

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

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, November 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. Flood, Ms. Stevens, Mr. Kunich, Mr. Wade, Mrs. Snyder, Mr. Falkofske, 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.

There were no awards or recognitions.

There were no Administrative and/or Supervisory appointments.

Mrs. Coleman introduced the Student Ambassador, Keelin Ricciardi from Harborside Academy, and she made her comments.

Mr. Flood gave the Legislative Report.

There was one view/comment by the public.

Board members made their responses/comments.

There were no remarks by the Board President.

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

Consent-Approve items XI-B – Minutes of the 10/22/15 and 10/27/15 Special Meetings and Executive Sessions and the 10/27/15 Regular Meeting and XI-D – Policy 5436 – Weapons were pulled from the consent agenda.

The Board then considered the following Consent-Approve items:

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

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 October 2015 cash receipt deposits totaling \$283,251.40, and cash receipt wire transfers-in totaling \$229,707.87, be approved.

Check numbers 527918 through 529334 totaling \$10,077,715.81, and general operating wire transfers-out totaling \$288,711.03, are recommended for approval as the payments made are within budgeted allocations for the respective programs and projects.

It is recommended that the October 2015 net payroll and benefit EFT batches totaling \$14,690,081.18, and net payroll check batches totaling \$15,208.53, be approved.”

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

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced Policy 6300 – Curriculum Development and Improvement and Policy 6610 – Selection of Instructional Materials submitted by Mrs. Sarah Smith, Coordinator of Language Acquisition; Mrs. Christine Pratt, Coordinator of Science; Mr. Scott Plank, Coordinator of Fine Arts; Ms. Marsha Nelson, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education; Mrs. Susan Mirsky, Coordinator of English/Language Arts; Mrs. Jennifer Lawler, Coordinator of Mathematics; Mr. Steven Knecht, Coordinator of Athletics/Physical Education; Mr. Che Kearby, Coordinator of Educator Effectiveness and Social Studies; Ms. Julie Housaman, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“It is critical that teachers are provided the support, training, and instructional resources to successfully implement district curriculum in all content areas. A systematic process is essential to evaluate, develop, and implement all curricula in a manner that allocates district resources effectively. This report outlines a proposed update to Kenosha Unified School District Board Policy 6300 to include a systematic curriculum development cycle and Policy 6610 to include a seven-year curriculum review cycle.

Kenosha Unified School District Board of Education Policy 6610 provides a process for selecting instructional materials, including required textbooks and supplementary materials. A chart outlining a curriculum evaluation and renewal cycle that spanned the school years from 1999-2000 through 2006-07 is contained in Appendix C.

Due to several factors—notably significant budget reductions—curriculum reviews were delayed and off cycle beginning with the 2005-06 adoption of mathematics curriculum resources. Because there were insufficient funds, the mathematics purchase was extended over two years, and the curriculum evaluation and renewal cycle was altered from that point forward. Funding formerly allocated to the purchase of

curriculum materials was removed from the Teaching and Learning budget in the 2011-12 budget. Appendix D outlines the purchase of textbooks and curriculum materials from the 1999-2000 school year through the 2014-15 school year.

In spring 2013 the International Curriculum Management Audit Center was retained to complete a comprehensive curriculum audit. Finding 2.1 of this audit identified a lack of a planning process and comprehensive management plan to provide coordinated direction of the design, delivery, and evaluation of the curriculum. The auditors responded to the findings with eight recommendations for how to address the problems that were pinpointed in the audit. Establishing a seven-year curriculum review cycle is one specific item recorded in Recommendation 5.

School board Policy 6300 has been updated to include a proposed curriculum development cycle. This cycle provides for a comprehensive evaluation of course content, an inclusive development process, a thoughtful implementation, revision based on data, and time for program effectiveness to be realized. The curriculum development cycle will adhere to a five-phase process.

School Board Policy 6610 includes the proposed seven-year curriculum review cycle and indicates where each curriculum area falls within the cycle. It is important to note that all content areas responded to the curriculum audit and began work in the 2013-14 school year. In some content areas (mathematics, for example), multiple phases were accomplished during that year. In other content areas, the work of a single phase was spread over multiple years. This is indicated in the District Curriculum Work 2013-16 table.

At its November 10, 2015, meeting, the joint Personnel/Policy and Curriculum/Program Committee voted to forward proposed revisions to Policies 6300 and 6610 to the School Board for consideration. Administration recommends that the school board approve Policy 6300 to include a systematic curriculum review cycle as a first reading on November 24, 2015, and a second reading on December 15, 2015. Administration recommends that the school board approve Policy 6610 to include a seven-year curriculum review cycle with an annual budget assumption to support needed purchases as outlined in Phase 3 of the cycle as a first reading on November 24, 2015, and a second reading on December 15, 2015."

Mrs. Coleman noted that revised Policies 6300 and 6610 were distributed which consisted of some cross referencing changes.

Mrs. Housaman was present and answered questions from Board members.

