

REGULAR MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD JUNE 22, 2021

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, June 22, 2021, at 7:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the Educational Support Center. Ms. Adams, President, presided.

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

Ms. Adams, 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 was not a student ambassador present.

It was noted that the Wisconsin PTA Reflections Creative Arts Competition Awards would be presented at next month's meeting.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the following Administrative Appointments: Mr. William Haithcock as Interim Chief of School Leadership and Mr. Taylor Schmit as Principal at Forest Park Elementary School.

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

Mrs. Modder gave the legislative report.

Views and comments were made by the public.

Remarks by the President were made by Ms. Adams.

Ms. Adams reviewed the District Mission, Vision, Strategic Goals and Board of Education Goals provided in the agenda.

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 5/20/21 Special Meeting, the 5/25/21 Special Meeting and Executive Session, and 5/25/21 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 2021 cash receipt deposits totaling \$633,547.90, and cash receipt wire transfers-in totaling \$13,442,603.44, be approved.

Check numbers 602150 through 603193 (net of voided batches) totaling \$3,385,312.62, and general operating wire transfers-out totaling \$3,596,034.34, are recommended for approval as the payments made are within budgeted allocations for the respective programs and projects.

It is recommended that the May 2021 net payroll and benefit EFT batches totaling \$13,883,448.78, and net payroll check batches totaling \$36,349.02, be approved.”

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

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Head Start Supplemental Grant 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:

“The Head Start program provides comprehensive services in the areas of health, education, social services, and parent involvement for low-income preschool children and their families. This state grant provides funding for 59 high-risk children that will be three or four years of age on or before September 1, 2021. Funding for the Head Start State Supplemental Grant for the 2021-2022 school year is \$323,866. Funds will be utilized to serve the children and their families in all program component areas as required in the Head Start Act and the Head Start Performance Standards.

This grant serves the social/emotional, academic, and health needs of low-income three and four-year-old children and their families. Children who qualify must reside within the boundaries of Kenosha Unified School District. Head Start provides the foundation for implementing systemic and integrated comprehensive child development services and family engagement efforts that lead to school readiness for young children and families. This supports stronger attendance rates, academic performance, and higher graduation rates in later years.

Administration recommends that the school board approve the 2021-2022 Head Start State Supplemental Grant in the amount of \$323,866.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the 2021-2022 Head Start State Supplemental Grant in the amount of \$323,866. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Education for Employment Plan submitted by Mr. Edward Kupka, Coordinator of Student Support; Ms. Cheryl Kothe, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education; Ms. Jenny Schmidt, Director of Special Education and Student

Support; Mrs. Julie Housaman, Chief Academic Officer; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has revised the Education for Employment (E4E) administrative rule (or Chapter PI 26) (Appendix A). The purpose of Education for Employment programs is to prepare elementary and secondary pupils for employment, to promote cooperation between business and industry and public schools, and to establish a role for public schools in the economic development of Wisconsin.

The district ACP leadership team had provided guidance on the implementation and input on marketing and communication information to schools, students, and families. In 2020 the leadership shifted to school teams. School teams were led by a school administrator and assembled at each middle and high school with the expectation to meet four times annually and to document meeting minutes.

This review is an information update to the school board about Kenosha Unified School District’s Education for Employment Plan as required by Wisconsin Administrative Code PI 26.03.

Kenosha’s plan provides students, parents, and community members with an understanding of learning outcomes and the implementation of E4E programs and services in the district. The objectives listed in the related legislation (WI PI 26.03) include:

- Preparing all students for future employment;
- Ensuring technical literacy to promote lifelong learning;
- Promoting good citizenship;
- Promoting cooperation among business, industry, labor, post-secondary schools, and public schools; and
- Establishing a role for public schools in the economic development of Wisconsin.

A student’s pathway to a career includes all relevant learning experiences that help to inform his/her investment in postsecondary education or training; and it positions the student for success in a career of interest.

As Kenosha Unified School District continues to update its Education for Employment plan each year, the economic growth in Kenosha County (regionally and in the state) is studied.

Some of the major developments in Kenosha are industrial, healthcare, housing, and retail. It is important that economic development continues to be shared with staff and students so that students are being educated about labor market needs and educational and training requirements for occupations that will fill those needs.

This is an informational report.”

