

REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD  
HELD JUNE 25, 2024

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the John J. Hosmanek Educational Support Center. Mrs. Modder, President, presided.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following Board members present: Mrs. Schmaling, Ms. Adams, Mr. Price, Mr. Tierney, Mrs. Landry, Ms. Stevens, and Mrs. Modder. A quorum of members was present. Dr. Weiss was also present.

Mrs. Modder, 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 the Superintendent's office. Anyone desiring information as to forthcoming meetings should contact the Superintendent's office.

There were no Awards/Recognitions presented.

Dr. Weiss gave the Superintendent's Report.

A Legislative Report was given later in the meeting.

Views and comments were made by the public, including a written comment that was read into the record.

No student ambassador was present.

The President made her remarks.

No Administrative or Supervisory Appointments were presented.

Ms. Adams moved to approve the consent agenda (items A-E) as printed. Second by Mr. Price. Motion carried unanimously.

No old business.

Mr. William Haithcock, Chief of School Leadership, along with Mrs. Julie Housaman, Chief Academic Officer, presented the Request to Purchase Vape Detectors, submitted by Dr. Weiss, Mr. Patrick Finnemore, Director of Facilities, and Mr. Haithcock. They explained the purchase details, rationale behind decision, and what education about vaping would be provided.

Mr. Price made a motion to authorize the \$165,000, utilizing funding from the JUUL class action lawsuit, for the purchase of 72 Vape Detectors with Verkada, the

service and software required to operate the detectors for 10 years, and any educational programs available on the damaging affects of vaping. Second by Ms. Stevens. Motion carried with Mr. Tierney dissenting.

Mr. Haithcock presented the Head Start Federal Grant Funds Carryover Request, submitted by Mrs. Heather Connolly, Regional Coordinator of Leadership and Learning, Mrs. Rhonda Lopez, Principal of Chavez, Dr. Weiss, and himself. These funds will be used for maintenance and upgrades of the Chavez building.

Ms. Adams made a motion to approve the carryover of funds in the amount of \$100,000 from the Head Start Federal Grant for the 2024-25 school year. Second by Mrs. Landry. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Housaman, along with Ms. Stacy Guckenberger, Director of Special Education and Student Support, presented the Report of Contract in Aggregate of \$50,000, submitted by themselves, as well as Mr. Tarik Hamdan, Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Amy Franz, Purchasing Agent, and Dr. Weiss. The contract will be with Effective School Solutions, who will offer on-site mental health support by licensed clinical therapists through the Mental Health Grant and the IDEA Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervention Supports fund.

Ms. Adams made a motion to approve the \$600,000 contract for year one and the \$618,000 contract for year two with Effective School Solutions. The primary funding source is the Mental Health Grant, with the IDEA Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervention Supports fund covering the remaining amount. Second by Mr. Price. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Housaman, along with Ms. Laura Stone, Coordinator of School Culture and Safety, and Mr. Aaron Williams, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, presented the Education for Employment Plan submitted by themselves as well as Ms. Guckenberger and Dr. Weiss.

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

Mrs. Housaman presented the New Course Proposal for Indian Trail Communications Academy, submitted by Mr. Scott Kennow, Principal of ITHSA, Mrs. Karen DuChene, Assistant Principal of ITHSA, Dr. Weiss and herself.

Ms. Stevens made a motion to approve the proposals for Photojournalism (.5) and Advanced Digital Graphics (.5) courses for the Communications Academy at Indian Trail High School and Academy. Second by Mrs. Landry. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Housaman, along with Mrs. Emily Reidler, Director of Food Services, and Mr. Bryan Mogensen, Coordinator of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Recreation, and Senior Center, presented the proposed update to Policy 5580 – School Wellness, submitted by Mr. Finnemore, Dr. Weiss, and themselves.

