

REGULAR MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD APRIL 25, 2022

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Monday, April 25, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the Board Room of the Educational Support Center. Ms. Adams, President, presided.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. with the following Board members present: Mrs. Schmaling, Mr. Price (virtual), Mr. Meadows, Mr. Battle, Ms. Stevens, Mrs. Modder, 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.

Ms. Stevens introduced the student ambassador, Zachary Mills from Bradford High School, and he made his comments.

There were no awards or recognitions.

There were no Administrative or Supervisory appointments.

Mr. Kristopher Keckler, Chief Information Officer; Mr. William Haithcock, Interim Chief of School Leadership; Mrs. Heather Connolly, Principal at Frank Elementary School; and Mrs. April Nelson, Principal at Stocker Elementary School, gave the Superintendent's Report which consisted of a KUSD MAP growth and assessment integration update.

Mrs. Modder gave the legislative report.

Views and comments were made by the public.

Remarks by the President were made by Ms. Adams.

Board members considered the following Consent-Approve items:

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

Consent-Approve item X-B – Minutes of the 3/22/22 Special Meeting and Executive Session, 3/22/22 Regular Meeting, and 4/11/22 Special Meeting.

Consent-Approve item X-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 March 2022 cash receipt deposits totaling \$419,577.52, and cash receipt wire transfers-in totaling \$58,193,147.27, be approved.

Check numbers 610645 through 611691 (net of voided batches) totaling \$4,003,915.36, and general operating wire transfers-out totaling \$4,104,549.61, are recommended for approval as the payments made are within budgeted allocations for the respective programs and projects.

It is recommended that the March 2022 net payroll and benefit EFT batches totaling \$13,833,255.39, and net payroll check batches totaling \$7,348.48, be approved.”

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

Dr. Ormseth presented the Head Start State Supplemental Grant – 2022-2023 School Year submitted by Ms. Luanne Rohde, Director of Early Education; Mr. Martin Pitts, Regional Coordinator of School Leadership and Learning Elementary; Mr. Haithcock; and Dr. Ormseth, 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, 2022. Funding for the Head Start State Supplemental Grant for the 2022- 2023 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.

The Head Start Approach to School Readiness means that children are ready for school, families are ready to support their children’s learning, and schools are ready for children. Regulation 45 CFR Chapter XIII Part 1307 requires programs to establish school readiness goals that are appropriate for the ages and development of enrolled children. School readiness goals are defined as “the expectations of children’s status and progress across the domains of language and literacy development, cognition and general knowledge, approaches to learning, physical health and well-being and motor development, and social and emotional development that will improve readiness for kindergarten goals” (Part 1307.2).

Funding received through the 2022-2023 Head Start State Supplement Grant will remain the same as the previous year. At this time no revisions to program services are anticipated. The number of Head Start children served will remain at 59 children.

Administration recommends that the school board approve the 2022-2023 Head Start State Supplemental Grant in the amount of \$323,866.”

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the 2022-2023 Head Start State Supplemental Grant in the amount of \$323,866. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Christine O'Regan, Coordinator of Library Media and Instructional Technology, presented the Report of Contract in Aggregate of \$50,000 submitted by Mr. Robert Hofer, Purchasing Agent; Mrs. O'Regan; Mr. Hamdan; Mrs. Julie Housaman, Chief Academic Officer; 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:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Program/Product</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Discovery Education	Digital platform for multimedia content	\$50,000 for 2022-23 SY \$50,000 for 2023-24 SY \$50,000 for 2024-25 SY

The Purchase/Contract Rationale is provided in Appendix A. The Order Form from Discovery Education is provided in Appendix B. The Letter of Ownership from Discovery Education is provided in Appendix C."

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the contract with Discovery Education in the amount of \$50,000 for the 2022-23 school year, \$50,000 for the 2023-24 school year, and \$50,000 for the 2024-25 school year. Mrs. Modder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Trent Barnhart, Interim Principal at Harborside Academy, presented the Harborside Academy Charter Contract Renewal submitted by Mr. Barnhart, Mr. Haithcock, Mr. Hamdan, and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

"On March 27, 2007, the initial Harborside Academy charter contract was presented to the Kenosha Unified School Board of Education. At that time, the Board approved a five-year charter contract with Harborside Academy. In 2012, the Board approved a second five-year renewal charter contract and Harborside Academy expanded to serve students in grades 6 through 12 when it moved to the Reuther Central High School facility and merged with Paideia Academy. In 2017, the charter was again approved for five additional years with an agreement indicating the decision on future funding would not be made until the state budget was announced for the 2017-2019 school years. In 2018, the Board approved an amended version of the charter agreement to include the agreed and updated budget language suggested by the KUSD administration for the existing five year period of 2017-2022.

