "hold the line" for parents. There are decreases in fees for Grades 6 and 8, including foreign languages. Roosevelt physical education, science, art, music and photography fees are remaining the same, as are many Career-Technical and Family and Consumer Science fees.
- Approved annual contract with Portage County ESC for limited number of physical therapy services per week. PT services are provided only to those Kent students whose Individualized Education Programs (IEP) require services.
- Adopted resolution required by law for calamity day makeup.
- Adopted non-scheduled salaries, wages and insurance benefits for those not covered by OAPSE or KEA contract using the same figures as those in the collective bargaining units.
- Approved agreement with United Disability Services for services for a visually impaired student. These services are paid for with IDEA Part-B carry-over funds.
- Approved contracts for school pictures for Stanton and the elementary buildings with Ripcho, a Cleveland-based company.
- Approved affiliation agreement with Kent State University for college students/interns in KSU's athletic training program.
- Approved accident insurance policy for OHSAA non-sanctioned student athletes in high school and middle school lacrosse and high school boys' volleyball.
- Approved service agreement with ComDoc for copy machines at Roosevelt and Stanton.
- Approved contract for nursing services with Akron Children's Hospital. Because of the complications of special needs with some students, this contracted service allows the district to dynamically meet student needs without incurring further financial obligations.
- Approved a revised lease with Harbor Education (LEAP program) at Central School, which reflects changes made at Central due to budgetary issues.
- Approved agreement with Time Warner for telecommunications services at Central School as a cost-saving measure.
- Approved revised job descriptions for EMIS coordinator, Director of Data Analysis, Director of Instructional Programming.

#### **PERSONNEL ISSUES:**

- Introduced **Karen Rumley**, new Director of Instructional Program.
- Approved appointment of **Terry Clutter, Jamie Klintworth, Mark Hayhurst, Whitney Slater, Jennifer Whitfield** and **Julie Gray**.
- Approved appointments/transfers of tutors, classified and curriculum study and a limited number of summer workers.
- Approved "Handle with Care" trainees, who include teachers and support staff members who work with students with disabilities and who must learn proper techniques of restraining students. This training is required by law.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

- Accepted donations totaling \$12,878.44, which included \$10,000 from Rough Rider All-Sports Boosters and \$1,229.24 for a water cooler donated by the Class of 2014.