

Kirtland Board of Education
Special Meeting
June 29, 2009

The Special Meeting of the Kirtland Board of Education was held at the Kirtland High School LGI Room on June 29, 2009. Mr. Schenosky called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m., with the following members answering the roll: Mr. Balazs, Mr. Schenosky, Mr. Skeggs and Mrs. Sohngen. Mr. Bodmer was absent. Dr. Lipinski attended the meeting.

Also in attendance: Susan Timko, Lorraine O'Brien, Jodi Grisso, Cindy Gabor, Kat Torok, Ruth Haines, Royal & Beth Brettrager, Valerie Straus, Tim Kehres, Jackie Meyer, Jeanette Blankenship, Gary Danielson, Scott Greenlee, Pete Hliatzos, Gloria Brach.

Mrs. Timko said had previously asked for a forensic audit of the district. Ms. Herrmann said the district has been audited for the 2007 and 2008 school years and received an unqualified opinion. Mr. Schenosky asked how long auditors are on site when they conduct an audit. Ms. Herrmann said most recently they were here from December 2008 until February 2009. Dr. Lipinski suggested that Ms. Herrmann schedule a time Mrs. Timko could come in and meet with the State Auditors. Mrs. Timko said she doesn't have time to attend a meeting.

Mrs. Timko said parents pay a \$3 technology fee but she has found student data was not entered into the grading system correctly, and she discovered that 4 credit hours were missing from one of her children's final grades. She said she was concerned about how the district calculates a student's GPA. Dr. Lipinski said the \$3 fee helps cover the cost of the Parent Assist Module that allows parents to review grades and he is always willing to talk to a parent about GPA's.

Mr. Brettrager said he would like to see the district develop a facilities plan before putting up another building even though he knows maintenance staff needs storage space. Dr. Lipinski said the district will use the \$50,000 from the sale of the modular units to pay for the building. He said the district would like to be able to park the second plow truck in a garage. Dr. Lipinski said the building would provide space for supplies and would be located behind the board office. Mr. Brettrager said he would like to see a master plan developed and there might be a better place for a building. Dr. Lipinski said he would have Mr. Roseberry call Mr. Brettrager.

Mrs. Meyer questioned if the elementary renovations are done and what is yet to be done. Dr. Lipinski said the bond issue work is done and the district has money leftover as the project came in under budget. He said the roofs are being redone with the leftover money and once the board approves the additional items on the agenda there will still be some funds left.

Mrs. Meyer said she was concerned if there was any asbestos in the areas renovated as there is a lot of dust and debris around and asked if it will be cleaned up before school opens. Dr. Lipinski said all the remaining asbestos was removed last summer and everything will be cleaned before school opens. He said all the roofs will be done by August 30th and some areas will be done before school starts. Mr. Schenosky said the entire project came in under budget allowing the district to fix some things and make additional improvements. He said he talked to building principals to determine how to spend the additional money.

Mrs. Meyer said she is concerned about the money being spent as people on a fixed income are being squeezed financially. Dr. Lipinski said all the money being spent is from bond issue funds and it is better to make repairs now than wait a few years when the price will increase.

Mrs. Timko asked why the district isn't sitting on the money. Mr. Schenosky said the district asked for the money for the bond issue to fix buildings and the items the board is being asked to approve will improve the safety of students. He said the district is being prudent with the funds. Dr. Lipinski said due to stringent management of the bond issue money the project came in on time and under budget. He said the district will have to pay a sewer tap-in fee soon and bond money can be used for that expense and the district will not have to use general fund money. Mr. Schenosky said the district last asked taxpayers for operating money in 2003 and the voters were told the district would be back on the ballot in 2005. He said the district has yet to ask taxpayers for additional money.

Mrs. Brach reported that there will be several new elective classes for the upcoming school year: speech, poetry, music appreciation, 3D Art, and sociology; and all need board approval of their accompanying textbooks.

Mr. Hliatzos and Mr. Greenlee provided an update on the study of block scheduling. Mr. Schenosky said the two will not take questions from the audience as the full committee was not here, but audience members can ask questions at the end of the meeting that will be passed along to the committee.

Mr. Hliatzos said since the last report to the board in December 2008 the committee visited more schools on block schedules. The committee discussed concerns regarding the impact block scheduling has on: advanced placement classes, special education classes, the Ohio Graduation test, and staff development. Mr. Hliatzos said presentations were also made at parent meetings and to the PTA.

