

REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD  
HELD AUGUST 22, 2017

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, August 22, 2017, at 7:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the Educational Support Center. Mrs. Coleman, President, presided.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 P.M. with the following Board members present: Mr. Falkofske, Mr. Kunich, Ms. Stevens, Mr. Wade, Mrs. Snyder, Mr. Garcia, and Mrs. Coleman. Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis was also present.

Mrs. Coleman, President, opened the meeting by announcing that this was a regular meeting of the School Board of Kenosha Unified School District. Notice of this regular meeting was given to the public by forwarding the complete agenda to all requesting radio stations and newspapers. Copies of the complete agenda are available for inspection at all public schools and at the Superintendent's office. Anyone desiring information as to forthcoming meetings should contact the Superintendent's office.

Mrs. Tanya Ruder, Chief Communication Officer, presented the Focus School Identification Award to Curtis Strange Elementary School.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented two Administrative Appointments.

Mr. Kunich moved to approve Mr. Cliff Johnson as Assistant Principal at Tremper High School. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Stevens moved to approve Mrs. Lauren Johnson as the Assistant Principal at Kenosha School of Technology Enhanced Curriculum (KTEC) – East. Mr. Wade seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

There was not a student ambassador.

There was no legislative report.

Views and/or comments were made by the public.

Board members made their responses/comments.

Mrs. Coleman gave the Board President remarks.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis gave the Superintendent's Report.

Board members considered the following Consent-Approve items:

Consent-Approve item XI-A – Recommendations Concerning Appointments, Leaves of Absence, Retirements, Resignations and Separations.

Consent-Approve item XI-B – Minutes of the 7/25/17 Special Meeting and Executive Session and 7/25/17 Regular Meeting.

Consent-Approve item XI-C – Summary of Receipts, Wire Transfers, and Check Registers submitted by Mrs. Lisa Salo, Accounting Manager; Mr. Tarik Hamdan, Chief Financial Officer; and Dr. Sue Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“It is recommended that the July 2017 cash receipt deposits totaling \$593,427.41, and cash receipt wire transfers-in totaling \$3,610,703.24, be approved.

Check numbers 553501 through 554542 totaling \$14,546,849.64, and general operating wire transfers-out totaling \$391,227.71, are recommended for approval as the payments made are within budgeted allocations for the respective programs and projects.

It is recommended that the July 2017 net payroll and benefit EFT batches totaling \$12,136,836.85, and net payroll check batches totaling \$3,165.38, be approved.”

Mr. Kunich moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Falkofske seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the report titled Building Lifelong Trust submitted by Dr. Kurt Sinclair, Principal at Bradford High School; Ms. Susan Valeri, Chief of School Leadership; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The Kenosha Police Department approached KUSD to collaborate on a program connecting high school students with Kenosha police officers in the Fall of 2016. The design of the program facilitates conversation and dialogue between KUSD high school students and the Kenosha Police Department. The program is titled Building Lifelong Trust (BLT) and was written by the Kenosha Police Department. The program is broken down into seven distinct lessons. On January 24, 2017, the School Board requested that the lessons include discussion of citizen’s rights and responsibilities when interacting with Law Enforcement. This topic is now included in week three of the program. The additional language is in bold within Lesson Three. The recommendation is for BLT to be scheduled at Bradford High School, first semester of the 2017-2018 school year with expansion to Tremper, Indian Trail and Reuther during the second semester of the 2017-2018 school year. BLT has the approval and support of Kenosha Police Department Chief, Dan Miskinis.

The program includes up to 12 students and runs 7 weeks concurrently. The students meet with police officers one time per week. The program will run during non-instructional time. The officers conducting the program will be the school resource officer and Officer Felicia Labatore, who represent the Kenosha Police Department. There is no cost to the district for this program.

Bradford High School administration and Kenosha Police Department representatives will hold parent meetings prior to the start of the program. Parents have the opportunity to review the lessons and must give permission for their child prior to participation. Parents or students can opt out at any time during the 7 week course.

