

REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD  
HELD DECEMBER 14, 2021

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 7:00 P.M. in the Auditorium at Mahone Middle School. Ms. Adams, President, presided.

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 P.M. with the following Board members present: Mr. Price, Mr. Garcia, Mr. Battle, Ms. Stevens, Mrs. Modder, Ms. Robinson, 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.

Dr. Ormseth gave the Superintendent's Report.

There was no 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, Absences of Absence, Retirements, Resignations and Separations.

Consent-Approve item X-B – Minutes of the 11/16/21 Special Meeting and Executive Session and 11/16/21 Regular Board 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 November 2021 cash receipt deposits totaling \$1,222.44, and cash receipt wire transfers-in totaling \$4,855,100.85, be approved.



“In 2016, Policy 5436 - Weapons was reviewed and updated regarding knives only. Upon further review, it was determined that other portions of the policy also need updating to align with our current Administrative Review practices.

The main changes include removal of antiquated language referring to zero tolerance and clarifying the language regarding disciplinary action to point to the process outlined in Administrative Regulation 5430. This will ensure that as language or processes are updated in the future, the two policies will always align. Lastly, language about what incidents are

contract was awarded to UnitedHealthcare for a period of 3 years and will expire on June 30, 2022.

On October 6, 2021, the District issued a Medical Plan RFP with responses due back from candidates on October 26, 2021. The RFP provided candidates with the current plan design and instructions to provide bids based on KUSD's current medical plan design. The District partnered with Hays Companies, the District's benefits broker, to review candidate responses to the Medical RFP.

Administration recommends the Board take the following action:

- Select vendor finalists for the KUSD Medical Plan. Finalists will be required to present their RFP responses to the Board at a future Board meeting.”

Mr. Hamdan introduced Mr. Chris Smessaert from Hays Companies and he gave a Medical Carrier Marketing Review PowerPoint presentation which covered the following topics: proposal overview, medical carrier marketing results – broad network opportunities, narrow network opportunity, and provider disruption, considerations, next steps, finalist meeting proposed agenda, and discussion/action by the board.

Mr. Battle moved to select UnitedHealthcare and Humana as finalists for the KUSD Medical Plan. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mrs. Modder abstaining.

Mr. Hamdan introduced Mr. Jordan Boehm, from CliftonLarsonAllen LLP and he presented the Annual Financial Report. He gave a PowerPoint presentation which covered the following topics: scope of work, financial audit results, single audit results, governance communication, questions, and closing.

Mr. Kristopher Keckler, Chief Information Officer, presented the Proposed Removal of Policy 5610 – Valedictorian, Salutatorian, Wisconsin Academic Excellence Higher Education Scholarship submitted by Mrs. Fischer, Mr. Haithcock, Mr. Keckler, and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“During the 2016-17 school year, administration presented the proposal for switching from a student rank system to a tiered Laude system for all KUSD high school students. This project revised the weights applied for various high school courses (honors, AP, dual credit, etc.) and worked to promote individual achievements rather than student competition. The majority of high schools in the United States do not report rank, but establish achievement levels based on weighted GPA scores. Ultimately, the KUSD School Board approved this proposal and the implementation began with the following grade 8 cohort group. That group is the current grade 12 cohort with a 2022 graduation date. These achievement levels appear on student transcripts and diplomas.

The current KUSD Policy 5610 Valedictorian, Salutatorian, Wisconsin Academic Excellence Higher Education Scholarship established the criteria for recognizing the top student rank positions, and the process for identification for a state sponsored scholarship. The next act would be to remove this policy as it no longer applies. High school staff will still have access for pertinent rankings and share those with external institutions when necessary (i.e. scholarships). Any related scholarships based on ranking will be reviewed

and a process established for school administration to determine respective placement and awards. The Counseling section of each school website will retain the documentation and explanations of the respective Laude program and conditions, as well as all directions and explanations related to students applicable for scholarships that require student rank data.

Administration recommends that the School Board accept the proposed removal of Policy 5610 Valedictorian, Salutatorian, Wisconsin Academic Excellence Higher Education Scholarship as a first reading at its December 14, 2021, meeting and to forward this proposal for a second reading at its January 25, 2022, meeting.”

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the proposed removal of Policy 5610 Valedictorian, Salutatorian, Wisconsin Academic Excellence Higher Education Scholarship as a first reading. Mr. Price seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Ormseth presented Policy 2251 – Evaluation – Administrative, Supervisory and Technical Personnel and Policy 4380 – Employee Evaluations submitted by Mr. Neir, Mrs. Ruder, and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“In 2014, all Wisconsin school districts and charter schools (established under section 118.40(1)(b) were explored (7/1/20) (J. J. (4/1/14) (0028) (s. 10-4.24) (16.1(6)) (12) (12)

“Kenosha Unified School District, in collaboration with Carthage College and the University of Wisconsin – Parkside, has developed a Rising Educators Program to increase the diversity, Talent, and commitment of the workforce. Through this program the following is being achieved:

- Offering dual enrollment teacher education courses to high school juniors and seniors;
- Creating a Rising Educators Club for high school students;
- Collaborating with Carthage and Parkside to offer eleventh and twelfth grade students up to 16 college credits towards a degree in education; and
- Providing students access to the respective college/university and on-campus privileges, such as use of the library.