Mr. Hliatzos said that before implementing block scheduling Bay Village schools in-serviced teachers the year before the change, and had staff visit other schools to observe block classes. He said the district also had additional professional development during the first and second year of implementing a block schedule. Mr. Hliatzos said the committee looked at schools the same size as Kirtland on a block schedule that were also rated excellent by the state. He said staff visited Delphos and Smithville high schools.

Mr. Greenlee said Beachwood High School has a hybrid block schedule and the staff there doesn't like it as there is a time loss in science classes. He said the high school special education teachers visited Bay Village high school and thought they were a good example of block scheduling working well.

Mr. Hliatzos said every school has some adjusting to make the schedule work and we would need to adjust the middle school schedule for it to work in Kirtland. Mr. Greenlee said that schools on the block tend to like it. He said the principal at Smithville said he was skeptical at first but he said it has cut down on behavioral problems as there is less transition between classes. Mr. Hliatzos said teachers that he spoke with on the block said they do not wish to go back to a regular schedule and it is easier on the students to have only four classes.

Mr. Balazs asked how block scheduling impacts post-secondary students. Mr. Hliatzos said there is not much impact as the district would work around the student's schedule, the same as they do now. Dr. Lipinski asked how the block impacts students at Auburn Career Center. Mr. Hliatzos said the master schedule was built to accommodate those students, and there is a possibility that Auburn will start offering English and Math classes that students currently take at Kirtland.

Mrs. Sohngen said the district is pushing differentiation and in 8th grade students are getting ready for Algebra II in the high school and she is concerned how that will fit with block scheduling. Mr. Greenlee said Algebra II could be taken in the first block and another class, perhaps a language, could be taken the second semester.

Mrs. Sohngen said that the 8th graders would take the first block and then 7 other middle school classes, giving them a more difficult schedule than anyone else in the district. She said she is concerned about the impact of the block on the middle school and the district needs it to work for both buildings. Dr. Lipinski agreed that the district needs to determine how block scheduling impacts the middle school. Mrs. Sohngen said even if block scheduling is best for the high school the impact of that schedule on the middle school is important.

Mr. Hliatzos said the district needs to look at offering some classes all year to accommodate middle school. Dr. Lipinski said in Bay Village the middle school made some adjustments by increasing class periods to 60 minutes. Mr. Schenosky asked how many schools use an AB block and Mr. Greenlee said no public school, the same size as Kirtland, have an AB block schedule.

Mr. Schenosky asked about student retention of content for testing and Mr. Greenlee said the schools the committee studied didn't have problems with testing. He said students that took science the first semester had the content they needed before testing. Mr. Schenosky asked how single classes, such as band and choir, fit in a block schedule. Mr. Greenlee said the committee hadn't come across a model with single classes.

Mr. Schenosky asked that the committee involve middle school teachers and Mr. Campbell in the process. Mrs. Sohngen said both the middle and high schools operate on 40 minute periods and asked the committee to look at longer periods as the state might be changing the school day. Mr. Greenlee said if students have fewer periods in a day they would not be able to take as many classes over four years.

It was moved by Mr. Balazs and seconded by Mr. Schenosky that the following resolution be adopted:

Resolution #25-2009

- A. Recommendation to Approve Minute Transcripts for:
Special Meeting of May 18, 2009
Special Meeting of May 22, 2009
Special Meeting of May 29, 2009
Special Meeting of June 3, 2009
Special Meeting of June 8, 2009
Special Meeting of June 22, 2009

- B. Recommendation to Approve Financial Statements for:
May 2009

Mr. Skeggs said the minutes of the May 22nd meeting stated he was not there but he believed he was. Ms. Herrmann said she would review her notes and make the correction.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Balazs, Mr. Schenosky, Mr. Skeggs, Mrs. Sohngen.

