### **BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

### WORK SESSION TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2021 7:00 PM

# MINUTES

Call to Order	President Theresa Lydon called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.					
Pledge	The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag.					
Attendance	Those present included: Mr. Cesario, Ms. Crowell, Mrs. Donahue, Ms. Evans, Mr. LaPorte, Ms. Lindsey, Mrs. Lydon, Mr. Raso and Ms. Shaw. Also present were Dr. William P. Stropkaj, Superintendent; Mr. Joseph Kubiak, Director of Finance and Human Resources/Board Secretary; Mr. Michael Brungo, Solicitor and Mrs. Maureen S. Myers, Assistant Board Secretary/Recording Secretary were present.					
Board President Statement	Mrs. Lydon, Board of School Directors President, made a statement that there is no change to the Health and Safety Plan at this time. We will continue to follow CDC guidelines and if Allegheny County falls within the High or Substantial range, masks will be required.					
Public Comment	PUBLIC COMMENT					
	Dale Abraham Jay Smith Kevin Kunz	Re: Organ in the High School				
	Autumn BrownleeRe: Masks in SchoolsDormontRe: Masks in Schools					
	Maggie O'DonnellRe: Masks in SchoolsGreentree					
	Connie CavaraRe: Masks in SchoolsDormont					
	Amanda PisarcikRe: Marks in SchoolsCastle Shannon					
	Dr. Stropkaj real aloud the public	comment that was submitted.				
	Public comment was submitted by the following community members:					

	Jessica Dillon Brown, Dormont Jenny Shimkus, Dormont Mary Andriko, Esq., Dormont Lisa Shartle, Castle Shannon Elizabeth, Dormont Connie Cavara, Dormont Jarrod West, KO Parent Alicia Johnson, KO Parent and Alumni Dr. Stropkaj addressed the Board and the Community Men of staff members who are vaccinated against COVID-19 as positive cases. Dr. Stropkaj also thanked the community m past year. Dr. Stropkaj also thanked the teachers and nurses A discussion was held between Board Members in regard to offered for the 2021/2022 school year should parents not w due to having to wearing a mask.	well as local numbers in regard to embers for all of their support this s for all they have done. o synchronous learning being				
	Mrs. Lydon addressed the Community Members to remind & Safety Plan did get input from the community before it v					
Board President's Report	BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Mrs. Theresa Lydon					
	The following action items will be considered at the August 17, 2021 Business/Legislative Meeting:					
	<b>BOARD ACTION REQUESTED</b>					
Board Minutes	BOARD MINUTES					
	It is recommended that the Board approve the Work Session Minutes of June 8, 2021 and the Business/Legislative Minutes of June 22, 2021.					
For Information Only	FOR INFORMATION ONLY					
	• Parkway West Career and Technology Center Report	Ms. Annie Shaw				
	• As long as Allegheny County falls within the sub-	stantial range, masks will be required.				
	SHASDA Report     Mr. Santo Raso					
	PSBA/Legislative Report     Mrs. Theresa Lydon					
	• The first call was today and the discussion was ar	ound masking.				
	• News from the Boroughs					
Executive Session	EXECUTIVE SESSION					

	Executive Session was held prior to this evening's Work Session Meeting to discuss personnel.
Superintendent's Report	SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. William P. Stropkaj
	The following action items will be considered at the August 17, 2021 Business/Legislative Meeting:
	BOARD ACTION REQUESTED
Project Succeed	PROJECT SUCCEED CONTRACTS
Contracts	It is recommended that the Board approve the following school districts for participation in Project Succeed for the 2021/2022 school year:
	Bethel Park School District Brentwood Borough School District Carlynton School District Chartiers Valley School District Moon Area School District Mt. Lebanon School District Quaker Valley School District South Fayette School District West Jefferson Hills School District
Education Report	EDUCATION REPORT – Mrs. Theresa Lydon
	The following action items will be considered at the August 17, 2021 Business/Legislative Meeting:
	<b>BOARD ACTION REQUESTED</b>
Title I Agreement	TITLE I NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL AGREEMENT BETWEEN KEYSTONE OAKS SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE ALLEGHENY INTERMEDIATE UNIT
	It is recommended that the Board approve the agreement between Keystone Oaks School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit in the amount of \$9,949.00 for Non-Public Title I Instructional Services for the Diocese of Pittsburgh Schools and \$1,243.00 for Non-Public Title I Instructional Services for Hillcrest Christian.
	For Information Only
	These funds are the required non-public shares of the district's allocation.
Title IIA Agreement	TITLE IIA NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL AGREEMENT BETWEEN KEYSTONE OAKS SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE ALLEGHENY INTERMEDIATE UNIT
	It is recommended that the Board approve the agreement between Keystone Oaks School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit in the amount of \$3,177.72 for Title IIA Non-Public School Professional Development Services for Guardian Angel Academy.