Students began taking courses during the second semester of the 2020-21 school year. Pending course enrollments and staffing allocations, it is the goal to offer two courses each semester from Carthage College and two courses each semester from the University of Wisconsin – Parkside.

Administration recommends that the Board of Education approve the addition of two courses for the Rising Educator program for the 2022-23 school year as outline below:

- Carthage College: Foundation in Urban Education; and
- Carthage College: Teaching and Supporting Students with Diverse Characteristics & Needs.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the two courses for the Rising Educator program for the 2022-23 school year as outlined in the report. Mr. Price seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Housaman presented the Course Change Proposal: Business Academy submitted by Mr. Aaron Williams, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education; Mrs. Housaman; and Dr. Ormseth, experts follow:

“One Course Change Proposal form is being submitted to update the course name for Social Media (Appendix A). This update is being requested because social media is one aspect of digital marketing, and the requested name change to Marketing Gets Digital will more accurately represent the breadth of the course content.

Administration recommends that the school board approve the proposal for new course name for the aforementioned business course.”

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the proposal for a new course name for the aforesaid business course. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Housaman presented the Course Change Proposals: High School Art submitted by Mr. Scott Plank, Coordinator of Fine Arts; Mrs. Housaman; and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follows:

“Eleven Course Change Proposal forms are being submitted to update course names for high school art. These updates are being done to streamline courses, align course naming across the discipline and better communicate the actual course content.

Administration recommends that the School Board approve the proposal for new course names for the aforementioned visual arts courses.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the proposal for new course names for the aforementioned visual arts courses. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Haithcock presented the WASB Proposed Resolutions – 2022 submitted by Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“The Superintendent and Leadership Council reviewed the 2022 WASB proposed resolutions and make the following recommendations:

<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
22-01	Safe Harbor Legislation	Support
22-02	Annual Inflationary or Greater Increases in Per Pupil Spendable Resources	Support
22-03	Funding for Children with Disabilities	Support
22-04	Advanced Learning	Support
22-05	Broadening Staff Expenditures Eligible for State Categorical Aid for School Mental Health	Support
22-06	Broadening the Scope of Mental Health Services Eligible for Reimbursement	Support
22-07	Curriculum and Professional Training on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders	Support
22-08	WASB National Presence and/or National Association Membership	Support
22-09	Impact Aid	Support
22-10	Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)	Support

It is recommended that the School Board provide direction to its delegate relative to the 2022 WASB proposed resolutions noted above and give the board delegate discretionary latitude to vote on amendments or other resolutions.”

Ms. Stevens move approve the recommendation to support the WASB Proposed Resolutions – 2022 and give the board delegate discretionary latitude to vote on amendments or other resolutions. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Keckler presented the Four-Year Graduation Rate – Cohort Analysis submitted by Mrs. Laura Sawyer, Data Analyst; Mr. Haithcock; Mr. Keckler; and Dr. Ormseth, excerpts follow:

“The “Four Year Graduation Rate – Cohort Analysis” report is a comprehensive examination of the graduation rates of the Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD) for the Graduation Class of 2021. This is the annual graduation report to the Kenosha Unified School Board as it examines each graduation class in terms of a “static” graduation rate, referred to as “Base Cohort”. All KUSD students who enter grade nine are tracked until the end of their class’s designated graduation cycle (four years later). No allowance is made for any students who enter that class as it progresses from the ninth grade until the twelfth grade and its eventual graduation. For example, first-time ninth graders who are in attendance on the Official Third Friday Count Day during School Year 2017-18 are tracked with respect to their educational progress until the end of summer school in August 2021. Therefore, the ninth graders of School Year 2017-18 become the Graduation Class of 2021 (School Year 2020-21). Additionally, this report also examines the graduation rates in terms of progress made beyond a designated graduation year, that is, the five year rate of the Graduation Class of 2020. This process aligns to both the Wisconsin state statute for allowing for a free education until a student reaches the age of 20. This is a -



revised federal guidelines. In the past, 116 parents/guardians were required to choose one

“WHEREAS, a number of organizations in the Kenosha community have partnered with the Kenosha Unified School District to offer a variety of mentoring programs that are designed to support student learning and success; and

WHEREAS, relationships that students build with caring mentors offer valuable support; and

WHEREAS, quality mentoring encourages positive choices, promotes self-esteem, supports academic achievement and introduces young people to new ideas; and

WHEREAS, mentoring provides the skills needed to build strong, positive relationships with family, friends and community members; and

WHEREAS, mentoring programs have shown to be effective in combating school violence and discipline problems, substance abuse, incarceration and truancy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that Kenosha Unified School District does hereby proclaim January 2022 as the annual observance of National Mentoring Month and recognizes those who volunteer their time to help in our mission of providing excellent, challenging learning opportunities and experiences that prepare each student for success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a true copy of this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Education.”

Mrs. Modder moved to approve Resolution 387 - National Mentoring Month January 2022. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Modder presented the Donation to the District.

Mrs. Modder moved to approve the Donation to the District. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.