It was moved by Mr. Skeggs and seconded by Mr. Balazs that the following resolution be adopted:

Resolution #26-2009

- A. Recommendation to Approve the Following Fund to Fund Transfers:
- | | |
|----------------------|----------|
| From: | |
| General Fund | \$40,100 |
| To: | |
| Food Service | \$40,100 |
| From: | |
| General Fund | \$50,000 |
| To: | |
| Termination Benefits | \$50,000 |
| From: | |
| General Fund | \$ 2,000 |
| To: | |
| High School Yearbook | \$ 2,000 |

- B. Recommendation to Approve an Amended Appropriation for the 2008-2009 School Year
- C. Recommendation to Approve a Permanent Appropriation for the 2009-2010 School Year
- D. Recommendation to Establish the Penny Hennie Scholarship Fund and Authorizing the Treasurer to Prepare an Agreement with the Hennie Family for the Distribution of the Funds
- E. Recommendation to Establish the Fifties Scholarship Fund and Authorizing the Treasurer to Prepare an Agreement with Ruth Spencer for the Distribution of the Funds
- F. Recommendation to Approve a Resolution Regarding Representation at Meetings of the Lake County Schools Council:

WHEREAS, the Kirtland Local School District is a member of the Lake County Schools Council; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement for the Establishment of the lake County Schools Council ("Agreement") can be amended, pursuant to Section 8 of the Agreement, with the approval of at least a majority of the governing bodies of those members; and

WHEREAS, Section 3 of that Agreement states that a board of education's representative on the Council shall be the superintendent; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Lake County Schools Council has recommended that the Agreement be modified to permit the appointment of an Alternate Representative.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. This board of education agrees to the proposed modification of Section 3 of the Agreement for the Establishment of the lake County Schools Council as follows:

Section 3: Representation of Members. The governing body of each Member shall appoint one Representative and may appoint an Alternate Representative. In the case of boards of education, the Representative shall be the Member's Superintendent and the Alternate Representative, if one is appointed, shall be the Member's Treasurer. In the case of a Member that is not a board of education, the Representative, and Alternate Representative if one is appointed, shall be executives of the Member appointed by the Member's governing body. In the absence of a Member's Representative at a meeting, the Member's Alternate Representative shall have the authority to exercise all the powers and duties assigned to the Member's Representative. At any meeting attended by both the Member's Representative and Alternate Representative, only the Representative shall exercise those powers and duties.

2. The treasurer is directed to send a certified copy of this Resolution to the administrator of the Lake County Schools Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of the Board of Education concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were done in meetings open to the public, when required by law, and were in full compliance with the law

- G. Recommendation to Approve the 2010 Proposed Tax Budget Submitted by the Kirtland Public Library and to Forward said Budget to the Lake County Auditor
- H. Recommendation Authorizing the Treasurer to Advertise for Bids for the Construction of 40'X60' Maintenance Storage Building and all Necessary Utilities

- I. Recommendation to Award Bus Bid to Power City International, One Bus to be Purchased in FY2009 and One Bus to be Purchased in FY2010:

Base Bid \$79,750.00

Options:

Transmission Software \$ 575.00

Total \$80,325.00

Trade-Ins

Bus #2 \$ 1,500.00

Bus #4 \$ 1,300.00

- J. A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING AND RESTATING THE TERMS OF A PICK UP PROGRAM FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS TO STRS AND SERS AND AUTHORIZING THE TREASURER TO TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION RELATING THERETO

WHEREAS, employees of the Board of Education of the Kirtland Local School District (the "District") are members of the School Teachers Retirement System ("STRS") or the School Employees Retirement System ("SERS"); and

WHEREAS, employees who are members of STRS or SERS must contribute a percentage of their compensation as member contributions to STRS or SERS; and

WHEREAS, member contributions to STRS or SERS will not be currently subject to federal income tax if such contributions are picked-up by the District in accordance with Internal Revenue Code ("IRC") Section 414(h)(2) and rulings thereunder; and

WHEREAS, the District has previously adopted pick-ups on behalf of employees; and

WHEREAS, the District wishes to affirm, restate and modify the terms of its pick-up programs for employees; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to applicable provisions of Chapters 3307 and 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code ("ORC") and Ohio Administrative Code ("OAC") rules thereunder, certain employees of the Board who are members of STRS, or SERS are permitted to purchase, by payroll deduction,

additional service credit under STRS, SERS and Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (“PERS”); and

WHEREAS, Internal Revenue Service rulings under IRC Section 414(h)(2) have permitted governmental employers to pick up employee contributions required for the purchase of additional service credit under a state or local governmental retirement system; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ORC Sections 3307.70 and 3307.711, the STRS board has adopted OAC Rule 3307:1-3-11 to permit employers to pick up employee contributions required for the purchase of additional service credit under STRS, SERS and PERS; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the foregoing, the Board would like to provide that an employee who is permitted to purchase additional service credit under the STRS or SERS payroll deduction plans may irrevocably elect to have the Board pick up, by the salary reduction method, an employee’s required contributions to purchase additional the service credit under STRS, SERS or PERS;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Kirtland Local School District, County of Lake, State of Ohio, that:

Section 1. In accordance with Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”) Section 414(h)(2), the Board shall pick up all of the required member contributions of all employees to the State Teachers Retirement System (“STRS”) and School Employees Retirement System (SERS”).