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	For Information Only						
	These funds are the required non-public shares of the district's allocation.						
Seton Hill Univ. Dual	SETON HILL UNIVERSITY DUAL CREDIT AGREEMENT						
Credit	It is recommended that the Board approve the College in High School Dual Credit Agreement between Keystone Oaks School District and Seton Hill University for the 2021/2022 school year.						
	For Information Only						
	Under the terms of this agreement students will have the opportunity to begin taking college-level course work while completing their high school course work.						
<b>Communications Report</b>	COMMUNICATIONS REPORT – Ms. Neely Crowell						
	The following action items will be considered at the August 17, 2021 Business/Legislative Meeting:						
	<b>BOARD ACTION REQUESTED</b>						
<b>Redford Photography</b>	REDFORD PHOTOGRAPHY						
	It is recommended that the Board approve Redford Photography as the Keystone Oaks School District photographer for the 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 school years.						
Pupil Personnel Report	PUPIL PERSONNEL REPORT – Dr. William P. Stropkaj						
	The following action items will be considered at the August 17, 2021 Business/Legislative Meeting:						
	BOARD ACTION REQUESTED						
Health Care Staffing Agreement	HEALTH CARE STAFFING AGREEMENT – INTERIM HEALTHCARE OF PITTSBURGH INC.						
	The Administration recommends that the Board approve the Health Care Staffing Agreement for School Services between Interim HealthCare of Pittsburgh Inc. and the Keystone Oaks School District for the 2021/2022 school year.						
	For Information Only						
	Provider-Interim Healthcare of Pittsburgh will be providing 1:1 nursing services to a student in the District.						
Letter of Agreement	LETTER OF AGREEMENT – CHARTIERS CENTER						

	The Administration recommends that the Board approve the Letter of Agreement between Chartiers Center and Keystone Oaks School District for Student Assistant Program (SAP) Services for the 2021/2022 school year.
Letter of Agreement	LETTER OF AGREEMENT – CHARTIERS CENTER
	The Administration recommends that the Board approve the Letter of Agreement between Chartiers Center and Keystone Oaks School District for School Based Outpatient Mental Health Services for the 2021/2022 school year.
Adelphoi Ed. Inc.	ADELPHOI EDUCATION INC. AGREEMENT
	The Administration recommends that the Board approve the Agreement between Adelphoi Education Inc. and the Keystone Oaks School District to provide educational services on behalf of the District.
The Bradley Center	THE BRADLEY CENTER
	The Administration recommends that the Board approve the 2021-2022 Agreement for Educational Services between The Bradley Center and the Keystone Oaks School District.
Pressley Ridge	PRESSLEY RIDGE
	The Administration recommends that the Board approve the Addendum #4 to the Contractual Agreement between Pressley Ridge Autism and the Keystone Oaks School District for the 2021/2022 school year.
The Watson Inst.	THE WATSON INSTITUTE
	The Administration recommends that the Board approve the agreement between The Watson Institute and the Keystone Oaks School District.
	For Information Only
	The student attending The Watson Institute will be attending The Watson Institute Social Center for Academic Achievement (WISCA-SOUTH) for the 2021/2022 school year.
The Watson Inst.	THE WATSON INSTITUTE
	The Administration recommends that the Board approve the agreement between The Watson Institute and the Keystone Oaks School District.
	For Information Only
	The students attending The Watson Institute will be attending The Education Center – South for the 2021/2022 school year.
Provider Agreement	PROVIDER AGREEMENT

