

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**KINGMAN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #20**  
**GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES**  
**March 09, 2021**

- 1) Call to Order @ 5:30 (Action)
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance was said (Action)
- 3) Roll Call: Charles Lucero, Present Beth Weisser, Present Roger Jacks, Present (Action)  
Carole Young, Phone Conference Jen Shumway, Zoom
- 4) Call to the Audience (The Board will listen to any comment from the public but will not respond except as permitted by A.R.S. § 38-431.01(G). The Board may refer the item to the administration or request to have it placed on a future agenda.) None (Discussion)
- 5) Reports (Discussion)  
Superintendent, Dr. Gretchen Dorner  
➤ Midstate, Executive Order and Current Model

Dr. Dorner Mr. President, members of the board, I'm just going to read a statement, my statement will apply as my board report and then any questions you have during item #12th. KUSD governing board, staff, community members and those who are watching via live stream. This week marks the one-year anniversary since our team first received word that schools would temporarily closed due to the COVID-19 virus. Little did we know in March of 2020, the year ahead to be filled with news conferences, executive orders mandates, plethora of emotions on divided sides of an issue. It was not often during the past year or community, either locally, nationally or internationally agreed upon the best set of procedures or circumstances. The only thing that remained constant in the past year was a lack of consistency. When we don't know what to expect, it's really difficult on anybody in any situation. And considering all that we've been through this anniversary doesn't feel very celebratory like most anniversaries are, but there is much to celebrate the staff, families and students of KUSD showed up all year. When we couldn't open our doors last summer due to live learning the staff showed up, equipped with a camera, microphone, last minute training, the class list and some phone numbers, they showed up for students, the custodian showed up and kept our environment sanitize the facilities crews showed up and maintained our school environments. The bus drivers showed up, and delivered meals, sometimes parking for hours in the hot summer heat to give every neighborhood child an opportunity to eat. Many parents showed up. They did their best to balance work and school life support their children and keep food on their own tables. They voiced their questions and opinions and advocated for what they believed they showed up. We didn't always agree they demonstrated our parents, their investment in their children's lives, many of them showed up. Many students showed up to the best of their ability in uncertain situations without teachers to constantly keep them motivated inside their classrooms at home, instead of in school. They still showed up. When we felt it was safe to bring in half the students for half the time on an A/B schedule staff again showed up with in person lessons for something the students to do in the classroom and then something for students to do at home, double the work, even those who felt anxious unsafe and not fully prepared for the challenge at hand. They still found engaging ways to have lessons build relationships and socially distant environments free from visible smiles and facial expressions, something we as humans rely on considering communication is 80% not verbal. All of that happened in our classroom 50% of the students at a time. And regardless of the personal battles being waged behind the scenes are student centered stats showed up. When we knew holiday celebrations might lead to higher positivity rates and scale back to a virtual setting for two weeks, once again staff, family and students showed up pitching in and doing their best and an undesirable situation. During the last seven weeks of our A/B schedule, our staff continued to show up and not only to show up, but to engage in bell to bell instruction, creative lessons and awesome activities, twice to ensure both A and B students all experienced the same learning. I visited schools as has Mrs. Wolsey and enjoyed watching them host a climate of building relationships, readathons taking place in beautiful jungle settings, Dr Seuss filled hallways. Laughter filled cafeterias hands, on science labs research, learning centers, career days, virtual field trips to zoos and industrial parks and stretching math labs. They showed up. And I am reminded as we all should be that there is plenty to celebrate. There's teamwork, commitment, creativity, support, mindfulness, friendship and learning. We should embrace our growth and how far we made it from one year ago, our story is one of success and perseverance, we stuck through it together. Even when we didn't agree felt anger, found ourselves divided, and even landed on polar opposite sides of an issue. We put each other and students first. It wasn't easy, but we showed up. Last week, about the same time we left for spring break the year ago, Governor Ducey announced a new executive order. Now, instead of using the dashboard we've grown accustomed to checking every Thursday, the governor announced it was time to get students back into schools all schools should offer in person learning. We should prioritize getting elementary students back into

