

REGULAR MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD JUNE 25, 2019

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, June 25, 2019, at 7:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the Educational Support Center. Mr. Wade, President, presided.

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

Mr. Wade, 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 Communications Officer, presented the Districtwide Student Art Exhibit Collection Awards.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented four Administrative/Supervisory Appointments.

Mr. Kunich moved to approve Anthony Casper as the Principal at Kenosha eSchool. Mrs. Modder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Garcia moved to approve Mrs. Yolanda Jackson-Lewis as the Coordinator of Diversity and Student/Family Engagement. Mr. Kunich seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Duncan moved to approve Mr. Scott Kennow as the Principal at Indian Trail High School and Academy. Mr. Kunich seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Garcia moved to approve Mr. Erik Schlick as the Assistant Principal at Lincoln Middle School. Mrs. Modder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

A student ambassador was not present this evening.

Mrs. Modder gave the legislative report.

Views and/or comments were made by the public.

There were responses/comments by Board members.

The Board President did not make any 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 5/28/19 Special Meeting and Executive Session and 5/28/19 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 May 2019 cash receipt deposits totaling \$2,531,224.99, and cash receipt wire transfers-in totaling \$13,455,207.00, be approved.

Check numbers 578645 through 580032 totaling \$12,395,990.38, and general operating wire transfers-out totaling \$363,808.73, are recommended for approval as the payments made are within budgeted allocations for the respective programs and projects.

It is recommended that the May 2019 net payroll and benefit EFT batches totaling \$13,093,706.95, and net payroll check batches totaling \$17,044.43, be approved.”

Consent-Approve item XI-D – Proposed Revisions to Board Policies 1330 and 1331 submitted by Mr. Patrick Finnemore, Director of Facilities; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Annually, the fees charged for facilities use permits are revisited to determine if any increases are needed. This year the Director of Facilities Services recommended only a handful of changes to the fee structure and permit application which were approved at the May 28, 2019, regular school board meeting. At that meeting he also proposed some language changes in the Board Policies that govern this process for clarity and consistency. Those policy changes were also approved as a first reading at the May 28, 2019, board meeting.

Proposed Language Changes – Board Policy and Rule 1330:

1. Added the word “Youth” to Community Groups to reflect the proper title for groups governed by Priority Use 5.
2. The time frame referenced for submitting permit requests in Item 3 in the Rule is being changed from two to three weeks to reflect what has been required for years and to match the existing language in facilities use permit application.
3. Language was added to items 6 and 7 in the Rule for clarity on terms as well as to prohibit additional use of facilities to any group that has outstanding fees that are 90 days or greater past due since the date of billing.

Proposed Language Changes – Board Policy 1331:

1. A handful of additional examples were added to the School Activity Group classification definition.
2. The same change made to the facilities use permit application regarding fees for Kenosha Unified Community Youth Groups as described earlier in item 3 of the proposed language changes made to the permit application.

Administration recommends Board approval of the revisions to Board Policy and Rule 1330 and Board Policy 1331 as a second reading as described in this report.”

Consent-Approve item XI-E – Policy 5260 – Full Time Open Enrollment submitted by Mr. Kristopher Keckler, Chief Informational Officer; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Policy 5260 – Full Time - Open Enrollment addresses the state mandate of providing open enrollment opportunities to nonresident students. Currently, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) requires non-resident districts to designate regular and special education spaces at the January school board meeting for the upcoming school year. This process also allows for Alternative Open Enrollment Applications, which are available and processed starting in July of the upcoming school year.

A recent rule clarification regarding accepting Alternative Open Enrollment applications limits a non-resident district’s options with regard to the January seat approval for overall open enrollment spaces. This statutory clarification, as well as expanding a local district’s option for sibling applications is the reason for the policy revision as presented. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction has communicated that all public school districts revise and update their existing Open Enrollment policies to reflect these regulations.

At its May 28, 2019, regular meeting the Board of Education reviewed and approved the listed revisions as a first reading. Administration recommends that the Board of Education approve revised Policy and Rule 5260 for a second reading at its June 25, 2019, regular school board meeting.”

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

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the report titled KTEC Assistant Principal submitted by Ms. Susan Valeri, Chief of School Leadership; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“KTEC is a charter school with two campuses that serves students in Pre-K through grade 8. With almost 800 students at KTEC West, the governance board of KTEC has approved the addition of an additional Assistant Principal for KTEC West. The administration and the governance board believe with the uniqueness of two buildings and the additional management demands placed on charter schools, that this position is necessary to maintain the integrity of their program.

The assistant principal position would be funded through KTEC’s Operational Funds at an estimated cost of \$120,153.10. Assistant principals are part of the AST contract/policy and would be an additional person that would be added to the AST group.

KTEC’s administration and board of directors are seeking approval of the newly added assistant principal position to KTEC West.”

Mr. Battle moved to approve the newly added assistant principal position to KTEC West. Mrs. Modder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Keckler presented the School Year 2020-21 Instructional Calendars submitted by himself and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The proposed 2020-2021 instructional calendars were developed based on the current organizational model, state requirements and a recent community wide survey which produced 3,387 responses from KUSD staff, students, parents, and the overall community.