This current charter renewal does not have any major changes from the previously approved charter but has identified needed changes in the following areas:

1. Restructuring of charter contract layout to align better to DPI required and recommended charter Benchmarks to be more reader friendly.

2. Small grammatical corrections throughout the charter to clean up contract.

On February 15, 2022, The Harborside Governance Board Incorporated voted on and approved these recommended changes to the contract.

The Harborside Governance Board Incorporated requests that the Kenosha Unified School District Board of Education approve the renewal of this Harborside Academy charter agreement for a five year period from the 1st day of July, 2022, through the 30th day of June, 2027.”

Mr. Battle moved to approve the renewal of the Harborside Academy charter agreement for a five year period from the 1st day of July, 2022, through the 30th day of June, 2027. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Bryan Mogensen, Coordinator of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Recreation and Senior Center presented the Activities Code of Conduct submitted by Mr. Mogensen, Mrs. Housaman, and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“The process of updating the Activities Code of Conduct is ongoing and requires adaptations and revisions. Enforcing the Activities Code of Conduct fairly and consistently is the common goal of all the stakeholders in Kenosha Unified School District.

Revisions to the Activities Code of Conduct will provide consistent suspension guidelines for all sports and reflect current Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association policies and procedures (Appendix A).

Administration recommends that the school board approve the proposed revisions to the Activities Code of Conduct.”

Mr. Battle moved to approve the proposed revisions to the Activities Code of Conduct. Mr. Price seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Keckler presented the Proposed Changes to Policy 5120 – Student Enrollment Reporting and Policy 6456 – Graduation Requirements submitted by Mr. Haithcock, Mr. Keckler, and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“Kenosha Unified continues to develop and expand available options for high school students in regards to courses and programs that support both high school and postsecondary credit and/or certifications. Some of these programs are referred to as Dual Credit courses, the state sponsored Early College Credit Program, Start College Now or Youth Apprenticeship. Some of these programs may take place within a KUSD high school and aligned to the daily bell schedule. However, most of these options do not align with the typical KUSD high school bell schedule and/or may take place at another location.

The primary proposed change to KUSD Policy 5120 Student Enrollment Reporting and Policy 6456 Graduation Requirements is regarding the schedule for a full time student. Currently, a KUSD high school student is considered full time if the student is scheduled for a minimum of 6.0 credits during the regular school year. The proposal would be to modify this minimum requirement to 5.0 credits for just students in grades 11 and 12. This should help promote many of these additional opportunities for students while decreasing scheduling

conflicts. It should be noted that these are not credit caps, so students can certainly attempt more credits if they desire. Policy 6456 Graduation Requirements also has some minor updated proposed language that help clarify the current expectations. Counselors and instructional staff continue to monitor student progress for credits, and work to modify schedules and resources to support students as they progress towards credit attainment.

Policy 6456 was last updated 4 years ago, and since then there have been some assessment and GPA related changes. The proposal is to remove the “assessment and GPA” noted criteria as it is no longer readily aligned and inconsistent with prior years. KUSD has now fully transitioned to a Laude system of recognition and the ACT Aspire is ending this spring.

Administration recommends that the School Board approve the proposed changes to KUSD Policy 5120 and Policy 6456 as a first reading at its April 25, 2022, regular School Board meeting, and then move along to a second reading at its May 24, 2022, regular School Board meeting.”

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the proposed changes to KUSD Policy 5120 and Policy 6456 as a first reading. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Kevin Neir, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer, presented the Voluntary Sick Leave Bank Program submitted by Mr. Neir and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“The purpose of the Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD) Voluntary Sick Leave Bank Program (Bank) is to provide additional paid leave for employees who have exhausted their accrued sick and vacation leave benefits as the result of a catastrophic illness or injury.

The purpose of the Bank is not to provide unlimited paid sick leave for any medial reason but to alleviate the hardship caused when an employee loses compensation as the result of a catastrophic illness or injury.

Attachment A outlines the proposed Kenosha Unified School District’s Voluntary Sick Leave Bank Program.

Administration is recommending that the Board approve the implementation of a Voluntary Sick Leave Bank Program as outlined in attachment A.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the implementation of the Voluntary Sick Leave Bank Program as outlined in attachment A. Mrs. Modder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Ormseth presented the Expulsion Independent Hearing Officers submitted by Mr. Haithcock and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“Administration brings forth a recommendation concerning the appointment of additional Hearing Officers to assist the District with any expulsion hearings for the remainder of the 2021/22 school year. Hearing Officers are part time employees that are called upon when needed for expulsion hearings and are paid \$100 for the first hour and \$25 for every 15 additional minutes after the first hour not to exceed \$300 for each hearing.