school, and then he also reiterated the importance of providing a safe place to learn for any and all students requesting space to work at school. Tonight, we must decide the direction KUSD is headed for the final nine weeks of the school year and decide whether it's time to return all students to campus, for families enrolled in our online program for various reasons, including being or feeling at risk or unable to attend live classes, the online program will continue through the end of the year. The rest of our students, we must decide if our mitigation strategies have been successful, and if we can continue to provide a safe learning environment for all students at one time. KUSD numbers have remained below, 1%, even below one half of 1% consistently since we returned from break. At this time, we have three students, and zero positive staff members, as mentioned by a board member in a previous meeting we can't be completely certain there are only three students and zero staff, because many may not have tested. But right now, that's all we have reported in our schools. I had to double check when I pulled up our dashboard for staff because it was empty. And I thought something happened. So, I had Starr check. She called every school and check with HR because I thought these numbers can't be right. It is safe to say though these are some facts from KUSD. Our numbers are consistently showing few to no positives regularly. We continue to contact trace and quarantine as necessary. Even sometimes we have, we engage in passionate and powerful conversations with people who don't agree to the definition of contact tracing and quarantine, but we check the health department every time to make sure we're consistent. Our mask mandate remains in place, we continue to appreciate those who voiced concerns that they've seen or observed where it is not being fully, and compliantly followed and we will address it immediately. We socially distanced ourselves to the best of our ability and that's what the CDC recommends six feet is still recommended that they always say the best that you can. Even in Governor Ducey new executive order, if possible six feet when possible. Our COVID custodians remain on active duty and you'll hear from Mr. Sherman at the workshop on the 19<sup>th</sup>, we're proposing for that to continue through next year. I'm excited to announce that we recently hosted a vaccination clinic right here in this building, using our offices a couple of you may have participated in that. Every district staff member had the opportunity to be vaccinated if they haven't already done so, there were 400 people that came through our building in two days. 28 days from the days of the vaccination we'll have round two. And that gives me pride to know that if someone wanted the vaccination they have access to it, that was a huge mountain to climb and we appreciate the National Guard for working with us. In the meeting this morning all principals report a majority of staff members keep in mind are ready for all students to be present. I do need to say though at every school there are staff members who feel finishing the year on the A/B schedule is good, and a good idea for consistency, both for students and for staff, and it is an important point for consideration. Well most parents want students to return, there are some students and parents who agree also that we should finish using A/B model because small group instruction is working. They are weary of their lives being altered. again, it's an important point to be considered many seniors have gone to work and no longer feel coming to school for days and in some cases at all, is viable, and I think that's something we need to work on with our seniors should we go back to all students. Some of them are also worried about graduation, which I'll talk about in a moment. If we continue A/B, and have to add all students who need a safe place to learn as Governor Ducey mentioned last week, we will end up with an off-balance mixture of students, kind of like we did early last fall, which may lead to teachers offering four days of lessons to most and side lessons to others. I find that troublesome because they've spent their entire year providing multiple ways and multiple opportunities for students to learn, focusing on one whole group will reduce the additional planning and delivery options and allow them to plan a single lesson. Students will experience if we go back with all students, a four-day week prior to exiting for the summer, I mean if we think about an entire year of topsy turvy schedules, and I can tell you, there are some bad habits have been formed bad attendance habits have been formed for an entire year. To me, it seems, and many principals and many staff members, it seems beneficial to work on reversing those habits during these nine weeks, so that when we have our summer break and we come back in July, we've worked on that stamina of four days. All students if we come back live with all students will be here for the mandated Az merit tests as you know, we did not receive a waiver from the federal government for those tests. And as we recently experienced with benchmarking part of the kids come on one of the days, and the other part of the kids come on a second day and that doubles the time that we have to be giving our precious time to testing versus instruction. Finally, to the seniors who have worked for 13 years to reach their graduation dates and we're so proud of each and every one of you, and you are worried about spring and graduation ceremonies, we do plan as I mentioned to the board to host live events. Even if we need safety modifications, we plan to host graduation ceremonies with families. So, in closing, KUSD governing board there's much to consider and a big decision to be made this evening the outcome will not please all stakeholders, this we have learned consistently over the year. But we are committed to working with any staff member or family who needs additional support, should the decision not meet their needs to end the year successfully. We've made it this far we have much to celebrate It's my hope we remain committed to one another and our families in a manner that represents where we left for a break. A year ago. Dr. Lucero- That was a great report. Its mind blowing, it's been a year, I remember going with you to Cerbat when we were watching them hand out meals to students wondering how it was going to work and it's amazing that it was a full year ago.