Student volunteers for the BLT program will be solicited from the student body. Final participants will be chosen based on student schedule availability. Parents of this group of students will be contacted for an informational meeting, review of lesson plans, permission slips, etc. Bradford High School and the Kenosha Police Department will collect feedback from students after the completion of the program. This feedback and evaluation process will drive program adjustments. See attachment A for the seven lessons.

Administration recommends the School Board approve the Building Lifelong Trust program.”

Ms. Valeri and Officer Felicia Labatore were present and answered questions from Board members.

Mrs. Snyder moved to approve the Building Lifelong Trust program. Mr. Wade seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Julie Housaman, Chief Academic Officer; and Mr. Brian Mogensen, Coordinator of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Recreation and Senior Center presented the Request to Add New Athletic Programs – High School Lacrosse and Middle School Cross Country submitted by Mr. Mogensen, Mrs. Housaman, and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights (OCR) filed a complaint against Kenosha Unified School District alleging discrimination on the basis of sex. More specifically the complaint alleged that the district discriminated against female students at Tremper and Bradford High Schools by denying them an equal opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics. On October 24, 2012, the Kenosha Unified School District signed a Resolution Agreement to resolve the complaint filed.

On February 28, 2017, the school board approved revisions made to Policy 6700 that defined a process to request new programs.

Two requests for the 2017-18 school year have been received—middle school cross country for boys and girls (Appendix A) and high school lacrosse for boys and girls. The coordinator of athletics, physical education, health, recreation, and senior center convened a committee to discuss each proposal. Both committees were comprised of the coordinator of athletics, physical education, health, recreation, and senior center; the district Title IX coordinator, the chief academic officer, and the respective school principals for middle school and for high school. Each proposal is reviewed, a program proposal rubric is utilized to review the components outlined in Policy 6700, and the committee considers potential implications in each of these areas.

Ms. Patti Hupp, head track coach at Tremper High School, submitted a request to add boys and girls cross country as a middle school sports option. The rationale to offer cross country includes:

- Currently softball and football are offered in the fall, and this will provide an opportunity for more students to participate in sports.
- Cross country is a lifetime sport.

- Cross country teaches strong mental and character-building skills.
- Surrounding communities offer cross country at the middle school level.

The proposal provided information on all areas reviewed by the committee. The committee found that there would be significant implications if cross country were added to the existing fall sports schedule for each middle school. The total anticipated cost to add boys and girls cross country is \$33,640 (based on the participation of the five middle schools).

If approved this expense would reduce the current middle school activity fee allocated from the athletics budget by \$6,278 per school. This would be a 45 percent reduction in the current allocation and have a significant impact on the activities currently offered at each school. Over 4,000 middle school students responded to the 2016-17 Student Activity and Interest Survey. Approximately 13 percent of the respondents entered "no," indicating they did not want any additional athletic offerings. The most frequently suggested additional sport is soccer, with 9.2 percent suggesting this. Only .15 percent, or 6 students, indicated an interest in cross country. Based on lack of student interest, the potential negative impact on existing fall sports offerings, and the significant financial impact, the committee does not recommend that middle school cross country be added to the existing middle schools sports schedule.

Mr. Robert Wikstrom, founder and president of the Kenosha Raptors Club, submitted a request to add boys' and girls' lacrosse as a high school sport. The rationale to add this support includes:

- The growth of the existing Raptor Club program since 2012,
- The increase in popularity of lacrosse in the state and nationally, and
- Student interest.

The proposal provided information on all areas reviewed by the committee. The committee found that there is significant student interest in lacrosse. While the proposal recommends the addition of both boys' and girls' lacrosse teams, the committee recommends that addition of girls' lacrosse due to the financial impact. The estimated expense to implement the girls' lacrosse team is \$25,080. If a boys' team is also added, this expense would exceed \$50,000. The existing district athletic budget is able to absorb the expenses for the girls' team without reducing existing services. If the boys' team is also added, reductions would need to be made to the current high school athletic and equipment budgets.

The existing OCR complaint is based on fewer opportunities for high school girls to participate in sports as compared to boys. The addition of girls' lacrosse resolves this complaint. Based on student interest, the financial implications, and the positive resolution to the OCR complaint, the committee recommends the addition of a Kenosha Unified School District High School co-op girls' lacrosse team.

