

REGULAR MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD OCTOBER 27, 2020

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, October 27, 2020, at 7:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the Educational Support Center. Mr. Duncan, President, presided.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. with the following Board members present: Mr. Battle, Ms. Stevens, Mrs. Modder, Mr. Garcia, Ms. Adams, Mr. Wade, and Mr. Duncan. Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis was also present.

Mr. Duncan, 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. Stevens introduced the student ambassador, Quentin Smith from Indian Trail High School and Academy, and he made his comments.

Mrs. Tanya Ruder, Chief Communications Officer, presented the WIAA Award of Excellence – Tremper High School Athletes and Coaching Staff.

There were no Administrative and/or Supervisory Appointments.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis gave the Superintendent's Report which also included a COVID-19 presentation by Mr. Keckler which included the following topics: total cases by location, positive cases for in-persons student and staff, positive cases for virtual students, positive cases and trending with 7-day average, quarantined staff, quarantined students, and positive cases.

Mrs. Modder gave the legislative report.

Views and comments were made by the public.

Remarks by the President were made by Mr. Duncan.

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 9/15/20 Public Hearing on the Budget, 9/15/20 Annual Meeting of Electors, 9/15/202 Special Meeting, 9/22/20 Special Meeting and Executive Session, 9/22/20 Regular Meeting, and 9/29/20 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. Sue Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“It is recommended that the September 2020 cash receipt deposits totaling \$78,491.23, and cash receipt wire transfers-in totaling \$22,418,457.72, be approved.

Check numbers 595907 through 596492 (net of voided batches) totaling \$4,722,803.92, and general operating wire transfers-out totaling \$3,357,792.67, are recommended for approval as the payments made are within budgeted allocations for the respective programs and projects.

It is recommended that the September 2020 net payroll and benefit EFT batches totaling \$11,563,493.60, and net payroll check batches totaling \$7,053.13, be approved.”

Consent-Approve item X-D – Update on Student and Staffing Technology Acceptable Use Policies submitted by Mr. Travis Ciesielski, Technology Program Manager; Mrs. Angela Becker, Network Manager; Mrs. Annie Fredriksson, Coordinator of Instructional Technology; Mr. Kristopher Keckler, Chief Information Officer; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“As Kenosha Unified has expanded its technology inventory over the last several years, the instructional model has also expanded to allow for a variety of teaching methods and support. Looking at the mobile device stock district-wide, KUSD was very close to operating a 1:1 program. Allowing students to interact and gain comfort and value using technology for educational benefit has been a major tenet of the KUSD landscape. With the growth of the COVID pandemic from this past Spring and the realization that students would need to be able to access their curriculum and tools regardless of physical location, the KUSD School Board approved a dedicated 1:1 program in May, 2020. Starting with the 2020-21 school year, each student enrolled in KUSD will be assigned a dedicated mobile laptop, as well as supporting Internet access for those students who do not have dedicated Internet at home. To help support this program, the related policies have proposed revisions to communicate the expectations and objectives for KUSD staff and students. Unless otherwise noted, all KUSD owned devices are to be returned once the student is no longer enrolled or upon request.

Moving ahead, the primary objective is to develop the necessary technological and instructional support structure that will continue to build capacity and positive impact on student learning.

At its September 22, 2020, regular meeting the Board of Education reviewed and approved the listed revisions as a first reading. Administration recommends that the Board of Education review and approve the listed revisions as a second reading at the October 27, 2020, regular School Board meeting:

- Policy and Rule 4226 Staff Technology Acceptable Use Policy; and
- Policy and Rule 6633 Student Technology Acceptable Use Policy.”

