

REGULAR MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD JANUARY 26, 2016

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, January 26, 2016, at 7:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the Educational Support Center. Mrs. Coleman, President, presided.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. with the following Board members present: Mr. Flood, Ms. Stevens, Mr. Kunich, Mr. Wade, Mrs. Snyder, Mr. Falkofske, and Mrs. Coleman. Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis was also present.

Mrs. Coleman, 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.

Mrs. Tanya Ruder, Executive Director of Community Partnerships and Media Relations, presented the 2015 Boys Volleyball State Sportsmanship Award – Indian Trail Boys Volleyball Team and the Mentor Recognition Awards.

There were no Administrative and/or Supervisory Appointments.

Ms. Stevens introduced the Student Ambassador, Grace Burlison from Tremper High School, and she made her comments.

There was not a Legislative Report.

Views and/or comments by the public were made.

Board members made their responses/comments.

Mrs. Coleman made Board President remarks.

Mrs. Snyder provided information from her attendance at the WASB Joint State Convention.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis gave the Superintendent's Report.

Nana LoCicero and Ed Kupka introduced educators from the Yitian Primary School Attached to Northeast Normal University in China and provided an update on this educator exchange program.

Board members considered the following Consent-Approve items:

Consent-Approve item XI-A – Recommendations Concerning Appointments, Leaves of Absence, Retirements and Resignations.

Consent-Approve item XI-B – Minutes of the 12/15/15 and 1/12/16 Special Meetings and Executive Sessions, the 12/15/15 Regular Meeting, and the 1/14/16 Special Meeting.

Consent-Approve item XI-C – Summary of Receipts, Wire Transfers, and Check Registers submitted by Mrs. Lisa Salo, Accounting Manager; Mr. Tarik Hamdan, Chief Financial Officer; and Dr. Sue Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“It is recommended that the December 2015 cash receipt deposits totaling \$204,641.58, and cash receipt wire transfers-in totaling \$41,002,637.04, be approved.

Check numbers 530537 through 531548 totaling \$7,964,419.31, and general operating wire transfers-out totaling \$219,787.36, are recommended for approval as the payments made are within budgeted allocations for the respective programs and projects.

It is recommended that the December 2015 net payroll and benefit EFT batches totaling \$14,238,708.20, and net payroll check batches totaling \$19,338.81, be approved.”

Consent-Approve item XI-D – Policy 5240 – Accommodation of Private School, Tribal School, and Home-Based Private Educational Program Students submitted by Mr. Steven Knecht, Coordinator of Athletics/Physical Education; Mrs. Julie Housaman, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Kenosha Unified School District Policy 5240 has been updated to address the compliance requirements identified in Act 55. An Application for Participation in Interscholastic Athletics or Extracurricular Activities for Home-Based Private Education Students is included as Appendix B. This form will assist designees in confirming that home-based private education students are indeed residents in the district, meet academic requirements, and meet attendance requirements. Additionally, all home-schooled students will be required to complete and turn in all other forms required for public school students to participate in interscholastic sports or extra-curricular activities. Examples of these forms include: Physical Examination Form, Activities Code of Conduct Form, Risk of Injury Form, etc. Home-based private education students are required to remit the same fees as mandated for students enrolled in district schools participating in interscholastic sports or extra-curricular activities.

At its December 1, 2015, meeting, the Personnel/Policy committee voted to forward revised Policy and Rule 5240 to the School Board for consideration. The Board approved revised Policy and Rule 5240 as a first reading at the December 15, 2015, regular meeting. Administration recommends that the School Board approve Policy and Rule 5240 – Accommodation of Private School, Tribal School, and Home-Based Private Educational Program Students as a second reading on January 26, 2016.”

