

REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD  
HELD JUNE 28, 2022

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, 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 7:08 P.M. with the following Board members present: Mrs. Schmaling, Mr. Price, Mr. Meadows, Mr. Battle, Mrs. Modder, and Ms. Adams. Dr. Ormseth was also present. Ms. Stevens 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.

There were no awards or recognitions.

There was one Administrative Appointment. Dr. Ormseth presented Mr. Duane Sturino as Principal at Jefferson Elementary School.

Dr. Ormseth 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.

Board members considered the following Consent-Approve items:

Consent-Approve item X-A – Revised Recommendations Concerning Appointments, Leaves of Absence, Retirements, Resignations and Separations. Ms. Adams noted that a revised report was provided to board members.

Consent-Approve item X-B – Minutes of the 5/24/22 Special Meeting and Executive Session, 5/24/22 Regular Meeting, 5/25/22 Special Meeting and Executive Session, and 6/9/22 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 May 2022 cash receipt deposits totaling \$2,590,447.02, and cash receipt wire transfers-in totaling \$13,918,099.16, be approved.

Check numbers 612483 through 613246 (net of voided batches) totaling \$3,731,717.97, and general operating wire transfers-out totaling \$4,175,105.90, are recommended for approval as the payments made are within budgeted allocations for the respective programs and projects.

It is recommended that the May 2022 net payroll and benefit EFT batches totaling \$11,935,086.09, and net payroll check batches totaling \$6,174.43, be approved.”

Consent-Approve item X-D – Policy 5437 – Threats/Assaults and Administrative Regulation 5437 submitted by Mr. Anthony Casper, eSchool Principal and Administrative Review Chair; Ms. Kim Fischer, Regional Coordinator of Secondary School Leadership; Mr. William Haithcock, Chief of School Leadership; Mrs. Ruder; Chief Communications Officer; and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“To ensure KUSD practices and procedures align with Policy and Rule 5437 and Administrative Regulation 5437, both have been reviewed and updated.

The majority of edits include eliminating the administrative regulation and reducing repetitive statements in the current policy and rule in an effort to streamline the content for ease of reading and understanding. Additional language was added to allow the administration to assess the legitimacy of threats, as well as language to reflect threats of mass violence toward district staff, students, and/or buildings. Language was also added to ensure any other visitors to District property (e.g. contractors, volunteers, visitors, etc.) are covered by this policy.

Finally, statutory references were also updated. One addition is the reference to Wis. Stat. §947.019, which states any individual who threatens to cause the death of or bodily harm to others or to damage any person’s property (including District property) under any of the circumstances enumerated in the statute is guilty of a Class I felony. This statute is relevant to include in the policy/rule because it would encompass bomb or school shooting threats. Another addition is the reference to Wis. Stat. § 175.32, which mandates that the District immediately notify law enforcement for any serious and immediate threat to the health or safety of a student, District employee, or the public. This statute also encompasses any bomb or school shooting threats.

Administration recommends that the board approve the proposed revisions to Policy and Rule 5437 - Threats/Assaults, as well as the elimination of Administrative Regulation 5437 - Threats/Assaults, as a second reading on June 28, 2022.”

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the consent agenda which included a Revised Recommendations Concerning Appointments, Leaves of Absence, Retirements, Resignations and Separations. Mr. Battle seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Ormseth and Ms. Tatjana Bicanin, Executive Director at Building Our Future, presented the Building Our Future Partnership Affirmation submitted by Mr. Hamdan and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“The official start-up year for BOF was 2017. This partnership works to align all Kenosha County stakeholders towards a common vision of equitable outcomes, improved social and economic mobility opportunities, and a thriving community for all students.

On February 28, 2017, the Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD) Board of Education unanimously voted to approve the recommended proposal to establish a new program within the KUSD Community Services (Fund 80). The approved financial commitment was established as \$50,000 per year for five years beginning in the fiscal year 2017-18 and ending in the fiscal year 2021-22.

The administration recommends that the Board renew the five year partnership/funding with Building Our Future and approve the \$50,000 per year commitment beginning with the 2022-2023 school year.”

Mr. Price moved to renew the five year partnership/funding with Building Our Future and approve the \$50,000 per year commitment beginning with the 2022-2023 school year. Mrs. Modder seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mr. Battle abstained.

Mr. Hamdan presented the Board Approved Student User Fees and Recreation Department Fees for the 2022-2023 School Year submitted by himself and Dr. Ormseth, 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 changes to the 2022-23 student user fees or the recreation department fees for the upcoming school year, with the exception of allowing schools to charge a pro-rated \$15 parking fee for the 4th quarter if spaces are available. 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.”

Attachment A delineates the proposed 2022-2023 Student User Fees Schedule and Attachment B delineates the proposed 2022-2023 Recreation Department Fees Schedule.

District-wide Fee Procedures:

- All fees and payments for a student will be maintained in Infinite Campus by the school at which the student is primarily enrolled. Schools will have access to create fees based on circumstances ( e.g. field trips, yearbook, clubs, and activity accounts).
- Charter schools are required to collect all applicable district-required user fees according to the Board-approved fee schedule. Charter schools may retain the fees as part of the individual charter agreements.