	The Administration recommends that the Board approve the Provider Agreement between the Keystone Oaks School District and Pediatric Services of America, LLC d/b/a AVEANNA Healthcare to provide healthcare services to a student for the 2021/2022 school year.					
Personnel Report	PERSONNEL REP	ORT – Mr. Matthew Cesario				
	The following action items will be considered at the August 17, 2021 Business/Legislative Meeting:					
	BOARD ACTION H	REQUESTED				
Resignations	RESIGNATIONS					
	It is recommended th	at the Board accept the following resignation	ns:			
	Name	Position	Effective Date			
	Fiona Clark	Secretary – Special Education	July 30, 2021			
	Lauren Harvilla	School Counselor – Middle School	August 2, 2021			
	Jennifer Martin	Reading Specialist – Dormont	August 30, 2021			
	Abbey Schaffer	Special Education Teacher – Dormont	August 19, 2021			
	Jaime Snyder	Fourth Grade Teacher – Myrtle	August 6, 2021			
Appointments	APPOINTMENTS					
	1. <u>Professional Employee</u>					
	In compliance with the <i>Keystone Oaks Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement 2020-2026</i> , it is recommended that the Board approve the employment of:					
	Jessica Naser MS/HS Family & Consumer Science Teacher Effective: August 25, 2021 Salary: \$46,500.00 (M, Step 2)					
	2. <u>Custodial - Maintenance</u>					
	In compliance with the <i>Service Employees' International Union Local 32BJ</i> <i>Collective Bargaining Agreement 2021 – 2026</i> , it is recommended that the Board approve the employment of:					

Effective: July 26, 2021 Salary: \$41,471.00

### 3. Long Term Substitute

In compliance with the *Keystone Oaks Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement 2020-2026*, it is recommended that the Board approve the employment of:

Adriane Daniels English Teacher – Middle School Effective: August 25, 2021 – June 10, 2022 Salary: \$45,500.00 (M, Step 1)

Angela Torres Spanish Teacher – MS/HS Effective: August 25, 2021 – June 10, 2022 Salary: \$46,500.00 (M, Step 2)

#### 4. Substitute Custodian

The Administration recommends that the Board approve the employment of the following substitute custodian at a rate of \$11.50/hour:

#### <u>Name</u>

#### **Effective Date**

Colton Flowers July 12, 2021

#### 5. Project Succeed Instructors 2021/2022

It is recommended that the Board approve the following individuals as Project Succeed instructors for the 2021/2022 school year:

- Joel Vanucci Lynn Heasley Linda Capozzoli Michael Orsi Elizabeth Venturella Richard Heilmann Beth Smith John Murphy Colleen Heaney Mertz
- Director Career Awareness Career Awareness Assistant Special Education Mathematics English Computer Education Social Studies Science

#### 6. Approval of Activity Stipends

In compliance with the *Keystone Oaks Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement 2020-2026*, it is recommended that the Board approve the following individuals for the 2021/2022 school year:

Activity	Position	Sponsor	Stipend
Allies (HS)		Rebekah Brooks	\$1,500.00
Best Friends Club (HS)		Matthew Richert	\$1,500.00
Best Friends Club (MS)		Andy Bochicchio Allyson Hepler Steve McCormick	\$500.00 \$500.00 \$500.00
Best Friends Club (Myrtle)		Daniel Galentine Nicole Niccolai Zachary Whitfield Teresa Zimmerman	\$250.00 \$250.00 \$250.00 \$250.00
Cross County (HS)	Head Coach	Judith Fritz	\$5,000.00
Cross County (MS)	Head Coach	Lainey Resetar	\$3,000.00
Environmental Club (HS)		Jennifer Bogdanski	\$1,500.00
Environmental Club (MS)		Carolyn Manko	\$1,500.00
FBLA		Linda Celli	\$3,000.00
French Club		Julie O'Mara	\$1,500.00
Football (Varsity)	Assistant Assistant Assistant Assistant	Steve McCormick Jim Feeney Donnie Burns Alex Smith	\$5,600.00 \$5,200.00 \$5,200.00 \$2,500.00
Football (MS)		Stephen Kelly	\$1,666.66
Junior/Senior Class		Christina DeAngelis	\$1,500.00
Marching Band		William Eibeck	\$8,500.00
Math Club (HS)		Josh Kirchner	\$1,500.00
Medical Careers Club (HS)		Judith Fritz	\$1,500.00
Mileage Club (Aiken)		Jennifer Watenpool	\$3,000.00
National Honor Society		Danielle Kandrack	\$1,500.00
(HS) Nature Club (Myrtle)		Daniel Galentine Zachary Whitfield	\$750.00 \$750.00