- 6) Approval of Routine Orders of Business. Documentation concerning the matters on the Consent Agenda may be reviewed at the Kingman Unified District Office, 3033 MacDonald Avenue. Any Board member may request an item be pulled off the agenda for further discussion. (Discussion/Action)

A. Approve Minutes

February 16, 2021 Regular Board Meeting

B. Approve Vouchers

1. Payroll Vouchers: 29-31, 1039-1042
2. KUSD Vouchers: 2072-2077

*Members of the public may view the content of the vouchers 24 hours prior to the board meeting in the district office.*

C. Approve Personnel Hire Ratification as per attached list:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	SITE	POSITION	DATE
Eyer	Timothy	Maintenance	Groundskeeper/Maintenance	2/22/2021
Gonzales	Maria Kee	Transportation	Bus Driver	2/8/2021
Maple	Cara	Desert Willow	Paraeducator Specialist-Computers	2/16/2021
Rodriguez	Roberto	Desert Willow	Paraeducator IV/V-SPED	3/8/2021
Skinner	Jennifer	Lee Williams	Paraeducator II-SPED	3/8/2021
Wedin	Michael	Lee Williams	Custodian	2/22/2021

D. Approve Personnel Term List:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	SITE	POSITION	DATE
Braymore	Karl	KHS	11 Honors English	5/27/2021
Clark	Cassandra	Transportation	Bus Monitor	2/16/2021
Clay	Terralynn	Mt. Tipton	Sped PreK-6th	5/27/2021
Corwin	Kari	Mt. Tipton	PE Teacher	5/27/2021
Cristler	Donald	KHS	Sped Social Studies	5/27/2021
DeLong	Andrea	KMS	Instructional Coach	5/27/2021
Dimla	Arnel	KHS	Math Teacher	5/27/2021
Gilleo	Emilee	Lee Williams	Paraeducator II-SPED	3/11/2021
Kee	Amanda	Transportation	Bus Driver	2/25/2021
Ledesma	Chelsea	Little Explorers	Paraeducator IV/V-SPED PreK	2/19/2021
Massie	Hidemi	Hualapai	Paraeducator II-Title I	5/27/2021
Murrell	Amy	KHS	English Teacher	5/27/2021
Reyes	Ruben	KHS	CTE Teacher	2/24/2021
Robbins	Ashley	White Cliffs	6th Grade Science	5/27/2021
Rodenbaugh	Shanna	Manzanita	Paraeducator II-K 3 Literacy	5/27/2021
Stickney	Kathleen	Kingman Middle	Paraeducator IV/V-SPED	5/27/2021
Stockbridge	Sharon	Lee Williams	CTE Career Center Assistant	2/25/2021
Stockbridge	Brenda	Blk Mtn	Math Interventionist	5/27/2021

E. Approve Personnel Transfer List

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	SITE FROM	POSITION FROM	SITE TO	POSITION TO	DATE
Anderson	William	Kingman High	Paraeducator IV/V-SPED	District Office	Paraeducator II-Online Support	3/22/2021
Dunajski	Shannon	Cerbat	Paraeducator IV/V-SPED	Kingman High	Paraeducator IV/V - SPED	2/10/2021
Saenz Castillo	Maria	Kingman Middle	Custodian	Kingman High	Custodian	3/1/2021

F. Approve February 2021 Financials

G. Approve School Fundraisers (listed in board packet)

H. Approve Charlie Lucero to travel to AIA annual legislative meeting at Xavier Preparatory Academy in Phoenix, AZ on March 4-5th, 2021

Mrs. Shumway- You traveled to the AIA legislative meeting that already occurred.

