

REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD  
HELD OCTOBER 26, 2021

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held virtually on Tuesday, October 26, 2021, via the Google Meet platform at 7:00 P.M. Ms. Adams, President, presided.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 P.M. with the following Board members present: Mr. Price, Mr. Garcia, Mr. Battle, Ms. Stevens, Mrs. Modder, Ms. Robinson, and Ms. Adams. Dr. Ormseth was also present.

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 no student ambassador present.

There were no awards or recognitions.

There were no Administrative or Supervisory appointments.

Mrs. Julie Housaman, Chief Academic Officer, presented the Superintendent's Report.

Mrs. Modder gave the legislative report.

Views and comments were made by the public.

Mr. Garcia moved to extend the time for views and comments. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. Discussion followed.

Roll call: Ayes: Mr. Price, Mr. Garcia, and Ms. Robinson. Noes: Mr. Battle, Ms. Stevens, Mrs. Modder, and Ms. Adams. Motion failed.

Remarks by the President were made by Ms. Adams.

Ms. Adams gave an overview of the District's Mission, Vision, Strategic Goals and Board of Education Goals as provided in the agenda.

Board members considered the following Consent-Approve items:

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

Consent-Approve item XI-B – Minutes of the 9/28/21 Special Meeting and Executive Session and 9/28/21 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. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“It is recommended that the September 2021 cash receipt deposits totaling \$534,851.92, and cash receipt wire transfers-in totaling \$22,795,344.90, be approved.

Check numbers 605699 through 606683 (net of voided batches) totaling \$5,106,711.48, and general operating wire transfers-out totaling \$3,912,180.42, are recommended for approval as the payments made are within budgeted allocations for the respective programs and projects.

It is recommended that the September 2021 net payroll and benefit EFT batches totaling \$12,445,641.90, and net payroll check batches totaling \$9,608.95, be approved.”

Consent-Approve item XI-D – Revision of Policy 5471 – Corporal Punishment/Use of Physical Force submitted by Ms. Stacy Guckenberger, Coordinator of Special Education and Student Support, Ms. Jenny Schmidt, Director of Special Education and Student Support; Mrs. Housaman; and Dr. Ormseth, excerpt follow:

“The Wisconsin Statute 125- Seclusion and Physical Restraint was revised. The new pupil restraint and seclusion law went into immediate effect upon the signature of Governor Evers and is now in Wisconsin Statute Chapter 118 General School Operations at §118.305. Upon investigation, it was discovered that the current school board policy did not align with the new changes to the statute. The circumstances for the use of seclusion or physical restraint remain the same; they are prohibited unless a student’s behavior presents a clear, present, and imminent risk to the physical safety of the student or others, and it is the least restrictive intervention feasible. Unless expressly noted, requirements apply to all students, with or without disabilities and individualized education programs (IEPs).

According to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) nearly half of all Wisconsin schools (1,180 schools) reported at least one incident where either seclusion or physical restraint was used on a student during the 2019-20 school year. Statewide, schools reported a total of 8,733 instances of seclusion, and 9,795 instances where physical restraint was used. Students with disabilities comprised 82 percent of all seclusion incidents, and 77 percent of all physical restraint incidents.

The revisions to Policy 5471 Corporal Punishment/ Use of Physical Force (Appendix A) will include updates from the legislative action of statute Act 118.

Seclusion and physical restraint are atypical, extraordinary forms of behavioral intervention that may only be used in compliance with applicable law and Board of Education Policy. In accordance with the change in legislation, District Policy 5471- Corporal Punishment/Use of Physical Force is being revised to align to new state statute Act 118 standards (see Appendix A). Policy 5471 will now be referred to as Appropriate Use of Seclusion and Physical Restraint.

It is recommended that the Board approve revised Policy 5471 – Appropriate Use of Seclusion and Physical Restraint as a second reading at the October 26, 2021 regular school board meeting.”

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Ormseth introduced the Better Together 2021-22 Plan (monthly agenda item) submitted by Mr. William Haithcock, Interim Chief of School Leadership; and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“On June 15, 2021, the board approved the following motion during a special board meeting:

“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.”

No board action was taken at the July 27, 2021 regular board meeting.

The board approved updates to the 2021-22 Better Together Plan at the August 26, 2021 regular board meeting.

The board approved updates to the 2021-22 Better Together Plan at the September 28, 2021 regular board meeting.

There are no new recommendations at this time.”