	Odyssey of the Mind (District Wide)		Jessica Dobson	\$5,000.00		
	Pep Club (HS)		Christina DeAngelis	\$1,500.00		
	PJAS (HS)		Rebecca Hritz	\$1,500.00		
	<b>Robotics (HS)</b>		Jeffrey Oestrich	\$3,000.00		
	Science Club (HS)		Michelle McSwigan	\$1,500.00		
	Soccer (Boys MS)	Assistant	Pat Simmons	\$2,000.00		
	Spanish Club (HS)		Lisa Forlini	\$1,500.00		
	Strength Club (HS)		Nick Kamberis	\$3,000.00		
	Student Senate (HS)		Lainey Resetar	\$1,500.00		
	Student Senate (MS)		Mark Kopper	\$1,500.00		
	Technology Club (HS)		Dennis Sarchet Craig Wetzel	\$750.00 \$750.00		
	Varieties		Nancy Kraemer	\$3,000.00		
	Yearbook (MS)		Sarah Fontanesi Amy Torcaso	\$750.00 \$750.00		
	Yearbook (HS)		Linda Celli	\$1,500.00		
Tenure	TENURE					
	It is recommended that the Board recognize the following individuals as having completed the requirements according to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and achieving tenure on August 22, 2021 with a Professional Contract:					
	Kaitlyn Caron Matthew Sartore	Aiken/Dormo Dormont	nt/Myrtle			
Leave of Absence	LEAVE OF ABSENCE					
	It is recommended that the Board a Medical Leave:	approve the follow	wing individual for Famil	ly and		
	Employee 3645 - September 9, 202	21 to December 6	5, 2021			

Finance Report	FINANCE REPORT – Ms. Raeann Lindsey							
	The following action items will be considered at the August 17, 2021 Business/Legislative Meeting:							
	BOARD ACTION REQUESTED							
Accounts Payable	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE APPROVAL LISTS THROUGH JUNE 30,	2021						
	The Administration recommends approval of the following Accounts Paya presented in the <i>Finance Package</i> :	ıble lists	s as					
	A. General Fund as of June 30, 2021 (Check No. 64528-64797)		\$772,571.60					
	B. Food Service Fund as of June 30, 2021 (Check No. 9565-9567)		\$9,358.72					
	C. Athletics as of June 30, 2021 (Check No. 3271-3273)		\$358.00					
	D. Capital Reserve as of June 30, 2021 (None)		\$0.00					
	ΤΟΤΑ	<b>AL</b>	\$782,288.32					
Accounts Payable	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE APPROVAL LISTS THROUGH JULY 31, 2021							
	The Administration recommends approval of the following Accounts Payable lists as presented in the <i>Finance Package</i> :							
	A. General Fund as of July 31, 2021 (Check No. 64798-65055)		\$1,085,896.45					
	B. Food Service Fund as of July 31, 2021 (Check No. 9568-9576)		\$17,682.00					
	C. Athletics as of July 31, 2021 (Check No. 3274-3282)		\$8,363.95					
	D. Capital Reserve as of July 31, 2021 (None)		\$0.00					
	ΤΟΤΑ	AL \$1,	111,942.40					
Contract to Purchase	CONTRACT TO PURCHASE MEALS FROM SCHOOLS – HEAD	START						
Meals	It is recommended that the Board approve the <i>Contract to Purchase Meals from Schools</i> between the Keystone Oaks School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Head Start program located in Dormont Elementary School, for the 2021/2022 school year.							
	<ul> <li>The Audit for the 2020/2021 school year will begin on September 27, 2021.</li> <li>The Finance Committee will begin meeting again in October.</li> <li>Ms. Shaw pointed out that the reason that tax bills did not go out sooner was due to a hold from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Mr. Kubiak was on top of things from the beginning and reached out countless times to PDE in regard to the hold.</li> </ul>							