Mr. Wade moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Adams seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the High School New Course Requests submitted by Mrs. Julie Housman, Chief Academic Officer; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Kenosha Unified School District, in collaboration with Carthage College and the University of Wisconsin—Parkside, has developed a Rising Educators Program to increase the diversity, talent, and commitment of the workforce. Through this program the following will be achieved:

- Offer dual enrollment teacher education courses to high school juniors and seniors.
- Create a Rising Educators Club for high school students.
- Collaborate with Carthage and Parkside to offer eleventh and twelfth grade students up to 16 college credits towards a degree in education.
- Provide students access to the respective college/university and on-campus privileges, such as use of the library.

If approved, the courses will be offered in the second semester of the 2020-21 school year. Juniors and seniors electing to participate in the courses will become part of Cohort 1. Juniors in Cohort 1 will have the ability to complete two additional education courses in the 2021-22 school year. Pending course enrollments and staffing allocations, it is the goal to offer two courses each semester from Carthage College and two courses each semester from the University of Wisconsin—Parkside.

Additional course requests for the Rising Educators Program will be forthcoming in October 2020 for implementation in the 2021-22 school year.

Carthage College, the University of Wisconsin—Parkside, and the Office of Teaching and Learning are proposing, for Board of Education approval, the addition of two new courses for implementation in the second semester of the 2020-21 school year. These new courses will support the Rising Educators Program. The attached appendices include the Course/Program Change Proposal forms and recommended course schedules for the course additions.

Administration recommends that the Board of Education approve the addition of the following two courses for the Rising Educators Program for second semester of the 2020-21 school year:

- Carthage College: Education and Society A; and
- University of Wisconsin—Parkside: Foundations in Education B.”

Mr. Battle moved to approve the High School New Course Requests for the Rising Educators Program for second semester of the 2020-21 school year. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Request to Provide WIAA Winter and Spring Sports submitted by Mr. Bryan Mogensen, Coordinator of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Recreation and the Senior Center; Mrs. Housman; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Kenosha Unified School District, Franklin School District, Oak Creek School District and Racine Unified School District make up the Southeastern Athletic conference. WIAA released winter sports guidance on October 9, 2020. Athletics will adhere to the WIAA sports specific guidance. Student athlete participation is strictly voluntary. Each student and parent/guardian will be required to sign the KUSD Extra Curricular Waiver and Release of Claims form (Appendix A). The WIAA winter seasonal start dates are:

- November 16, 2020 for girls basketball, gymnastics, and hockey;
- November 23, 2020 for boys basketball, wrestling, and boys swim and dive;
- April 19, 2021 for track and field, baseball, softball and boys golf;
- April 26, 2021 for girls soccer;
- May 3, 2021 for boys tennis; and
- To be determined date for girls lacrosse.”

Administration supports moving forward with the WIAA recommended plan for winter sports and the anticipated WIAA plan for spring 2021 sports following School Board approval of the plan.

Administration requests that the Board of Education approve WIAA’s recommendation of a seasonal start date of:

- November 16, 2020 for girls basketball, gymnastics, and hockey;
- November 23, 2020 for boys basketball, wrestling, and boys swim and dive;
- April 19, 2021 for track and field, baseball, softball and boys golf;
- April 26, 2021 for girls soccer;
- May 3, 2021 for boys tennis; and
- To be determined date for girls lacrosse.”

Mr. Battle moved to approve WIAA’s seasonal sports start dates contained in the report. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Head Start Federal Grant Funds Carryover Request submitted by Ms. Luanne Rohde, Director of Early Education; Mr. Martin Pitts, Regional Coordinator of Leadership and Learning; Ms. Susan Valeri, Chief of School Leadership; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Approval from the Board of Education is requested to carry over funds for the Head Start Federal Grant from the 2019-2020 budget year in the amount of \$191,041 to the budget year of 2020- 2021. The grant is designed to fund the operating costs of the Kenosha Unified School District Head Start Program. These funds were not used during last year’s budget due to the circumstances associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Administration recommends that the school board approve the request to carryover funds in the amount of \$191,040 from the Head Start Federal Grant for the 2020-2021 school year.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the request to carryover funds in the amount of \$191,040 from the Head Start Federal Grant for the 2020-2021 school year. Ms. Adams seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced the Official Third Friday Enrollment Report submitted by Mrs. Laura Sawyer, Data Analyst; Mrs. Erin Roethe, Data Analyst; Mrs. Lorien Thomas, Research Coordinator; Mr. Keckler; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Annually, Administration provides the Kenosha Unified School Board with the District’s Official Third Friday Enrollment Report. The data contained in this report are also reported to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) in its designated format. The School Board should note that this report contains only enrollment data and does not contain student membership data that are used to develop revenue projections and budgetary planning documents.