Mr. Patrick Finnemore, Director of Facilities, presented the ESSER II Facility Projects Update submitted by Mr. John Setter, Project Architect; Mr. Finnemore; Mr. Hamdan; and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“At its June 22, 2021 meeting, the School Board approved spending \$15MM of the Federal stimulus ESSER II funding for eligible facilities projects. In regards to the type of projects, Administration stated that KUSD would focus the resources allocated to improving indoor air quality, ventilation, and comfort in classrooms. We also stated that a variety of projects would 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.

There are 16 different schools that will have significant projects being funded with the ESSER II funds plus potentially one or two more schools once we bid out the projects and identify the amount of funds still available. We will be bidding out those projects at the end of October and receiving bids in late November and early December. In addition to the 16 schools with large projects, we will be performing smaller projects in at least 4 other schools based on air quality test data. It is our plan to implement all of these projects in 2022 provided equipment and material lead times allow.”

Dr. Ormseth presented the Head Start Federal Grants Funds Carryover Request submitted by Ms. Luanne Rohde, Director of Early Education; Mr. Martin Pitts, Regional Coordinator of Leadership and Learning; Mr. William Haithcock, Interim Chief of School Leadership; and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“Approval from the Board of Education is requested to carry over funds for the Head Start Federal Grant from the 2020-2021 budget year in the amount of \$108,968 for the CARES funding to the budget year of 2021-2022. The grant is designed to fund the operating costs of the Kenosha Unified School District Head Start Program and the CARES money to support costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds were not used during last year’s budget due to lower enrollment and other circumstances associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The purpose of Head Start is to provide comprehensive services in the areas of health, education, social/emotional development, and parent involvement for low income preschool children and their families. This grant will service 330 high-risk children who will be three or four years of age on or before September 1, 2021. These carryover funds will be utilized to serve the children and their families in all program component areas as required in the Head Start Act and through the Head Start Performance Standards.

Administration recommends that the school board approve the request to carryover funds from the 2020-2021 fiscal year in the amount of \$108,968 for the Head Start CARES Funds to the funding for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.”

Mr. Battle moved to approve the request to carryover funds from the 2020-2021 fiscal year in the amount of \$108,968 for the Head Start CARES Funds to the funding for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Housaman presented the Report of Contract in Aggregate of \$50,000 submitted by Mr. Ed Kupka, Coordinator of Student Support; Mr. Robert Hofer, Purchasing Agent; Ms. Jenny Schmidt, Director of Special Education and Student Support; Mrs. Housaman; Mr. Hamdan; and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“School Board Policy 3420 requires that “all contracts and renewals of contracts in aggregate of \$50,000 in a fiscal year shall be approved by the School Board except in the event of an emergency as determined and reported to the School Board monthly by the Purchasing Agent.”

The following contract/agreement has not been added to the Contract Management Database and is being presented for board approval:

- Advocate Aurora Health in the amount of \$263,025 for the Student and Family Assistance Program which will consist of a team of professional counselors who will provide confidential counseling, intervention and referral services to students and families in need and promote healthy student behaviors and choices.

Administration recommends that the School Board approve the proposed contract with Aurora Advocate EAP for the Student and Family Assistance Program.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the contract with Aurora Advocate EAP for the Student and Family Assistance Program. Mr. Price seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Tanya Ruder, Chief Communications Officer, presented the Code of Classroom Conduct, Policy 5430 – Conduct and Discipline, Rule 5430 – Student Conduct and Discipline, and Policy 5430’s Administrative Regulation – Administrative Review Committee Rules submitted by Mr. Anthony Casper, eSchool Principal and Administrative Review Committee Chair; Mrs. Ruder; and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“The Code of Classroom Conduct, Policy 5430 – Conduct and Discipline, and Rule 5430 – Student Conduct and Discipline provide guidance to schools and families regarding conduct and behavior expectations in the classroom, as well as how they will be enforced to ensure our schools are safe and free from fear. Further, Policy 5430’s Administrative Regulation – Administrative Review Committee Rules provides guidance to schools and families regarding the procedures followed by the Administrative Review Committee in the event a student is referred to the Committee for conduct that may warrant expulsion proceedings or want to attend KUSD following expulsion from a district.