### FOR INFORMATION ONLY

### I. EXPENDITURE/REVENUE 2020 – 2021 BUDGET to ACTUAL / PROJECTION

ACCT	2020-2021 BUDGET ACCT DESCRIPTION TOTAL		2020-2021 12 MONTH JUNE/ACTUAL		MONTH END + ESTIMATE PROJECTION	OVER <mark>(UNDER)</mark> BUDGET			
Reve	nue								
6000	Local Revenue Sources	\$	29,055,241	\$	30,403,801	\$	30,405,473	\$	1,350,232
7000	State Revenue Sources	\$	12,349,006	\$	12,742,899	\$	12,762,928	\$	413,922
8000	Federal Revenue Sources	\$	946,330	\$	1,171,645	\$	1,171,645	\$	225,315
Total	Revenue	\$	42,350,577	\$	44,318,345	\$	44,340,046	\$	1,989,469
									<mark>(over)</mark> Under Budget
Exper	nditures								
100	Salaries	\$	17,502,435	\$	14,532,621	\$	17,253,024	\$	249,411
200	Benefits	\$	10,794,110	\$	9,193,340	\$	10,446,550	\$	347,560
300	Professional/Technical								
	Services	\$	1,863,096	\$	1,536,668	\$	1,599,237	\$	263,859
400	Property Services	\$	1,124,200	\$	989,897	\$	1,080,671	\$	43,529
500	Other Services	\$	5,242,271	\$	4,636,554	\$	4,812,127	\$	430,144
600	Supplies/Books	\$	1,334,927	\$	1,419,466	\$	1,555,018	\$	(220,091)
700	Equipment/Property	\$	328,850	\$	993,679	\$	2,420,682	\$	(2,091,832)
800	Other Objects	\$	490,420	\$	464,912	\$	465,455	\$	24,965
900	Other Financial Uses	\$	4,500,000	\$	5,960,613	\$	5,960,613	\$	(1,460,613)
Total Expenditures		\$	43,180,309	\$	39,727,750	\$	45,593,377	\$	(2,413,068)
Revenues exceeding Expenditures		\$	(829,732)	\$	4,590,595			\$	(423,599)
Other Financing Sources/(Uses) Interfund Transfers In (Out)		\$	-	\$	-	\$		\$	

### II. SUMMARY OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES ACCOUNTS AS OF JULY 31, 2021

Bank Account - Status	I	Middle / High School	Athletics
Cash Balance - 7/1/2021	\$	75,813.12	\$ 5,736.75
Deposits	\$	58.10	\$ 10,000.72
Subtotal	\$	75,871.22	\$ 15,737.47
Expenditures	\$	-	\$ 8,221.95
Cash Balance - 7/31/2021	\$	75,871.22	\$ 7,515.52

### **III. BANK BALANCES**

### BANK BALANCES PER STATEMENT AS OF JULY 31, 2021

	BALANCE
GENERAL FUND	
FNB BANK	\$ 2,359,643
PAYROLL (pass-thru account)	\$ 14,844
FNB SWEEP ACCOUNT	\$ -
ATHLETIC ACCOUNT	\$ 7,516
PLGIT	\$ 3,779,636
FNB MONEY MARKET	\$ 151,705
PSDLAF	\$ 162,299
INVEST PROGRAM	\$ 181,723
OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	\$ 1,987,507
COMPENSATED ABSENCES	\$ 430,748
	\$ 9,075,621
<b>CAFETERIA FUND</b> FNB BANK	\$ 99,269
PLGIT	\$ 222,672
	\$ 321,941
<b>CONSTRUCTION FUND / CAP RESERVE</b>	
FNB BANK	\$ 44,674
PLGIT - G.O. BOND SERIES C OF 2014/12-19	\$ 801
	\$ 45,475
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 9,443,037

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Public Comment	PUBLIC COMMENT		
	Connie Cavara Dormont	Re: Masks in School	s
	Martin Oswald Dormont	Re: Masks in School	ls
	Jason Walsh Dormont	Re: Masks in School	ls
Adjournment	ADJOURNMENT		
	On the motion of Mr. Cesa p.m.	rio, seconded by Mr. Ra	aso, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36
			Motion passed 9-0
			Respectfully submitted,
			Joseph A. Kubiak Board Secretary
			Maureen S. Myers

Maureen S. Myers Assistant Board Secretary

Name	Borough of	Comment
Jessica Dillon Brown	Residency Dormont	Thank you for mandating mask wearing for the schools. Please keep in mind that this needs to be mandated for as long as the rates are high and until all students can be vaccinated. I am comforted by the fact that Keystone Oaks made this decision when so many around us have not. We appreciate you!
Jenny Shimkus	Dormont	We were disappointed to learn that KOSD has decided that masks are again required for the start of the school year. Although I understand this is the right of the school, I believe my vaccinated child should be allowed to make their own decision regarding mask wearing. This was not mandated by the state or federal government and was solely KOSD's decision. As a constituent, I must express my dismay for this choice.
Mary Andriko, Esq.	Dormont	<ul> <li>Our daughter attended St. Margaret of Scotland for Kindergarten during the 2020/2021 school year. The school successfully remained open for the full school year with universal masking requirements, social distancing, modified safety protocols, contact tracing, etc.</li> <li>We look forward to sending our daughter to Dormont Elementary for First Grade and supporting public education, however the following questions are pertinent for all parents given the rise in covid variants:</li> <li>What is the current teacher/staff vaccination rate at each school? Will teachers/staff be required to be vaccinated?</li> <li>Masks are currently required—what are the repercussions for noncompliance amongst students and staff?</li> <li>Under what circumstances, if any, will you lift the mask mandate?</li> <li>Most important: What is the threshold for switching to virtual learning? What criteria will be used in the decision?</li> </ul>