- All schools looking to charge for workbooks or any other supplemental consumable materials, not covered by the base fees, must submit the fee to be reviewed and approved by the respective school leadership department prior to the allocation of any funds for the purchase of these materials, or the assessment of any such fees.

Administration recommends that the Board of Education approve the attached schedules in order to establish the fiscal year 2022-2023 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 2023-2024.”

Mr. Battle moved to approve the attached schedules in order to establish the fiscal year 2022-2023 student user fees and recreation department fees and 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 2023-2024. Mr. Meadows seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Ormseth presented the Changes to Building Permit Fees and Regulations and Board Policy 1330 – Facilities Use submitted by Mr. Patrick Finnemore, Director of Facilities; Mr. Hamdan; and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“It has been several years since building rental fees have been increased due in part to the temporary hold that was placed on permits during the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic. In light of the impacts of inflation and the costs related to operating our buildings, an increase in building use permit fees is warranted starting in the 2022-23 school year. The primary change being proposed is an across the board increase of 4% to all rental fees. As in years past, the 4% increases involve either a round up or a round down to the nearest whole dollar amount. The choice of a 4% increase was based in part on actual cost increase in areas directly related to rental uses.

In addition to the 4% rental fee increase, there are several other changes being proposed with this revision. All of the changes are reflected in red on the attached draft of the Permit Fees & Regulations for the 2022-23 school year (Attachment 1). These changes include:

- Increasing the permit handling fee from \$20 to \$25. This fee covers the labor costs that KUSD incurs related to the processing of each permit. The \$20 fee has been in place for over a decade and has never been increased.
- Removal of the \$20 disinfecting fee that was temporarily added for the 2021-22 school year as permits were re-introduced as we began to come out of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Increases to the hourly rates charged for staff that directly support building permits. Staff members can include custodians, kitchen supervision, stadium managers, and field prep and managers for the high school baseball and softball fields. These rates are not increased annually and so when they are increased they are done to attempt to cover wage increases for a 2 or 3 year period. They include overtime where that is appropriate as well as the costs for the benefits for these positions.

One change is needed to the Board Policies and Rules related to building permits. That change is in Rule 1330 as it specifically referred to the dollar amount of the \$20 permit processing fee. The proposed change would be to remove the dollar amount and only refer to it as the permit processing fee so that the Rule does not need to be revised on future increases. A mark-up for the changes related to Rule 1330 is provided as Attachment 2 to this report.

Administration recommends Board approval of the changes to the permit fees and regulations as described in this report. It is also recommended that the Board approve revised Board Rule 1330 as a first reading on June 28, 2022.”

Mr. Battle moved to approve the changes to the permit fees and regulations as described in the report and also approve revised Board Rule 1330 as a first reading. Mrs. Modder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Ormseth presented Policy and Rule 3643 – Emergency School Closings and/or Learning Adjustments submitted by Mrs. Ruder and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“Policy 3643 was developed to give the Superintendent and/or their designee guidance when determining whether or not to close schools due to inclement weather and/or emergencies/crises. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, the policy was updated to allow for virtual learning. Unfortunately, this was not always well-received and attendance on the virtual days was typically lower than expected, requiring work to be repeated when school resumed. In addition, funding to maintain a 1:1 district is currently not available, making this option even more difficult to implement.

The policy has been adjusted to allow for the first two days to be true closures where no students or staff, other than specified facilities staff, report. It also outlines makeup requirements for staff. It also maintains language about closures due to circumstances, such as another pandemic.

Administration recommends that the board approve revised Policy and Rule 3643 – Emergency School Closings and/or Learning Adjustments as a first reading on June 28, 2022, and a second reading on July 26, 2022.”

Mr. Price moved to approve revised Policy and Rule 3643 – Emergency School Closings and/or Learning Adjustments as a first reading. Mr. Meadows seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Julie Housaman, Chief Academic Officer, and Mr. Aaron Williams, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, presented the Education for Employment Plan submitted by Mr. Edward Kupka, Coordinator of Student Support; Mr. Williams; Mrs. Jenny Schmidt, Director of Special Education and Student Support; Mrs. Housaman; and Dr. Ormseth, 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 the 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.

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 the 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. Long term planning with the Education for Employment plan, Career and Technical Education Department, and Academic and Career Planning will work to align goals and indicators to the Kenosha Unified School District's achievement plan.

Kenosha Unified School District's E4E plan aligns with the required components in WI PI 26.03 (Appendix B).

This is an informational report."

Mr. Kristopher Keckler, Chief Information Officer, presented the 2022 Parent/Guardian Survey submitted by Ms. Laura Sawyer, Research Analyst; 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.

The 2022 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 2022 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, and some of the school results will be incorporated into the new school achievement plan process.”

The 2022 Parent/Guardian Survey was administered in the Spring of 2022. 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, from both the central office and the local school building.

