

REGULAR MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD JULY 23, 2013

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, July 23, 2013, at 7:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the Educational Support Center. Ms. Stevens, President, presided.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M. with the following Board 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 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.

There were no awards or recognitions.

Dr. Hancock announced Holly Graff as Assistant Principal at Tremper High School effective July 24, 2013, Wendy LaLonde as Interim Assistant Principal at Tremper High School effective July 24, 2013, Christine Geyer as Assistant Principal at Lincoln Middle School effective July 24, 2013, and Sarah Shanebrook as Coordinator of Language Acquisition effective July 29, 2013.

Mr. Bryan gave the Legislative Report.

There were views and comments by the public.

Board members made their responses and comments.

Ms. Stevens made her remarks.

Dr. Hancock yielded her time for the Superintendent's Report to Mr. Tarik Hamdan, Interim Chief Financial Officer, who gave a PowerPoint presentation which provided clarifying information pertaining to employee travel/conference expenses and advertising expenses. Mrs. Taube requested that the "I am KUSD" campaign advertising information be sent to Board members and to the Audit/Budget/Finance Committee members.

The 6/25/13 Regular Meeting Minutes and the 6/27/13 Special Meeting Minutes from Consent-Approve item X-B and Consent/Approve item D – Policy and Rule 6432 – Class Size were pulled from the consent agenda.

The Board then considered the following Consent-Approve items:

Consent-Approve item X-A – Recommendations Concerning Appointments, Leaves of Absence, Retirements, and Resignations as contained in the agenda.

Consent-Approve item X-B – Minutes of the 6/19/13 and 6/25/13 Special and Executive Sessions and the 7/9/13 Special Meeting as contained in the agenda.

Consent-Approve item X-C – Summary of Receipts, Wire Transfers and Check Registers submitted by Ms. Heather Kraeuter, Accounting & Payroll Supervisor, and Dr. Hancock, excerpts follow:

“It is recommended that the June 2013 cash receipt deposits totaling \$2,924,658.59 and cash receipt wire transfers-in totaling \$55,381,030.40 be approved.

Check numbers 496136 through 497513 totaling \$7,795,374.12, and general operating wire transfers-out totaling \$329,192.67, are recommended for approval as the payments made are within budgeted allocations for the respective programs and projects.

It is recommended that the June 2013 net payroll and benefit EFT batches totaling \$12,311,402.78 and net payroll check batches totaling \$17,517.62 be approved.”

Consent-Approve item X-E – Head Start State Supplemental Grant Request for the 2013-2014 School Year submitted by Ms. Belinda Grantham, Director of Early Education; Ms. Lisa KC, Assistant Director of Head Start; Dr. Sue Savaglio-Jarvis, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning; and Dr. Hancock, excerpts follow:

“Approval from the Board of Education is requested to submit and implement the Head Start State Supplemental Grant for the 2013-2014 school year. The funding for this grant is \$340,725. It is designed to supplement the operating costs of the Kenosha Unified School District Head Start Child Development Program.

The purpose of the Head Start program is to provide comprehensive services in the areas of health, education, social services, and parent involvement for low-income preschool children and their families. This grant will service 59 high-risk children that will be three or four years of age on or before September 1, 2013. Funds will be utilized to serve the children and their families in all program component areas as required in the Head Start Act and through the Head Start Performance Standards.

At their joint July 9, 2013, meeting, the Curriculum/Program & Audit/Budget/Finance Committees voted to forward this grant to the School Board for consideration. Administration recommends that the School Board grant permission to submit and implement, if approved, the 2013-2014 Head Start State Supplemental Grant.”

Mr. Nuzzo moved to approve the Consent Agenda as revised. Mr. Flood seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Hamdan presented the FY14 Preliminary Budget submitted by Mrs. Sheronda Glass, Executive Director of Business Services; Mr. Hamdan; and Dr. Hancock, excerpts follow:

“During the July 9th School Board Audit/Budget/Finance Standing Committee meeting discussion, the following motion regarding Elementary class size was made:

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 reallocations not increase total expenditures. Mrs. Taube passed the gavel and seconded the motion.

To this end, Kenosha Unified School District Administration reviewed the proposed preliminary budget and recommends the following changes as summarized:

Expense Reduction Changes:

Line 10: Unemployment Expense reduced by additional \$400,000.

Line 65: Capture potential savings due to retiree vacancy replacements. At the request of the Board President, the Finance and Human Resources Departments evaluated the potential cost difference between 2013 retirees (based on employee group) and the potential cost associated with the new hire to fill their vacant positions.

PLEASE NOTE: This line 65 is allowing us to present a balanced budget due to the potential savings from the cost difference when replacing retirees. Attached is an analysis of the retiree impact which actually shows the OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) could use up that savings. Although OPEB costs are in a separate fund (73), that fund is supported by the general fund 10.

Expense Addition Changes:

Line 22: Reduced Technology Support Technician request from 3 to 2.

Line 24: Adjustment to HR Reorganization.

Line 25: Adjustment to Teaching and Learning Reorganization.

Line 26: Eliminate instructional coach request.