Thus far, Christopher Hauser has handled all of the expulsion hearings from the 2021-2022 school year. Nancy Wheeler has served as our secondary hearing officer for many years; however, she is retiring at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Therefore, we are adding two new back up/secondary hearing officers for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year and thereafter.

Christopher Hauser will remain in his position as the KUSD hearing officer that handles most of our expulsion hearings and we will be adding Mrs. Titus and Mr. Rupnow in advance of Ms. Wheeler's retirement

Administration recommends that the Board of Education authorize the appointment of Gayle Titus and Michael Rupnow as additional Hearing Officers for the purpose of expulsion hearings for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year at the rate of \$100 for the first hour and \$25 for every 15 additional minutes after the first hour not to exceed \$300 per hearing. It is also recommended that the Board approve Resolution 390 – Resolution to Authorize Independent Hearing Officers to Determine Pupil Expulsions for the Remainder of the 2021-2022 School Year.”

Mr. Meadows presented Resolution 390 - Resolution to Authorize Independent Hearing Officers to Determine Pupil Expulsions for the Remainder of the 2021-2022 School Year which read as follows:

“WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 120.13(1)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes, a school board may adopt a resolution authorizing independent hearing officers appointed by the school board to determine pupil expulsions from school under Wis. Stat. §§ 120.13(1)(e)2. through 120.13(1)(e)4.; and

WHEREAS, such a resolution authorizing the use of an independent hearing officer to determine pupil expulsion is effective only during the school year in which it is adopted; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Kenosha Unified School District desires to authorize the use of independent hearing officer to determine pupil expulsions for the 2021-2022 school year;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT that, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 120.13(1)(e), the Board of Education authorizes independent hearing officers appointed by the Board of Education to determine pupil expulsion matters for the 2021-2022 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education shall, by motion, appoint one or more individuals who, in the judgment of the Board, are qualified to serve in the capacity of an independent hearing officer under Section 120.13(1)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes; and, thereafter, the Superintendent or any administrative designee of the Superintendent may select any individual who has been so appointed to hear and determine, subject to the Board of Education's review of any expulsion order, any pupil expulsion matter that arises in the school year in which this Resolution is effective.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the officers, employees, and agents of the Kenosha Unified School District are authorized and directed, to the extent consistent with applicable law

and Board of Education policy, to do any and all things reasonably necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kenosha Unified School District Board of Education previously approved Resolution 379 on August 24, 2021 appointing Christopher Hauser and Nancy Wheeler as Expulsion Independent Hearing Officers for the 2021-2022 school year as filed with the secretary to the Board of Education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kenosha Unified School District Board of Education approve Gayle Titus and Michael Rupnow as Expulsion Independent Hearing Officers for the 2021-2022 school year as filed with the secretary to the Board of Education. This Resolution was adopted by the Board of Education and is recorded in the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on the 25th day of April, 2022.”

Ms. Steven moved to approve the appointment of Gayle Titus and Michael Rupnow as additional Hearing Officers for the purpose of expulsion hearings for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year at the rate of \$100 for the first hour and \$25 for every 15 additional minutes after the first hour not to exceed \$300 per hearing and to approve Resolution 390 – Resolution to Authorize Independent Hearing Officers to Determine Pupil Expulsions for the Remainder of the 2021-2022 School Year. Mr. Price seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Schmaling presented Resolution 391 – Resolution in Recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month 2022 which read as follows:

“WHEREAS, organizations like Mental Health America, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, and many others observe May as Mental Health Month each year; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 public health emergency has taken an overwhelming toll on the mental and physical well-being of our students, staff and families; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, more than 20% of youth have a diagnosed mental health disorder in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, according to a recent United States Census Bureau survey, 37% of adults reported symptoms of anxiety or depression in the, triple the amount reported in 2019; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Department of Education, an estimated 60% of students with emotional, behavioral and mental health disorders do not graduate from high school; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the second leading cause of death among people ages 10–34 and the 10th leading cause of death overall in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to reduce the stigma of mental health illness now more than ever because it often prevents individuals from seeking much-needed supports and help; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kenosha Unified School Board views mental health well-being as equally as important as physical well-being for students, staff and families and encourages everyone to use Mental Health Awareness Month to seek necessary

supports, as well as calls upon our community to break down stigmas associated with mental illness.

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 391 – Resolution in Recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month 2022. Mrs. Modder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Stevens presented the Donations to the District.

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the donations to the district as presented. Mr. Meadows seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 P.M.

Stacy Stephens
School Board Secretary