Meeting: Kingdom East School District Monthly Board Meeting
Date and Time: August 10, 2021, at 6:00pm
Location: Miller's Run School
[Recorded ZOOM meeting] **Approved**

Strategic Priorities

- *Robust academics for all students*
- *Character development and strong social and emotional health for students*
- *Maintain and build strong community connections*
- *Assure effective and efficient management of resources*

Board Attendees: Cynthia Stuart (chair), Tony DeMasi (vice chair), Kory Cantin, Mandy Chapman, Miranda Fox, Julie Gist, Biff Mahoney, Erin Rossetti, Karianne Scott, Holly Taylor **In Virtual Attendance:** Alyssa May, Jim Peyton (12)			
Absent: Lila Leonard, Jake Simpson (2)			
KESD Staff Attendees: Jen Botzojorns (Superintendent of Schools), Soph Hall (District Covid Coordinator), Tisha Hankinson (Director of Finance), Jon Rice (Director of Technology), Patrick Ham **In Virtual Attendance:** Jennifer Amadon, Mellisa LaPage, Meagan Johnson, Cheryl McVetty,			
Public Attendees: Kindergarten family, two young Gists **In Virtual Attendance:** Paul Hayes, Chris Lingley, Jessica Simonds, Angie's iPhone, Dianne Peyton			
Quorum: Yes			
AGENDA	**DISCUSSION**	**ACTION/COMMENTS**	**FOLLOW-UP**
Cynthia called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.			
6:00 **Board Business**	**Agenda Revisions and Approval** • No changes noted		
6:02 **Public Comment**	• Following up on previous questions about bus schedules: a robo-email has gone out announcing when the schedule will be finalized for each school. Additionally, Lunenburg School will be open at 7:15 to accommodate earlier drop-off. • Question about the accessibility of the Lunenburg School cafeteria as evacuation center; Select Board should reach out to Facilities Director Marc Brown to		

	ensure each town has a key available to access school buildings.		
6:05 Kindergarten Age Waiver Request	• District Procedures: Executive Session (if needed) Title 1: 313 (1) A specific finding that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body or person involved at substantial disadvantage ..(7) the academic records...of students; • Discussion of whether and how to incorporate online attendees into executive session; the technical difficulties associated with hybrid meetings make it impractical to invite virtual attendees. • Discussion of the necessary confidentiality when inviting members of the public to an executive session.	**Tony moved to enter the executive session, inviting Jen; Biff seconded. Board agreed unanimously to enter executive session (12-0). Tony revised his motion to invite Jen and the family making the request, who remain anonymous for confidentiality reasons; Biff seconded. Board agreed unanimously to enter the executive session with the revised invitation (12-0).** **Executive session began at 6:11pm.** **Board returned from executive session at 6:21pm.**	

6:22 Minutes Approval	• KESD Board Minutes: 7/13/21
	• Committee Minutes received
	  ○ Academic Excellence: N/A
	  ○ Facilities: 7/20/21
	  ○ Finance: 7/19/21
	  ○ Personnel & Negotiations: 7/14/21
	  ○ Communications/Policy/Strategic Planning: 7/15/21
		Biff moved to approve the minutes as written; Kory seconded. Minutes unanimously approved (12-0).	

6:24 Superintendent's Report	Superintendent's report • Discussion of transition plan for Lunenburg/Gilman community--small but productive meeting with interested parties resulted in good discussion and brainstorming. More participation from the community would be very helpful. • Next transition plan meeting is tomorrow (August 11) at 6:00pm. Personnel Addendum: welcome to new staff hires	**Biff moved to approve the new hires,** Tamera Fellows, Samantha Haskins, Alia Khatari, & Erin Rossetti; **Tony seconded. New hires all approved unanimously (12-0).**	