District-wide, enrollment decreased -1,336 students, from 20,919 students in 2019-20 to 19,583 students in 2020-21. This was the largest single year decrease KUSD has experienced, and about 3 times the decrease from the previous year. Beginning in 2009-10, Kenosha started to experience a decline in community birth rates, with the related effect of declines in elementary school enrollments five years later. This trend has now impacted grades prekindergarten through grade 5. Noticeable increases have been identified in multiple areas when compared to trends from prior school years. Alternative Open Enrollment Out applications were nearly triple this past summer, transfer requests from KUSD public to local private schools were also triple the historical pattern. And most perceptible of all, parents requesting to homeschool their children was at least five times the usual amount when compared to past summers.

The District reported decreases for all levels including elementary, middle and high school boundary groups. Boundary elementary schools decreased overall by -962 students, boundary middle schools decreased by -66 students, and boundary high schools decreased by -173 students. Overall, this is attributed to both the continual declining birth rate and the noticeable exits of student to homeschool and local private schools and Open Enrollment requests.

The 2020-21 Official Third Friday Enrollment Report is an informational item.”

Mr. Keckler gave an Official Student Enrollment Trend PowerPoint presentation which covered the following topics: overall enrollment trends, number of births and KUSD kindergarten enrollment (5 years), Wisconsin births, KUSD exits to area private schools, KUSD homeschool impact, KUSD open enrollment, student race/ethnicity, 8-year trend, 7-year trend, cohort average, change in enrollments and teacher FTE, and 5 year % change in enrollments and teacher FTE.

Mr. Keckler answered questions from Board members. No action was taken as this was an informational item.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Change in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Adopted Budget submitted by Mr. Hamdan and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The Board of Education adopted the 2019-2020 budget on October 22, 2019, as prescribed by Wisconsin State Statute 65.90. From time to time there is a need to modify or amend the adopted budget for a variety of reasons. State Statutes require that official modifications to the adopted budget be approved by two-thirds majority of the Board of Education and that there be a publication of a Class 1 notice within 10 days of approval. This document identifies budget modifications to the 2019-2020 budget delineated by fund and project.

The majority of these changes are the result of carryover notifications determined to be available for various grants after the budget was formally adopted. Other grant awards (e.g. Education Foundation, mini-grants) were also received after the adoption of the budget. These grant awards conform to existing board policy and have been previously shared with the Board of Education through the approval of the grant as well as grant summary reports submitted to the Audit/Budget/Finance Committee.

Since State Statutes authorize the budget to be adopted by function; administration also requests approval of additional budget modifications that did not add or subtract dollars to the overall budget, but may have changed the function or purpose of the funding.

These budget modifications include:

- Transferred budgets and expenditures from one salary account to another salary account resulting from a review of position control. Reclassifying the salary and benefit dollars from one account to another does not change the overall amount of the budget.
- Transferred operational line item budget dollars from one budget account to another as a result of ongoing review and monitoring of budgets. Reclassifying budget dollars from one account to another account does not change the overall amount of the budget.
- Transferred grant budgets to the appropriate function or object based on formal DPI grant modifications. Since the budget was formally adopted, some grant managers have requested that expenditure budget dollars be reassigned to the function or object where the dollars were expended. The grant budgets have been revised and the resulting modifications may have changed the function or object of the expenditures, but they did not change the total amount of the grant.

