

A SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD AUGUST 19, 2013

A special meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Monday, August 19, 2013, at 5:00 P.M. in the Board Meeting Room at the Educational Support Center. The purpose of the meeting was for Discussion/Action on School Board Policy/Rule 6432 – Class Size and the FY14 Preliminary Budget.

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 P.M. with the following members present: Mrs. Taube, Mr. Flood, Mr. Nuzzo, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Bryan, and Ms. Stevens. Dr. Hancock was also present.

Ms. Stevens, President, opened the meeting by announcing that this was a special meeting of the School Board of the Kenosha Unified School District No. 1. Notice of this special meeting was given to the public by forwarding a copy of the notice to all requesting radio stations and newspapers.

Below are excerpts from the School Board Policy/Rule 6432 – Class size report submitted by Mrs. Sheronda Glass, Executive Director of Business Services; Dr. Floyd Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Leadership; and Dr. Hancock:

“On July 9, 2013, Mr. Bryan moved to “...forward the FY14 Preliminary Budget to the School Board with the directive that budget recommendations be adjusted to accommodate a teaching staffing allocation ratio of 25:1 at the elementary level and that the adjusted reallocation not increase total expenditures.” By July 23, 2013, administration had revisited and revised the budget assumptions to successfully allocate \$1.9 million necessary to hire the additional 20 FTE needed to meet the 25:1 school-wide ratio.

Due to enrollment projections, there are 12 schools (Forest Park, Grant, Grewenow, Harvey, Jefferson, McKinley, Nash, Roosevelt, Southport, Strange, Whittier and Wilson) that will need to offer some split or multiage classrooms.”

Ms. Kathy Walsh, Principal at Jefferson Elementary School, was present and answered questions from Board members pertaining to her request for a waiver for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in a split grade class.

Mr. Flood moved to approve the waiver request for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in split grade classes for Jefferson Elementary School. Mr. Nuzzo seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Mrs. Taube, Mr. Flood, Mr. Nuzzo, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Bryan, and Ms. Stevens. Noes: None. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Nola Starling Ratliff, Principal at Roosevelt Elementary School, was present and answered questions from Board members pertaining to her request for a waiver for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in a split grade class.

Mr. Flood moved to approve the waiver request for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in split grade classes for Roosevelt Elementary School. Mrs. Coleman seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Mrs. Taube, Mr. Flood, Mr. Nuzzo, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Bryan, and Ms. Stevens. Noes: None. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Jonathan Bar-Din, Principal at Curtis Strange Elementary School, was present and answered questions from Board members pertaining to his request for a waiver for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in a split grade class.

Mr. Flood moved to approve the waiver request for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in split grade classes for Curtis Strange Elementary School. Mr. Nuzzo seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Mrs. Taube, Mr. Flood, Mr. Nuzzo, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Bryan, and Ms. Stevens. Noes: None. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Martin Pitts, Principal at Nash Elementary School, was present and answered questions from Board members pertaining to his request for a waiver for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in a split grade class.

Mr. Flood moved to approve the waiver request for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in split grade classes for Nash Elementary School. Mrs. Coleman seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Mrs. Taube, Mr. Flood, Mr. Nuzzo, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Bryan, and Ms. Stevens. Noes: None. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Luanne Rohde, Principal at Forest Park Elementary School, was present and answered questions from Board members pertaining to her request for a waiver for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in a split grade class.

Mrs. Coleman moved to approve the waiver request for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in split grade classes for Forest Park Elementary School. Mrs. Snyder seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Mr. Nuzzo, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, and Ms. Stevens. Noes: Mrs. Taube, Mr. Flood, and Mr. Bryan. Motion carried.

Mr. Shebaniah Muhammad, Principal at Grant Elementary School, was present and answered questions from Board members pertaining to his request for a waiver for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in a split grade class.

Mrs. Snyder moved to approve the waiver request for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in split grade classes for Grant Elementary School. Mrs. Coleman seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Mr. Nuzzo, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Bryan, and Ms. Stevens. Noes: Mrs. Taube and Mr. Flood. Motion carried.

Ms. Gay Voelz, Principal at Grewenow Elementary School, was present and answered questions from Board members pertaining to her request for a waiver for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in a split grade class.

Mrs. Snyder moved to approve the waiver request for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in split grade classes for Grewenow Elementary School. Mrs. Coleman seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Mr. Nuzzo, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Bryan, and Ms. Stevens. Noes: Mrs. Taube and Mr. Flood. Motion carried.

Ms. Ursula Hamilton-Perry, Principal at Harvey Elementary School, was present and answered questions from Board members pertaining to her request for a waiver for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in a split grade class.

Mrs. Snyder moved to approve the waiver request for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in split grade classes for Harvey Elementary School. Mrs. Coleman seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Mr. Nuzzo, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Bryan, and Ms. Stevens. Noes: Mrs. Taube and Mr. Flood. Motion carried.

Ms. Jacqueline Mellott-Grajera, Principal at Southport Elementary School, was present and answered questions from Board members pertaining to her request for a waiver for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in a split grade class.

Mr. Nuzzo moved to approve the waiver request for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in split grade classes for Southport Elementary School. Mrs. Coleman seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Mr. Nuzzo and Mrs. Snyder. Noes: Mrs. Taube, Mr. Flood, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Byran, and Ms. Stevens. Motion failed.

Ms. Jolene Schneider, Principal at Whittier Elementary School, was present and answered questions from Board members pertaining to her request for a waiver for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in a split grade class.

Mrs. Coleman moved to approve the waiver request for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in split grade classes for Whittier Elementary School. Mrs. Snyder seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, and Ms. Stevens. Noes: Mrs. Taube, Mr. Flood, Mr. Nuzzo, and Bryan. Motion failed.

Ms. Yolanda Jackson-Lewis, Principal at Wilson Elementary School, was present and answered questions from Board members pertaining to her request for a waiver for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in a split grade class.

Mrs. Coleman moved to approve the waiver request for an exception to the 20:1 ratio in split grade classes for Wilson Elementary School. Mr. Nuzzo seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Mrs. Taube, Mr. Flood, Mr. Nuzzo, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Bryan, and Ms. Stevens. Noes: None. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Tarik Hamdan, Interim Chief Financial Officer, presented the FY14 Preliminary Budget as contained in the agenda. Mr. Hamdan and Mrs. Sheronda Glass, Executive Director of Business Services, answered questions from Board members.

Mr. Flood clarified that the Human Resource Administrative position noted in budget assumption #24 would not be restored immediately. Mrs. Glass confirmed that the position would not be restored until after third Friday count and that Board approval would be sought before moving forward with the restoration.

Mr. Nuzzo moved to approve FY14 preliminary budget as presented. Mrs. Taube seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Mrs. Taube, Mr. Flood, Mr. Nuzzo, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Bryan, and Ms. Stevens. Noes: None. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Nuzzo moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Coleman seconded. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 P.M.

Stacy Schroeder Busby
School Board Secretary