In the past, the annual district wall calendar housed the Code of Classroom Conduct, along with a few policies that were included for parents/guardians to review prior to the start of the school year. While developing this year’s calendar, it was found that neither the code nor the policy had been reviewed or updated in over 20 years. To ensure alignment with current best practices and district procedures, these items were reviewed and updated with the assistance of legal counsel and principals of all grade levels. Much of the updates include alignment with the Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies (PBIS) language now used by our schools, as well as the updated administrative review process used when policies are broken. The overall intent of the policy, rule, administrative regulation, and code remains the same.

During the review, it was determined that the Code of Classroom Conduct would best serve parents/guardians, students and staff if housed on kUSD.edu where it can be easily accessed along with all district policies at any time and from anywhere in the world with a computer and internet access. As such, a notice was placed in the 2021-22 district wall calendar notifying families that the Code of Classroom Conduct, annual notices and non-discrimination statement would be moved online.

Administration recommends that the Board approve the newly updated Code of Classroom Conduct, Policy and Rule 5430 – Student Conduct and Discipline, and Policy 5430’s Administrative Regulation – Administrative Review Committee Rules as a first reading on Oct. 26, 2021, and a second reading on Nov. 16, 2021.”

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the newly updated Code of Classroom Conduct, Policy and Rule 5430 – Student Conduct and Discipline, and Policy 5430’s Administrative Regulation – Administrative Review Committee Rules as a first reading. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Kristopher Keckler, Chief Information Officer, presented the Official Third Enrollment Report submitted by Mrs. Laura Sawyer, Data Analyst; Mrs. Erin Rothe, Data Analyst; Mrs. Lorien Thomas, Research Coordinator; Mr. Keckler; and Dr. Ormseth, 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 increased +37 students, from 19,583 students in 2020-21 to 19,620 in 2021-22. This was the first increase for KUSD in nearly a decade, mainly due to more Pre-K students enrolling. 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 currently impacts grades pre-kindergarten through grade 6.

The District reported increases overall for the boundary elementary schools (+144) while experiencing decreases for middle and high school boundary groups. Boundary middle schools decreased by -263 students and boundary high schools decreased by -40 students. Overall, the larger decline at the boundary middle schools was due to the rolling decline in the community birth rate, which now impacts grade 6 specifically.

The 2021-22 Official Third Friday Enrollment Report is an informational item.”

Mr. Keckler gave an Official Student Enrollment Trend PowerPoint presentation which covered the following topics: Number of Births (Kenosha, Pleasant Prairie, Somers and KUSD Kindergarten Enrollment – 5 Years Later), 8 Year Trend (Grades K-5), 8 Year Trend (Grades 6-8), 8 Year Trend (Grades 9-12), and KUSD Class Average Size Trends.

Mr. Keckler presented the 2021 Parent/Guardian Survey submitted Mrs. Sawyer, Mr. Haithcock, Mr. Keckler, and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“School Board Policy 1110 Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Survey, stipulates that KUSD implement a parent/guardian survey every two years. However, the current contract with the Studer Education provides a Parent/Guardian survey annually. Also, both of the recent surveys were administered during the COVID pandemic, with an average of 50% of the KUSD students utilizing a virtual option for the 2020-21 school year.

The 2021 Parent/Guardian Survey contained questions or statements in the following areas: school climate, cleanliness/safety, student achievement/grading/assessment communication/follow up, expectations, and shared decision-making.

Responses for each item were presented using a Likert-type scale where respondents were asked to rate their agreement using response categories that ranged from Strongly agree (5) to Strongly Disagree (1). A Neutral category was also available.

The 2021 Parent/Guardian Survey was administered in the Spring of 2021. A specific link to the anonymous survey was distributed to each parent/guardian account through their Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Parents/guardians were informed of the survey through various media notifications, both from the central office and the local school building.

KUSD Parents and Guardians provided 6,473 responses, which is more than double the responses from the 2019-20 survey (2,658). Parents had the ability to complete multiple submissions so they could reference different schools if they had multiple children enrolled.

The 2021 Parent/Guardian survey summary is provided as an informational item only, as mandated by School Board Policy 1110. The survey results for each building have already been shared and presented to district and school staff.”

Mr. Keckler presented the 2022-23 Instructional Calendars submitted by Mr. Keckler and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“The proposed 2022-2023 instructional calendar is based on the current organizational model, state requirements and previous survey data for the greater KUSD population of parents and staff.

The existing Wisconsin state requirements stipulate that elementary schools must meet a minimum of 63,000 minutes (1,050 hours) of instruction. Secondary schools have a requirement of 68,220 minutes (1,137 hours), <https://dpi.wi.gov/cal/days-hours>). The proposed calendars not only meet those requirements, but also include enough minutes for the equivalent of two full instructional days to cover any potential school cancellations, per Board policy.

