

KETTERING CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
JOINT MEETING  
KETTERING SCHOOL BOARD  
May 30, 2023

The Council of the City of Kettering, Ohio, met in special session on Tuesday, May 30, 2023, at 6:00 PM at the Board of Education Office, 500 Lincoln Park Blvd, Kettering, Ohio 45429, in the Firebird Board Room.

Council Members Present: Mayor Lehner, Vice Mayor Fisher, Mr. Klepacz, Ms. Duvall, Ms. Hall, and Mr. Scott

Council Members Excused Absence: Mr. Duke

**Total Members Present: (Six) 6**

School Board Members Present: Mr. Henderson, Mr. Martin, Mr. Ambrose, and Ms. Kane

City Staff Present: City Manager Matt Greeson; Assistant City Manager Steve Bergstresser; Police Chief Chip Protsman.

School Staff Present: Superintendent Mindy McCarty-Stewart; Interim Treasurer Rick Taylor; Assistant Superintendent of Human Capital Ken Miller; Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning Dan Von Handorf; Director of Business Services Jeff Johnson; Community Relations & Auxiliary Services Coordinator Kari Basson; Incoming Southdale Elementary Principal Alexa Lacey, Incoming Van Buren Middle School Principal Matt Sawyer; District STEAM Coordinator Bern Schwieterman.

Others Present: Andrea White, State Representative – District 36.

Mr. Henderson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Mr. Henderson led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the School Board members voted to approve the hiring of Ms. Lacey as the new principal of Southdale Elementary School, and Mr. Sawyer as the new principal of Van Buren Middle School. Ms. Lacey and Mr. Sawyer introduced themselves.

Mr. Henderson then asked everyone in attendance to provide self-introductions.

Ms. McCarty-Stewart introduced Mr. Johnson to provide an update on various projects happening in the School District. Construction projects this summer include new roofs at Kettering Middle School, J.F. Kennedy Elementary, Southdale Elementary, and Beavertown Elementary. Kettering City Schools maintains 30 acres of roofs on its buildings. Other projects include carpet replacement at various schools, and parking lot concrete and asphalt repairs. Mr. Johnson then explained various safety and security improvements being completed at every school, including new video surveillance, card access, visitor management, and communications devices. A \$100,000 State grant has been provided per school building for the improvements. Mr. Johnson presented the two options the District is considering for the Barnes building. Option A would abate the existing asbestos and demolish the entire building. Option B would entail a privately funded renovation to re-program the building. Potential re-programming options include Central Office space, storage space, collaborative spaces, large group meeting spaces, future expansion of the Career Tech Center, or other innovative programs to be determined. KCS is still evaluating the options. Mr. Johnson then provided an update on Food Service initiatives, including a free summer lunch program at Greenmont Elementary, the Partners for Healthy Youth summer food program at the Trails of Oak Creek apartment complex and at the Van Buren Park shelter. Community Hot Dog Roasts this summer will be on July 19 at Polen Farm, July 17 at The Habitat, and

August 2 at the Kettering Recreation Complex. Mr. Johnson then discussed improvements in KCS bus transportation, including the purchase of a new GPS tracking system for school buses called Zonar. The system will provide location tracking, pre-trip inspections, engine diagnostics, and turn-by-turn navigation. KCS received a \$35,000 grant to offset the installation cost. Ohio Association for Pupil Transportation awards were recently received by two KCS employees. Regina Smith received the Award for Distinguished Service in Pupil Transportation and Alice Byrd received the Ohio Bus Driver of the Year award.

Ms. McCarty-Stewart introduced Mr. Schwieterman to provide an update on various STEAM activities. STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, & Math, and is a learning culture that is promoted throughout all KCS schools. The STEAM education curriculum ties back to the KCS Portrait of a Graduate. The STEAM culture seeks to integrate different skills to problem solve, think critically, and develop strong social and emotional skills. STEAM connects to the KCS core curriculum. Kettering STEAM has partnered with several community organizations, businesses, and resources, including Dayton Brick Shop's partnership with Greenmont Elementary to promote school attendance; Dayton Society of Natural History to develop curriculum that connects to the Wonders Language Arts Program; Modern College of Design partnership with Prass to enhance their Mary's Place outdoor learning space; Kettering Parks & Recreation partnership with the Land Lab collaboration, Shared Power Network partnership to develop integrated lessons using a solar powered Green Energy Machine; Trader Joe's partnership with Orchard Park to grow their own food; UDRI partnership with Oakview for real world experience; Woolpert partnership with Beavertown for drone technology; and a Dor-Wood Optimist donation of over \$12,000 for STEAM education.

Mr. Greeson introduced Mr. Bergstresser to discuss new school zones on Shroyer Road and Glengarry Drive. The City will be establishing the new school zones in front of Fairmont High School and Van Buren Middle School on Shroyer Road, and in front of Indian Riffle Elementary and Kettering Middle school on Glengarry Drive. The new zones will include flashing warning lights during school arrival and dismissal times, and a 20 MPH speed limit. The new zones will enhance pedestrian and vehicle safety by slowing down vehicular traffic in these areas, which become congested with vehicles and pedestrians during arrival and dismissal times.

Mr. Greeson gave an update on the City's strategic plan project, known as Spark Kettering. With support from the City's consultant, Planning Next, the City will conduct two rounds of public engagement to inform a new community-based strategic plan for the next 10 years. The first round of public engagement will begin in late June and run through July, and the second round will be conducted this fall. Several community events will take place and there will be an online platform to gather ideas and feedback from the public. Mr. Greeson invited School Board members and KCS staff to participate in the process. It is expected that collaboration between the City and KCS will be needed for future strategic initiatives.

Mr. Henderson and Mayor Lehner thanked everyone for their attendance and encouraged both City Council and the School Board to continue conversations to address issues and grow the Kettering community.

There being no further business to come before this special joint meeting of the Kettering City Council and the Kettering School Board, Mr. Henderson adjourned the meeting at 7:10 PM.

ATTEST:

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PEGGY LEHNER, MAYOR

LASHAUNAH D. KACZYNSKI  
CLERK OF COUNCIL