Except as otherwise provided for in Board policy, the terms of a collective bargaining agreement or the terms of an employee’s written contract of employment with the Board, the pick-up shall be a “salary reduction” pick-up of the entire amount of the member contribution which the employee is required to contribute to STRS or SERS, based upon the salary and all other “compensation” of the employee under Ohio Revised Code (“ORC”) Section 3307.01 or 3309.01. Accordingly, the compensation of an employee covered by the salary reduction pick up shall be deemed to be reduced by the amount of the pick up; and the Treasurer is hereby authorized to pay an equal amount the amount of the salary reduction pick-up directly to STRS or

SERS as a member contribution of the employee. To the extent provided for in Board policy, the terms of a collective bargaining agreement or the terms of an employee's written contract of employment with the Board, the pick-up shall be a "fringe benefit" pick-up of all or a portion of the member contribution which the employee is required to contribute to STRS or SERS, based upon the salary and all other "compensation" of the employee under Ohio Revised Code ("ORC") Section 3307.01 or ORC Section 3309.01. To the extent that a fringe benefit pick up is in effect with respect to an employee, the Board shall not reduce the compensation of the employee on account of the required member contributions to STRS or SERS; and the Treasurer is hereby authorized to instead pay directly to STRS or SERS the required amount of the STRS or SERS member contribution of the employee.

To the extent provided for in Board policy, the terms of a collective bargaining agreement or the terms of an employee's written contract of employment with the Board, the amount of an employee's fringe benefit pick-up shall also be considered as compensation of the employee for purposes of ORC Section 3307.01 or ORC Section 3309.01; and, to the extent that any such picked up amounts are considered to be additional compensation for such purposes, the Treasurer shall pay directly to STRS or SERS, all employer and member contributions (in lieu of the employee paying the member contributions) required on account of the inclusion of such fringe benefit pick-up as additional compensation for such purposes.

No employee shall have the option of receiving cash or other taxable benefits or amounts in lieu of having a pick up in effect for all of the employee's required member contributions to STRS or SERS.

Section 2. An employee shall be "Covered Employee" under this Section 2 of this Resolution if the employee meets all of the following requirements:

- (a) The employee is a member of STRS or SERS.
- (b) The employee elects to purchase additional service credit under the STRS or SERS payroll deduction plans and specifies the amount of service credit to be purchased.
- (c) The employee agrees that the purchase of the specified amount of additional service

credit shall be made by payroll deduction pursuant to OAC 3307:1-3 or OAC 3309-1-54

(d) The employee agrees that the payroll deductions for the purchase of such service credit shall be picked up by the Board pursuant to IRC Section 414(h)(2) and in accordance with OAC 3307:1-3-11 (M) or OAC 3309-1-54 and the foregoing terms of this Resolution.

(d) The employee agrees that his or her election to purchase additional service credit, election to pay for the purchase of such service credit by payroll deduction, and agreement to the pick up provided herein are irrevocable.

With respect to a Covered Employee under this Section 2, the compensation of the Covered Employee shall be reduced in accordance with Section 1 of this Resolution to provide for a salary reduction pick-up of the contributions the Covered Employee is required to make for the purchase of additional STRS, SERS or PERS service credit under a payroll deduction plan of STRS or SERS, as permitted under IRC Section 414(h)(2) and rulings thereunder.

All such picked up amounts shall be paid by the Board to STRS or SERS on behalf of the Covered Employee as a pick up by the Board of the member contribution requirements otherwise imposed upon the employee for the purchase of additional service credit, in lieu of such amounts otherwise being paid directly by the Covered Employee. Once a pick up of employee contributions is begun under this Section 2, no covered employee shall have the option of receiving cash or other taxable benefits or amounts in lieu of having the pick up in effect for payment of all of the employee's required member contributions to STRS or SERS for purchase of the service credit.