Attachment A is a copy of the Notice of Change in Adopted Budget in the proper State approved format that will need to be published in the Kenosha News after the Board has approved these budget modifications.

Administration requests that the School Board approve this report and that the attached Class 1 notice be published within 10 days of the official Board adoption.”

Ms. Adams moved to approve the Change in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Adopted Budget and that the attached Class 1 notice be published within 10 days of the official Board adoption. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the 2019-2020 Budget Carryovers to the 2020-2021 Budget submitted by Mrs. Salo, Mr. Hamdan and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Historically, Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD) has prohibited the automatic carryover of unutilized budget authority from one fiscal year to the next. At the August 9, 2000, meeting of the School Board, it was unanimously approved to discontinue the practice of automatic site carryovers. Carryover authority is now only approved on an exception basis.

Purchases that were authorized, but not fully executed, by the close of the respective fiscal year may lead to a request to carry budget dollars over to the next year to cover those expenses.

Also, several exceptional items are potentially carried over from year to year. The administration is requesting to carryover the following amounts identified in Attachment A to the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget:

Site Requested Carryover	\$ 751,972
Required Grant Carryover	\$ 461,736
School Discretionary Carryover	\$ 374,911
Donation and Mini-Grant Carryover	\$ 260,286
Athletic Fields Carryover	\$ 32,060
Theater (Co-Curricular) Carryover	<u>\$ 65,795</u>
Total Fund 10 Carryover	\$1,946,759

Administration requests that the School Board approve this report so that these carryover funds can be incorporated into the adopted 2020-2021 budget.”

Mr. Wade moved to approve the 2019-2020 Budget Carryovers to the 2020-2021 Budget. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Formal Adoption of the 2020-21 Budget submitted by Mr. Hamdan and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The public hearing on the 2020-21 budget and the annual meeting of district electors were held on September 15, 2020, in the auditorium of Indian Trail High School and Academy. At the annual meeting of district electors, our stakeholders voted to approve the tax levy at the maximum amount allowed by law. At the time of the annual meeting, it is important to note that key variables in the budgeting process were not finalized, therefore conservative estimates were included.

Since the public hearing and the annual meeting, the administration has updated the budget to reflect key components such as student membership, equalized property valuations, certified state aid, tax levies, and detailed staffing costs (salary and benefits).

This year, due to COVID-19, we experienced a larger than expected drop in our student enrollment as submitted in our official 3rd Friday counts which drive our revenue limit authority. While we had planned for a loss of approximately 300 student full-time equivalents (FTE), we actually experienced a loss of 1,187 FTE. This severe decline triggered additional temporary (non-recurring) revenue limit exemptions that are meant to buy us time and provide temporary budget relief as we prepare to make adjustments to our operations. This additional revenue limit authority of approximately \$3.1 MM as compared to the preliminary budget presented on the night of the annual meeting of electors, is not offset by additional state aid, therefore it will lead to an additional tax levy. In addition, the exemption that we claim to fund the private school vouchers which we have to pay through our budget increased by approximately \$875 K due to a higher number of students in our boundary areas enrolling in private schools and qualifying for vouchers.

In the official October 15th certification, our general state aid decreased by \$3,238,095 or 2.16% as compared to last year. Our total state aids, that impact tax levy, decreased by a total of \$4,025,465 or 2.64% due to an additional reduction in the state aid for personal property as shown in the following table.

The 2020-21 general fund (10) is being presented as a balanced budget in which expenditures are projected to equal revenues. The District is in a positive position where we can absorb the carryover spending authority request of approximately \$2 MM within this balanced budget leaving approximately \$500 K pending allocation by the Board of Education.

Unassigned general fund balance reserves are currently greater than 10% of budgeted expenditures; therefore, the portion of school board policy 3323 that requires a one million dollar budgeted surplus (if the fund balance is below the 10% threshold) will not be applicable for the 2020-21 budget.

