



# Board Briefs

Update from Kent City Schools Board of Education

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At the June 17, 2014, a regular board meeting was held at Roosevelt High School at 5:30 PM, the Roosevelt High School Library, took the following actions:

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

- Student recognition: Recognized **Kate Morsefield** as a state track qualifier and **Chloe Wise** as a member of the girls' golf team, which placed sixth at the state tournament last fall. Dr. Giancola said he would invite the other girls on the golf team to the board meeting on July 15, 5:30 PM, at Roosevelt Library, because they could not attend due to another golf tournament.
- Staff recognition: Recognized **John Nemec**, who served as Roosevelt head football coach for 29 years, as well as assistant coach for six years and athletic director for three years. Proclamations from the Ohio Senate and Ohio General Assembly were read. John also received a framed certificate from the Board for 42 years of coaching overall.
- Heard a report on IDEA-B and its budget from **Justin Gates** in order to comply with federal IDEA requirements to have an annual public meeting soliciting input, suggestions, and comments regarding our use of IDEA Part B funds. Gates also announced his availability to meet and receive public input in any format during and after the board meeting.
- Recognized **Sarah Berkey** of the Kent Police Department as the new Student Resource Officer (SRO) for the Kent City Schools. This new position was a commitment of the administration and Board during the past year. The SRO will work throughout the district.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- Recognized **Karl Waller** and Domino's Pizza as the Collaborative Organization of the month for support of Roosevelt winter athletes, including supporting Athletes of the Week and discounted concession pizzas.
- Recognized **Scott Ouellette** and **Erin Latina** of Portage County Insurance Association for organizing a coat drive in December called Warm Hearts, Warm Kids to benefit Kent children. This Association helped Kent students by donating coats, gloves, hats, and boots for elementary and middle school students this past winter.
- Recognized **Sherry Rosche** and **Terry Slattery** as recipients of the Emilio Ferrara Community Service Award for 2014. **Dr. Emilio Ferrara** presented the awards, along with Board President Rebekah Wright Kulis. The Award began in 2006.
- Heard a Board report on the three finalists for the Superintendent position and a reminder about the second round public interviews on June 23 at 7 p.m. in the RHS auditorium. The finalists are **George Joseph**, **Tony Scott** and **Paula Snyder**. George Joseph is currently the

Executive Director of Administrative Services for the Worthington City Schools. Tony Scott has been the Superintendent at Bellaire Local Schools for the last five years and has been a superintendent elsewhere for the last 15 years. Dr. Paula Snyder is currently the Director of Human Resources at Orange City Schools for the last three years.

- Approved the budget for the Kent Free Library. Library Director **Stacey Richardson** and **Renee Heitkamp** gave a full report before the Kent Board of Education approved.
- Heard financial reports and approved the bills.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the treasurer to proceed with fiscal year-end closing.
- Approved a temporary appropriations resolution for the 2015 fiscal year.
- Approved negotiated agreements with OAPSE Local #176 and Local #4. Dr. Giancola thanked members of the OAPSE bargaining units for the cooperation and hard work from October, 2013 to the present. He also acknowledged his own administrative team. Two particular areas in the negotiated agreement included transportation and health insurance. Dr. Giancola reported that **contracted bussing was removed from the bargaining table** as all parties worked hard to update the trip language, which historically resulted in much overtime. Also, he reported that the redesign of the health insurance coverage promoted shared responsibility in health care. Changes in health insurance were consistent with state and national law and standards.
- Approved new policy updates dealing with e-cigarettes. The main item of change included “e-cigarettes” added to the current language of all tobacco policies. This was a minor change to board policy.
- Approved participation in National School Lunch program, through which students may benefit with free-and-reduced meals if certain federal income guidelines are met.
- Approved insurance renewal through Catlin Indemnity coverage at the lowest price quote.
- Approved contract for up to nine days of audiology services. The previous annual contract was for 5½ days, and then it extended to 7½ days to accommodate additional needs this past school year. The additional time up to 9 days will provide ample time and flexibility for 2014-2015.
- Approved contract for therapeutic services with Coleman Professional Services. Ever since the inception of the elementary Positive Behavior Program (PBP) in Kent, Coleman Professional Services have addressed the additional therapeutic needs of students with disabilities. In addition, these therapeutic services are provided at Stanton and Roosevelt’s PBP programs and other programs as well.
- Reviewed three textbooks, to be approved on June 30, 2014.
- Approved student insurance program for parents to purchase. This year, a new company, Griffin Insurance, will be providing this insurance at the same rate as last year.
- Approved summer youth programs with Coleman Professional Services and Portage County Department of Jobs and Family Services, which provide youth workers in the Kent City Schools at no cost to the district.
- Approved agreement for occupational therapy services. It provides occupational therapy (OT) services for our students whose special needs require both formal and informal assessments. Direct services also are covered by this OT agreement.
- Approved a revised contract for Bleacher Jersey at no cost to the district. This agreement will offer sponsorship opportunities above the bleacher jersey (at the top railings on the stadium) and additional advertising on the score board. The whole concept is that sponsors may increase their advertising exposure on the score board for the same dollar amounts that would originally have been applied to the stadium itself

- Approved a 1-year contract with ARAMARK for food services. The new price includes a range of prices per meal. These prices represent a small increase from last year. The increase is based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Cleveland market.
- Approved the purchase of an updated Point-of-Sale system for cafeterias. This Point-of-Sale (POS) program has been working well. It allows students' lunch purchases to be entered directly into the computer software that manages our students' accounts for buying lunch. In addition, it offers many convenient features, such as: paying into the account in advance, identifying students by school photos, and avoiding embarrassment for students who are subscribed to free and reduced lunches.
- Approved purchase of equipment for Career Technical programs at no cost to the district. For many years now, CNC-programmed (Computer Numeric Control) CAD/CAM (Computer-Aided Design/Computer-Aided Manufacturing) machinery has served the district well. Since career-technical (CT) funding has been dramatically increased this year by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE), worn-out equipment should be replaced while this exceptional ODE allocation is restricted to CT equipment only.
- Approved MOU with Kent Parks and Recreation for rental of modular unit at Holden. Kent Parks and Recreation asked to expand its summer program to Kent children by using one half of the Holden modular building. The Board will charge a one-time-only user fee of \$300 for the month of July, and so Kent Parks and Recreation will have this additional facility available to it for the middle of the summer.
- Approved out-of-state trip to Indiana for girls' golf team. Six (6) students will be supervised by golf coaches Bryan Harvey and Larry Picicco, along with the possibility of a few parents. The trip is taking place from August 14 to August 15, 2014. Transportation will be the school van, driven by our coach. The cost per student is \$60. A combination of fund-raising and student payments will pay for this overnight trip.

#### **PERSONNEL ISSUES:**

- Accepted the retirements of **Lori Slattery**, Director of Instructional Program, and **Lea Ann Six**, Davey Custodian.
- Approved appointments/transfers and a leave of absence. All of the part-time and full-time tutors represent individuals returning to their current tutoring positions or some different tutor assignment. Changes in the support staff indicate a few transfers or decreases in hours that are all part of the plan for 2014-2015 assignments. Pool workers, extended time, and summer school are standard actions taken at the June board meeting, as well as fall supplemental contracts and full-year advisorships.
- Approved a recall of two personnel from Reduction in Staff (RIS). They are recalls made by using the "A-4" grid from our board meeting on March 18 as a basis.
- Introduced **Tim King**, new Roosevelt football coach. Tim and his family attended and addressed the Board.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

- Accepted donations of \$10,385, including many individual donations earmarked for scholarships.