Dr. Lucero- Yes, it was last Friday.

Mrs. Shumway- So, this isn't really an approval it's more of a check writing.

Dr. Lucero- I think sometimes when we approved travel and district it occurs afterwards just because it wasn't available on the last meeting day.

Mrs. Shumway- I just thought for board travel was separate than district travel, so I thought it would be approved differently.

Dr. Lucero- No, I think it's appropriate to go on the consent agenda, but any board member can pull an item from the consent agenda if they want.

Mrs. Shumway- Well it's already happened. So, that doesn't really matter but I just want to make sure it's consistent going forward. So, from now on, all board travel will just be on the consent agenda?

Dr. Lucero- On the consent agenda, I think, in the past, if it's been more of a larger trip or a trip that maybe traveler can consist of airfare or something like that, then the board member might not want to put it on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Shumway- So it's up to the board member that's traveling on where it goes on the agenda.

Dr. Lucero- Usually, Dr. Dorner and myself set the agenda. So, if we had any questions we would probably contact that board member. If it's on the consent agenda and there's a board member that feels it shouldn't be on there, they're more than welcome to pull it and do it as a separate item.

Motion to approve consent agenda was made by Mrs. Weisser

Motion was seconded by Mr. Jacks

Motion passed in favor 5-0

- 7) Approve Benchmark Education- Advancing Language Learning K-5 Curriculum to be on display for the required (Action) sixty days. Beginning January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021. This curriculum will service EL students to keep us compliant with our Title 3 grant.

Mrs. Wolsey- This curriculum will be for English language learners. We're asking for approval.

Motion to approve Benchmark Education was made by Mrs. Weisser

Motion was seconded by Mr. Jacks

Motion passed in favor 5-0

- 8) Book on display for the required sixty-days, beginning March 9, 2021. (Discussion)  
 This book will be used as a supplemental textbook for High School Life Skills and/or Economics classes.  
 Book published by Ramsey Education Solutions - The Lampo Group  
 Title: Foundations in Personal Finance  
 ISBN# 978-1936948505

Mrs. Wolsey- Mrs. Wolsey- Mr. President, members of the board. This is a supplemental of book to use as a supplemental material for several different classrooms in high school level.

- 9) Approve letter to Kathy Hoffman, Arizona's Superintendent of Public Instruction, that requests recalculation of state aid in light of Transwestern Pipeline Litigation. (Discussion/Action)

Ahron- Mr. President, members of the board approval here with signatures from board members who are present. This sets up a letter that, in case there is no legislation and the district does have to pay the \$607,000 in back taxes that we are making a request to the state for them to recalculate our money, so that we are held harmless on that. It's just one of a few ways this could be solved. Legislation still has a chance of making its way through that would hold districts completely harmless and not need the recalculation of state aid, this puts this letter in place and gives us the options we need moving forward.

Mrs. Weisser- We dealt with this a few years ago.

Mr. Jacks- This has been going on for several years, it's a long time.

Ahron- The lawsuit started in 2016.

Motion to approve letter to Kathy Hoffman, Transwestern Pipeline Litigation was made by Mrs. Weisser

Motion was seconded by Mr. Jacks

Motion passed in favor 5-0

- 10) Approve district recommendation for award of RFP 21-11-26 for Wide Area Network services, in accordance with applicable regulation, for the year beginning July 1, 2021. (Discussion/Action)

Ahron- Mr. President, members of the board. We went out to bid for the wide area network services and doing so actually save the district a lot of money, moving forward as much as \$4,000 per month so we're excited about this agreement, it will be for one year allowed to renew every year for four additional years, and we'll bring that to the board every year.

