

REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD  
HELD JANUARY 28, 2020

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 7:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the Educational Support Center. Mr. Garcia, Vice President, presided.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M. with the following Board members present: Ms. Adams, Mrs. Modder, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Battle, and Mr. Garcia. Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis was also present. Ms. Stevens and Mr. Wade were excused.

Mr. Garcia, Vice 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.

Ms. Adams introduced the student ambassador, Allie Fredrickson from Harborside Academy, and she made her comments.

Mrs. Tanya Ruder, Chief Communications Officer, presented the Wisconsin High School Theatre Festival Awards.

There were no Administrative/Supervisory Appointments.

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

Mrs. Modder gave the legislative report.

Views and/or comments were made by the public.

There were no remarks made by the Board President.

Board members considered the following Consent-Approve items:

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

Consent-Approve item X-B – Minutes of the 12/10/19, 12/16/19, and 12/17/19 Special Meeting and Executive Sessions, 12/10/19 Regular Meeting, and 12/16/19 Special Meeting.

Consent-Approve item X – C – Summary of Receipts, Wire Transfers and Check Registers submitted by Mrs. Lisa Salo, Accounting Manager; Mr. Tarik Hamdan, Chief Financial Officer; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

"It is recommended that the December 2019 cash receipt deposits totaling \$272,977.15, and cash receipt wire transfers-in totaling \$40,178,270.68, be approved.

Check numbers 586845 through 587795 (net of voided batches) totaling \$2,375,594.92, and general operating wire transfers-out totaling \$3,596,116.76, are recommended for approval as the payments made are within budgeted allocations for the respective programs and projects.

It is recommended that the December 2019 net payroll and benefit EFT batches totaling \$20,767,607.26, and net payroll check batches totaling \$17,628.87, be approved.”

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

Mr. Kristopher Keckler, Chief Information Officer, presented the Open Enrollment Allocations – 2020-2021 School Year submitted by Mrs. Lorien Thomas, Research Coordinator; Ms. Luanne Rohde, Director of Early Education Programs; Mrs. Bridget Kotarak, Director of Special Education and Student Support; Ms. Susan Valeri, Chief of School Leadership; Mr. Keckler; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) stipulates that each resident school district allocate open enrollment spaces during their January board meetings. The 2020-21 Open Enrollment period is from February 3 to April 30, 2020. Along with the posted 3-month open enrollment window, applicants may also apply to a non-resident district using the designated Alternative Open Enrollment Application during the current school year if the applicant can demonstrate that he/she meets certain criteria. Appendix A contains a listing by grade of available open enrollment regular education spaces for School Year 2020-21. DPI has communicated that the District’s affirmation must specifically delineate both regular education seats by specific grade level and special education seats by program and/or service type.

KUSD Policy 5260 requires that a current open enrolled student re-apply just once, which is during the transition from elementary to middle school, or if they first enrolled during middle school, then they must reapply during the transition from middle school to high school. Also, tuition waiver students (those who start the year in KUSD but move out of district) have a right to complete the current year and apply for open enrollment the following year. Even though these are current KUSD students, they are counted as new applications for our state reporting.

The Offices of Educational Accountability, School Leadership, Teaching and Learning, Special Education/Student Support and Early Education met on multiple occasions to determine available spaces for School Year 2020-21. After a review of the historical data and enrollment projections, this team, with the endorsement of the Superintendent of Schools, makes the recommendation contained in Appendix A (regular education) and Appendix B (special education) to the School Board.

Administrative Recommendation: Administration recommends that the Kenosha Unified School Board affirm and approve the space availability for open enrollment students for school year 2020-21. Recommendation is for a total of 191 spaces, 20 of which are designated for selected special education programs service/types as noted in Appendix A and Appendix B.”

Mr. Battle moved affirm and approve the total of 191 spaces, 20 of which are designated for selected special education programs service/types as noted in Appendix A and Appendix B for open enrollment students for school year 2020-21. Mr. Duncan seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Keckler presented the Four Year Graduation Rate – Cohort Analysis submitted by Mr. Keckler and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The “Four Year Graduation Rate – Cohort Analysis” report is a comprehensive examination of the graduation rates of the Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD) for the Graduation Class of 2018. This is the annual graduation report to the Kenosha Unified School Board as it examines each graduation class in terms of a “static” graduation rate, referred to as “Base Cohort”. All KUSD students who enter grade nine are tracked until the end of their class’s designated graduation cycle (four years later). No allowance is made for any students who enter that class as it progresses from the ninth grade until the twelfth grade and its eventual graduation. For example, first-time ninth graders who are in attendance on the Official Third Friday Count Day during School Year 2015-16 are tracked with respect to their educational progress until the end of summer school in August 2019. Therefore, the ninth graders of School Year 2015-16 become the Graduation Class of 2019 (School Year 2018-19). Additionally, this report also examines the graduation rates in terms of progress made during the two years beyond a designated graduation year, that is, the five-year rate of the Graduation Class of 2018 and six-year rate of the Graduation Class of 2017. This process aligns to both the Wisconsin state statute for allowing for a free education until a student reaches age 20 as well as the current state developed school report cards which incorporate both four-year and six-year graduation data.

The cohort graduation rate presented in this report is slightly different than the rate published by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). Beginning in 2009-10, DPI reported a 4-year cohort graduation rate which includes all students who have been assigned to a Wisconsin public school cohort and were last enrolled in KUSD during the four-year period whether or not the student began in KUSD in their ninth grade year. In addition, DPI does not count the completion credentials such as a HSED or a certificate of completion unless their Board of Education deems it as a regular high school diploma. DPI’s graduation rate has been a reported factor in two priority areas of the annual Accountability School and District Report Card: the four-year and six-year cohort graduation rate is used in the Closing Graduation Gaps calculation as well as in the graduation score of the On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness calculation. However, DPI’s WISEdash (online data reporting) portal reports four-year, five-year, six-year and seven-year graduation rates. This KUSD cohort report will continue to present data respective to the four-year, five-year and six-year graduation rates.

The number of students who began the cohort group in SY 2015-16 was 1,737, including 155 students who transferred out during the four-year period. When including “IOWA” graduates, 1,414 students graduated, resulting in a graduation rate of 89.5% for the Class of 2019. When excluding “IOWA” graduates 1,276 students graduated (80.8%), a slight decrease from that reported in the past four graduating classes. The Class of 2019 reported the greatest percentage of graduates using the High School Competency Diploma Option (11.8%), which is a slight increase from last year’s figures.

This report is an informational item.”

Mrs. Modder presented the Donations to the District.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 P.M.

Stacy Schroeder Busby  
School Board Secretary