The District understands there are existing Raptor players from southeastern Wisconsin that do not attend Kenosha Unified School District. School districts that are interested in coopting with Kenosha Unified School District may contact the District's Coordinator of Athletics.

Administration recommends that the Board approve the addition of a Kenosha Unified School District High School co-op girls' lacrosse team for the 2017-18 school year."

Mrs. Housaman and Mr. Mogensen answered questions from Board members.

Mr. Kunich moved to approve the addition of a Kenosha Unified School District High School co-op girls' lacrosse team for the 2017-18 school year. Mr. Falkofske seconded the motion.

Ms. Stevens offered a friendly amendment to the motion to include the formation of a Middle School Cross Country Board Ad Hoc Committee with subsequent discussion in the next 6-12 months. Mr. Kunich did not accept Ms. Stevens' friendly amendment.

Mr. Kunich's motion to approve the addition of a Kenosha Unified School District High School co-op girls' lacrosse team for the 2017-18 school year was approved. Ms. Stevens dissenting.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced the Gang Prevention Education Program submitted by Mr. Willie Days, Coordinator of Diversity/Student and Family Engagement; Ms. Valeri; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

"The Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha (BGCK) and the Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD) have enjoyed working together for more than 20 years to address the issue of gang involvement and delinquency issues in our community. The district provides financial support the BGCK needs to monitor, supervise and mentor youth in gang prevention groups, while working on anger management, team building, job skills development, gang resistance, and social and delinquency issues.

The program activities concentrate on Middle and High Schools. BGCK continues to assist all schools regarding gang threats by assisting in identification of gangs, mediating disputes between students and/or gang members, investigating fights and any other issues schools request.

Together, the BGCK and KUSD provide educational gang intervention and/or prevention services at Bradford, Indian Trail, Tremper, Reuther and Hillcrest high schools; and Bullen, Lance, Lincoln, Mahone and Washington middle schools. Club gang prevention staff also provides extra security at KUSD and BGCK sporting events.

BGCK staff will continue to provide support to Gary Vargas, Juan Cruz and Sam Saucedo at Bradford, Tremper and Indian Trail. The BGCK staff will continue assisting and providing support to Reuther as well. BGCK provides schools with gang prevention and community service activities that assist with the safety of schools. BGCK staff assists with gang prevention activities at Bradford High School on Saturday morning (e.g. groups, counseling and community service work). BGCK has ongoing in-service gang trainings for school personnel upon request. BGCK staff attends local universities gang awareness trainings and BGCK staff sits on panels upon request.

BGCK staff has found that one of most effective incentives affecting behavioral change has traditionally been and will continue to be offering employment opportunities for our youth. BGCK has been working to maintain unsubsidized employment opportunities in the private sector or enroll participants in the BGCK Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) for at-risk youths in our community. A major focus last year was centered on employment efforts for case managed youth and will continue to be a key component. BGCK staff facilitates a National Boys & Girls Club program titled Career Launch. This program is used as a springboard to help the youth prepare for entrance in the job market by assisting with resume writing, interviewing skills, job searching and appropriate dress for success. Since jobs continue to be the number one driving force or tool to captivate the attention of young teenagers, a major effort of BGCK staff has been to transition youth into permanent employment instead of seasonal employment. Many of the case managed youth are referred and participate in the SYEP. There is a total of nine current case managed youth participating in the SYEP.

Another program that is offered at the Boys and Girls Club program is the Youth Empowerment Program (YEP). This program is designed primarily for middle school youth and focuses on providing them with tools to ensure successful completion of high school. In addition, the staff will continue to encourage youth to participate at the BGCK year-round in order to benefit and maximize the offerings.

