

A SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

A special meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, September 29, 2020, at 5:30 P.M. in the Board Meeting Room at the Educational Support Center. The purpose of this meeting was for Discussion/Action – Consideration and Potential Action on Administrative Recommendation to Permit Limited Spectators and Cheer/Dance Attendance at Outdoor Athletic Events; Discussion/Action – Review Board Self-Evaluation Results, Set Goals Based on Results, and Agree Upon Process and Products for the Launch of Committees; and Views and Comments by the Public.

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 P.M. with the following members present: Mr. Battle, Ms. Stevens, Mrs. Modder, Mr. Garcia, Ms. Adams, and Mr. Duncan. Dr. Peter Jonas and Dr. Nancy Blair from Cardinal Stritch University and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis were also present. Mr. Wade was excused.

Mr. Duncan, President, opened the meeting by announcing that this was a special meeting of the School Board of the Kenosha Unified School District No. 1. Notice of this special meeting was given to the public by forwarding a copy of the notice to all requesting radio stations and newspapers.

Ms. Julie Housaman, Chief Academic Officer and Mr. Bryan Mogensen, Coordinator of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Recreation and the Senior Center presented a report titled Consideration and Potential Action on Administrative Recommendation to Permit Limited Spectators and Cheer/Dance Attendance at Outdoor Athletic Events and excerpts follow:

“At the September 3, 2020 Board meeting, the Board approved administration’s request to move forward with high and low risk students within the Southeast Conference (SEC). Kenosha Unified School District, Franklin School District, Oak Creek School District and Racine Unified School District make up the Southeast Athletic conference.

Following approval of the Return to WIAA sports report, Franklin and Oak Creek began conversations within their communities to allow spectators to attend both indoor and outdoor events.

Administrations original recommendation to not permit spectators to be in attendance at WIAA athletic events was to reduce risk of exposure to COVID-19 associated with large crowds for athletes, coaches, referees, game workers and spectators. Historically, 2500 to 3000 spectators attend Kenosha’s high school football games. If tickets are limited to a maximum of two attendees per player, there would be approximately 300 spectators in attendance at football games that may be dispersed to both sides of the field. Below captures the status of spectator attendance at each of the four districts in the SEC:

Franklin – no spectators on September 3, 2020. As of September 21, 2020, each athlete will receive four spectator tickets for indoor and outdoor events. No spectators are permitted for visiting teams.

Oak Creek - no spectators on September 3, 2020. As of September 21, 2020, each athlete will receive two spectator tickets for indoor and outdoor events. No spectators are permitted for visiting teams.

Racine - no spectators on September 3, 2020. As of September 21, 2020, no spectators; however, discussions may occur in the future.

Kenosha - no spectators on September 3, 2020. As of September 21, 2020, proposing up to two spectators for each athlete for outdoor events. No spectators are permitted for visiting teams (this includes hometown rivalry events).

The health and safety of our student athletes continues to be a priority in all decisions and outdoor events have a decrease risk for spread of COVID-19. For this reason, the recommendation is to allow up to two spectators per athlete for outdoor athletic events.

Athletes will have until noon the day of the event to add the names of up to two spectators to a Google Sheet. This list will be used at the gate and a photo ID will be required for identified spectators to enter the stadium. In addition, live streaming will be provided for all athletic events.

Currently the cheer and dance teams have the opportunity to practice and participate in state level competitions; however, they are not able to cheer or perform at half time for athletic events. With the potential change in status to allow spectators at athletic events, the cheer and dance teams would have an audience for their performances. Team members would follow all safety guidelines including appropriate physical distancing and use of face coverings throughout the athletic events. Cheer and dance team members will be allowed to have up to two spectators per cheerleader for outdoor athletic events. This would increase the maximum number of spectators at a football game from 300 to 380.

Cheer and dance team members will have until noon the day of an event to add the names of up to two spectators to a Google Sheet. This list will be used at the gate and a photo ID will be required for identified spectators to enter the stadium.

Administration recommends for Board of Education consideration and potential action to permit limited spectators and cheer/dance attendance at athletic events.”

Mr. Mogensen noted that since the report was finalized, Franklin now allows four spectators per athlete and Oak Creek allows two spectators per athlete.

Ms. Adams moved that the Board of Education approve permitting two spectators per student athlete/cheer/dance performer to attend respective outdoor athletic events with the stipulation that the spectator names must be on a Google sheet and a photo ID is required to enter the stadium. No spectators are allowed for visiting teams with the exception of Kenosha hometown teams. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Duncan noted that the Board self-evaluation which is required annually per board policy has not occurred in several years. He said all board members participated in the self-

assessment and Dr. Jonas and Dr. Blair are here to assist the Board in determining clear goals and objectives.

Dr. Jonas and Dr. Blair introduced themselves and reviewed the agenda which included review of Board self-evaluation results, setting goals based on results and agreeing upon a process and products for launch of committees. Dr. Blair noted that the agenda template could be utilized for committee agendas as well.

Dr. Jonas and Dr. Blair presented a PowerPoint presentation which covered the following topics: How we will get there? Operating principles; Overview of evaluation results; Vision; Accountability; Policy; Advocacy; Smart goals; and Board goals.

Board members interacted with Dr. Jonas and Dr. Blair during the presentation and offered their input in the areas of vision, accountability, policy, advocacy, and board relationships.

Dr. Blair then verbally shared draft Smart Goals based on board input in the areas of vision, accountability, policy, advocacy, and board relationships which she indicated would be forwarded to the board following this meeting for further review and refinement.

Dr. Jonas and Dr. Blair then presented the remainder of the PowerPoint presentation which covered the following topics: Why have committees? Your board policy establishes; Your policy does not establish; Committee of the whole vs. standing committees; Committees are effective when they; Keep in mind; Role of committee leaders; Role of committee members; and Best practices summary.

Dr. Jonas reviewed various templates for agendas and minutes and Board members and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis discussed the standing committee format/process.

Dr. Blair then modeled the evaluation of operating principles which would occur at the end of each committee meeting.

Views and comments by the Public then followed.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 P.M.

Kathleen DeLabio
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent