

A regular meeting of the Kent ISD School Board was held at the administrative offices on Monday, September 18, 2023. The meeting was called to order by President Haidle at 6:00 pm.

Members Present: Drake, Rettig, Featherston, Hamming, Haidle

Member Absent:

Kent ISD Staff Present: Superintendent Koehler, Assistant Superintendents Philipps, Gorman, Finkel, Myers, Rodgers; Directors Baine, Burns, Castle, Dymowski, Hendry, Hissong, Hendry, Hofstee, Houtman, Karsten, Lillis, Maynard, Peraino, Preuss, Stamas, Store; Principal Verwey and recording Secretary Lovell; Kent ISD Staff: Chelsea Kittridge-Farrell, Chris Lillis, Griffin Gale, Mike Alanowski, Holly Nichols, Dave LaBotz, Justin Stonehouse, Edith Reyes, Bob Brenzing, Erin Zacek, Joy Walczak; Guests: Robin Tevlin

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President Haidle welcomed visitors and turned the meeting over to Assistant Superintendent Rodgers to present the Leading Learning awards. The Leading Learning awards were presented to Chelsea Kittridge Farrell, Dave LaBotz, Holly Nichols, Mike Rens, Mike Alanowski, Ted Corner, Griffin Gale, Chris Lillis and Eric VanDam. Supervisors were given the opportunity to share words of appreciation on behalf of the recipients.

President Haidle welcomed Communications and Marketing Director, Katie McClintic, who introduced her team and shared a presentation highlighting the current initiatives of the Communications Department.

Upon motion of Member Hamming, supported by Member Rettig, it was resolved to combine and approve action items D.1-D.10.

Ayes: Drake, Featherston, Rettig, Hamming, Haidle

Nays: None

***Motion declared to have carried.***

Upon motion of Member Featherston, supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to approve the purchase of furniture for Lincoln Developmental Center in the amount of \$233,150.51 from Custer office Environments.

Ayes: Featherston, Rettig, Hamming, Drake, Haidle

Nays: None

***Motion declared to have carried.***

Upon motion of Member Rettig supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to approve the renovations to Empower U North in the amount of \$3,873,794.00 and approve Owen Ames Kimball as the construction manager for this project.

Ayes: Rettig, Hamming, Featherston, Drake, Haidle

Nays: None

***Motion declared to have carried.***

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Featherston, it was resolved to approve the initial payment of Act 18 Special Education Funds.

Ayes: Hamming, Drake, Featherston, Rettig, Haidle

Nays: None

***Motion declared to have carried.***

Upon motion of Member Hamming, supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to approve four KCTC Students and two Advisors to attend a field trip to the National Future Farmers of America Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana on Wednesday, November 1-3, 2023.

Ayes: Drake, Featherston, Rettig, Hamming Haidle

Nays: None

***Motion declared to have carried.***

President Haidle provided the opportunity for public comment. No comment was given.

Superintendent Koehler shared gratitude toward this month's Leading Learning award recipients. The start of the school year began with inclement weather that caused several IT related issues. Our team responded immediately and had technology back up and running allowing students to return to the classroom sooner than anticipated.

The MI Student Voice website will be shared with superintendents from across the state at this week's Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators Conference. Currently, 58 districts statewide have administered the MI Student Voice Perception Survey, capturing the voices of 33,366 students. We expect this number to double over the next year, which will provide valuable data on student's educational experience.

Kent ISD was awarded the opportunity to lead a regional initiative to raise the level of post-secondary attainment in Kent County to 60 percent of residents holding a college degree, associates or workplace credential. This initiative was brought to us by the state of Michigan and the county administrator's office through the Governor's 60x30 initiative. This work directly aligns with Careerprep2030 and our work with the College Board this past year to bring AP courses to a larger percentage of students.

President Haidle adjourned the meeting at 6.44 p.m.

Minutes Approved: October 16, 2023

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Andrea Haidle, President

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Laura Featherston, Secretary

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