Consent-Approve item XI-E – Policy 5260 – Open Enrollment – Full Time submitted by Mr. Kristopher Keckler, Executive Director of Information and Accountability; Ms. Susan Valeri, Director of Special Education; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Policy 5260 – Open Enrollment - Full Time addresses the state mandate of providing open enrollment opportunities to nonresident students. Currently, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction requires non-resident districts to designate regular and special education spaces at the January school board meeting. A recent legislative change due to the Wisconsin Biennial Budget (2015 Act 55) requires that public school districts must update their local Open Enrollment Policy. Moving forward, application processing, aid transfer, and calculating services for students with special needs who are enrolled through the open enrollment process or identified as a tuition waiver will be handled differently. Changes related to Act 55 that will apply to the 2016-17 school year must be completed before February 1, 2016.

At its December 15, 2015, meeting, the Board of Education approved the revised Policy and Rule 5260 – Open Enrollment - Full Time as a first reading. Administration recommends that the Board of Education approve Policy and Rule 5260 as a second reading at the January 26, 2016, regular school board meeting.”

Mrs. Snyder moved to approve the Consent Agenda as contained in the agenda. Mr. Kunich seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented Policy and Rule 5436 – Weapons submitted by Mr. Keckler; Dr. Bethany Ormseth, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary School Leadership; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Policy and Rule 5436 – Weapons was last revised in 1999. School Board member Dan Wade had suggested revisions to the policy, which would define any knife as a dangerous weapon as well as razor blades and box cutters. Due to the current nature of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the federal Civil Rights Data Collection reporting requirements, as well as conflicting use of the term “dangerous weapon” and how it is defined at the state and federal levels, additional time was requested to allow for legal opinion and clarification. Based on further review and consultation, Policy and Rule 5436 has been revised to establish a blade of any length as a dangerous weapon by legal counsel.

At its October 13, 2015, meeting, the Personnel/Policy Committee voted to forward revisions to Policy and Rule 5436 to the School Board for consideration. The School Board approved revised Policy and Rule 5436 as a first reading on October 27, 2015. The School Board agreed to table this policy prior to a scheduled second reading on November 24, 2015. Administration recommends School Board approval of the proposed revisions to Policy and Rule 5436 – Weapons as a first reading at the January 26, 2016, regular School Board meeting and a second reading at the February 23, 2016, regular School Board meeting.”

Mr. Wade moved to approve Policy and Rule 5436 – Weapons as a first reading. Mr. Flood seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Keckler presented the Four-Year Graduation Rate-Cohort Analysis submitted by Ms. Renee Blise, Research Coordinator; Mr. Keckler; and Dr. Savaglio, excerpts follow:

“Administration presented the first cohort analysis of graduation trends to the Kenosha Unified School Board beginning with School Year 1994-95. This cohort analysis is the twentieth annual report to the Kenosha Unified School Board. It provides a “base cohort” illustrating the progress of students from their initial enrollment as a ninth grader on the Official Third Friday Count Day in SY 2011-12 until the end of summer school four school years later in August 2015. Additionally, the graduation “base cohort” of the Class of 2014 was examined in terms of its progress during the year following its designated graduation year (fifth year) along with the Class of 2013 after two years (sixth year).

The cohort graduation rate presented in this report is slightly different than the rate published by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). Beginning in 2009-10, DPI reported a 4-year cohort graduation rate which includes all students who have been assigned to a *Wisconsin* public school cohort and were last enrolled in KUSD during the 4-year time period, whether or not the student *began* in KUSD in their ninth grade year. Additionally, DPI’s graduation rate is a factor in two priority areas of the annual Accountability School and District Report Card: Closing Gaps and On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness. For the school and district report cards, DPI provides data on the 4-year cohort and the 6-year cohort graduation rates. DPI’s WISEdash portal also includes a 5-year rate. This KUSD cohort report will align with the DPI model of presenting a 4-year, 5-year and 6-year graduation rate.

