MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, AUGUST 25, 2026.

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Kinnikinnick Community Consolidated School District No. 131 Winnebago County, Illinois was duly called and held on August 25, 2026 in Roscoe, Illinois, within the boundaries of said District.

President Dave Young called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

	Young	Swanson	Tomilonus	Tousant	Welch	B. Johnson	Loveland
Roll Call:	P	P	P	AB	P	AB	P

Others Present: Mrs. Freedlund, Mr. Hruby and guests.

MOTION #1. APPROVE THE REGULAR AND CLOSED SESSION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 20, 2026, COW REGULAR AND CLOSED SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 11, 2026, AUGUST 2026 BILLS PAYABLE IN THE AMOUNT OF $934,806.77, JULY 2026 PAYROLL DEDUCTIBLE EXPENSES AND ACH WIRES IN THE AMOUNT OF $556,253.40, JULY 2026 PAYROLLS IN THE AMOUNT OF $742,956.85, THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JULY 31, 2026. A motion was made by Swanson, seconded by Welch, to approve the regular and closed session school board meeting minutes of July 20, 2026, COW regular and closed school board meeting minutes of August 11, 2026, August 2026 bills payable in the amount of $934,806.77, July 2026 payroll deductible expenses and ACH wires in the amount of $556,253.40, July 2026 payrolls in the amount of $742,956.85 and the Treasurer's report for July 31, 2026.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Young, Swanson, Tomilonus, Welch, Loveland Abs: None. Nay: None. Carried

Mrs. Freedlund thanked several groups of staff members for opening the school year efforts. This year as a District we adopted three universal expectations: Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe. These expectations will be taught and reviewed to help students understand what that expects of them in varying environments from the hallway to the bathroom. We also have adopted the RISE award which will be provided to students that exemplify each of these pillars.

Teachers and administration provided positive feedback regarding our 2.5 day start to institute days.

Day by day we are getting the kinks worked out of new software systems, new copiers, and working toward seamless operations. While this all happens in the background the best part is the front-facing personnel and teachers who work with all of our students that came back ready to learn and make the most of the year ahead.

MOTION #2. READ AND APPROVE THE KINNIKINNICK CCSD #131 BOARD POLICIES. A motion was made by Tomilonus, seconded by Loveland, to read and approve the Kinnikinnick CCSD #131 policies.

Voice Vote: Aye: Young, Swanson, Tomilonus, Welch, Loveland Abs: None. Nay: None. Carried

The Board discussed its position in relation to the request to abate residential property taxes on a proposed development and not collect impact fees. The Board has directed Mrs. Freedlund to communicate to the developer that the District will continue to follow past precedent meaning that the District relies on its property taxes and impact fees in order to provide for the education of its students.

Mrs. Freedlund reported that there are three large scale maintenance projects coming up including asphalt, and HVAC RTU's at RMS. We are working with Wold Architects to amend our Health Life Safety Plan and will continue to discuss plans with the board for the timing and funding of these projects.

MOTION #3. APPROVE THE MOU WITH THE KEA TO PAY VOLUNTEERS TO SUPERVISE LUNCH FOR $30 PER PERIOD. A motion was made by Swanson, seconded by Young, to approve the MOU with the KEA to pay volunteers to supervise lunch for $30 per period.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Young, Swanson, Tomilonus, Welch, Loveland Abs: None. Nay: None. Carried

MOTION #4. APPROVE THE PRESENTED MILK AND BREAD ROLLOVER. A motion was made by Tomilonus, seconded by Welch, to approve the presented Milk and Bread Rollover.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Young, Swanson, Tomilonus, Welch, Loveland Abs: None. Nay: None. Carried

MOTION #5. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION. A motion was made by Welch, seconded by Loveland, to move into closed session at 7:36 p.m. to consider information regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. 5 ILCS 120/2(c) Litigation when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11) Collective Negotiations 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (2) Closed Session

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Young, Swanson, Tomilonus, Welch, Loveland Abs: None. Nay: None. Carried

MOTION #6. MOVE OUT OF CLOSED SESSION. A motion was made by Swanson, seconded by Loveland, to move out of closed session at 8:08 p.m.

Voice Vote: Aye: Young, Swanson, Tomilonus, Welch, Loveland Abs: None. Nay: None. Carried

MOTION #7. APPROVE AUGUST PERSONNEL REPORT. A motion was made by Welch, seconded by Tomilonus, to approve the personnel report:

Hire:

- **Kenneth Kiser,** KN, PM Custodian effective August 17, 2026
- **Camden Cutler,** SC, PM Custodian effective August 17, 2026
- **Elizabeth Monge,** KN, Paraprofessional effective August 17, 2026
- **Christina Dalke,** LW, Paraprofessional effective August 20, 2026
- **Judith Hamilton**, KN, Recess Aide effective August 20, 2026
- **Mary Bianchi,** SC, Custodian effective August 17, 2026
- **Stacy Hale,** KN, Paraprofessional effective August 17, 2026
- **Lauren Erickson,** RMS, Stipend JV Volleyball Coach effective August 17, 2026
- **Heather Lovejoy,** LW, Recess Aide effective August 24, 2026
- **Rochelle Keener**, DO, District Bookkeeper effective September 1, 2026

Rehire (continuous service):

- **Emily McDonald,** LW, 1st Grade Teacher effective August 17, 2026
- **Rebecca Colson,** LW, PM Custodian effective August 17, 2026 - August 21, 2026

Transfer:

- **Shawna Blum,** SC Paraprofessional to KN Paraprofessional
- **Ava Hopper,** SC, PM Custodian to Substitute Custodian effective August 20, 2026
- **Heidi Bianchi,** DO, Bookkeeper to Food Services Supervisor effective August 12, 2026

Resign:

- **Chase Lipinski,** SC/KN custodian effective August 17, 2026
- **Amadeo Garcia,** KN, PM Custodian effective August 19,2026
- **Holly Schwuchow,** LW, 1st Grade Teacher effective August 12, 2026
- **Amy Merrimon,** LW, Paraprofessional effective August 14, 2026
- **Paige Bigger,** SC, Paraprofessional effective August 16, 2026
- **Susanne Rehnberg,** SC, 3rd Grade Teacher effective June 30, 2028

Retire:

- **Ann Johnson,** SC, 2nd Grade Teacher effective June 30, 2030

Leave of Absence Request:

- **Hardeep Bansal,** RMS, Paraprofessional effective August 17-October 13, 2026
- **Patti Walz**, LW, Paraprofessional effective August 17,- September 7, 2026
- **Amanda Blanchet,** LW, Paraprofessional effective August 17 - September 1, 2026

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Young, Swanson, Tomilonus, Welch, Loveland Abs: None. Nay: None. Carried

MOTION #8. **ADJOURN.** A motion was made by Welch, seconded by Tomilonus, to adjourn at 8:09 p.m. Voice vote. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Young, President

Dave Young by LAW

Trisha Tousant, Secretary

Trisha Tousant