

A SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD JANUARY 6, 2021

A special meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, at 5:45 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, Student Pulse Check Survey, WIAA Winter and Spring Sports Update, and the Return 2020 Plan.

The meeting was called to order at 5:48 P.M. with the following members present: Mr. Battle, Ms. Stevens, Mrs. Modder (virtual), 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 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.

Ms. Stevens moved to extend the time allotted for views and comments to allow for the remainder of the citizens to speak. Mr. Wade seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Views and comments by the public continued.

Ms. Busby noted the name of the individual who submitted views and comments electronically.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced Mrs. Melissa Matarazzo (virtual) from StuderEducation and she presented a Student Pulse Check Survey PowerPoint which covered the following topics: what is a pulse check, who did we hear from, survey results - all students, survey results - in person/virtual, what can we celebrate, what can we focus on for improvement, next steps, and current practices in some schools.

Mrs. Matarazzo answered questions from board members.

No action was taken on this item as it was an informational item.

Mrs. Julie Housaman, Chief Academic Officer, presented the WIAA Winter and Spring Sports Update submitted by Mr. Bryan Mogensen, Coordinator of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Recreation and Senior Center; Mrs. Housaman; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“On October 27, 2020, the Kenosha Unified School District Board of Education voted to move forward with winter and spring sports for the 2020-21 school year. WIAA sport specific guidelines and policies have been released for both seasons, and updates are made on a continual basis to align with WIAA policy changes. Practices and tryouts for all winter sports began in accordance with WIAA seasonal start dates between November 16 and November 25, as approved by the Board.

On November, 17, 2020, the Board voted to suspend athletics from November 20, 2020 through January 3, 2021. All athletic teams resume practice on January 4, 2021. WIAA guidelines require 5 practice days prior to participation in competitions for all teams. As a result, the remaining competition schedule has been condensed and every effort was made to provide teams with valuable opportunities to compete prior to the start of the post-season competition. The WIAA post-season regional start dates are listed in the table below. If the restart of sports on January 4, 2021, is interrupted, it is highly probable that the winter sports season would be cancelled for the 2020-2021 season as teams would not be adequately prepared for competition. Appendix A outlines the current schedule for the winter athletic season.

WIAA Post-Season Start Date for Winter Sports:

<u>Winter Sport</u>	<u>WIAA Regional Start Date</u>
Boys Swim and Dive	January 29, 2021 – Diving
	January 20, 2021 - Swimming
Gymnastics	January 16, 2021
Wrestling	January 30, 2021
Boys Basketball	February 16, 2021
Girls Basketball	February 9, 2021
Hockey	February 2, 2021

WIAA Spring 2021 Start Dates:

<u>Sport</u>	<u>WIAA Spring Seasonal Start Date</u>
Track and Field, Baseball & Softball	April 19, 2021
Girls Soccer	April 26, 2021
Boys Tennis	May 3, 2021
Girls Lacrosse	April 22, 2021

WIAA Post-Season Start Dates for Spring Sports:

<u>Sport</u>	<u>WIAA Spring Seasonal Start Date</u>
Track and Field, Baseball & Softball	June 14, 2021 – Track and Field
	June 15, 2021 – Baseball
	June 14, 2021 - Softball
Girls Soccer	TBD
Boys Tennis	June 14, 2021
Girls Lacrosse	June 8, 2021

At this time WIAA does not intend to delay or make any other changes to the start dates for spring sports. In addition, administration does not anticipate that WIAA will delay the spring sports season to summer as occurred for the 2020 spring sports season.

This is an informational report.”

Mr. Mogensen and Mrs. Housaman answered questions from board members.

No action was taken on this item as it was an informational item.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced the Return 2020 Plan submitted by Mr. Kristopher Keckler, Chief Information Officer; Ms. Susan Valeri, Chief of School Leadership; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“As the nation is responding to the unprecedented challenges brought upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic, thousands of schools have been forced to create virtual learning experiences throughout our communities. Schools and systems across the nation found themselves having to reinvent learning in many new ways. The staff and students of KUSD have been doing just that in these most unprecedented times.

However, understanding the learning and social emotional challenges posed on students requires leadership from all entities including educators, medical professionals, parents, community members, boards of education and other vital stakeholders to come together for the betterment of student learning-academically socially, emotionally and physically. Communities across the country are living through very challenging times, with new information, changing information, at times conflicting information forthcoming almost on a daily basis and are being asked to do so much. It is noted that the amount of dedication and commitment from all staff that had to maneuver and adjust to these unique times is commendable. Staff have continually embraced the constant changes to focus on the needs of every learner.

Timeline:

July 28, 2020/Regular Board Meeting:

The Board moved to return to school in an all-virtual learning environment for students with a return date for in-person to be determined. Motion carried.