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented Policy 6300 – Curriculum Development and Improvement and Policy 6610 – Selection of Instructional Materials submitted by Mr. Scott Plank, Coordinator of Fine Arts; Mr. Bryan Mogensen, Coordinator of Athletics/Physical Education; Mrs. Susan Mirsky, Coordinator of English Language Arts; Mrs. Jennifer Lawler,

Coordinator of Mathematics; Ms. Kothe; Mr. Che Kearby, Coordinator of Educator Effectiveness and Social Studies; Mrs. Housaman; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“School board Policy 6300 (Appendix A) has been updated to include a proposed curriculum development framework that includes the essential steps involved in selecting, preparing for, and using new instructional materials. While the existing curriculum development cycle has been effective, the new framework decreases the selection time from a three-year to a two-year process so that the instructional materials are selected prior to writing the curriculum and assessments. This time frame ensures greater coherence between the curriculum documents and the resources. The new framework is composed of three phases: 1) selecting high quality instructional materials, 2) preparing to teach with the materials, and 3) learning how to use them effectively.

The Curriculum Development Framework supports effective teaching and learning in every classroom. Using this framework, teams of teachers and administrators will work collaboratively to examine student performance data, to design and implement instruction, and to monitor results. It includes the examination of current curricula and student achievement data to determine necessary improvements, when concepts and standards should be taught, and when and how they will be assessed. Analysis of student work and assessments provide the necessary data to drive ongoing curriculum review, revision, and renewal. The process helps ensure that the curricular expectations of the district and its schools are rigorous, relevant, and public. In addition, it guarantees that the curriculum is aligned with appropriate state and national standards and is preparing and inspiring students to realize their potential. This three-phase process is guided by four essential questions:

1. What do students need to know and be able to do?
2. How will we know that students have learned?
3. What will we do when they haven't learned?
4. What will we do when they already know it?

School Board Policy 6610 (Appendix B) includes the proposed seven-year curriculum review cycle and indicates where each curriculum area falls within the cycle. While an established cycle is practical, it must also take into consideration responsiveness to the continuously changing global community and academic expectations and standards. As such, the department of teaching and learning includes the adoption cycle for the past school year, the current school year and the upcoming school year. In addition, the immediate needs of students and teachers alike must be addressed as the curriculum is implemented. This process will assure that curriculum is revised or developed in a cycle that will facilitate effective and fiscally responsible use of district resources. Budget allocations for materials, textbooks, and professional learning can be focused on the successful implementation of the revisions to existing resources or the adoption of new program resources.

The curriculum review process is a dynamic endeavor that responds to the needs of specific school communities. The development of this thorough process is a credit to the commitment of district personnel. As each area is approached for review, the Office of Teaching and Learning and the curriculum design, implementation and writing teams comprised of district staff, keep the specific needs and interests of the teachers and students in the forefront of their planning. Perhaps the most important elements of the curriculum review process are the knowledgeable and thoughtful ways in which teachers implement curricula in each classroom to meet student needs, abilities, interests, and aspirations.

Administration recommends that the school board approve the following two recommendations:

1. The school board approves the replacement of the current five phase curriculum review cycle with a three phased curriculum implementation framework as a first reading on June 22, 2021, and a second reading on July 27, 2021.

2. The school board approve administrations recommended updates to the 2020-2023 Curriculum Review Cycle located in Policy 6610 as a first reading on June 22, 2021, and a second reading on July 27, 2021.”

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the replacement of the current five phase curriculum review cycle with a three phased curriculum implementation framework as a first reading and the updates to the 2020-2023 Curriculum Review Cycle located in Policy 6610 as a first reading. Mr. Price seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Teaching and Learning Budget Assumption submitted by Ms. Sarah Smith, Coordinator of Language Acquisition; Mrs. Housaman; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Kenosha Unified School District is composed of nearly 2,000 English learner (EL) students across the 40 plus buildings. Under Title III, states are required to demonstrate that EL students are proficient in achievement standards in math and language arts. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction has recognized Kenosha Unified School District in the past for paving the way for a solidified English language development (ELD) curriculum. As the third largest public school district in Wisconsin, it is important that systemic structures are closely monitored to ensure that policies and procedures are implemented with fidelity.

Leadership for English as a second language (ESL) is currently provided by the coordinator of Language Acquisition along with an ESL leadership team that meets biweekly for an hour after the school day. In order to meet the increased demands of program and policy updates, administration is adding 1.5 full-time equivalent ELD teacher consultants to assist with program implementation across the district. The funding source for these positions is the Title III budget.