Mrs. Weisser- I just want to have it stated what this is being used for.

Ahron- Our connection for all of our schools. We got dedicated connections for two of our schools that didn't have dedicated connections before. So, it's just basically our internet.

Mr. Jacks- Just want to make a comment that is an outstanding initiative by the staff.

Ahron- We're very happy about it.

Motion to approve district recommendation for award of RFP 21-11-26 for Wide Area Network services was made by Mr. Jacks

Motion was seconded by Mrs. Weisser

Motion passed in favor 5-0

- 11) Approve intergovernmental agreement with KPD to provide a School Resource Officer split between Manzanita and Kingman Middle School. (Discussion/Action)

Ahron- President, members of the board that school safety grant is back. We have it at Kingman High and now we're getting these two schools as well. This is an IGA with the city. It outlines what will pay for the officer, over the five years, and it's outlines everything that's already been approved by the city.

Mrs. Weisser- I just wanted to clarify this is covered with a grant.

Ahron- Yes

Motion to approve intergovernmental agreement with KPD to provide a School Resource Officer split between Manzanita and Kingman Middle School was made by Mr. Jacks

Motion was seconded by Mrs. Weisser

Motion passed in favor 5-0

- 12) Information and discussion and possible action on the most recent COVID Data and Return to Learn Strategies (Discussion/Action)-

Dr. Dorner- We would ask that the board decide as to our instructional delivery model for the final nine weeks of the year. And that whatever decision we make we stay with for consistency purposes through the last day of school and graduation.

Dr. Lucero- Can you talk about your meeting with the staff or building principals?

Dr. Dorner- I met with principals this morning as I do every month, and ask them the same question where their staff stands, how they're feeling about the strategies that are in place. We've talked about some or all of the strategies and how they feel things are going. We've also been walking through the campuses and having informal conversations with, varieties of staff members from teachers to support personnel this morning. All of the principals reported that they have more staff in favor of all students returning. But we always do disgust because every staff opinion does matter. We're never going to have 100% consensus but we want to know how the majority

feels and what the minority is feeling concerned about. There are still folks who are concerned, less than before since we've been able to offer vaccinations, about transmission of the virus. There are some, especially at the secondary level, who worry students that if there's an outbreak that could affect graduation or spring activities so some of them do feel a little safer with the A/B movement and secondary. So those pods of opinions still exist but the principals report that the majority are ready for students to return.

Mrs. Weisser- Looking at the paperwork, Mohave County is still in hybrid.

Dr. Dorner- I did attend a meeting with Superintendent Hoffman the other night with other superintendents and the representative from the state said as always, we should use the dashboard to inform our decision but it's not dependent on.

Mrs. Weisser- What if we were to delay opening all the way. Can we wait until after these next shots? This next round of shots, because that would only be what two weeks into the next quarter. That would give teachers that time back to school. And then if they got sick during spring break, they would be reported at home, and not infecting others versus boom, we come back and we're full. You know, would that upset the appletart too much? We kind of split it a little bit, come back on the same schedule but they are two, three weeks in.

Dr. Dorner- There would be several things to consider one Az Merit testing starts immediately upon our return so that would extend that window because I'm guessing double up the time. I think teachers are looking for consistency and I think maybe having all the kids back just in the final few weeks, probably be the most difficult.

Mr. Jacks- First of all, I think you did a great job, looking at the situation and the analysis. Seems like we covered everything the pros and the cons, and having listened to that I personally think that the pros outweigh the cons, as far as going back to full in person learning, even though it's a very difficult decision but I think percent positive has stayed very low, your communications with your schools are more in favor of and not in favor of.

Dr. Lucero- I would agree with Mr. Jack's I think that the district's done a great job with their mitigation strategies, and I know we'll continue to do that as best as we can. And I think we have an opportunity now to provide access to education for all students so I think it's really important that we move to a full-time schedule, after spring break, which will be on March 22.

