

REGULAR MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD MARCH 24, 2015

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, March 24, 2015, 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 7:01 P.M. with the following Board members present: Mr. Kunich, Ms. Stevens, Mr. Flood, Mr. Bryan, Mrs. Snyder, Mr. Wade, 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, Executive Director of Community Partnerships and Media Relations, presented the Lincoln Middle School: D's House Award, the Spelling Bee Winner Awards, and the Susan B. Anthony Award.

Mrs. Coleman presented Resolution 309 – Resolution of Appreciation to Carl Bryan which read as follows:

“WHEREAS, Carl Bryan was elected to the Board of Education of the Kenosha Unified School District in April 2009, and served two, three-year terms on the Board; and

WHEREAS, he held the positions of clerk and treasurer during his terms on the Board; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Board he chaired and/or served on the Planning/Facilities/Equipment, Personnel/Policy and Audit/Budget/Finance Committees; and

WHEREAS, he has been the Board legislative liaison since January 2012; and

WHEREAS, during his term the Board approved \$17 million in energy efficiency projects for nine elementary schools, \$1.5 million for school security improvements, adopted the KUSD employee handbook, approved the expansion of the Kenosha School of Technology Enhanced Curriculum, underwent the 2013 curriculum audit, adopted the Board and Superintendent Team Charter and approved the 2015 outdoor athletic referendum for Bradford, Tremper and Indian Trail; and

WHEREAS, he has been a strong supporter of providing exceptional educational opportunities to all students in the Kenosha Unified School District; and

WHEREAS, he has been a voice for students and teachers throughout his many years of service;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this expression of appreciation for service as a Board Member be adopted, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a true copy of this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Education, and that a signed copy be presented to Carl Bryan in recognition of his service to the Kenosha Unified School District.”

Mr. Flood moved to approve Resolution 309 – Resolution of Appreciation to Carl Bryan with the addition of “Whereas he was elected as a recent high school graduate and provided major support in increasing the power of the student voice.” Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the recommendation for the removal of the interim designation for the following administrators: Mrs. Julie Housaman, Mr. Tarik Hamdan, Mrs. Jenny Schmidt, Mr. Robert Neu, Mrs. Debra Giorno, Mr. Jared Kotarek, Mr. Anthony Casper, and Mr. Curtiss Tolefree.

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the removal of the interim designation for the recommended administrators. Mr. Flood seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the administrative appointment of Mrs. Annie Varkey Petering as the Chief Human Resource Officer effective March 25, 2015.

Mr. Kunich moved to approve the appointment of Mrs. Annie Varkey Petering as the Chief Human Resource Officer effective March 25, 2015. Mrs. Snyder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Stevens introduced the Student Ambassador, Dane Rasmussen, from Bradford High School and he made his comments.

Mr. Bryan gave the Legislative Report.

There were views or comments by the public.

Board members made their responses/comments.

Mrs. Coleman made Board President remarks.

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

The Board considered the following Consent-Approve items:

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

Consent-Approve item XI-B – Minutes of the 2/24/15 Special Meeting and Executive Session and the 2/24/15 Regular Meeting.

Consent-Approve item XI-C – Summary of Receipts, Wire Transfers, and Check Registers submitted by Ms. Heather Kraeuter, Accounting & Payroll Manager; Mr. Hamdan, Chief Financial Officer; and Dr. Sue Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“It is recommended that the February 2015 cash receipt deposits totaling \$291,285.89, and cash receipt wire transfers-in totaling \$24,029,440.05, be approved.

Check numbers 518369 through 519577 totaling \$7,247,733.74, and general operating wire transfers-out totaling \$239,972.86, are recommended for approval as the payments made are within budgeted allocations for the respective programs and projects.

It is recommended that the February 2015 net payroll and benefit EFT batches totaling \$12,202,953.03, and net payroll check batches totaling \$9,611.61, be approved.”

Mr. Bryan moved to approve the Consent Agenda as contained in the agenda. Mrs. Snyder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced the Head Start Federal Grant Request submitted by Ms. Lisa KC, Assistant Director of Head Start; Ms. Belinda Grantham, Director of Early Education; Dr. Floyd Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary School Leadership; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Approval from the Board of Education is requested to submit and implement the Head Start Federal Grant for the 2015-2016 school year. The funding for this grant is \$1,999,031. The grant is designed to fund the operating costs of the Kenosha Unified School District Head Start Program.

The Head Start approach to school readiness ensures that families have the resources and knowledge to support the development of their children, that children are healthy enough to learn, and that quality instruction is being provided to these children. Readiness goals are defined as the expectations at children’s developmental levels and progress across domains of language, literacy, cognition/general knowledge, approaches to learning, physical health, well-being, motor and social/emotional development. Success in these areas will support each child’s readiness for kindergarten.