Beginning in SY 2010-11, new federal guidelines regarding student race and ethnicity were implemented. In the past, parents/guardians were required to categorize their child in one of the following ethnic groups: Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic, Native American, and White. The current guidelines apply a two-part question format: first whether or not the student is Hispanic/Latino **and** then selecting one or more of the following races: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and White. The students of the Class of 2015 will utilize the new race/ethnicity categories whereas cohorts prior to Class of 2014 will use the former categories.

Since this report covers the past several years, readers should be aware of respective graduation changes. In April 2012, the Kenosha Unified Rule 6456 *Graduation Requirements* was updated. Effective for the Class of 2013 was a change in the high school graduation credit requirement, which reduced the required number of credits from 26 to 23. The minimum credits for Social Studies, Math and Science were each reduced from 4 to 3 credits. Currently, Wisconsin High School Graduation Standards contain a minimum requirement of 4 credits for English/Language Arts, 3 credits for Social Studies, 2 credits each for Math and Science, and 21.5 credits overall. Rule 6456 also added a Community/Service Learning requirement beginning with the

Class of 2013. Another change was implemented in September 2013, as the standardized assessment used in the High School Competency Diploma Option transitioned from the paper and pencil Iowa Tests of Educational Development (ITED) to the Iowa Assessment, an on-line version that is aligned to the Common Core Standards.

At its January 12, 2016, meeting the Curriculum/Program Standing Committee moved approval to forward this report to the full board. Administration recommends that the school board review and accept the 2014-15 Four Year Graduation Rate – Cohort Analysis Report.”

Mr. Wade moved to accept the 2014-15 Four Year Graduation Rate – Cohort Analysis Report as presented. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Keckler presented the Open Enrollment Allocations for the 2016-2017 School Year submitted by Ms. Blise; Ms. Belinda Grantham, Director of Early Education Programs; Ms. Valeri; Dr. Ormseth; Mr. Keckler; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) stipulates that each resident school district allocate open enrollment spaces during their January board meetings. The 2016-17 Open Enrollment period is from February 1 to April 29, 2016. Along with the posted 3-month open enrollment window, applicants may also apply to a non-resident district using the designated Alternative Open Enrollment Application during the current school year if the applicant can demonstrate that he/she meets certain criteria. Appendix A contains a listing by grade of available open enrollment regular education spaces for School Year 2016-17. DPI has clarified that the District’s affirmation must specifically delineate both regular education seats by specific grade level and special education seats by program and/or service type.

The Offices of Educational Accountability, School Leadership, Teaching and Learning, Special Education/Student Support and Early Education met on multiple occasions to gather, refine and allocate information in regards to the number of available spaces for School Year 2016-17 within the Kenosha Unified School District. After review of the available data and enrollment projections, this cooperative team with the endorsement of the Superintendent of Schools makes the recommendation contained in Appendix A (regular education) and Appendix B (special education) to the School Board.

Administration recommends that the Kenosha Unified School Board affirm and approve the space availability for open enrollment students for school year 2016-17. Recommendation is for a total of 195 spaces, 25 of which are designated for selected special education programs service/types as noted below.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the Open Enrollment Allocations for the 2016-2017 School Year. Mr. Wade seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Annie Petering, Chief Human Resources Officer, presented the 2016-2017 Employee Handbook – Revised Edition submitted by Ms. Petering and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Administration recommends the changes for the 2016-2017 employee handbook. This report and the Employee Handbook are presented as an informational item this evening and will be presented at the February 23, 2016, regular board meeting for a first reading.

Administration will schedule employee focus group meetings during the months of February and March to clarify any portions of the document to employees and/or respond to questions. Administration will then bring the Employee Handbook to the board for a second reading at the April 25, 2016, regular board meeting with an effective date of July 1, 2016.”

Board member questions/suggestions were noted for further review.

No action was taken on this item as it was for on the agenda for discussion purposes only.

Mr. Kunich presented the Donations to the District as contained in the agenda.

Mr. Kunich moved to approve the Donations to the District as contained in the agenda. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Stevens moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Wade seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

Kathleen DeLabio
Executive Assistant