Lisa Shartle	Castle Shannon	<ul> <li>Universal masking for the duration of the pandemic must be non-negotiable. It is also our strong preference that KOSD require vaccinations for teachers/staff, and strongly encourage vaccination for students 12+, as well as strongly encourage vaccinations for students 5-12 once available. Thank you.</li> <li>We hope everyone has had a great summer so far. We are reaching out on the recent announcement on the mask requirement for students this upcoming school year. We were disappointed to hear this change in policy and urge you to reconsider.</li> <li>There is data and research not only stating masks do not stop the spread of COVID, but that they can be harmful for children if worn for long periods of time</li> <li>Please move forward and make this a decision that parents can make for their own children, not a requirement for all students.</li> <li>Thank you for your dedication and time. I hope you enjoy the remainder of the summer days.</li> </ul>
		Lisa and Eric Shartle
Elizabeth	Dormont	There are very few instances where Gov. Wolf has not been in lockstep with the CDC. As of August 9th he says he will not madate masks for schools. Our district has been consistently taking every inch it can to get back to normal. If the government isn't forcing compliance there is no reason for the schools to implement masks. I would hope that even if the government does force compliance the district would stand up for the kids and keep masks a choice, but let's hope the situation doesn't get to that point. I encourage the board to reassess the issue and include the parents opinions in your decision making.

Connie Cavara	Dormont	Wondering why parents were not given a choice on the masking of our children. Young students are not a risk for transmitting nor are they at risk for becoming symptomatic. I don't think masks are healthy for young children— physically (inhaling increased levels of exhaled CO2 & less than optimal O2) or psychologically (being treated as though they are infected). Gov. Wolf has not mandates masks (we voted to remove his overreaching power) so why is KO unwilling to move forward?
Jarrod West	KO Parent	Hello, I am writing to encourage the school board to enact a mask mandate within KO schools. I recognize that there is a cost to such a mandate but, given the increased risk of the Delta variant, children under 12 being unvaccinated, and a generally lower-than-safe vaccination rate, I think it's the best decision. Moreover, several reputable bodies are recommending masks, including guidance issued by the American Academy of Pediatrics, which specifically includes a "recommendation that everyone older than age 2 wear masks, regardless of vaccination status." Thank you for considering. Jarrod West KO Parent
Alicia Johnson	KO Alumni and Parent	Hello, Every season, I look forward to receiving the IN Community Magazine to learn about various festivals or the best places to get ice cream. The publication is typically full of great events for the family, however, this past issue was much different and I am still trying to understand the reason for such poor judgement. First, let me be clear when I say that this concern is not political; I come from a family of hunters and celebrated war veterans. Nevertheless, I was shocked to find a gun advertisement (with explicit pictures of weapons) on the back of the latest issue of IN Community Magazine (Fall 2021) for a few reasons:

<ul> <li>The last organization to condone firearms should be a school district, especially when several policies outline the District's "compelling interest in protecting and preserving the health, safety, and welfare of the school population" (specifically Policies 221, 226, 250, 251)</li> <li>The content is counter to the overarching intent of the magazine and has no connection to fall festivals or family fun (if it does, then that is an entirely separate problem). The promotion of firearms and "believe there is good in the World" don't necessarily share the same tone or sentiment.</li> <li>There are so many LOCAL amazing businesses to promote in our Community, which is not Verona.</li> <li>All material moving forward should be vetted by the educators we pay to serve our community and the <i>trusted</i> Board of Directors before it is published. Again, I am baffled that there was consensus among the people who serve our children to print such a problematic advertisement.</li> <li>Anyone can read an article or turn on the news to know that our children are experiencing anxiety at higher rates than ever; shouldn't we be trying to mitigate their fear and console them versus promoting the very things that cause them distress?</li> </ul>
I look forward to hearing more about how the District will rectify this situation so it doesn't happen again. Thank you!
Alicia Johnson KO Alumni and parent

	Email #2:
	Hi,
	Thank you for such a prompt response, which is interesting given that other folks in my professional network have stated that the superintendent or other district personnel view the content beforehand.
	Does the District have any financial stake in the magazine? If so, this is still problematic. If not, it is still probably in the best interest of the District to make sure that their advertisements align with the shared values of the community or otherwise they should not use the name of the District.
	Thank you!
	Alicia
	Email #3
	Good morning,
	Thank you for your attention to this matter and for exploring it further.
	Appreciatively, Alicia