

**KINNELON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
NOVEMBER 5, 2012**

MINUTES

A Special Meeting of the Kinnelon Board of Education was held on Monday, November 5, 2012 at 8:00 p.m.

I. OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Margaret Zybrick, Board President, called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. and read the Meeting Notice followed by the Salute to the American Flag.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT	Margaret Zybrick, Board President Keith Dama, Vice-President Marianne DeAlessi Steven Fink Denise Hatch Marcy Pryor Katie Stylianou
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ABSENT	None
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ALSO PRESENT	Jim Minkewicz, Business Administrator/Board Secretary Diane DiGiuseppe, Interim Superintendent
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Mrs. Zybrick welcomed everyone and stated that tonight's meeting was called in order to discuss the 2012-2013 school calendar.

II. REPORT OF THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

Ms. Diane DiGiuseppe, Interim Superintendent, commended the Police, Office of Emergency Management, Principals and Staff for their efforts during Hurricane Sandy.

She also reported:

- Parent /Teacher Conferences have been postponed
- Text-caster is limited to 100 characters
- Today's student attendance was greater than 90% at each school and staff attendance was 97%
- Teacher convention has been cancelled this week

- Tonight's meeting is being held for discussion of the 2012-2013 school calendar
- Have the opportunity to use January 21st as a regular school day

III. PETITIONS AND HEARINGS OF CITIZENS

Comments were made regarding:

- Is the KEA in favor of coming in on the 8th and 9th? Ms. DiGiuseppe assured the public that the KEA was overwhelmingly in favor.
- Some families have already made plans for these days and the parents would like students to not be penalized for missing these 2 days.
- Several members of the public were supportive of using these days as regular school days.
- Several members of the public were supportive of using January 21st as a regular school day.
- Ms. DiGiuseppe indicated that there were concerns about fuel for the buses.
- A member of the town council indicated that fuel may not be available for buses so that there was sufficient supply the town's emergency vehicles
- The custodial staff was thanked for doing an exemplary job during the time that the schools were being used as shelters.
- 96% of the town has power as of today.
- Possibility of fuel delivery on Thursday but may need it for emergency and snow vehicles.
- A staff member stated that the staff understands what the students are going through and that being warm and safe is what matters.
- Teachers will not introduce new work on 11/8 and 11/9.
- A member of the public asked a question about extending the school year. Ms. DiGiuseppe replied that 180 days need to be completed by June 30th.
- A member of the public asked whether the school calendar is on the new website.
- It was noted that some buses were early today.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. POLICY COMMITTEE

(Mrs. DeAlessi, Dr. Fink, Dr. Pryor)

1. The Kinnelon Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, approves a revision to the **2012-2013 school calendar** to include Thursday, November 8, 2012 and Friday, November 9, 2012 as regular school days for students and staff and to waive attendance for Students and Staff with cause.

MOTION BY MRS. DeALESSI, SECONDED BY MRS. HATCH TO APPROVE ITEM #1 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED BY ROLL CALL VOTE WITH ALL PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

V. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Comments were made regarding:

- Teachers not introducing new materials on 11/8 & 11/9
- Ms. DiGiuseppe stated that staff will not be penalized for absences on 11/8 & 11/9 for cause.
- Quarter will be extended to the 14th
- Availability of teachers for before and after school help for students who miss classes on 11/8 & 11/9
- Transportation for 11/8 & 11/9
- Deferring the decision to schedule classes on January 21st until a later date.
- Waive absences (for cause) for the 8th and 9th.
- Possibility of early closing on Wednesday due to anticipated storm.
- Possibility of delayed opening on Thursday due to anticipated storm.
- Fuel for Kinnelon buses.
- Parental survey regarding additional missed days.
- Discussion with teaching staff regarding AP classes.
- Reaching out to community and other towns regarding availability of fuel for buses.
- Mrs. Hatch thanked Ms. DiGiuseppe for her work and communication during the storm

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Zybrick commented that through communication the KEA and Board will always work together.

MOTION BY DR. FINK, SECONDED BY MRS. STYLIANOU TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:40 P.M. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE WITH ALL PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Minkewicz
Board Secretary