Section 3. All salary reduction pick-up amounts shall be included in the employee's total annual salary for the purpose of computing daily rate of pay, for determining

paid salary adjustments to be made due to absence, or for any similar purpose. Fringe benefit pick up amounts shall not be included for such purposes, absent a specific intent to do so that is stated in writing as part of the board policy, collective bargaining terms or other contractual authorization for the fringe benefit pick up.

Section 4. The District shall fulfill its income tax reporting and withholding responsibilities for each employee in such manner as is required by applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations as they may exist at the time of such reporting and withholding. It is the District's understanding that the no picked up amount pick up is currently subject to any federal or state income taxes; and that with respect to a pick up done under the salary reduction pick up method, federal and Ohio income tax laws and regulations presently require it to report as an employee's gross income his total annual salary less the amount of the salary reduction pick up (i.e. his cash salary), while applicable federal employment tax laws (e.g. the Medicare tax) and Ohio municipal income tax law require it to report as an employee's gross income, his total annual salary including the amount of the salary reduction pick up.

Section 5. The Treasurer is hereby directed to take all acts necessary and appropriate to ensure the continued implementation of this resolution, including but not limited to, making applications to the Internal Revenue Service and the boards administering the STRS and SERS programs to determine the requirements of the Internal Revenue Service and such boards in connection with such pick up plan.

Section 6. This Board finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board and of any of its committees concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any committees that resulted in those formal actions were held, in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

- K. Resolution to approve an after the fact purchase order to Kensar Equipment, \$6,150 for a fork lift paid by the General Fund.

Mrs. Sohngen asked if the maintenance building would be moveable and where it would be located. Ms. Herrmann said it would be permanent and it would be on the west side of the board office.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Balazs, Mr. Schenosky, Mr. Skeggs, Mrs. Sohngen.

TREASURER'S CERTIFICATE
(O.R.C. 5705-412)

RE: 2009 & 2010 Appropriation

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the KIRTLAND LOCAL School District has sufficient funds to meet the contract, obligation, payment, or expenditure for the above, and has in effect for the remainder of the fiscal year and the succeeding fiscal year the authorization to levy taxes which, when combined with the estimated revenue from all other sources available to the district at the time of certification, are sufficient to provide operating revenues necessary to enable the district to maintain all personnel, programs, and services essential to the provision of an adequate educational program on all the days in the succeeding fiscal year equal to the number days instruction was held or is scheduled for the current fiscal year, except that if the above expenditure is for a contract, this certification shall cover the term of the contract or the current fiscal year plus the two immediately succeeding fiscal years, whichever period of years is greater.

Board President

Superintendent

Treasurer
Kirtland Board of Education
Lake County, Ohio

It was moved by Mrs. Sohngen and seconded by Mr. Schenosky that the following resolution be adopted:

Resolution #27-2009

- A. Recommendation to Let The Records Reflect the Following Certified Staff be Issued a New 2 Year Contract Instead of a 1 Year for 2009-2010:

Julie Poling
Marie Reeves
Andreha O'Donnell

- B. Recommendation to Approve Classified Substitutes for 2009-2010:

David Sluga	Bus Driver	\$16.64/hour
Pam Klann	Cafeteria	\$11.70/hour
	Cashier	\$11.94/hour

- C. Recommendation to Approve Additional Pay of \$1,000.00 for Kim Crawford, 6th Grade Camp Nurse, to be paid from 6th Grade Camp Funds
- D. Recommendation to Approve FMLA Leave for KES Teacher Elizabeth Miller for the 2009-2010 School Year
- E. Recommendation to Approve FMLA Leave for KES Teacher Bob Lasecki, September 2, 2009 – October 1, 2009
- F. Recommendation to Approve a 2 Year Contract for Ted Roseberry, Transportation/Maintenance Supervisor
- G. Recommendation to Approve Jennifer Wendel, Part-Time KHS Spanish Teacher for 2009-2010, BA-0, \$14,160.00
- H. Recommendation to Approve John Scott, Part-Time KHS Social Studies Teacher for 2009-2010, MA-0, \$24,804.00

Dr. Lipinski said Ms. Wendel would teach 2 classes in the high school and Mr. Scott is also certified to teach economics.

