

REGULAR MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD JUNE 27, 2023

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was

Check numbers 623001 through 623992 (net of voided batches) totaling \$4,491,347.37, and general operating wire transfers-out totaling \$4,314,164.64, are recommended for approval as the payments made are within budgeted allocations for the respective programs and projects.

It is recommended that the May 2023 net payroll and benefit EFT batches totaling \$18,052,181.77, and net payroll check batches totaling \$6,744.36, be approved.”

Consent-Approve item X-D – Policy and Rule 5431 – Student Dress Code submitted by Ms. Kim Fischer, Regional Coordinator of Secondary School Leadership; Mrs. Ruder, Chief Communications Officer; and Dr. Weiss, excerpts follow:

“Policy and Rule 5431 - Student Dress Code was last updated in 2018. Since then, administration and the Board of Education have heard concerns from students and parents/guardians regarding gender and cultural biases being ingrained in the existing language. In an effort to address this, a committee of administrators was formed that worked to remove these items and clean up the policy overall. The go(i)6 (n114 (O)2 (s)4 (t)2 (ot)24 (l)6 (e)10

The Purchase/Contract Rationale is provided in Appendix A. The quote from

based program to help students regulate their emotions and behaviors. The Second Step program aligns with CASEL standards and is an easy to navigate resource for teachers. The lessons are less than 20 minutes a few days a week. Common district-wide language and expectations will make it easier for younger students to transition between classrooms and schools.

The 2020 World Economic Forum recently stated, "Skill gaps continue to be high as in demand skills across jobs change in the next five years. The top skills and skill groups which employers see as rising in prominence in the lead up to 2025 include groups such as critical thinking and analysis as well as problem-solving, and skills in self-management such as active learning, resilience, stress tolerance and flexibility." Purchasing this curriculum will provide teachers a resource to prepare our students for their future. The Core Project lessons will help to prepare our students for college and career readiness skills.

Starting in the Fall of 2023, Second Step will be implemented at all elementary and middle schools in KUSD. Each school will include Second Step programming in their School Improvement Plan and provide School Leadership with their plan for implementation. Second Step also offers a Bully Prevention program with this purchase. Schools will identify staff that would work on these lessons.

Administration recommends that the Board of Education grant approval to purchase the following materials using the Getting Kids Ahead Mental Health Grant in the total amount of \$327,875.00 for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years:

| <u>Text</u> | <u>Publisher</u> | <u>Grade Level</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Second Step | Committee for Children | K-8 | \$236,715 |
| The Core Project | The Core Project | 9-12 & 6-12 at eSchool only | \$ 91,160" |

Mr. Battle moved to approve the purchase of the recommended materials using the Getting Kids Ahead Mental Health Grant in the total amount of \$327,875.00 for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Meadows and Mrs. Schmaling dissenting.

Mr. Keckler presented the Report on Contract in Aggregate of \$50,000 – ESGI submitted by Ms. Mary Hoover, Coordinator of Elementary Reading and Social Studies; Ms. Amy Franz, Purchasing Agent; Mr. Kristopher Keckler, Chief Information Officer; Mr. Hamdan; Mrs. Housaman; and Dr. Weiss, 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.” As this quote is just shy of this threshold, KUSD would still like to follow this practice.

The following contract/agreement has not been added to the Contract Management Database and is being presented for board approval: ESGI in the amount of \$49,950 for a digital platform for an online phonics assessment system.

Administration recommends that the Board of Education approve the \$49,950 contract with ESGI for a digital platform to provide an online phonics assessment system.”

Mr. Price moved to approve the \$49,950 contract with ESGI for a digital platform to provide an online phonics assessment system. Mrs. Modder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Aaron Williams,

- 2018-19: 47 students, and
- 2017-18: 13 students.

Students had the opportunity to earn multiple industry-recognized credentials through their CTE courses.

This is an informational report.”

Mr. Neir presented Policy and Rule 4221 – Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace submitted by himself and Dr. Weiss, excerpts follow:

“Policy and Rule 4221 – Alcohol and Drug-free Workplace was last updated in March 2017. While generally an adequate policy, the rule is extremely vague and lacks the language needed to outline for employees the procedures that will take place should reasonable suspicion arise. Language regarding reasonable cause and/or suspicion will be added to the 2023-2024 Employee Handbook upon its creation. In order to ensure there are no questions as to what will occur prior to an employee being hired and/or if there is reasonable cause and/or suspicion following hire, the Office of Human Resources worked with legal counsel to review and make slight changes to the policy ae Td 22.revamp--Td17 (elu6 (oc)4

At the regular meeting held on June 28, 2022, the KUSD Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the relocation of the Lakeview Technology Academy to the new Kenosha Innovation Neighborhood (KIN) located on the former Chrysler engine plant site. On February 28, 2023, the Board unanimously approved the terms of the new lease agreement between the KABAF and KUSD that will be effective as soon as occupancy is granted to KUSD.

In order to bridge the gap between July 1, 2023, and the time it takes to build the new Lakeview building and gain occupancy, KABAF has offered an additional extension for a period of nineteen (19) months that will take us through January 31, 2025. As a precautionary construction measure, an additional six (6) optional one (1) month extensions are also available at the same rate. While previous extensions had built-in increases to match the change in Consumer Price Index (CPI), this final extension shall reflect only a 4% increase from the current payment as opposed to the full CPI change of 8%.

Administration recommends Board approval of the nineteen (19) month lease extension with a 4% increase for Lakeview Technology Academy as described in this report and Attachment A.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the nineteen (19) month lease extension with a 4% increase for Lakeview Technology Academy as described in this report and Attachment A. Mr. Price seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Battle abstaining.

Mr. Hamdan presented the Authorization of 2023-2024 Expenditures Prior to the Formal Adoption of the Budget submitted by himself and Dr. Weiss, 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

activities. The one-third guide represents four of the 12 months in the fiscal year between July and October. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Neir presented the Employee Handbook submitted by himself and Dr. Weiss, excerpts follow:

“The 2023-2024 Employee Handbook is the ninth edition. The handbook revisions noted are clarification on current language, grammatical and formatting corrections.

After an initial review by the Human Resources team of the 2022-2023 Employee Handbook for necessary corrections and updates, the proposed revisions were provided to all District employees for feedback via a Google Survey. The feedback was evaluated by the Human Resources and Leadership teams and applicable corrections and updates made to the document.

Administration recommends the Board of Education approve the 2023-2024 Employee Handbook with the changes and/or additions noted.”

Mr. Battle moved to approve the 2023-2024 Employee Handbook with the recommended changes and/or additions. Mr. Meadows seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Stevens presented the Donation to the District.

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the donation to the district as presented. Mrs. Modder seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Price abstaining.

Announcements/updates by the following board members were made: Mr. Meadows, Mr. Price, and Ms. Stevens.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Stacy Schroeder
School Board Secretary