August 18, 2020/Special Board Meeting:

The Board moved to approve the original Return 2020 plan presented at the July 28, 2020, meeting which offers an in person or virtual learning option with a school start date of September 14, 2020, and also approve the WIAA’s recommendation of a seasonal start date of August 24, 2020, for girls swimming and diving, boys and girls cross country, girls golf and girls tennis and a September 7, 2020, start date for football, boys and girls volleyball and boys soccer. If a COVID surge outbreak shall occur, this issue should be revisited. Motion carried.

November 9, 2020 KCHD Recommendation:

On November 9, 2020, a media release from Kenosha County Health Officer, Dr. Jen Freiheit, strongly recommended that all schools within the county — K-12, colleges and universities — switch to virtual instruction only between November 23 and January 4 due to the continuing upward trend of COVID-19 cases in Kenosha County, with no slowdown projected in the next 12 weeks. It goes on to share, “It is not a binding order, but Freiheit urges schools, colleges and universities to give it serious consideration. This recommendation also includes sports and other extracurricular activities.” Since the start of school, we have addressed areas of high need while having little to no impact on other schools that have not been greatly impacted by COVID-positive cases. Even the few switches to all virtual learning we have implemented have greatly affected our families as they search for alternate care during these brief closures. Please know that the Return 2020 plan and current COVID impact within KUSD will now be a regular board meeting agenda item starting this month, and will remain throughout the duration of the pandemic so Board

members may discuss the topic as needed. This item is being presented for board discussion and possible action.”

November 17, 2020/Regular Board Meeting:

The Board moved to transition to 100% virtual instruction for all students except those whose IEPs require in person instruction from Monday, November 30 through Friday, January 8, with instructional staff only permitted but not required to work from home as long as such staff have reliable internet to serve students virtually, with all such staff designating their intention to their building principal prior to November 30, 2020. Motion carried.

KUSD Threshold:

On October 16, 2020, the district implemented the KCDH thresholds for determining when to move a school or the entire district to virtual learning. The following indicators were established to trigger a transition to all virtual learning (please note: all metrics are subject to change based on new guidance from public health officials):

- >3% positive cases in a school within the last 14 days (based on the cumulative total of in-person staff and student COVID-positive cases divided by the total in-person staff and student population);
- A significant community outbreak is occurring or has recently occurred (large community event or local employer) and is impacting multiple staff, students, and families served by the community such that the KCDH directs KUSD to close buildings.
- Staff absences, due to individuals personally testing positive or being required to self-quarantine as a close contact, reach a level that has the potential to compromise the safety or fidelity of the learning environment. These three thresholds remain.

January 6, 2021/Special Board Meeting:

All teachers return to their buildings to work on January 11, 2021. All PreK-5 students return to in person learning on January 11, 2021, if elected as their learning mode prior to November 30, 2020; virtual learning continues for those who elected virtual. All 6-8 students return to in person learning on January 11, 2021, if elected as their learning mode prior to November 30, 2020; virtual learning continues for those who elected virtual. All 9-12 students return to in person learning, if elected as their learning mode on January 25 which is the start of the 3Q; virtual learning continues for those who elected virtual.

The District understands the 2020-21 school year comes with many varying opinions for many solid reasons. Administration recommends that the Board of Education spend time considering the recommendation below for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. And, while doing so keeping in mind the components outlined in the Return 2020 plan in order to make the best decision for all

Administration recommends that the Board of Education extend the virtual learning environment for all 9-12 students (with the exception for students on alternative learning plans) through January 22 with a return to in person learning for those who elected in person learning at the start of Quarter 3, on January 25, 2021, due to impact on finals.”

Mr. Keckler gave a Learning Format Trend Data and COVID Update PowerPoint presentation which covered the following topics: 2020-2021 student learning format data, KUSD learning format trend data from September 14, November 2 and January 25, COVID

data, board directive (November 17, 2020), KUSD positive totals by role, KUSD positive daily notifications and 7-day average, large WI county COVID trends, and recommendation.

Mr. Keckler and Ms. Valeri answered questions from board members.

Mr. Wade moved to extend the virtual learning environment for all 9-12 students (with the exception for students on alternative learning plans) through January 22 with a return to in person learning for those who elected in person learning at the start of Quarter 3, on January 25, 2021, due to impact on finals. Mrs. Modder seconded the motion.

Roll call: Ayes: Ms. Stevens, Mrs. Modder, Ms. Adams, Mr. Wade, and Mr. Duncan.
Noes: Mr. Battle and Mr. Garcia. Motion carries.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 P.M.

Stacy Schroeder Busby
School Board Secretary