Lines 27 A/B: Reduce budget based on enrollment numbers.

Line 30: Increased Elementary staffing numbers by 20 FTE to meet 25:1 ratio.

Line 35: Removed 3 High School Miscellaneous staff request for Infant Lab Expansion.

Line 37: Added 3 more Specials FTE (Art, Music ,PE) due to new Elementary Class Size ratio.

Line 38: Revised estimate for NWEA Map Licensing costs.

Line 58: Revised estimate for new Math Curriculum costs.

Line 59: 10 month Secretary Payouts removed as they are no longer needed.

Line 60: Adjust down from three to one for PBIS Instructional Coach.

Lines 61 A/B/C: Revised estimate for potential bargaining base wage increases based on maximum of 2.07% (CPI).

It is the recommendation of Administration that the Board of Education adopt the FY14 Preliminary Budget as presented. However, we would reserve the right to request additional assumptions as needed as we work through this process."

In regards to budget assumptions #31 & #32, Mrs. Taube requested that an update be sent to the Personnel/Policy Committee which lists the positions that are included in those assumptions and that the report also include information on the use of long-term subs for last year. She also requested that the information pertaining to staffing projections for secondary levels be resent to her and also to the Personnel/Policy Committee.

In regards to budget assumption #33, Mrs. Taube requested information on the cost of the Rosetta Stone contract for this upcoming year.

The Board recessed at 9:33 P.M. and reconvened at 9:46 P.M.

Mr. Nuzzo moved to approve the FY14 Preliminary Budget as presented. Mrs. Snyder seconded the motion.

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

Mrs. Taube moved to approve budget assumptions #18, the 1.0 Math Coordinator and .5 CTE positions from #25, #27 (A&B), #30, #37, #38, #39, #40, #45, and #58 with the stipulation that the money be reserved until a math curriculum is approved by the Board. Motion failed due to lack of a second.

Mr. Flood moved to approve budget assumptions #18, the 1.0 Math Coordinator and .5 CTE positions from #25, #27 (A&B), #30, #33, #34, #37, #38, #40, #45, #46, #49, #58 with the stipulation that the money be reserved until a math curriculum is approved by the Board, #62, and #64. Mrs. Snyder seconded the motion.

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

Ms. Stevens indicated that the CESA 1 Personalized Learning agenda item was being referred to the Curriculum/Program Committee.

Dr. Sue Savaglio-Jarvis and Mrs. Jennifer Navarro, Coordinator of Organizational Training and Development, presented the 2013-2016 Professional Learning Plan submitted by Mrs. Navarro, Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, and Dr. Hancock, excerpts follow:

“The Office of Organizational Training and Development has developed a three-year professional learning plan for Kenosha Unified School District. This plan will be the foundation of all professional learning in the district. Beginning in November 2012 the Professional Learning Steering Committee began working on developing the plan. Three subcommittees formed and focused on determining Kenosha Unified School District professional learning practices, developed and analyzed a district professional learning needs assessment, and researched and developed professional learning evaluation tools. Additionally, teams were created to develop the plans for the four professional learning focus areas for the district.

The 2013-16 Professional Learning Plan aligns the district’s Transformation Plan and the four focus area of professional learning. (See Appendix a for a complete copy of the Professional Learning Three-Year Plan.)

1. Common Core State Standards—Improve literacy and numeracy through the implementation of Common Core State Standards.

2. Culturally proficient instruction—Create culturally proficient classrooms, and build school cultures that meet the needs of all students.
3. SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, timely) Goals—Utilize the SMART Goal process to address the area of greatest need in student achievement.
4. Professional learning communities—Incorporate professional learning communities to foster collaboration that focuses on results.

The plan for implementing Common Core State Standards focuses on professional learning in the areas of curriculum, instruction, and assessment. Through developing cadres at each building, Teaching and Learning content coordinators will provide professional learning through a train-the-trainer model to ensure all instructional staff engage in learning and obtains the intended learning outcomes. Additionally, classroom expectations and leadership accountability for fidelity is defined for each year to ensure that classroom instruction aligns with the Common Core State Standards shifts.

Cultural proficiency is addressed in this plan through creating cohorts of buildings in which all staff members will go through a three-year training cycle. The training will include Beyond Diversity I, Beyond Diversity II, and training on culturally proficient instruction. Each cohort consists of five to eight schools. Lead teachers from each school will receive additional professional learning to assist them in ensuring that their building meets the needs of all students through culturally proficient instruction.

SMART goal training ensures that leadership follows a process for building-wide collaboration in determining, achieving, and accessing building goals. A group of administrators completed an intense SMART goal coach training during the 2013-14 school year and will serve as coaches within the district on the SMART goal process. All buildings will be required to complete a school improvement plan that incorporates the building's three SMART goals (literacy, numeracy, and school culture) and assess their progress with ongoing checkpoints throughout the year.

Finally, through developing professional learning communities throughout the district, educators will engage in conversations and collaboration in order to meet the diverse needs of all children. Through the participation in a professional learning community, teachers will determine what students should know and be able to do, assess student progress, align student interventions, and provide differentiation.