Mr. Price made a motion to approve the revised Policy 5580 – School Wellness as a first reading. Second by Ms. Stevens. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Haithcock presented the proposed Ruth Harman Academy Charter Contract, which is the result of the district's rightsizing initiative to merge two current charter schools, The Brompton School and Dimensions of Learning Academy (DOLA), into one school. This recommendation was submitted by Mr. Hamdan, Ms. Gina Greil, Principal of The Brompton School, Dr. Weiss, and Mr. Haithcock.

Ms. Adams made a motion that Dimensions of Learning Academy and The Brompton School merge to create a revised charter school with the name of Ruth Harman Academy, located at the corner of 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 85<sup>th</sup> Street, and to approve the newly revised Ruth Harman Academy Charter Contract at this June 25, 2024 regular school board meeting. Second by Mrs. Landry. Motion carried with Mrs. Schmaling dissenting.

Mrs. Hausaman presented Act 55 – Notice of Academic Standards for approval with no changes to the standards from last year. This was submitted by Mrs. Stacy Cortez, Coordinator of Elementary Math and Science, Mr. Che Kearby, Coordinator of Secondary English Language Arts and Social Studies, Mrs. Mary Hoover, Coordinator of Reading and Elementary Social Studies, Mrs. Jennifer Lawler, Coordinator of Secondary Math and Science, Ms. Lopez, Dr. Weiss, and Mrs. Hausaman.

Mr. Price made a motion to approve the annual declaration and parent notice of the district's student academic standards that will be in effect for the 2024-25 school year. Second by Ms. Stevens. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hamdan presented the Authorization of 2024-25 Expenditures Prior to the Formal Adoption of the Budget, submitted by Dr. Weiss and himself.

Ms. Adams made a motion to authorize the payment of all currently authorized salaries and benefits beginning July 1 and continuing until the budget is formally adopted. Also, to 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 the 12 months in the fiscal year between July and October. Second by Mrs. Schmaling. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Keckler presented the Proposed School Year 2025-26 Instructional Calendars, including that the alternative calendar for Frank Elementary is to now align with the rest of the KUSD boundary schools.

Ms. Stevens made a motion to approve the proposed 2025-26 Instructional Calendars, with exception of postponing action on Frank Elementary's calendar to the July 23, 2024 board meeting. Second by Mr. Price. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Keckler presented the Proposed School Designation Change for the Phoenix Project, submitted by Mr. Haithcock, Dr. Weiss, and himself. This proposal is to change the Phoenix Project from a “school” designation to a “program”, similar to what previously happened with the e-School program.

Mrs. Schmaling made a motion to accept the proposal to change the designation of the Phoenix Project from a school to a program. Second by Mr. Price. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Haithcock presented proposed revisions to Policy 1710 – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities (Title IX), submitted by himself and Dr. Weiss. The proposed revision is to change the Title IX Coordinator from Julie Housaman, who is retiring as of June 30, 2024, to Michelle Santelli, the new Regional Coordinator of Elementary School Leadership.

Ms. Adams made a motion to approve the proposed revision as a first and second reading. Second by Stevens. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hamdan presented the Renewal of Southeastern Wisconsin School Alliance (SWSA) Membership, submitted by himself and Dr. Weiss, which will incur a \$3,200 fee.

Mr. Price made a motion to approve the resolution and membership in SWSA for the 2024-25 fiscal year in the amount of \$3,200 and authorized the Board Officers and District Administration to execute any documents related to the renewal. Second by Mrs. Landry. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Price asked to give the Legislative Report which was inadvertently skipped earlier in the agenda.

Dr. Weiss presented proposed revisions to Policy and Rule 8850 – School Board Committees, submitted by himself.

Ms. Stevens made a motion to approve the suggested revisions to Policy and Rule 8850 – School Board Committees as a first reading. Second by Mr. Price. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Schmaling presented six Donations to the District and moved that they be approved as presented. Second by Mrs. Landry. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Members made announcements.

Mr. Price made a motion to adjourn. Second by Ms. Adams. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Denise Ewing  
School Board Secretary