A heavy emphasis of BGCK staff has been to encourage middle school youth to participate in BGCK programming after school to enhance what they worked on during the school day. This 54 has proven to be successful with more youth coming to the BGCK for a safe, positive place to be outside of school hours. BGCK daily programming focuses on three priority outcomes: academic success, good character and leadership and healthy lifestyles. Key programs that BGCK staff utilizes are the newly revised Boys & Girls Club of America tested and proven program called Street SMARTS and SMART Moves. The curriculum provides education, resource materials, mentoring sessions, peer learning groups and positive adult role models. Street SMARTS and SMART Moves programming targets boys and girls ages 6-16 and provides age appropriate topics and lesson plans. Goals of the programs include youth participating in activities designed to hone their decision-making and critical-thinking skills, as well as, learn how to avoid and/or resist alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Additional program outcomes include increased knowledge in handling anger and conflict; resisting bullying, fighting and gang involvement; developing skills to express feelings, make values-based empowered choices and maintain positive relationships.

Administration is recommending that the Gang Prevention Program report and Memorandum of Understanding be approved on August 22, 2017, by the Board of Education.”

Ms. Valeri and Felicia Dalton, Director of Prevention and Outreach at the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha, were present and answered questions from Board members.

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the Gang Prevention Program report and Memorandum of Understanding. Mr. Kunich seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Reports of Contracts in Aggregate of \$25,000 submitted by Ms. Jennifer Navarro, Coordinator of Professional Learning; Mr. Robert Hofer, Purchasing Agent; Mrs. Housaman; Mr. Hamdan; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“School Board Policy 3420 requires that “all contracts and renewals of contracts in aggregate of \$25,000 in a fiscal year shall be approved by the School Board except in the event of an emergency as determined and reported to the School Board monthly by the Purchasing Agent.” The contracts/agreements in aggregate of \$25,000 that have been added to the Contract Management Database subsequent to July 25, 2017 with approval of the purchasing agent are shown in the database in coral color.

The following contract/agreement has not been added to the Contract Management Database and is being presented for board approval:

- Wisconsin RTI Center/Cooperative Educational Service Center in the amount of \$25,000.”

Mr. Wade moved to approve the contract/agreement with Wisconsin RTI Center/Cooperative Educational Service Center in the amount of \$25,000. Mr. Kunich seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Request to Submit the Academic Parent-Teacher Team School Continuation Grant and Planning and Implementation Grant Application for the Upcoming School Year (2017-2018) and Next School Year (2018-2019) submitted by Ms. Cherise Easley, Principal of Edward Bain School of Language and Art – Creative Arts; Mr. Robert Neu, Director of Title Programs; Mr. Scott Kennow; Regional Coordinator of Leadership and Learning-Elementary; Ms. Valeri; Mrs. Housaman; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“At the May 10, 2016 Meeting the school board unanimously approved the APTT Planning and Implementation Grant for EBSOLA CA 2016-17 school year. DPI requested a three-year commitment to the implementation of Academic Parent Teacher Team, however due to DPI not knowing how much money will be allocated to schools annually, schools are required to submit a continuation grant application yearly. EBSOLA CA would like to continue implementing Academic Parent Teacher Teams (APTT) for the 2017-18 and 2018-19. The APPT grant is a dissipating grant and EBSOLA CA is requesting the opportunity to utilize grant funds as long as they are available. EBSOLA CA has been asked by DPI and WestEd to serve as a model school for the State of Wisconsin. EBSOLA CA APTT end of year parent data surveys also revealed that EBSOLA CA parents are in full support of the program and would like EBSOLA CA to continue implementing Academic Parent Teacher Teams. EBSOLA CA is requesting approval from the board to continue this grant-funded program for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years (so long as funding from DPI is available).

The purpose of this grant is to continue to fund up to ten elementary and/or middle Focus Schools as statewide pilot schools to continue to implement Academic Parent-Teacher Teams (APTTs), a research-based system of family engagement that

strategically connects families and schools to advance student learning and achievement. The APTTs model is a classroom-based, teacher-led, data-driven family engagement model focused on supporting children's academic goals by linking home and school learning.

The APTTs model replaces traditional parent-teacher meetings. Classroom teachers invite families to participate in 3 75-minute group meetings and 1 30-minute individual parent-child session annually. During APTTs meetings teachers share actionable data, review grade-level skills, and demonstrate concrete activities families can do at home to help students master skills. Families practice the learning activities, and each family reviews their child's progress data to set a 60-day academic goal individualized to their child's needs.

