

REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD  
HELD JULY 23, 2024

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, July 23, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the John J. Hosmanek Educational Support Center. Ms. Stevens, Vice President, presided.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. with the following Board members present: Mrs. Schmaling, Ms. Adams, Mr. Price, Mr. Tierney, Mrs. Landry, and Ms. Stevens. Dr. Weiss was also present. Mrs. Modder and Ms. Adams were excused.

Ms. Stevens, Vice 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.

Mrs. Tanya Ruder, Chief Communications Officer, presented the Fine Arts Theater Awards – Jerry Awards, International Thespian Festival, and Junior Theater Festival.

No student ambassador was present.

Dr. Weiss gave the Superintendent's Report.

Dr. Price gave the Legislative Report.

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

Ms. Stevens gave remarks by the Vice President.

Dr. Weiss read the biographies and presented the following Administrative Appointments: Ms. Julie Cholak as Principal of Southport Elementary, Mr. Jason Creel as Principal of KTEC, Ms. Jennifer Folkers as Principal of Grewenow Elementary, and Mr. Steve Germain as Principal of Mahone Middle School.

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

Dr. Weiss presented the proposed updates to Policy 8850 – School Board Committees as a second reading, noting a few changes since the first reading.

Mr. Price moved to approve Policy 8850 as presented as a second reading. Second by Mr. Tierney. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Weiss introduced Brian Nicol from the Donovan Group, who gave the Operational Referendum presentation virtually, as submitted by Mr. Tarik Hamdan, Chief Financial Officer, Dr. Weiss, and Mrs. Ruder.

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

Mrs. Wendy Tindall, Chief Academic Officer, presented the Report of Contract in Aggregate of \$50,000 for ESGI which was submitted by Mr. Hamdan, Mrs. Tindall, Ms Amy Franz, Purchasing Agent, Mrs. Mary Hoover, Coordinator of Elementary English Language Arts and Social Studies, and Ms. Stacy Cortez, Coordinator of Elementary Math and Science, and Dr. Weiss. This contract is for a digital platform for an online phonics assessment system from ESGI.

Mr. Price moved to approve the \$52,425.00 for a 1 year renewal contract beginning August 1, 2024, with ESGI for a digital platform to provide elementary teachers with on-line resources that support reading and math instruction. The funding source for this purchase is the Teaching and Learning budget. Second by Mrs. Landry. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. William Haithcock, Chief of School Leadership, along with Mr. Kris Keckler, Chief Information Officer, presented the Closure of The Brompton School and Expansion of Dimensions of Learning Academy submitted by Dr. Weiss and himself. He explained the difference of this motion in contrast to the motion from June 25, 2024 and why DPI requires this specific motion.

Mr. Price moved to approve the Closure of The Brompton School and Expansion of Dimensions of Learning Academy charter and enrollment to include elements from the former Brompton School charter, including the Project Lead the Way and Leader in Me. This combined school, which was renamed the Ruth Harman Academy at the June 25, 2024 regular board meeting, shall retain the existing DPI school number previously assigned to the Dimensions of Learning Academy. Second by Mrs. Landry. After much discussion, Mr. Price withdrew his motion. There was consensus to postpone any action on this item until administration is able to gather more information and bring back a new proposal at a special called meeting.

Mrs. Tindall presented the Request to Approve and Implement the John J. and Ruth F. Kloss Charitable Trust – Lakeview Technology Academy, submitted by Dr. Weiss, Ms. Bethany Ormseth, Lakeview Technology Academy Principal, and herself.

Mr. Price moved to accept the \$50,000 grant award from the John J. and Ruth F. Kloss Charitable Trust as presented. Second by Mr. Tierney. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Tindall, along with Mr. Aaron Williams, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, presented the Request to Implement the Wisconsin Department of

Workforce Development Regional Career and Education Equipment Grant, submitted by Dr. Weiss and themselves.

Mr. Price moved to approve the implementation of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Regional Career and Education Equipment Grant in the amount of \$30,000. Second by Mrs. Schmaling. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Haithcock presented the recommendation to appoint Independent Hearing Officers for Expulsion Hearing. The three part-time employees included Ms. Therese Freiberg to serve as our main hearing officer, and Mrs. Gayle Titus and Mr. Michael Rupnow to serve as back-up officers for the 2024-25 school year.

Mrs. Schmaling moved to reauthorize the appointment of Therese Freiberg, Gayle Titus, and Michael Rupnow as Independent Hearing Officers for the purpose of expulsion hearings for the 2024-25 school year at the rate of \$100 for the first hour and \$25 for every 15 minutes thereafter, not to exceed \$300 per hearing. Second by Mr. Price. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Weiss along with Mr. Kevin Neir, Chief Human Resource Officer, presented Policy and Rule 4227 – Staff-Student Relationships and Professional Boundaries, submitted by themselves.

Mrs. Schmaling moved to approve Policy and Rule 4227 – Staff-Student Relationships and Professional Boundaries as a first and second reading. Second by Mrs. Landry. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kris Keckler, Chief Information Officer, along with Mr. Haithcock and Mrs. Tindall, presented the proposed 2025-26 Instructional Calendar for Frank Elementary School, submitted by Dr. Weiss and themselves. This proposal is a change from the calendar presented at the June 25, 2024 board meeting.

At 10:06 p.m. Mrs. Schmaling made a motion to extend the meeting past 10:00 p.m. Second by Mr. Price. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Price moved to change the proposed Frank Elementary Instructional Calendar for 2025-26 school year back to reflect the 2023-24 school year calendar, which included three eight (8) day enrichment weeks. Second by Mrs. Landry. Motion carried with Ms. Stevens dissenting.

Mr. Haithcock presented the School Resource Officer (SRO) Agreements with the City of Kenosha and Village of Pleasant Prairie, submitted by Dr. Weiss and himself.

Mrs. Schmaling moved to approve the agreement between KUSD and the City of Kenosha for the purpose of hiring School Resource Officers for the 2024-25, 2025-26, and 2026-27 school years. Second by Mr. Tierney. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Schmaling moved to approve the agreement between KUSD and the Village of Pleasant Prairie for the purpose of hiring a School Resource Officer for the fall semester of the 2024-25 school year. Second by Mr. Price. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Schmaling presented a Donation to the District and moved that it be approved as presented. Second by Mr. Tierney. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Members made announcements.

Mrs. Landry made a motion to adjourn. Second by Mr. Price. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

Denise Ewing  
School Board Secretary