Mrs. Sohngen said the board normally approves supplemental contracts around this time but hadn't yet. Dr. Lipinski said since the payroll clerk was on vacation last week he was unable to obtain the salaries. He said the supplemental contracts will be on the July meeting agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Balazs, Mr. Schenosky, Mr. Skeggs, Mrs. Sohngen.

It was moved by Mr. Skeggs and seconded by Mrs. Sohngen that the following resolution be adopted:

Resolution #28-2009

- A. Recommendation to Approve Early Retirement Incentive Plan with KEA for 2009-2010
- B. Recommendation to Approve Student Fees/Handbooks
- C. Recommendation to Approve Construction Change Orders:
Lakeland Management Systems, Inc.
Credit for not seeding graded areas around new elementary addition
Total deduct: (\$800.00)

- D. Recommendation to Award Bids to BSC Construction for Construction Renovations
Base Bid: \$179,255
KES Main Office, KES Media Center, KES Clinic, KMS Exterior Stairs
Alt. 1: \$42,861
KES Staff Restrooms
Alt. 2: \$33,341
KES Teacher Lounge
Alt. 3: \$25,228
KES Music Room
Alt. 4: \$16,645
Renovate Existing Elementary School Restrooms
Alt. 5: \$65,880
KHS Student Exterior Patio
Alt. 6: \$13,673
KHS Trophy Case
Alt. 7: \$4,779
Renovate Existing KES Restrooms
Alt. 8: \$8,349
Renovate KES Art Room
Alt. 9: \$9,801
KES Main Office Air Conditioning
Alt. 10: \$13,009
KES Teacher's Lounge Air Conditioning
- E. Recommendation to Approve New Textbooks and New Courses of Study
- F. Recommendation to Approve the Retirement of Curriculum Director, Gloria Brach, effective July 1, 2009

Dr. Lipinski said some of the class fees are lower this year than last year and the district was also looking to reduce the cost of the overnight trips, possibly by reducing the number of days of the trips.

Dr. Lipinski said the base bid for construction was to move the elementary office closer to the new entrance. He said a computer room will be constructed upstairs in the elementary, and the library and music rooms there will also be redone. Dr. Lipinski said the district will also have preschool classes for 3 and 4 year olds during the upcoming school year.

Mrs. Sohngen asked if the middle school office has air conditioning. Dr. Lipinski said Mike Denk's engineering firm is looking at what is needed to provide air conditioning to the office and bond issue money can be used for that improvement. Mrs. Sohngen also

asked if the middle school office floors would be fixed and Dr. Lipinski said that would be taken care of after the roof was fixed.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Balazs, Mr. Schenosky, Mr. Skeggs, Mrs. Sohngen.

Parents asked questions regarding a high school block schedule and Mr. Schenosky said Ms. Herrmann would take down the questions and pass them along to Mr. Hliatzos and Mr. Greenlee. Some of the questions were: what will be the cost to implement a block schedule, why does the district want to change if the high school is already a blue ribbon school, are there newer studies than the ones on the district web site as those are from 1988, what effect would longer periods have on special education students, why not increase the time for class periods.

Mrs. Timko said she wanted to commend the board for a change that allows children to advance to classes they are academically ready for even if they are not in that grade. Dr. Lipinski said Mrs. Brach has worked to allow students to take classes based upon their ability not their age. Mrs. Timko asked when the district will replace the curriculum director and Dr. Lipinski said it will be discussed at the July meeting.

Mrs. Timko asked what the district policy is on cheating as she has heard of students copying others homework and that students are texting on their cell phones during exams. She said the district needs to take firm action against cheating. Dr. Lipinski said the student handbooks have a section on cheating and any incident of cheating is unacceptable. He said teachers won't condone cheating and he doesn't think it is widespread in the district.

Mrs. Gabor asked if the middle school trips will continue as they are a growing expense to families and she questioned whether they could visit places in Cleveland to save money. Dr. Lipinski said he has already talked to the principals about field trips and they are looking to shorten the duration of the trips. He said it is good to have a trip for each grade at the middle school but the district is sensitive to the costs. Mrs. Grisso also questioned the fundraising for trips as that also places a financial burden on families. Dr. Lipinski said the district will look for some alternatives.