At this time, KUSD is expecting to meet the instructional minute requirements as outlined, unlike calendar years 2019-20 and 2020-21, where a state and local waiver were applied solely due to the COVID Pandemic and its impact on the educational offerings. KUSD currently is not expected to utilize a waiver for the 2021-22 Instructional year.

It is important to understand that teachers' compensation is not dependent upon any days “built in” to the calendar. A teacher's contract for employment with the District does not specify workdays in a school year. In the event not all “built in” days (e.g. inclement weather

days) are used, teachers are not forwarded any additional wages for those unused days. Similarly, if those days are used pay is not deducted from the teacher. Under the Fair Labor Standards Act (“FLSA”), teachers are classified as salaried exempt employees and therefore are not entitled to overtime pay under the law. More importantly, teachers are salaried employees and **not** hourly employees. Therefore, since teachers are salaried employees and not hourly employees the District would not charge/ owe teachers hour-for-hour for any “built in” days.

Certain choice schools, charter schools, and alternative programs align to the majority of the proposed boundary school calendars, but those programs may have minor alterations that best suit their specific instructional format. The following schools and programs have the approval to deviate from the state mandate for instructional student contact minutes: Brompton, Dimensions of Learning, eSchool, Harborside, Hillcrest, KTEC, Reuther and the Phoenix Program.

At this time, the Department of Instruction and ACT have not finalized their contract regarding the 2023 Spring Grade 11 ACT assessment date. Similar to recent years, the High School Instructional Calendar will reflect that date once the state contract is completed and communicated.

Administration recommends that the School Board review and accept the proposed 2022-23 Instructional Calendars at its October 26, 2021, meeting.”

Ms. Robinson moved to approve the proposed 2022-23 Instructional Calendars. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Hamdan presented the Change in the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Adopted Budget submitted by Mr. Hamdan and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“The Board of Education adopted the 2020-2021 budget on October 27, 2020, 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.

The majority of these changes are the result of carryover notifications determined to be available for various grants/programs 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.

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.”

Mr. Battle moved to approve the Change in the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Adopted Budget and publish the Class 1 notice within 10 days of the official Board adoption. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Hamdan presented the 2020-2021 Budget Carryovers to the 2021-2022 Budget submitted by Mrs. Salo, Mr. Hamdan, and Dr. Ormseth, 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 2021-2022 fiscal year budget:

Site Requested Carryover	\$226,978
Required Grant Carryover	\$260,871
Donation and Mini-Grant Carryover	\$235,519
Athletic Fields Carryover	\$ 29,475
Theater (Co-Curricular) Carryover	<u>\$ 55,367</u>
Total Fund 10 Carryover	\$808,210

Administration requests that the School Board approve the recommended items in this report so that the approved carryover funds can be incorporated into the 2021-2022 budget with the understanding that future site requested items will only be considered on an emergency basis. Budget managers should make every effort to plan and spend their allocated funds within each respective fiscal year.”

Mr. Battle moved to approve the recommended items in this report so that the approved carryover funds can be incorporated into the 2021-2022 budget with the understanding that future site requested items will only be considered on an emergency basis. Budget managers should make every effort to plan and spend their allocated funds within each respective fiscal year. Mrs. Modder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Hamdan presented the Formal Adoption of the 2021-2022 Budget submitted by Mrs. Salo, Mr. Hamdan, and Dr. Ormseth, excerpt follow:

“The public hearing on the 2021-22 budget and the annual meeting of district electors were held on September 21, 2021, in the auditorium of Indian Trail High School and Academy. In an advisory vote at the annual meeting of district electors, stakeholders in attendance voted to set the total tax levy at \$86,000,000, rather than the proposed maximum allowed by law, which was initially projected to be a total of \$88,907,061. 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).

We continue to experience a decline in our total student full-time equivalents (FTE) which drives our revenue limit authority. While 3rd Friday enrollment counts came in better than originally expected, once converted into membership FTE, we still experienced a loss of 215 FTE for revenue limit authority purposes. Our continual declining enrollment status triggers 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.

The 2021-22 general fund (10) is being presented as an unbalanced budget in which expenditures are projected to exceed revenues by \$1,087,035. Unlike previous years, the budget is not in a positive position with unallocated funds that could be used to absorb the carryover spending authority requests submitted to the Board for consideration. Any approved carryover authority will increase the budgeted expenditures and increase the deficit or difference between expected revenues and expenditures.