At this time Head Start is not proposing any changes to current programming or staffing for the coming school year. Funding decisions made at the state and local levels, as well as the ability to meet mandated enrollment numbers at current locations, will impact the grant and may require revisions to current programming prior to the start of the 2015-2016 school year.

At its March 10, 2014, joint meeting, the Audit/Budget/Finance and Curriculum/Program Standing Committees voted to forward this report to the school board for consideration. Administration recommends that school board grant approval to submit and implement the 2015-2016 Head Start Federal Grant.”

Mr. Wade moved to approve the submission and implementation of the 2015-2016 Head Start Federal Grant. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced Policy 5580 – School Wellness submitted by Mrs. Cindy Gossett, Director of Food Services; Mr. Steven Knecht, Coordinator of Athletics, Activities, Health, Physical Education, and Recreation; Mr. Patrick Finnemore; Director of Facilities; Mrs. Julie Housaman, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The Kenosha Unified School District is committed to improving the academic performance of all students. Therefore, and as required by the Child Nutrition and Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children Reauthorization Act of 2004, School Wellness Policy 5580 was created and approved in spring 2006. According to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, local wellness policies are a key component to creating and maintaining healthier school environments that promote positive behaviors and help children reach their full academic potential. Research continues to demonstrate that healthier students are better learners.

Given the emerging evidence demonstrating the positive link between nutrition, physical activity, and school performance, an investment in wellness can support academic achievement. The Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 expanded upon previous requirements and includes new provisions that place a greater emphasis on the implementation, evaluation, and transparency of local wellness policies.

To meet the requirement of having school and community representation, an invitation was sent to schools in February 2012 seeking individuals to serve on the wellness policy committee. The committee did not take action in 2012 because of the anticipated 2013 release and July 1, 2014, implementation of the Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in Schools, also known as Smart Snacks in Schools. Since the Smart Snacks in Schools standards were released and implemented, the committee has finalized recommendations to the School Wellness Policy. The revised policy is provided in Appendix A.

At its joint meeting, the Curriculum/Program and Personnel/Policy Standing Committees voted to forward updated Policy and Rule 5580 to the school board for consideration. Administration recommends that the school board approve updated Policy and Rule 5580 - School Wellness as a first reading this evening and a second reading at the April 27, 2015, regular meeting.”

Mrs. Snyder moved to approve updated Policy and Rule 5580 - School Wellness as a first reading. Mr. Kunich seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Flood dissenting.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced the New Course Proposal: AP Computer Science A submitted by Mr. William Hittman, Principal at LakeView Technology Academy; Mrs. Marsha Nelson, Interim Coordinator of Career and Technical Education; Mrs. Housaman; Mr. David Tuttle, Coordinator of Talent Development; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The College Board, the organization that administers the Advanced Placement (AP) program to promote college and career readiness, offers a career and technical education course currently not available in Kenosha Unified School District. The AP Computer Science A course, recently revised for 2014-15, is an introductory course, popular in many other school districts, for students who wish to pursue a career in computer sciences or mathematics. Students at Lakeview Technology Academy have expressed interest in this course.

In order to implement this additional course in the 2015-2016 school year, the Department of Teaching and Learning is proposing, for Board of Education approval, the course addition form. The form is attached in appendix A. The attached form is completed in full and explains the rationale for the new course addition. It will also provide a description of the course, course standards, and a sample pacing guide.

At its March 10, 2015, meeting, the Curriculum/Program Standing Committee voted to forward this report to the school board for consideration. Administration recommends that the school board approve the proposal for the addition of the Advanced Placement Computer Science A.”

Mr. Kunich moved to approve the New Course Proposal: AP Computer Science A. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced the English-as-a-Second Language Program Plan Update and Recommendation submitted by Mrs. Sarah Smith, Coordinator of Language Acquisition Programs; Mrs. Housman, and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The board of education approved the initial Language Acquisition Program (LAP) Plan in November 2010 for the start of the 2011-12 school year at the November 23, 2010, meeting. The goal of this plan was to provide English language learners (ELLs) a program consisting of a variety of language support based on researched practices and recommendations from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI).

The Kenosha Unified School District currently serves over 2000 ELLs. The current English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) program varies by school and level. To address the growing needs of this population, the LAP coordinator and ESL team leaders have researched best practice to update the original LAP ESL plan. The ESL plan includes several strategies to better serve the growing ESL population which continues to be one of the district’s largest gaps. The additions made to the ESL plan include the English language development (ELD) curriculum, which focuses on academic vocabulary and has been proven to help with not only further developing the English language but also strengthening academic vocabulary across all subjects.

At its March 20, 2015 meeting, the Curriculum/Program Standing Committee voted to forward this report to the school board for consideration. Administration recommends that the school board approve the English-as-a-Second Language Program Plan, course proposal, and curriculum materials.”