Included in the professional learning plan is an outline of activities, expectations of learner outcomes, support systems, levels of evaluation, and budgets for each focus area.”

Mrs. Taube moved to approve the first year of the Professional Learning Plan (2013-2014) and forward the remaining portion (2014-2016) of the Professional Learning Plan to the Curriculum/Program Committee. Mrs. Snyder seconded the motion.

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

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced the Curriculum Proposal for Mathematics in Grades 6 Through 9 submitted by Mrs. Christine Pratt, Coordinator of Science and Mathematics, Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, and Dr. Hancock, excerpts follow:

“Since the adoption of the curriculum in 2006, much discussion about mathematics instruction has occurred in the United States. Current teaching in mathematics classrooms centers on the procedural teaching of mathematics instead of the conceptual teaching of mathematics. In the United States many students lack a deep conceptual understanding of how math works, and they are not able to apply mathematical skills or solve complex problems. This is largely because the mathematics curriculum in the United States has been “a mile wide and an inch deep” (leadandlearn.com, 2013). To address this issue, on June 2, 2010, the Common Core State Standards were released to the states and adopted by the state of Wisconsin.

In addition to rigorous standards for mathematics and English/language arts, the Common Core State Standards included a component for literacy in all subject areas. Beginning in the 2014-15 school year, students from Kenosha Unified will be assessed using The Smarter Balanced Assessment system, which is based on the new standards. Thus, the current Kenosha Unified School District curriculum for mathematics needed to be reviewed so all students would be on a successful path for the 2015 assessment.

At the July 9, 2013 Curriculum/Program meeting, the Committee voted to forward this proposal to the School Board for consideration. Administration recommends that the School Board approve this proposal for mathematics in grades 6 through 9 utilizing the College Preparatory Mathematics Curriculum.”

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis distributed a 2013-2014 pilot request spreadsheet for College Preparatory Mathematics (CPM) which noted the schools, number of staff members, and grade level information of teachers interested in implementing the proposed curriculum.

The following teacher representatives spoke to and answered questions from Board members pertaining to the Curriculum Proposal for Mathematics in Grades 6 Through 9: Mr. Michael Corcoran, Ms. Stacy Cortez, Ms. Amy Hand, Ms. Tanya Ware, Mr. Trent Barnhart, Ms. Kelly Llanas, Ms. Jennifer Lawler, and Ms. Shannon Higgins.

Mrs. Taube moved that the new math curriculum materials for grades 6, 7, 8, and 9 follow this process to ensure a successful implementation for all students within KUSD:

1. Hire a Math Curriculum Coordinator who has demonstrated experience in the piloting and selection of math curriculum and the development of staff to support the implementation within KUSD school buildings.

2. Expand core group by recruiting volunteers from experienced math staff with 10 or more years of experience from each middle school and high school to pilot math materials who can serve as coaches within buildings during the development and implementation phases.

3. Spend this year piloting CPM materials and math curriculum materials from other companies or publishers, evaluate necessary components such as alignment with math

common core standards, adaptations to meet the brilliance of all students ranging from those with special education, ELL, and other developmental preparedness needs to those who can be accelerated with instruction that will prepare them for higher level courses to support future success in the STEM areas.

4. Implement the new math program that has been aligned to the KUSD teaching calendar and provide district wide teacher materials to foster consistency among classrooms at each grade level. Mr. Flood seconded the motion.

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

Mrs. Snyder moved to allow the schools and teachers who have requested to pilot the CPM curriculum to move forward in doing so. Mr. Nuzzo seconded the motion.

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

Mr. Flood moved to table this item indefinitely. Motion failed due to lack of a second.

Mrs. Coleman moved to allow the schools and teachers who have requested to pilot the CPM curriculum to move forward in doing so provided that a report be presented to the School Board within 30 days on training successes and/or concerns and that within 90 days from September 1st, a report be presented to the School Board on the successes, challenges, and/or concerns of the curriculum pilot implementation process.

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

Ms. Stevens requested that DPI be contacted to inquire about their anticipated timeframe and/or turn-a-round time that would be allowed to improve any unsatisfactory 2015 Smarter Balanced Assessment scores.

Mrs. Taube requested that CPM be contacted to inquire about the possibility of a free and/or discounted rate for the curriculum during the piloting period and to also inquire about their refund policy.

Mrs. Coleman referenced Policy 8710 which states "No new items of business shall be taken up after 11:00 p.m. except by two-thirds vote of those members present at the meeting" and requested that the meeting be adjourned.

Mr. Flood moved to complete the items on the agenda. Mrs. Taube seconded the motion.

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

Mrs. Stevens indicated that the items pulled from the consent agenda (the 6/25/13 Regular Meeting Minutes and the 6/27/13 Special Meeting Minutes from Consent-Approve

item X-B and Consent/Approve item D – Policy and Rule 6432 – Class Size) along with agenda item XII-D – Employment Contract for the Superintendent of Schools would be addressed at a special meeting of the School Board on a date to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 11:57 P.M.

Stacy Schroeder Busby
School Board Secretary