



## **C-K School Board Bulletin**

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Hello,

In order to make efforts to improve communication and information flow as well as help to educate the community, parents, staff and students of things going on with the district at the school board level, I am going to be putting out these *C-K School Board Bulletins* on occasion. For this first bulletin, there are a few things I will point on to help bring some clarity to some changes with the board and operations as well as some things that the board is trying to emphasize in 2016-including new committee and meeting structure, chain of command emphasis, and efforts to be proactive towards bullying.

### **Board Introduction**

So, first I want to welcome the new members to the board and just take a second to introduce all of the board members to everyone:

I am Jeremy R. Knott, I was recently re-elected in November, and I serve as Board President; also re-elected this November is Jonathan W. Burkett; our Vice-President is Dr. Mona Eckley, she was elected in 2013 along with Cathy Barnes, Craig Burket, and Joe Musselman. Newly elected this November are members Richard Gergely, Roger Knisely, and Shelda Repko. I feel confident that this group will be instrumental in making Claysburg Kimmel School District great again!

### **Board Operations/Committees**

One thing that you will see a little differently is the title of our meetings and some nuances of our meeting operations. The first difference that you will see is that what was our “committee of the whole” meeting is now called a “work session,” and that we have named individual active committees instead of sticking to the committee of the whole structure; another thing that you will see change is that our executive sessions are now primarily held prior to meetings. So, I want to address a couple reasons that these changes have been made:

1. To improve efficiency in our Work Session meetings-for topics that need further conversations and consideration, those more in-depth conversations will be held by the committees, and the committees will present their recommendations to the entire board at the Work Session meetings for possible further discussion. In essence, this structure will provide our board the ability to target specific areas for analysis and action.
2. To emphasize the structure in which our meetings are to operate-Work Session meetings are intended to facilitate the conversations about the agenda topics, this is truly the “work” portion

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of our meetings. So the Work Sessions are where the board discusses items which will be on the agenda at the voting meeting and the board sets the direction of those agenda items. With the majority of the “work” already being done, the voting meetings should then be more stream-lined to just facilitate voting of those agenda items.

3. Lastly, our Executive Sessions are now held prior to meetings-this is for efficiency as well-having a specific timeframe on Executive Session helps to keep conversation on point and accomplish as much as possible as quickly as possible.

As you can see, these effort are all being made mostly for efficiency sake and out of respect for the time of all involved (community members in attendance, administrators, and board). We are all committed to “providing a quality education that enables students to become productive and responsible citizens,” but we are also cognizant that these minor changes will be helpful in conducting the business of the Claysburg-Kimmel School District in the most effective way.

#### [CK Website](#)

Another effort right now by our board and administration is promoting the use of CK’s School District website- <http://cksdbulldogs.com/> . To also promote communication, you can now contact the board through a link: [https://www.cksdbulldogs.com/district/board\\_of\\_education/contact\\_claysburg-kimmel\\_school\\_board](https://www.cksdbulldogs.com/district/board_of_education/contact_claysburg-kimmel_school_board) . If you click on this link, it will give you the opportunity to send an e-mail to the board (it will actually be sent directly to me). Please feel free to utilize this link if there is anything that you feel needs to be brought to the board’s attention, also, please take some time to check out the district website and stay up to date on things going on with our students!

Another thing that we are trying to promote on the district web-page is the posting of our board meeting agendas: found under the “district” tab, then “board of education” tab, then “agendas.”

Lastly, in regards to board operations (and this also fits into the subject of things being emphasized by the board), is that we are trying to promote our chain of command within our district and encourage all to keep the chain of command in mind as they come upon issues that they need addressed or resolved. I also have a link for our chain of command in the High School building and Elementary Building:

High School Chain of Command:

[http://www.cksdbulldogs.com/student\\_parents/student\\_parent\\_forms\\_and\\_policies/high\\_school\\_s\\_chain\\_of\\_command/](http://www.cksdbulldogs.com/student_parents/student_parent_forms_and_policies/high_school_s_chain_of_command/)

Elementary School Chain of Command:

[http://ckelembulldogs.com/student\\_parents/student\\_parent\\_forms\\_and\\_policies/elementary\\_schools\\_chain\\_of\\_command/](http://ckelembulldogs.com/student_parents/student_parent_forms_and_policies/elementary_schools_chain_of_command/)

Please take a look at these and help us keep processes stream-lined by addressing things in the manner that these chain of command’s direct.

#### [Emphasis by the Board](#)

Lastly, and definitely not least, there is one area of emphasis that the Board and Administration has made a top-tier priority in 2016-Bullying! At our January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting our school counselors, Ms. Kelly Hinkledire and Mrs. Danielle Simpson, had a great presentation on bullying to help educate us all on

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what bullying is, the dangers of bullying, the dangers of mis-labeling bullying, and the programs in place currently at CK to help make bullying a thing of the past. The presentation is actually posted on our district website, the link is: ([http://cksdbulldogs.com/schools/claysburg-kimmel\\_high\\_school/bullying](http://cksdbulldogs.com/schools/claysburg-kimmel_high_school/bullying))

In closing, I hope you find this bulletin helpful to understand changes at Claysburg-Kimmel, how the Board is trying to improve operations, communication and mostly making education a positive experience at Claysburg-Kimmel School District for everyone. I hope February treats you well, you will be hearing from me again soon!

~Jeremy R. Knott, CK Board President~