Mrs. Shumway- So, Ducey as always, is out of touch with rural communities, period. I do hope he watches this because I would love to have a conversation with him. The educators in this town have had a very difficult time getting access to the vaccinations, whether it is two people, or 400 people that wanted to be vaccinated. They should have the opportunity to be fully vaccinated before we packed their classrooms with 36, 42 students. It doesn't matter how many are in the minority. If any of them don't feel safe and they have the opportunity to be immune to a pandemic. We should offer them that opportunity by giving them a few weeks to develop that immunity to take that from them kind of goes with the direction the board has been leading them in always be on the wrong side of the data, we're in the data, all together. It makes me laugh when you all are saying, oh, but our numbers are so low, our numbers were very high at one point and you ignored them. So, it just blows my mind that you would even bring up data at this point because it doesn't matter. And I know how this is going to go because the majority does with the majority does. But I think we need to be considering those that finally have the opportunity, thanks to the shot clinic this past weekend to provide security to these individuals, no matter how many there are. To fully be immune and be embracing their students again rather than being afraid of it. They have the opportunity to do that. If we give them the time to do that and I think we should I think we owe it to them. That is what I have to say.

Dr. Dorner- You, just mentioned 36 or 42 students at class ratio, not even close. There may be a couple of classes. But I am happy to say we've maintained our staff and our numbers are low and they're much they're much lower than our ratios. Even when all kids are present so I just wanted to make that clarification.

Mrs. Shumway- Where are we at then?

Dr. Dorner- I could send you a full report. I have it by every school and every teacher.

Mrs. Shumway- Are we in the 30's?

Dr. Dorner- We're in the 20s, more often than the 30s.

Ahron- Our class ratios are such that at the board workshop we are planning on proposing that we lowered the board approved ratios by two students across all sections and that won't cause a situation where a large group of people have to lose their jobs. We could largely do that through the situation we're in right now so that could give you an idea of what our ratios, actually look like, rather than the 32 plus.

Carole- This is my opinion. I know we were concerned about outbreaks over Labor Day we're concerned about outbreaks over Thanksgiving over Christmas. We held off full schedule. So, after spring break in this meeting, and I know not everyone has been vaccinated, but they can still get the vaccination. I am completely for putting our kids back in class all four days.

Mrs. Weisser- Just wanted to reiterate, Superintendent Hoffman have said, our model right now does fit the executive order.

Dr. Dorner- Yes

Dr. Lucero- Do we have a motion?

Mr. Jacks- I will make a motion that KUSD returned to full in person learning on March 22.

Mrs. Young- I will second

Mrs. Weisser- I just like to add that I'm going to be voting no because I want to give them those few couple weeks.

Mrs. Shumway- I'm going to be voting no because I follow science and data.

Dr. Lucero- We will do a roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Mr. Lucero- Yes

Mrs. Young- Yes

Mr. Jacks- Yes

Mrs. Weisser- No

Mrs. Shumway- No

Motion was made to return all students fulltime on March 22, 2021 was made by Mr. Jacks

Motion was seconded by Mrs. Young

Motion passed in favor 3-2

13) **Approve Donations**

(Discussion/Action)

**Desert Willow:**

- Home depot donated \$500.00 for student supplies

**District Office:**

- Compass Group donated 44 cases of 12 oz cups
- NAPCO Pipe and Fitting in Yucca, AZ donated 30-gallon drum of hand sanitizer w/pump and 1-liter bottles

**Little Explorers:**

- Moose Lodge donated 28 cases of bottled water

**Hualapai:**

- Moose Lodge donated 100 cases of bottled water

**White Cliffs Middle School:**

- Moose Lodge donated 80 cases of bottled water

Motion to approve donations with our gratitude was made by Mrs. Weisser

Motion was seconded by Mr. Jacks

Motion passed in favor 5-0

14) **Adjourn @ 6:05 pm**

(Action)

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Young

Motion was seconded by Mr. Jacks

Motion passed in favor 5-0

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Dr. Charles Lucero, President

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Mr. Roger Jacks, Vice President