The recommended ELD teacher consultants will guide the building teams by supporting the written, taught, and assessed ELD curriculum that ensures ELs achieve English language. Additionally, these positions will target consistent ELD progress and program monitoring at all Kenosha Unified School District schools, specifically working with focus schools for the 2021- 22 school year. These positions will be housed in a school, working as a .5 ESL teacher and traveling to assigned buildings throughout the district to provide .5 ELD support for assigned schools.

Administration recommends that the Kenosha Unified School Board approve the request to add 1.5 English Language Development Teacher Consultants to the Teaching and Learning Department using Title III funding.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the request to add 1.5 English Language Development Teacher Consultants to the Teaching and Learning Department using Title III funding. Mr. Price seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Review of Facilities Compensation Schedule for HVAC and Electricians submitted by Mr. Kevin Neir, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“In the February 9, 2021 Planning/Facilities meeting, Mr. Finnemore, Director of Facilities, expressed to the Board having difficulty recruiting for HVAC and Electrician candidates due to KUSD’s current salary schedule assigned to those positions. Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, Superintendent of Schools, informed those in attendance that the Office of Human Resources would conduct a market study and would bring forth a recommendation to the Board. This is due to these positions being classified as “hard-to-fill”. This expansion will increase the top end of the salary range for these positions and will also create a new position on Tier 17 (Master Electrician). Changes reflected will be continued on any subsequent documents absent a full market study for the entire department or District.

Administration recommends the Board approve (attachment A) which demonstrates the expansion and addition of the compensation schedule for only HVAC and Electrician (HVAC Mechanic, Electrician, HVAC Crew Leader, Master Electrician) positions on the current KUSD 2020- 2021 Facilities Hourly Wage Schedule.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve attachment A which demonstrates the expansion and addition of the compensation schedule for only HVAC and Electrician (HVAC Mechanic, Electrician, HVAC Crew Leader, Master Electrician) positions on the current KUSD 2020-2021 Facilities Hourly Wage Schedule. Mr. Wade seconded the motion. Unanimously approve.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Classification, Compensation and Personnel Policy for General Administrative, Instructional Administrative, Supervisory and Technical Personnel submitted by Mr. Neir and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The Classification, Compensation, and Personnel Policy for General Administrative, Instructional Administrative, Supervisory and Technical Personnel is a two-year policy that outlines benefits other than health, vision and dental for all of the aforementioned groups.

There are no suggested updates for the 2021-2023 Policy.

The 2021-2023 Classification, Compensation, and Personnel Policy for General Administrative, Instructional Administrative, Supervisory and Technical Personnel is being recommended for approval by the board on June 22, 2021.”

Mr. Wade moved to approve the 2021-2023 Classification, Compensation, and Personnel Policy for General Administrative, Instructional Administrative, Supervisory and Technical Personnel. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Board Approved Student User Fees and Recreation Department Fees for the 2021-2022 School Year presented by Mr. Hamdan and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“As a component of the budget development process, a review of fees charged by the District is conducted annually. The administration is not recommending any changes to the 2021-22 student user fees or the recreation department fees for the upcoming school year. Given the recent irregularity attributed to the pandemic, it is recommended that the District reevaluate all student user fees once we establish our new “normal.”

Administration requests that the Board of Education approve the attached schedules in order to establish the fiscal year 2021-2022 student user fees and recreation department fees. The Administration also recommends that the Board engage in further discussions on student user fees around the month of January should they choose to entertain changes for the following fiscal year 2022-2023.”

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the attached schedules in order to establish the fiscal year 2021-2022 student user fees and recreation department fees and that the Board engage in further discussions on student user fees around the month of January. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Authorization of 2021-2022 Expenditures Prior to Formal Adoption of the Budget submitted by Mr. Hamdan 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 one-third of the funding authorized in the prior year’s budget, unless Board action has

occurred to modify specific programs or activities. The one-third guide represents 4 of 12 months in the fiscal year between July and October.”

Ms. Stevens moved to authorize the payment of all currently authorized salaries and benefits beginning July 1 and continuing until the budget is formally adopted and authorize expenditures in other areas to continue at the discretion of the administration. Expenditures should not exceed one-third of the funding authorized in the prior year’s budget, unless Board action has occurred to modify specific programs or activities. The one-third guide represents 4 of 12 months in the fiscal year between July and October. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Patrick Finnemore, Director of Facilities, presented the Federal Stimulus Funding Plan submitted by Mr. Finnemore, Mr. Hamdan, and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“At the April 13, 2021 Audit, Budget, and Finance Committee meeting, the administration provided a comprehensive overview of the Federal Stimulus funding available to our district, including a visual timeline that has been internally created and updated to reflect the most current information available to us (Attachment A). These funds are one-time funds that are intended to be used for limited purposes within a limited period of time.