Mrs. Housman and Mrs. Smith were present and answered questions from Board members.

Mr. Kunich moved to approve the English-as-a-Second Language Program Plan, course proposal, and curriculum materials. Mr. Wade seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Flood abstaining.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced the Board Approved Student User Fees for the 2015-2016 School Year submitted by Ms. Kraeuter, Mr. Hamdan, and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“As a component of the budget development process a review of the fees charged by the District is conducted every year. With the implementation of the Infinite Campus student information system, the early registration process has been improved to allow parents to pre-register all students in each household. Approved fees for 2015-16 will be available for payment during the Pre-K and Kindergarten registration in April 2015. Administration is not recommending any changes to the 2015-16 student user fees.

At its March 10, 2015, meeting, the Audit/Budget/Finance Committee voted to forward this report to the school board for consideration. Administration recommends that the school board accept the recommendation to establish the fiscal year 2015-2016 fees (Attachment A) for student use items in advance of early registration for Pre-K and Kindergarten in April 2015.”

Mr. Kunich moved to approve the 2015-2016 Student User Fees in advance of early registration for Pre-K and Kindergarten. Mr. Flood seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Report of Contracts in Aggregate of \$25,000 submitted by Mr. Robert Hofer, Purchasing Agent; Mr. Hamdan; Mrs. Housaman; Dr. Bethany Ormseth, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary School Leadership; 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 February 24, 2015, with approval of the purchasing agent are shown in the database in coral color. Board members may access this database while on district property.

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

- Ablenet Equals Curriculum - \$24,062.”

Mr. Wade moved to approve the contract/agreement with Ablenet Equals Curriculum in the amount of \$24,062. Mr. Flood seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced Resolution 310 - Worker's Compensation Reauthorization of Self-Insurance submitted by Mr. Hamdan and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

"On July 1, 2003, the District approved using Community Insurance Company for its Worker's Compensation program. In order to establish the self-insured program a resolution was approved at the May 27, 2003 School Board Meeting, the May 23, 2006 School Board Meeting, the March 24, 2009 School Board Meeting, and again at the March 27, 2012 School Board Meeting.

The Wisconsin Administrative Code requires each political subdivision to re-authorize their self-insurer status once every three years.

Administration recommends that the School Board approve Resolution No. 310 (attached) to continue the Worker's Compensation Self-Insured Program."

Mr. Kunich moved to approve Resolution 310 – Worker's Compensation Reauthorization of Self-Insurance. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced Resolution 311 – Providing for Appointment of a Successor Trustee to the OPEB Trust submitted by Mr. Hamdan and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

"Attached is school board resolution 311 to appoint a successor trustee to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust (OPEB Trust). When the Trust was originally established, Dr. Scott Pierce was designated as the initial trustee. Since his departure from the district, several successor trustees have followed including, Dr. Joseph Mangi, William Johnston, and most recently Dr. Michele Hancock. With Dr. Hancock's departure, the time has come for the Board of Education to appoint a new successor trustee to the OPEB Trust.

Administration requests that the Board of Education adopt resolution 311 appointing Tarik Hamdan as the successor trustee and authorize board officers and district administration to execute any and all documents relating this appointment."

Ms. Stevens moved to adopt Resolution 311 appointing Tarik Hamdan as the successor trustee and authorize board officers and district administration to execute any and all documents relating this appointment. Mr. Flood seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Bryan presented the revised Resolution 312 – 2015-17 Proposed State Budget which read as follows:

"WHEREAS, investing in quality public education programs like Kenosha Unified School District produces a qualified and skilled workforce for Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, public schools have been operating under revenue limits for over a decade; and

WHEREAS, Governor Walker's proposed 2015-17 budget includes no increase in revenue limits for neither the 2015-16 nor the 2016-17 school years; and

WHEREAS, Governor Walker's proposed budget includes a \$150 decrease in per pupil aid for the 2015-16 school year; and

WHEREAS, this will result in a loss of more than \$3.2 million for Kenosha Unified, making it extremely difficult to fund the 2015-16 school year; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget also expands the voucher program which will further negatively impact funding for Kenosha Unified and other public schools across the state; and

WHEREAS, those who will suffer the most will be the students.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Kenosha Unified School District Board of Education calls upon our elected officials to support increased funding for public education in the proposed 2015-17 budget for the benefit of Wisconsin's future and all public school students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a true copy of this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Education, and that a signed copy be printed in the school district's official newspaper of record."

Mr. Bryan moved to approve the revised Resolution 312 – 2015-17 State Budget. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Bryan presented the Donations to the District as contained in the agenda.

Mr. Bryan moved to approve the Donations to the District as contained in the agenda. Mr. Flood seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Bryan moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 P.M.

Stacy Schroeder Busby
School Board Secretary