The proposed tax levy for the general fund (10) is the maximum amount allowed within state law without going to referendum. The overall 9.63% increase in total tax levy equates to \$8,395,734 more local property tax dollars needed for the Kenosha Unified School District as compared to the previous year. The increase in tax levy is directly correlated to decreases in state aid and additional temporary revenue limit authority driven by the severe decline in enrollment and an increase in private school vouchers.

The total mill rate (tax per \$1,000 of equalized property valuation) is \$8.94, a 4.02% increase as compared to the prior year rate of \$8.59. This increase is the result of changes in both tax levy and equalized property values in our district. Our equalized property value increased by 5.39% from last year, which means the increased tax levy is spread over a larger tax base, which results in a mitigated change in the mill rate. This tax levy scenario

and a historical view of the District's equalized property values, tax levies, and mill rates are delineated in Attachment A.

It is requested that the Board of Education accept the following recommendations:

1. Formally adopt the District's 2020-2021 budget using the accompanying budget adoption motion (Attachment B).
2. Direct the administration to prepare a class one legal notice to be published publicly within ten days of the adoption (Attachment C).
3. Approve the property tax levy to be collected from the municipalities within the school district in the amount of \$80,475,961 for the general fund, \$13,598,392 for the debt service fund, and \$1,500,000 for the community service fund, that the Board must approve levy amounts on or before November 1st each year, per Wis. Stats. 120.12 (3)(a).
4. Direct the district clerk to certify and deliver the Board approved tax levy to the clerk of each municipality on or before November 10, 2020.
5. Approve the qualifying items to be included in the ESSER Grant plan (Attachment D)."

Mr. Wade moved to formally adopt the District's 2020-2021 budget using the accompanying budget adoption motion contained in Exhibit B, that administration prepare a class one legal notice to be published publicly within ten days of the adoption (Attachment C), approve the property tax levy to be collected from the municipalities within the school district in the amount of \$80,475,961 for the general fund, \$13,598,392 for the debt service fund, and \$1,500,000 for the community service fund, that the clerk certify and deliver the Board approved tax levy to the clerk of each municipality on or before November 10, 2020, and approve the qualifying items to be included in the ESSER Grant plan (Attachment D). Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Garcia presented Resolution 370 – American Education Week which read as follows:

"WHEREAS, American Education Week, which has been celebrated since 1921, is designated to celebrate and honor the individuals who are dedicated to ensuring every child receives a quality education; and

WHEREAS, collaborative sponsors include the U.S. Department of Education and national organizations, including the American Association of School Administrators, the American Federation of Teachers, the American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, the American School Counselor Association, the Council of Chief State School Officers, the National Association of State Boards of Education, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the National Education Association, National PTA, the National School Boards Association, the National School Public Relations Association; and

WHEREAS, public schools are the backbone of our democracy, providing young people the tools they need to maintain our nation's precious values of freedom, civility and equality; and

WHEREAS, by equipping Kenosha's youth with both practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, we give them hope for, and access to, a productive future; and

WHEREAS, all Kenosha Unified staff strive to provide the highest level of professionalism when serving the students and families of our community; and

WHEREAS, our schools encourage the bringing together of children, families, educators, volunteers, business leaders and elected officials in a common enterprise that offers exceptional opportunities in academics, athletics, fine arts and extracurricular activities to provide students with the skills needed to grow and succeed in a global society.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that Kenosha Unified School District does hereby proclaim November 16-20, 2020, as the annual observance of American Education Week.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a true copy of this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Education."

Mr. Garcia moved to approve Resolution 370 – American Education Week. Ms. Modder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Adams presented the Donations to the District.

Ms. Adams moved to approve acceptance of the above listed gifts(s), grant(s) or bequest(s) as per Board Policy 1400, to authorize the establishment of appropriate accounts to monitor fiscal activity, to amend the budget to reflect this action and to publish the budget change per Wisconsin Statute 65.90 (5)(a). Ms. Modder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 P.M.

Stacy Schroeder
School Board Secretary