These funds are generally intended to cover additional costs due to the pandemic such as addressing learning loss, and updating our infrastructure so that we will be better equipped to serve students in a modern and safe environment. However, there are some unique rules and regulations associated with each individual grant. The WI DPI has posted an overview of the ESSER grants that contains a link to their allowable expenditures guidance (Attachment B).

Currently, we have identified four separate one-time funding sources:

- 1) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER I) Grant - \$4.66 MM;
- 2) Governor’s Education Emergency Relief (GEER) Fund - \$2.9 MM;
- 3) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER II) Grant – \$19.98MM; and
- 4) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) Grant – projected \$45 MM.

The district has an approved plan for the ESSER I grant and a planning calculator (Attachment C) has been created to help visualize spending buckets across all the grants.

While there have been Board discussions and pre-approval on select items to meet the immediate needs of the District such as expanded Summer School costs and wireless network upgrades, there is yet to be an official plan adopted for the GEER, ESSER II or ESSER III grants. The official recommendations for those plans will be forthcoming as we continue to develop the budget and obtain official guidance on the grants. Although we do not know exactly what the requirements will be, we do know that our largest grant (ESSER III) will have some form of public input/consultation requirements that we will need to meet along with the mandatory set aside of 20% to address learning loss.

In regards to facilities type projects, KUSD would focus the resources allocated to improving indoor air quality, ventilation, and comfort in classrooms. A variety of projects will be considered that support the goal for these funds and could include some or all of the following types of projects:

- Window replacement projects on older buildings with minimal operable window area;
- HVAC control system replacements to better manage indoor air quality and comfort;
- Ventilation system upgrades; and
- Addition of air conditioning in buildings currently not mechanically cooled.

Specific projects and the schools impacted would be determined by a detailed evaluation by the Facilities Department along with the engineering and contractor teams that would be hired for design and construction. A preliminary evaluation has already been completed, and over \$75 MM of potential projects were identified. That list of projects would serve as the starting point for the detailed evaluation. The administration would report back to the Board and the Planning, Facilities, and Equipment Committee with periodic updates on the status of these projects.

Due to the heightened competitive environment of the construction business and the necessary lead times and planning required for these types of projects, the administration is seeking Board direction and approval of Federal stimulus funding that would be directed to KUSD facilities projects.

Administration recommends that the Board approve \$15 MM of Federal stimulus funding for eligible facilities projects that would be included in the future ESSER II plan.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve \$15 MM of Federal stimulus funding for eligible facilities projects that would be included in the future ESSER II plan. Mr. Wade seconded the motion. Discussion followed.

Ms. Stevens requested that an update on the Federal Stimulus Funding Plan be given at the applicable standing committee meetings and board meeting in October. Administration noted the request.

Ms. Stevens’ motion to approve the \$15 MM of Federal stimulus funding for eligible facilities projects that would be included in the future ESSER II plan was unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the Vaping Lawsuit submitted by herself, excerpts follow:

“Legal counsel (the Franz Law Group and Attorney Lori Lubinsky of Axley Brynelson, LLP) had advised the Board of Education of the opportunity to join a mass action lawsuit against Juul Labs, Inc. and other distributors and marketers of vaping products.

In this litigation the participating school districts will be seeking not only past monetary damages but also the appropriate compensation to deal with the vaping epidemic in the future. The focus of these future damages will be about deterrence, support and education.

This litigation is being handled by the Franz Law Group via a contingency fee agreement whereby the participating school districts are not responsible for any fees or costs if the districts do not receive any monetary compensation in this matter. Any compensation to the Franz Law Group for fees and costs would come from the recovery the districts receive.

If the board chooses to join the mass action lawsuit against Juul Labs, Inc., the following motion is in order:

I move that Kenosha Unified School District join the mass action lawsuit against Juul Labs, Inc. and other distributors and marketers of vaping products and approve a contingency fee agreement with the Franz Law Group.”

Mrs. Modder moved that Kenosha Unified School District join the mass action lawsuit against Juul Labs, Inc. and other distributors and marketers of vaping products and approve a contingency fee agreement with the Franz Law Group. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Modder presented the Donations to the District.

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the donations to the district as presented. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Adams presented the Evaluation of the Board of Education’s Adherence to its Operating Principals and asked board members to rate the success in achieving the goals of the meeting. All ratings given by board members were 5s.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 P.M.

Stacy Stephens
School Board Secretary