The existing Wisconsin state requirements stipulate that elementary schools must meet a minimum of 63,000 minutes (1,050 hours) of instruction. Secondary schools have a requirement of 68,220 minutes (1,137 hours), <https://dpi.wi.gov/cal/days-hours>). The proposed calendars not only meet those requirements, but also include enough minutes for the equivalent of two full instructional days to cover any potential school cancellations.

It is important to understand that teachers' compensation is not dependent upon any days “built in” to the calendar. A teacher's contract for employment with the District does not specify workdays in a school year. In the event not all “built in” days (e.g. inclement weather days) are used, teachers are not forwarded any additional wages for those unused days. Similarly, if those days are used pay is not deducted from the teacher. Under the Fair Labor Standards Act (“FLSA”), teachers are classified as salaried exempt employees and therefore are not entitled to overtime pay under the law. More importantly, teachers are salaried employees and not hourly employees. Therefore, since teachers are salaried employees and not hourly employees the District would not charge/owe teachers hour-for-hour for any “built in” days.

Certain choice schools, charter schools, and alternative programs align to the majority of the proposed boundary school calendars, but those programs may have minor alterations that best suit their specific instructional format. The following schools and programs have the approval to deviate from the state mandate for instructional student contact minutes: Brompton, Dimensions of Learning, eSchool, Harborside, Hillcrest, KTEC, Reuther and the Phoenix Program.

At this time, the Department of Instruction and ACT have not finalized their contract regarding the 2021 Spring Grade 11 ACT assessment date. Similar to recent years, the High School Instructional Calendar will reflect that date once the state contract is completed and communicated. As an update, DPI recently notified school districts that the grade 11 WorkKeys assessments will be discontinued as a required pairing to the ACT plus Writing. This will reduce the Juniors only days from two to just one day of testing. By reclaiming this day as a full instructional day for all KUSD high schools, the recommendation is to move the high school start time from 7:28 am to 7:30 am starting with the 2019-20 school year. This recommendation is based on consistent feedback from high school listening sessions.

Administration recommends that the School Board review and accept the proposed 2020-21 Instructional Calendars and the proposed adjustment to the high school start time at its June 25, 2019, meeting.”

Mr. Duncan moved to approve the proposed 2020-2021 Instructional Calendars and the proposed adjustment to the high school start time. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Hamdan presented the Authorization of 2019-2020 Expenditures Prior to Formal Adoption of the Budget submitted by himself and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The budget adoption cycle for Wisconsin school districts is such that school boards do not adopt a final budget until October of each year, despite the fact that the fiscal year begins in July. The primary reason for this delay is that many of the factors needed to finalize the budget are not known until October. Equalized property values and official 3rd Friday student counts will not be known until the end of September. Certification of state aid from the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) will not occur until October.

It is customary for school boards to approve a resolution authorizing district administration to expend funds between July 1 and the time that the budget is formally adopted in October.

Administration recommends that the Board authorize the payment of all currently authorized salaries and benefits beginning July 1 and continuing until the budget is formally adopted. Administration also recommends that the Board authorize expenditures in other areas to continue at the discretion of the administration. Expenditures should not exceed 34 percent of the funding authorized in the prior year’s budget, unless specific board action has occurred to modify specific programs or activities.”

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the payment of all currently authorized salaries and benefits beginning July 1 until the budget is formally adopted and authorize the expenditures in other areas to continue at the discretion of the administration with expenditures not exceeding 34 percent of the funding authorized in the prior year’s budget, unless specific board action has occurred to modify specific programs or activities. Mr. Duncan seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented Policy and Rule 4111 – Anti-Harassment submitted by Mrs. Ruder and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Kenosha Unified currently has Board Policy 4111 - Employee Harassment in place to assist the district in maintaining professional working and learning environments.

Policy 4111 has been reviewed and updated to provide a more comprehensive outline of what constitutes harassment in the district and all parties that may be affected by such harassment. The goal was to build a more detailed policy for employees to understand expectations outlined by the district and to support the work of the Office of Human Resources. Details added include additional behaviors that fall under harassment, language precluding romantic or sexual relationships between staff and students, and unacceptable sexual relationships between staff.

In addition, the Rule was updated to more clearly outline the process by which an individual can make a harassment claim and the expectations of the district when doing so, such as what information to submit with a claim. The rule provides staff with a resource that outlines what they must do when they feel they have been a victim of harassment, while also providing a process for the Office of Human Resources to reference when such claims are made.

Policies of other districts were reviewed and legal counsel was consulted as this policy was reviewed and updated.

Administration recommends that the School Board approve updated Policy and Rule 4111 – Anti-Harassment as a first reading on June 25, 2019, and a second reading on July 23, 2019.”

Mr. Battle moved to approve updated Policy and Rule 4111 – Anti-Harassment as a first reading. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Modder presented the Donations to the District.

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the Donations to the District. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Kunich moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Duncan seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 P.M.

Stacy Schroeder Busby
School Board Secretary