

**Special Session – 14-11**  
**May 5, 2014**

President Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. The Treasurer called the roll:

Mrs. Jennifer Bennett, President – Present  
Mr. Patrick Santelli, Vice President – Present  
Mr. Rob Knight, Member – Present  
Mr. Jason Sams, Member – Present  
Mrs. Cindy Webel, Member – Present

Also present were:

Mr. David Dunn, Superintendent  
Mrs. Stephanie Hagenbush, Treasurer

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/VISITORS/GUESTS**

Ms. Kyle Krawczyk - High School Senior on track to be Valedictorian; would like to speak at graduation. She was under impression that the contest for the speakers was a formality and assumed she would get to speak regardless of contest outcome. Hope to change procedure even if not for her; all about kids and academics.

Mrs. Kim Krawczyk - Mother of Kyle; always thought Valedictorian was part of the program; that it was an honor earned, not based on performance, it is graduation and shows pride in and showcases academics.

Mr. Matt Housley – High School Senior - Supports Kyle as a student. She has worked hard and earned the honor. He does not agree with contest to speak and wanted to let Board know the students are backing Kyle. All Valedictorians should have option to speak just like the Class President. People that support her don't want it to be about personality, it is not subjective. Even if she can't speak this year, would like the process changed for next year.

Mr. Shanor – Explained the graduation process which dates back to the 1970's. Students have to submit a form and try out to speak. This year the same process was used. If we decide to create a policy there are many processes and procedures to look at, but if we change it now we will undermine the committee's decision.

Mr. Sams – He was not aware there was no policy and only a procedure. Not trying to undermine committee – commend her for speaking up.

Mrs. Bennett – The Board needs to decide if we change or not.

Mr. Sams – Wants to understand process.

Mr. Santelli – Thinks we should work with committee and Principals to review process.

Mr. Sams – Don't think we should wait; unfair to take opportunity away from her.

Mr. Knight – Understands both sides and tradition, but we need to review sometimes; only 3 minutes; send message if we don't let her speak.

Mrs. Webel – Decision already made; others didn't make it in try outs, not fair to them; it has been this way for long time and it is hard to change after decisions have been made.

Mr. Knight – Agree with Mrs. Webel, write policy in such a way.

Mr. Sams – Asked a lot of districts, most allow Valedictorians to speak, but he doesn't have all the information.

Discussion Cont.

Mrs. Webel – Reiterated that the form for the speaker contest says decision of judges in final and she (Kyle) signed the form that she acknowledged this.

Mrs. Bennett – May want to look at future, but it should not be changed for individual.

Mr. Sams – Thinks she (Kyle) was misguided; an elementary teacher led her to believe that she was going to speak.

Mr. Knight – Is there a way to meet in the middle? Compromise – definitely look at this for future.

Mr. Knight – Need to think about message we are sending out. Things need to change; don't want to offend anyone on committee. Exciting time and time to change; moving to future.

Mrs. Bennett – Look at change for future. Review all procedures for graduation.

**14-87** **Mr. Sams** moved that the Board of Education allow Valedictorian and Salutatorian to make speeches at 2014 Commencement.

**Mr. Knight** seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL: AYES: Mr.Knight,Mr.Sams**

**NAYS: Mrs.Bennett,Mr.Santelli,Mrs.Webel - Motion Fails 2-3**

**ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA**

**14-88** **Mrs. Webel** moved that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.

**Mr. Santelli** seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL: AYES: Mr.Knight,Mr.Santelli,Mrs.Webel,Mrs.Bennett**

**NAYS: Mr.Sams - Motion Carries 4-1**

**BOARD BUSINESS**

Discuss fundraising for stadium turf – Are we going to allow fundraising for turf?  
MKC will present turf as alternate bid.

Mr. Santelli – Would like to have money in the bank for a commitment. Many districts have trouble with pledges.

Mrs. Webel – What happens when we need to replace turf later? Hate to saddle district with future expense.

Mr. Sams – Coach Tanksley is fine with grass as long as usage is reduced. Keep practice fields for practices.

Mr. Knight – Positive thing for Norton if they want to do it. Good for community.

Mrs. Bennett - Concerned with safety. Agree with grass if we commit to varsity to provide other fields; not comfortable with saddling district with future expense.

Mr. Sams – Wants to hear from expert and committee regarding safety.

Mr. Santelli – Ok if we tell community where money came from; it will give the district 20 years to plan before they will have to pay to replace turf.

Mr. Knight – Good for district; vision to move forward.

Mrs. Bennett – Give them opportunity; very clear who paid for this.

Mr. Sams – Give committee opportunity if safe.

Have to have money for field and replacement approx. \$1,000,000.00. Board will need to approve fundraisers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

14-89 **Mr. Santelli** moved that the Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent enter into Executive Session at 8:07 p.m. to discuss the employment of personnel.

**Mr. Sams** seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mr.Sams,Mr.Santelli,Mrs.Webel,Mrs.Bennett,Mr.Knight  
NAYS: Motion Carries 5-0

Invited into the Executive Session were: Mr. Dunn, Mrs. Hagenbush, Mr. Howerton

**Mrs. Bennett** called the meeting back to public session at 9:32 p.m.

Mr. Howerton left the meeting.

Discuss Policies BG and GBD (Board-Staff Communications) – Will discuss at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

14-90 **Mr. Santelli** moved that the Board of Education adjourn the Special Session at 9:44 p.m.

**Mrs. Webel** seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mr.Santelli,Mrs.Webel,Mrs.Bennett,Mr.Knight,Mr.Sams  
NAYS: Motion Carries 5-0

“Notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the provisions of Policy and Regulations of the Board of Education which was adopted in accordance with §121.11 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Procedures Act.”

---

Jennifer Bennett, President

---

Stephanie Hagenbush, Treasurer