

KENSINGTON SCHOOL BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 11, 2017

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Tina Favara at 6:09 PM.

Business and Financial: Ms. Asbell reviewed the financial report. Currently the KES budget is on target and there are no new areas of concern. No discussion ensued.

Visitor: Mr. Michael Davey from EEI updated the KES Board on various building maintenance projects. He outlined quotes for enhanced LED, control upgrades, new ERV and heat for non-ventilated wing, spray foam insulation in Kindergarten wing, and new ceilings in the center core. Projected overall cost for all projects is \$578,481.00 and projected overall cost for energy savings projects is \$251,906.00. After the presentation discussion ensued. The board asked Mr. Davey to come back in November with a detailed report, he agreed. Other maintenance projects were discussed including the probable need for a new roof within the next five years, and the age of the boiler. The board also referred to the ten -year plan provided by EBI last year which outlines by priority a building maintenance schedule.

Approval of Minutes: **On a motion by Ben Cole, seconded by Jennifer Ramsey, the Board voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the Minutes of the Board of September 13, 2017 as presented.**

Policies:

The board reviewed the following policies:

- 1.1.1. BEDG – Minutes – Revision
- 1.1.2. IHBA – Evaluation Requirements for Children with Specific Learning Disabilities – New
- 1.1.3. IHBA-R – Specific Learning Disability Checklist – New
- 1.1.4. IJO – School, Community, and Home Relations – Review
- 1.1.5. IJOA – Educational Field Trips – Review
- 1.1.6. IKA – Grading System - Review
- 1.1.7. IKB – Homework – Review
- 1.1.8. IKF – Graduation Requirements – Review
- 1.1.9. IKFA – Early Graduation - New
- 1.1.10. JFAC – Change of School or Assignment – Revision

**On a motion by Ben Cole, seconded by Jennifer Ramsey, the Board voted unanimously (3-0) to approve all of the above policies as presented.**

Principal's Report-Ms. Ruel reviewed her report, (please see attached document). KES students will be taking field trips this month to Strawberry Banke and to the Freedom Trail. The XC Team continues to be competitive this season at the meets.

The competency based learning committee will meet on October 12, 2017 to discuss survey results.

**Superintendent Report:**

Ms. Asbell shared that the insurance rate increase is being projected at around 5% for SchoolCare, and that this will be built into the budget. She noted the board will get version one at the November meeting. Ms. Asbell noted the EHS Principal and SAU 16 Superintendent searches are underway and that she is facilitating both of those searches.

**General Correspondence:**

The board received a letter from Tim Galitski requesting unapproved board meeting minutes get posted on the webpage within five business days following a meeting. The board supported this request.

**Pupil Related Matters:**

None

**2017-18 Board Goals:** The board discussed possible goals for a technology plan, a maintenance plan, and supporting the education of all students at KES. Each member is going to draft a goal and bring it to the November meeting for discussion.

**Board Communication Plan-**Tabled until Board Goals are completed.

**Snow Removal:** Matt reported he has received a quote for snow removal for \$25,000. This is a flat rate per winter.

**New Business:**

None

**On a motion by Tina Favara, seconded by Ben Cole, the Board voted unanimously (3-0) to enter into a non-public session based on RSA 91-A:3II(a) to discuss compensation of public employees.**

The Board entered into non-public session at 7:34 PM.

**On a motion by Tina Favara, seconded by Ben Cole, the Board voted unanimously (3-0) adjourn at 9:12 PM.**

Recorded by Esther Asbell

## Kensington Elementary School

Principal's Report  
September 2017

### Teaching/Learning

I am pleased to share our most recent Science NECAP results. I have included our proficiency scores from the past few years to illustrate our continued consistent upward movement in student achievement.

2014-2015: 54% Proficient

2015-2016: 64% Proficient

**2016-2017: 71% Proficient**

I would like to express my appreciation to the School Board for supporting my request to place a certified teacher in our STEM Lab beginning in 2015. In addition to the increased attention on student inquiry in our regular classrooms, I believe having a certified professional in that position has contributed to our students' increased proficiency scores. Over the past few years at KES, there has been a greater focus on the Next Generation Science Standards, more opportunities for students to engage in real-world problem solving and a commitment to promoting STEM as a career choice for our children. When I spoke to the School Board a few years ago, I shared that I had never met a child who didn't like science. I believe that the children of Kensington LOVE science.

### Health/Community



On Thursday, October 5th, students participated in **Trash On the Lawn Day** at KES. Throughout the day, each class spent about 45 minutes sorting and analyzing a day's worth of our school's trash. An outside organization, the Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA), was on hand to assist with this slightly stinky but engaging activity. The day's events immediately sparked conversation among students about recycling, reducing, composting and so much more! They have even begun making plans on how

to reduce the amount of food being wasted and thrown out in our cafeteria. Thank you to our new STEM teacher, Sarah McCarthy, for organizing this learning opportunity and to our custodians for helping to properly store and prepare the trash for the day's events! The NRRA will be making recommendations to our school as well on how we can improve our recycling and sustainability at KES.

**Design/Philosophy/Governance**

Of our 118 students in Kensington, 7 of those are preschool aged children. Since many of the smaller schools in SAU 16, such as KES, do not have preschool programs housed within our buildings, the SAU has developed Memorandums of Understanding with 8 local pre-schools. KES pays tuition to these pre-schools for our young students who have been identified as needing early supports and interventions. Currently, we have pre-schoolers attending the *Exeter Developmental PreSchool*, *Exeter Day School*, *Appleseeds*, *Building Blocks* and *The Wright Start PreSchool at SST*. We are fortunate to have the assistance of the SAU Pre-School Coordinator, Karen Ringuette, to help us to screen young students and facilitate the placements at our local partner pre-schools.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Ruel  
Principal