A special meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Monday, November 4, 2013, at 5:30 P.M. in the Board Meeting Room at the Educational Support Center. The purpose of this meeting was for Discussion/Action on Adoption of the 2013-2014 Budget.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M. with the following members present: Mrs. Taube, Mr. Flood, Mr. Nuzzo, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Bryan, and Ms. Stevens. Dr. Hancock was also present.

Ms. Stevens, President, opened the meeting by announcing that this was a special meeting of the School Board of the Kenosha Unified School District No. 1. Notice of this special meeting was given to the public by forwarding a copy of the notice to all requesting radio stations and newspapers.

Mr. Tarik Hamdan, Interim Chief Financial Officer, presented the Adoption of the 2013-2014 Budget submitted by himself and Dr. Hancock, excerpts follow:

“The Public Hearing on the 2013-2014 Budget and the Annual Meeting of Electors was held on Thursday, September 2, 2013 in the Auditorium at Mahone Middle School. The Board of Education has reviewed the District’s budget assumptions, received public input at their meetings, and has provided the direction to form the budget. On August 19, 2013, the Board approved preliminary budget assumptions that were used as the guide to create the 2013-2014 Budget. With actual costs of new teachers coming in lower than projected, KUSD has also been able to add additional staff back into the classrooms (about 43 FTE), primarily at the Elementary Level. Administration is also requesting that the Board approve some additional staffing needs for “hot spots” as identified.

Since the Public Hearing and Annual Meeting, Administration has also updated the budget to reflect key variables such as student membership, property valuation, certified state aid, and tax levies. The new WI Act 46 Bill has provided KUSD with an additional 845,282 of state aid which helped to reduce our tax levy.

The 2013-2014 General fund is being budgeted as a balanced budget in which Expenditures are projected to equal Revenues. General Fund balance reserves are currently greater than 10% of budgeted expenditures; therefore, the portion of School Board Policy 3323 that requires a one million dollar budgeted surplus (if the fund balance is below the 10% threshold) will not be applied for 2013-2014.

The levy for the General Fund is the maximum amount allowable within State law without going to referendum. The overall 0.96% increase in total tax levy equates to
$891,818 of additional tax dollars in 2013-2014 for Kenosha Unified School District over last year.

The total mill rate per $1,000 of equalized valuation is $12.13, a 4.77% increase over the prior year. The Equalized Property Values decreased by 3.63% from last year which contributes to the overall mill rate increase.

It is requested that the Board of Education accept the following recommendation:

1. Approval of the 2013-2014 Budget Assumptions (Attachments A & B);

2. Formally adopt the District’s 2013-2014 Budget using the accompanying Budget Adoption Motion in Attachment E;

3. Direct Administration to prepare a class one legal notice to be published publicly within ten days of the adoption (Attachment C);

4. Direct the Clerk of Kenosha Unified School District to certify the property tax levy to be collected from the municipalities with the School District in the amount of $75,664,429 for the General Fund, $16,152,697 for the Debt Service Fund, and $1,500,000 for the Community Service Fund;

5. Direct Administration to certify the Board approval tax levy on or before November 6, 2013;

6. Designate the portion of the General Funds’ fund balance at June 30, 2013 as Unassigned for working capital that is not classified as Non-spendable (for inventories and pre-paid expenses).”

Mr. Nuzzo moved to:

1. Approval of the 2013-2014 Budget Assumptions (Attachments A & B);

2. Adopt the 2013-2014 Budget for Kenosha Unified School District, as presented, for all funds to show expenditures, other revenues, and tax levies in summary as set forth (Attachment E);

3. Direct Administration to prepare a class one legal notice to be published publicly within ten days of the adoption (Attachment C);

4. Direct the Clerk of Kenosha Unified School District to certify the property tax levy to be collected from the municipalities with the School District in the amount of $75,664,429 for the General Fund, $16,152,697 for the Debt Service Fund, and $1,500,000 for the Community Service Fund;
5. Direct Administration to certify the Board approval tax levy on or before November 6, 2013;

6. Designate the portion of the General Funds' fund balance at June 30, 2013 as Unassigned for working capital that is not classified as Non-spendable (for inventories and pre-paid expenses). Mrs. Coleman seconded the motion.

Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Taube, Mr. Flood, Mr. Nuzzo, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Bryan, and Ms. Stevens. Noes: None. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

Stacy Schroeder Busby
School Board Secretary