APTTs is an intentional and systematic means of increasing student academic achievement by improving the quality and quantity of parent-teacher communication and interaction. Teachers coach parents to become engaged, knowledgeable members of the academic team in three classroom APTTs meetings and one in-depth individual conference each year. The APTTs objectives include improving student achievement by increasing the quality and quantity of parent-teacher communication and interaction and establishing high expectations between teachers and families to optimize student learning.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve this request to submit the Academic Parent Teacher Team School Continuation Grant application and the Academic Parent-Teacher Team Planning and Implementation School Grant application for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years.”

Mr. Kunich moved to approve the submission of the Academic Parent Teacher Team School Continuation Grant application and the Academic Parent-Teacher Team Planning and Implementation School Grant application for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented Provisions Governing the Transportation of Students Attending Public and Private Schools for the 2017-2018 Year submitted by Mr. Jeff Marx, Transportation Supervisor; Mr. Patrick Finnemore, Director of Facilities; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The following provisions for the transporting of students attending public and private schools will become effective from and after the fifteenth day of August 2017. (These provisions relate to Board Policies 3511 and 3514)

Administration recommends school board approval of the Provisions Governing the Transportation of Students Attending Public and Private Schools for the 2017-2018 year.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the Provisions Governing the Transportation of Students Attending Public and Private Schools for the 2017-2018 year. Mr. Wade seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the report titled Hearing Officers submitted by Ms. Valari and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Administration brings forth a recommendation concerning the appointment of Hearing Officers to assist the District with any expulsion hearings for the upcoming school year.

Hearing Officers are paid \$100 per hearing and are scheduled on a rotating basis. The job was posted this year and no new applicants met the minimum requirements for this position.

Indicated below are the two individuals that Administration recommends for the 2017-2018 school year: The nominated individuals are as follows:

- Nancy Wheeler - Ms. Wheeler is a practicing attorney in Racine. She previously served as a Racine Judge, of which four years were in the juvenile division. Ms. Wheeler has served as a KUSD Hearing Officer for the past six years.
- Richard Regner - Mr. Regner is a retired school Administrator who has experience as a teacher, building principal and as a District level administrator. Mr. Regner has served as a KUSD Hearing Officer also for the past six years.

Administration recommends that the Board of Education authorize the appointment of the two recommended Hearing Officers for the purpose of expulsion hearings during the 2017-2018 school year. Administration further recommends that the contract for hearing officers be set at a rate of \$100.00 per hearing for the 2017-2018 school year.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the two recommended Hearing Officers for the purpose of expulsion hearings during the 2017-2018 school year and that the contract for hearing officers be set at a rate of \$100.00 per hearing. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Kristopher Keckler, Chief Information Officer; presented the Annual Restraint and Seclusion Report submitted by Mrs. Bridget Kotarak, Interim Director of Special Education and Student Support; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpt follows:

“By September 1, Wisconsin requires each school district to report the district restraint and seclusion data annually, to the school board. Districts must submit the number of incidents of physical restraint and seclusion, the total number of students involved in the incidents, and the number of students with disabilities who were involved in the incidents. The report to the school board contains the same data as required in the U.S. Department Office of Civil Rights Cyclical Data Collection (CRDC) on physical restraint and seclusion.

Districts are required to report on two (2) types of restraint: mechanical and physical, and seclusion, detailing both the number of students (by disability status) and number of incidents.

For example, the use of handcuffs by police officers would constitute a mechanical restraint and schools are required to fully document identified instances. Both a summary report and a full building level report are attached. For the 2016-17 school year, KUSD had 6 students who had a total of 6 incidents of mechanical restraint, 94 students who had a total of 225 incidents of physical restraint, and 72 students who had a total of 209 incidents of seclusion. 76 As identified, the increase in mechanical restraint are all the direct result of the state expectation to now ensure that any police involved use of handcuffs or other restraint are documented and reported. Although not district employees, police officers receive their own training and tactics related to the decision or need to apply some form of restraint.

This report is for informational purposes only.”

Mrs. Snyder presented the Donations to the District.

Mrs. Snyder moved to approve the Donations to the District. Mr. Kunich seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Falkofske moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Wade seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 P.M.

Stacy Schroeder Busby  
School Board Secretary