Mr. Flood moved to approve revised Policies 6300 – Curriculum Development and Improvement and 6610 – Selection of Instructional Materials as a first reading. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced the Athletics for Physical Education Credit Waiver submitted by Mr. Knecht, Mrs. Housman, and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“In 2011 the state of Wisconsin passed Act 105, offering school districts the option to provide credit toward graduation in physical education for participation in extracurricular activities (Wisconsin State Statute 118.33). Specifically, Act 105 states: “A school board may allow a pupil who participates in sports or in another organized physical activity, as determined by the school board, to complete an additional .5 credit in English, social studies, mathematics, science, or health education in lieu of a .5 credit in physical education.”

A committee was formed in January 2015 to research the merits of an athletic for physical education waiver and to bring forward a recommendation based on the findings. Following discussion of the findings, the Curriculum/Program Standing Committee requested that district administration:

- Respond to multiple inquiries brought forward by school board and committee members (Appendix A).
- Seek participation from community members, parents, and student athletes to participate on the Athletic Waiver Committee. A press release (Appendix B) was sent to Kenosha News on September 1, 2015; and the newly formed committee met on September 30, October 7 and October 21. All of those who expressed interest in participating on the committee were invited to attend; and members include: students, community members, administration, coaches, and physical education teachers (Appendix C).

Based on the committee’s research and extensive discussion, committee members collaboratively developed pros and cons of implementing a waiver for athletes. Athletic Waiver Committee members were asked to vote yes or no to the following question at the end of the second and third committee meetings: Do you feel Kenosha Unified School District should offer a physical education waiver for student athletes? The results were as follows:

- October 7, 2015 (15 members present)
 - Six committee members voted yes.
 - Seven committee members voted no.
 - Two committee members were undecided.
- October 21, 2015 (13 members present and 1 vote by letter)
 - Seven committee members voted yes.
 - Seven committee members voted no.

At the November 10, 2015 Curriculum/Program Standing Committee meeting, committee members participated in a working session to review the work of the Athletic Waiver Committee. Table discussions led to the collaborative development of a chart categorizing the pros and cons of pursuing the implementation of an athletic waiver for participation in sports and activities. Curriculum/Program Standing Committee members were asked to vote yes or no to the same question presented to the Athletic Waiver Committee. The results were as follows:

- November 10, 2015 (8 standing committee members present)
 - Two committee members voted yes.
 - One yes vote included the following statement:
 - “Please get more info from students.”
 - Five committee members voted no.
 - One committee member was undecided.

This is an information only item.”

Discussion followed and Board members expressed their views and comments.

Mrs. Housaman and Mr. Knecht were present and answered questions from Board members.

Mr. Falkofske requested data on class rank outcomes for the past five years.

No action was taken on this item as it was presented for informational purposes only.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced the 2014-2015 Financial Audit Report submitted by Mrs. Salo, Mr. Hamdan, and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The DPI requires districts to be audited annually and to submit the audited financial statements no later than December 1, 2015.

The District’s Auditor, Schenck SC, has concluded their financial audit of the District’s financial statements and major federal and state programs. The Audit, Budget and Finance Committee reviewed the audited financial reports at the November 10, 2015, meeting, and had the opportunity to ask questions. Mr. David Maccoux, CPA and Shareholder from Schenck was on hand to answer questions and provided a Management Communications report to the Committee. It was the opinion of Schenck that the District’s financial statements “...present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District as of June 30, 2015, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.” The full Annual Financial Report is available on the District’s website on the Finance Department web page.

Representatives from Schenk SC will be available for questions or discussion at the November 24, 2015 School Board meeting.

Administration recommends that the school board move to receive the audited 2014-2015 Annual Financial Report.”

Mr. Hamdan introduced Mr. David Maccoux from Schenck, S.C. who presented the Management Communications document to Board members and then answered questions.

Mrs. Snyder moved to receive the audited 2014-2015 Annual Financial Report. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Coleman introduced the Minutes of the 10/22/15 and 10/27/15 Special Meetings and Executive Sessions and the 10/27/15 Regular Meeting.

Ms. Stevens requested that the 10/22/15 executive session minutes reflect that there was discussion about giving employees a bonus. Ms. Busby requested that the 10/22/15 executive session minutes be tabled until the next meeting to allow her to review her notes and confer with legal counsel.

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the 10/27/15 Special and Executive Session Minutes and the 10/27/15 Regular Meeting Minutes but table the 10/22/15 Special and Executive Session Minutes until the next meeting. Mrs. Snyder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Coleman introduced Policy 5436 – Weapons submitted by Dr. Bethany Ormseth, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Policy and Rule 5436 - Weapons was last revised in 1999. School Board member Dan Wade has suggested revisions to the policy which would define any knife as a dangerous weapon as well as razor blades and box cutters.

At its October 13, 2015, meeting the Personnel/Policy Committee voted to forward revisions to Policy 5436 to the School Board for consideration. The School Board approved revised Policy 5436 as a first reading on October 27, 2015. Administration recommends that the School Board approve revisions to Policy 5436 – Weapons as a second reading on November 24, 2015.”

Mrs. Coleman indicated that Administration has requested that Policy 5436 – Weapons be tabled in order for it to be reviewed further as there may be conflicts with state and federal laws as it is currently written.

Mr. Wade moved to table Policy 5436 – Weapons to allow for further review. Mr. Falkofski seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

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

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the Donations to the District as contained in the agenda. Mr. Wade seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 P.M.

Stacy Schroeder Busby
School Board Secretary