Unassigned general fund balance reserves are currently greater than 10% of budgeted expenditures; therefore, the portion of school board policy 3323 requiring a one million dollar budgeted surplus (if the fund balance is below the 10% threshold) will not be applicable for the 2021-22 budget.

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

1. Formally adopt the District's 2021-2022 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 \$75,891,832 for the general fund, \$12,304,641 for the debt service fund, and \$1,500,000 for the community service fund. The Board must approve levy amounts on or before November 1st each year, per Wis. Stats. 120.12 (3)(a); and
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, 2021."

Mrs. Modder moved that:

1. The 2021-2022 budget for the Kenosha Unified School District, as presented, for all funds showing expenditure, other revenues, and tax levies in summary be adopted as set for the and in the accompanying format required by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction;
2. Administration to prepare a class one legal notice to be published publicly within ten days of the adoption (Attachment C);
3. The property tax levy to be collected from the municipalities within the school district in the amount of \$75,891,832 for the general fund, \$12,304,641 for the debt service fund, and \$1,500,000 for the community service fund. The Board must approve levy amounts on or before November 1st each year, per Wis. Stats. 120.12 (3)(a); and
4. The district clerk to certify and deliver the Board approved tax levy to the clerk of each municipality on or before November 10, 2021.

Mr. Battle seconded Mrs. Modder's motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Ormseth presented Policy 8710 – Regular School Board Meetings and Policy 8712 – School Board Meeting Agenda Preparation and Dissemination submitted by Ms. Adams and Dr. Ormseth, excerpt follow:

"Since the onset of the COVID Pandemic, KUSD has implemented the use of virtual meetings as noted in the Wisconsin Department of Justice's Office of Open Government advisory related to Wisconsin's open meetings law, Wis. Stat. §§ 19.81 to 19.98.

Policy 8710 - Regular School Board Meetings currently states, "Regular meetings shall be scheduled to take place on district property." The Department of Justice advisory, released on March 16, 2020, in response to the pandemic, states:

“The open meetings law “does not require that all meetings be held in publicly owned places but rather in places ‘reasonably accessible to members of the public.’” 69 Opinion Attorney General 143, 144 (1980) (quoting 47 Opinion Attorney General 126 (1978)). As such, Department of Justice’s longstanding advice is that a telephone conference call can be an acceptable method of convening a meeting of a governmental body. Id. at 146. More recently, Department of Justice guidance deemed video conference calls acceptable as well. Wisconsin Department of Justice, *Wisconsin Open Meetings Law Compliance Guide 11* (May 2019), <https://www.doj.state.wi.us/sites/default/files/office-opengovernment/Resources/OML-GUIDE.pdf>.

As such, Policy 8710 has been updated to read, “meetings shall be scheduled to take place on District property or virtually when deemed appropriate.”

In addition, Policy 8712 - School Board Meeting Agenda Preparation and Dissemination was reviewed in regards to what the “agenda shall normally provide” for the order of business. The currently required Review of District Mission, Vision, Strategic Goals and Board of Education Goals, as well as the Evaluation of Board of Education’s Adherence to its Operating Principles, have been removed due to their repetitive nature and will instead be reviewed by the Board periodically as needed. In addition, due to the increase in the number of views and comments, and the Board’s desire to allow all to be heard, the Views and Comments section has been moved to follow New Business. This allows the business of the Board to be conducted up front while ensuring all stakeholders have ample time to speak during the Views and Comments portion of the meeting, particularly with an extension of the comment period as outlined in Policy 8870 - Public Participation at School Board Meetings.

Revisions to Policy 8710 - Regular School Board Meetings and Policy 8712 - School Board Meeting Agenda Preparation and Dissemination are being shared for discussion and action.”

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the proposed revisions to Policy 8710 –Regular School Board Meetings as a first and second reading. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the proposed changes to Policy 8712 – School Board Meeting Agenda Preparation and Dissemination as a first and second reading with the exclusion of the recommended changes in regards to “Views and Comments”. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Robinson presented Resolution 385 – American Education Week November 14-20, 2021, 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, and 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, support and dedication 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 14-20, 2021, 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."

Ms. Stevens moved to approve Resolution 385 – American Education Week November 14-20, 2021. Mr. Price 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.

Mrs. Modder moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Price seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 P.M.

Stacy Stephens  
School Board Secretary