KUSD Parents and Guardians provided 5,189 responses, which is 20% less than the responses from the 2020-21 survey (6,473). Parents had the ability to complete multiple submissions so they could reference different schools if they had multiple children enrolled. Because of the small number of responses for several buildings, the quantitative analysis was completed for KUSD as a whole.

Two (2) buildings had less than ten (10) parent responses. On the KUSD report, 5 out of 17 benchmark items earned higher than a 4.00 mean score, which is in the agreeable range. This is a decrease from last year, which was 11 out of 17.

The overall mean for the survey was 3.88, which is a slight decrease from the 4.01 score achieved in 2021. The individual survey questions resulted in 1 out of 3 responses being reported as “Strongly Agree.”

It is evident that parents feel connected to their child’s school and the district with top items including “My family is treated with respect ...” (4.14), “I am proud to say I have a child at this school” (3.96), and “I would recommend this school to other parents” (3.97). Other top items included “My child has the necessary classroom supplies and equipment for effective learning” (4.15), “My child’s learning is a high priority at this school” (4.07), “I am confident in my ability to support my child’s learning at home,” (4.02), and “The school is clean and well maintained” (4.04).

The less agreeable areas related to “The District makes decisions that are in the best interest of children and parents.” (3.13), and “receiving positive [notifications] about my child...” (3.43) and “receiving regular feedback from school staff on how well my child is learning.” (3.58). While these were the lower performing areas, they are all still above a “neutral” level (3.0).

The 2022 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, and some of the school results will be incorporated into the new school achievement plan process.”

Mr. Keckler presented the Proposed Changes to the KUSD High School Instructional Calendar submitted by Mr. Haithcock, Mr. Keckler, and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“The state of Wisconsin has recently approved changes to the grades 9 and 10 accountability assessments. The previous state required assessment for these two grades was the ACT Aspire. ACT has announced that the ACT Aspire will not continue and the new contract stipulates that the Pre-ACT will be used starting with the 2022-23 school year. The Pre-ACT assessment covers multiple content areas consistent with the grade 11 ACT with Writing, but is shorter in duration with a smaller quantity of questions.

KUSD has an existing grade 11 testing only day so school staff can dedicate themselves to adhering to the very strict testing and security protocols established by ACT and supporting all of the students taking the assessment. With this new development, School Leadership and the High School Administrators reviewed possible options to support the Pre-ACT in the same manner.

By implementing a dedicated grade 9 and 10 assessment day, each school will be able to properly support all of the assessment protocols. To counter this loss of instructional minutes, the proposal is to add 3 instructional minutes to the Monday-Thursday high school schedule. For the 2022-23 High School calendar, the Pre-ACT grade 9 and 10 only day would be Tuesday, March 21, 2023, and the ACT with Writing grade 11 only day (previously approved) is March 7, 2023.

Any board-approved changes will generate new calendars, be posted online, and shared with all respective school buildings, staff and parents.

Administration recommends that the School Board approve the proposed adjustment to the KUSD High School Instructional Calendar at the June 28, 2022, regular School Board meeting.”

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the proposed adjustment to the KUSD High School Instructional Calendar. Mr. Price seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Ormseth and Mr. Finnemore presented the Lakeview Technology Academy Relocation submitted by Mr. John Setter, Project Architect; Mr. Finnemore; Mr. Hamdan; and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“Administration recommends Board approval of the proposed relocation of LakeView Technology Academy to the new facility being proposed in this report provided:

- KABAF, GTC and the City of Kenosha can identify the remaining funding needed for the project;
- KUSD capital contribution to the project is limited to the actual proceeds from the sale of the property adjacent to Richard Bong State Park (not to exceed \$1.3 million); and
- A new lease agreement initially doubling the current rent payment will be brought to the school board for approval.”

Dr. Ormseth gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled LakeView Technology Academy Relocation Update which covered the following topics: why, potential future home of LakeView Wolves, how, additional funding, timeline, additional information, and administrative recommendation.

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the relocation of LakeView Technology Academy to the new facility being proposed in this report provided KBAF, GTC and the City of Kenosha can identify the remaining funding needed for the project, KUSD capital contribution to the project is limited to the actual proceeds from the sale of the property adjacent to Richard Bong State Park (not to exceed \$1.3 million); and a new lease agreement initially doubling the current rent payment will be brought to the school board for approval. Mrs. Schmaling seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mr. Battle abstained.

Mr. Hamdan presented the Authorization of 2022-2023 Expenditures Prior to Formal Adoption of the Budget submitted by himself and Dr. Ormseth, 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.”

Mr. Price moved to approve the authorization for payment of all currently authorized salaries and benefits beginning July 1 and continuing until the budget is formally adopted and the authorization of 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 four of twelve months in the fiscal year between July and October. Mr. Battle seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Adams presented the Contract Amendment for Interim Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Meadows moved to approve the contract amendment for Dr. Bethany Ormseth, Interim Superintendent, which extends the administrator contract to September 30, 2022. Mr. Battle 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. Mr. Meadows seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Stevens moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Schmaling seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 P.M.

Stacy Stephens  
School Board Secretary