Mr. Danielson said has a child with dietary problems that in order to go on an overnight trip he would need to have a parent along. Ms. Herrmann said that parents have accompanied their children on overnight trips. Mrs. Torok said she is concerned that there is no full-time nurse in the high school. She is concerned what procedure is followed when students are sick in the high school. Mrs. Torok said she talked to Mrs. Crawford the nurse and she can't remember if she talked to Mr. Hliatzos.

Mrs. Grisso said that final grades were a mess at the end of the year. She said her child had a 90.5 average in a class and got a B as a final grade. Mrs. Grisso said she talked to the teacher and the teacher said it is correct on paper but not in the computer system. She said teachers are not inputting grades timely and don't seem to understand the system. Dr. Lipinski said the problem may not be with the input of grade but with the calculation.

Mrs. Grisso said she got an interim report card and 2 weeks of work was missing on the interim. Dr. Lipinski said the district has an expectation that grades should be in the computer system within 1 week of completion.

Mrs. Timko said she had previously brought up a concern with students answering phones in the high school office. Dr. Lipinski said the secretaries are entitled to a half-hour of lunch and many district utilize students in the office. He said that before a secretary leaves their desk sensitive information needs to be secured.

Mrs. Blankenship said she is a member of the Kirtland Education Council and the group came to the April board meeting to explain the group's mission and at the May board meeting they presented the board with suggestions for improvements to the special education programs. She asked what has been done with the identified problems since they were brought to the board's attention.

Mr. Skeggs said the board has reviewed all the information brought forward by the group and is learning what the administration's role is in the special education process and what is done to develop programs. Mr. Bodmer said he believes some systemic problems do exist and Mr. Skeggs said the board is looking into the situation.

Mr. Schenosky said the board has been made aware of some problems regarding communication issues in the buildings. He said he told the head of KEC to talk with Mrs. Brach and asked for information before the May presentation but since the board didn't receive the information prior to the meeting there was not an opportunity for dialog. Mr. Schenosky said the administration is working diligently to improve things.

Mrs. Sohngen said she reviewed the proposals with Dr. Lipinski, Mrs. Brach and Dr. Hayman and all want to work to bring positive change to the district. Mr. Balazs said he was involved in a significant number of meetings where talk centered around the delivery of services and he doesn't believe there is a systemic problem but there is room for improvement. He said the board is reviewing the data and recommendations from KEC and work needs to be done for improvement.

Mr. Schenosky said there were very good points in the presentation and the district is learning from mistakes and is already doing some of the things suggested. He said if parents feel they are not getting services they need to go to those higher up in authority. Mr. Schenosky said there will be a presentation in the near future regarding what the district is doing regarding special education.

Mrs. Blankenship said help is needed for those that have yet to be diagnosed. Mr. Schenosky said if parents don't get the help they need at the building level they need to go to Dr. Lipinski or Mrs. Brach as the district doesn't want anyone to fall through the cracks and there will be changes made.

Dr. Lipinski said the KEC report was made to the board on May 18th, close to the end of the school year, which is busy time and the district is identifying items to focus on. Mr.

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Regular Meeting

Kehres said he understands the district can't do it all and he looks forward to having everyone work together. Mrs. Straus said she would like assurance that what she went through as a special education parent won't happen to other parents. Dr. Lipinski said any problem the district knows about it will work to correct. He said if a parent has a problem they need to talk to the teacher, then the administrator of that building.

Mr. Balazs said the board can't say that something won't happen again but lessons have been learned and the district is moving forward. Mr. Schenosky said the board will try to see that the same issues don't happen again as everyone is here for the kids and to try and help them.

Mr. Skeggs said he doesn't know if there is a systemic problem. He said he was not aware that parents felt their children were not receiving the services they needed and the goal of the board is to do the right thing.

It was moved by Mr. Schenosky and seconded by Mrs. Sohngen that the board enter executive session at 9:37 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations. Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Balazs, Mr. Skeggs, Mr. Schenosky, Mrs. Sohngen.

It was moved by Mr. Schenosky and seconded by Mrs. Sohngen that the board return from executive session. Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Balazs, Mr. Schenosky, Mr. Skeggs, Mrs. Sohngen.

There being no further business before the board it was moved by Mr. Balazs and seconded by Mr. Schenosky that the meeting be adjourned at 10:12 p.m. Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Balazs, Mr. Schenosky, Mr. Skeggs, Mrs. Sohngen.

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and exact copy of the proceedings that were held on the above aforementioned date.

Signed this _____ Day of _____, 2009.

President

Treasurer