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>Tamera Fellows
Samantha Haskins
Alia Khatari
Ms. R--revealed dramatically to be Erin Rossetti
Miller's Run Principal Report
School Opening Plan</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>6:49
Board Development</td><td>VSBA Regional Meetings, Sept 21, and VSBA Fall Conference, Nov 4-5 at Lake Morey
The Board needs volunteer representatives for these two events
Formal proxy voting statement will take place in a later meeting; tentatively, Jim has volunteered to represent KESD.
Weighting Study Coalition
Coalition within the VSBA has requested financial support as well as representation and participation.
Discussion of reasoning behind funding advocacy in the legislature. Line item in the budget for dues and fees could account for those funds.
Remote and In-Person Guidelines
Discussion of possible ways of establishing executive session privacy for virtual attendees during hybrid meetings. Control of who is in the room, both physically and virtually, presents a major concern, particularly for confidentiality and liability.
Winter meetings would be much less problematic with the option of virtual executive session
Letting Board or Committee chair and vice chair know about virtual attendance in advance should account for lacking a quorum and needing to reschedule executive sessions.</td><td>Biff moved to approve a one time donation of $1000 to the Coalition for Vermont Student Equity, Kory seconded.

Motion passed by a vote of 11-1 with the following individual votes:
Yea: Alyssa, Cynthia, Tony, Kory, Mandy, Miranda, Julie, Biff, Erin, Kari, Holly
Nay: Jim

Biff moved to adopt the revised meeting guidelines as written; Kory seconded.

Board adopted the revised guidelines by a vote of 11-1, with the following individual votes:
Yea: Kory, Tony, Mandy, Erin, Julie, Biff, Holly, Miranda, Jim, Kari, Cynthia
Nay: Alyssa</td><td>Jen will research what other boards are doing in light of these new guidelines.</td></tr>
<tr><td>7:23
Communications,</td><td>Warned Policies to Review:
VSBA Model English Learner Policy</td><td>Kory moved to approve the VSBA Model English Learner Policy, Student</td><td></td></tr>
</table>

Policy, & Strategic Planning Committee	○ New policy reviewed and warned for initial adoption • Student Self-Expression and Student Distribution of Literature ○ Reviewed particular changes from earlier draft after previous request from the Board for the committee to revise the policy • Non-Union Part Time Personnel Policy • Non-Union Full Time School Year Personnel Policy • Full Year Personnel Policy ○ The three preceding policies together are part of a new initiative for Employee Unit Sharing Health Insurance Benefits--effectively, employees who work two part-time positions that add up to at least 1.0 FTE will be eligible for health insurance benefits. **Policies to Review:** • Educational Support System • Grade Advancement; Retention, Promotion & Acceleration of Students • Animal Dissection Brief discussion of the holiday calendar and how best to refer to Christmas Eve as a holiday.	**Self-Expression and Student Distribution of Literature, Non-Union Part Time Personnel Policy, Non-Union Full Time School Year Personnel Policy, and Full Year Personnel Policy, all as written; Holly seconded.** **Board unanimously approved these five policies as written (12-0).** **Board reviewed the other three policies: Educational Support System, Grade Advancement, Animal Dissection**	
7:33 School Reopening Guidelines	State Guideline Family Survey Data • Discussion of the status of the vaccines available to students under age 12, the FDA approval vs. emergency use authorization of vaccines, and the effects of the Delta Variant on current advisement. • Discussion of the wording in the memo from Secretary French & Commissioner Levine--somewhat conflicting statements of recommendation, but the decision is within the purview of the Board as long as a State of Emergency is not in effect. • Soph Hall advised having all students and staff indoors in school buildings masked until further data	**Miranda moved to delegate authority to make decisions regarding health guidelines and requirements to the Superintendent and District Team; Tony seconded.** **Board resolved to continue delegating Covid decisions to the Superintendent and District Team by a vote of 8-4, with the following individual votes:** **Yea: Alyssa, Kari, Kory, Tony, Mandy, Erin, Biff, Miranda** **Nay: Jim, Julie, Holly, Cynthia**	

