

A SPECIAL MEETING OF  
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD  
HELD JUNE 15, 2021

A special meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. in the Board Meeting Room at the Educational Support Center. The purpose of this meeting was for Views and Comments by the Public and Discussion/Possible Action - Better Together 2021-22 Plan and Removal of Administrative Regulation 4229 – Employee Face Coverings and Scrubs.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 P.M. with the following members present: Mr. Price, Mr. Garcia, Mr. Battle, Ms. Stevens, Mrs. Modder, Mr. Wade (virtual) and Ms. Adams. Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis was also present.

Ms. Adams, 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.

Views and comments were made by the public.

The board recessed at 6:50 P.M. and reconvened at 6:59 P.M.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced the Better Together 2021-22 Plan and Removal of Administrative Regulation 4229 – Employee Face Coverings and Scrubs submitted by Mr. Kevin Neir, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer; Mr. Tarik Hamdan, Chief Financial Officer; Mr. Kris Keckler, Chief Information Officer; Mrs. Tanya Ruder, Chief Communications Officer; Mrs. Julie Housaman, Chief Academic Officer; Ms. Sue Valeri, Chief of School Leadership; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“In the early January 2021, KUSD engaged in conversations about what type of learning environments should be considered for the 2021-2022 school year. KUSD’s goal is to welcome all students back to an in person model; however, it is understood that some students may need a continuation of virtual learning. In March of 2021, KUSD pulled together two groups that had representation from across the district in types and level of staff. The objectives for the groups was to develop sustainable solutions that supported student and district outcomes focused on student learning. Another goal was to ensure the utilization of a continuous improvement feedback process to improve any student learning platforms that were a result of the design teams. Thus, seeking feedback from staff, school board members and community in order to ensure the student learning models encompassed a broad range of input.

Student learning platforms were a primary focus and with the utmost importance. The design teams reviewed lessons learned from the pandemic year, considered mitigation safety plans and were conscientious about financial resources. One group moved through three major phases. Exploration, where the design teams considered what questions needed to be answered. Second phase, the team embarked on scenario planning where the team laid a variety of possible outcomes and their related impacts. Finally, the team needed to prioritize, make hard choices and narrow the learning platforms. The best outcome that was

selected and presented to the board, staff and community for feedback was an early education, K-12 in person learning model along with a Kenosha Unified K-5 Virtual Learning opportunity and utilization of our current eSchool model for students in 6-12 grade.

Administrative Regulation 4229 – Employee Face Coverings and Scrubs was newly created and approved on September 22, 2020 in response to a recommendation at the September 3, 2020 Board meeting. The board approved administrative regulation to provide employees written guidelines in regards to face coverings, disciplinary measures and the wearing of scrubs in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Administrative Regulation 4229 states “The following Administrative Rule is effective September 22, 2020, and continuing until the District issues written notification that it has been rescinded or modified.”

Administration is bringing forth in the Better Together 2021-2022 Plan a recommendation for optional face coverings/masks for students and staff. Therefore, Administrative Regulation 4229 is no longer needed and may be removed based on board approval.

Administration is also recommending a start date of June 16 for face coverings/masks to be optional for students and staff. This date coincides with summer school and District/building summer operations over the summer. This earlier start date allows staff and students the option to wear a face covering moving forward.

If the Board would like to continue with scrubs, the Board Executive Assistant will note this in the minutes and this may return as an item to be added to the staff dress code policy at a later date.

Administration recommends that the Board of Education approve the Better Together 2021-2022 Plan with face coverings/masks as optional for all students and staff starting June 16, 2021 and the removal of Administrative Regulation 4229 - Employee Face Coverings and Scrubs.”

Ms. Valeri; Ms. Wendy Tindall, Regional Coordinator for Elementary School Leadership; and Ms. Kim Fischer, Regional Coordinator of Secondary Schools; gave a Better Together 2021-2022 Plan PowerPoint presentation which covered the following topics: goals, how did we arrive here, considerations, phases of decision, in person learning, virtual learning, virtual learning process, informational sessions, and application information.

It was noted that the most recent updated version of the Better Together 2021-2022 Plan was disbursed on June 15 at approximately 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Battle moved to approve the updated version (June 15, 2021 - 3 p.m.) of the Better Together 2021-2022 Plan with face coverings/masks as optional for all students and staff starting June 16, 2021 and the removal of Administrative Regulation 4229 - Employee Face Coverings and Scrubs. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

Stacy Stephens  
School Board Secretary