	comes in on how best to protect those who are vulnerable. • No current recommendations from the state regarding PE, lunch, and movement among different classrooms. Discussion of how best to leverage the ability to establish some sense of normalcy in these sorts of activities while maintaining other prevention measures. • Discussion of continuing to provide medical expertise for parent information as the KESD team • Discussion of major split in results on the second question of the family survey (the question of having masks required until the school population reaches an 80% rate of vaccination). • Comparison between the lack of mask requirement during summer camps and possibly imposing a mask requirement during the school year.	**Jim moved to reconsider the previous vote to establish a time limit for the delegation of decisions; Kory seconded.** **Board recalled the previous vote to consider a time limit** **Yea: Kory, Julie, Biff, Holly, Jim, Kari, Cynthia** **Nay: Tony, Mandy, Erin, Miranda, Alyssa** **Miranda moved to delegate authority to make decisions regarding health guidelines and requirements to the Superintendent and District Team for the 2021-22 academic year; Alyssa seconded.** **Board resolved to delegate Covid decisions to the Superintendent and District Team for the 2021-22 academic year by a vote of 9-3, with the following individual votes:** **Yea: Kory, Tony, Miranda, Erin, Julie, Biff, Alyssa, Mandy, Cynthia** **Nay: Holly, Jim, Kari**	
8:21 Facilities	• Huge thanks to Marc Brown for his work this summer, including his individual work on a storage unit for Lunenburg • Update from Tony on facilities projects (also noted in Superintendent's Report)		
8:26 Gratitude	The Board expresses gratitude and signed cards of thanks to the following outstanding individuals this month: • Nyah Colby • Matt Dickson • Sarah Goodwin • Dale Guisinger • Prudence Kaczowski		

	• Tyler Lussier • Brandon Mapes • Heather Skrabely • Natalie Smith Additional thanks to Morgan Moore and all who made the summer camp opportunities available this year.		
8:29 Public Comment	• Correction of an error in spelling the name of one of the gratitude recipients • Request to have greater public accessibility to memos, minutes, and other documentation that Board members refer to during meetings. • Comment that standards for masks are not uniform throughout the district, which creates resentment. • Discussion of the state's mandate not to offer Virtual Academy in the interest of social and emotional needs of students. • Request to arrange meeting schedule to respect the time of public attendees above other considerations. • Question about Gilman senior meal opportunities and the fee for use of the school buildings. This is a district policy, and the Policy Committee may wish to reconsider it. • Protest and anger directed against favoring vaccination and the lack of liability for any unforeseen consequences of vaccines. Voicing of great outrage that elected officials are delegating authority to unelected organizations and officers. • Discussion of the responsibilities of elected representatives regarding authorizing other officials to make decisions and policy.		
8:48 Further Business	• Board entered executive session at 8:48pm and returned at 9:07pm. • Next meeting: September 10, 6:00pm, in person at Concord School	**Tony moved to enter the executive session, inviting Jen; Biff seconded. Board agreed unanimously to enter the executive session (12-0).** **Executive session began at 8:48pm. Board returned from executive session at**	

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<tr><td></td><td></td><td>9:07.

Tony moved to deny the request for a waiver for the 5 year old age by September 1st for Kindergarten entry; Biff seconded.
Board

All voted in favor. Yea: Kory, Tony, Miranda, Erin, Julie, Biff, Mandy, Cynthia, Holly, Kari</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Adjournment—With no further discussion, Cynthia adjourned the meeting at 9:11 pm.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Respectfully submitted,

Nathan E. Bradshaw, Minutes Clerk</td></tr>
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Thank you for your dedication to the students of the Kingdom East School District!

UPCOMING SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

KE Board Meeting	6:00pm	2nd Tuesday	September 14
Negotiations/Personnel	4:00 pm	2nd Wednesday	September 8 (no August meeting)
Finance Committee	5:00 pm	3rd Monday	August 16
Facilities Committee	5:30 pm	3rd Tuesday	August 17
Comm./Policy/Strategic Planning	6:00 pm	3rd Thursday	August 19
Academic Excellence Committee	5:30 pm	4th Monday	August 23

[Board Member Contact Information]
[Yearly Meeting Calendar - Final Draft]
[Kingdom East Final Adopted Policy Landing Page]
[2020-2021 Calendar]

KESD Strategic Plan

Personnel & Negotiations: DeMasi, Fox, Mahoney, Stuart
Academic Excellence: Chapman, Gist, Scott, Taylor
Communications, Policy & Strategic Planning: Peyton, May, Rossetti

Facilities: DeMasi, Leonard, Mahoney
Finance: Cantin, Taylor, Simpson