

KENNEWICK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING / Remote Board Meeting
October 27, 2021

M I N U T E S

MEMBERS PRESENT

Board Members: Dawn Adams, President of the Board; Heather Kintzley, Vice President of the Board; Ron Mabry, Legislative Representative of the Board; Michael Connors, Board Member; Diane Sundvik, Board Member; Zachary Glenn, Student Representative to the Board; and Dr. Traci Pierce, Superintendent and Secretary of the Board.

Cabinet Members: Dr. Doug Christensen, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources; Matt Scott, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Assessment and Professional Development; Rob Phillips, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education; Vic Roberts, Executive Director of Business Operations; Robyn Chastain, Executive Director of Communications and Public Relations; Ron Cone, Executive Director of Information Technology.

Other Guest(s): Lupe Mares, Executive Director, Communities in Schools of Benton - Franklin
Abby Mattson, Assistant Director, Career & Technical Education
Elizabeth Barnes, Executive Director, The Children's Reading Foundation of the Mid-Columbia

CALL TO ORDER

President Dawn Adams called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance with approximately 90 staff and guests in attendance.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARENTS, STAFF, AND RESIDENTS

Amanda Brown, 4503 Cactus Court, Pasco, thanked the administrators who reached out to some of the Dual Language teachers as she stated that she didn't believe this would have happened if it wasn't for the Board. Ms. Brown shared that district administration shared the message that teachers should develop a solution. She alleged that teachers of color work harder than other teachers and do twice the work, which she claimed is racial discrimination.

Kimberly Gomez, 6510 W. 4th Pl., Kennewick, expressed her concerns as a dual language specialist who teaches two languages but is given a curriculum in only one language.

Jose Aparicio, 6645 W. Bonnie Ave., Kennewick, shared that his main concerns are the Dual Language Bilingual Unit Frameworks (BUFs) and expectations of what is to be taught. He shared that he has stopped caring about complying with the expectations for at least the last seven years because expectations kept changing. Mr. Aparicio would like to know if something is going to be done about developing a curriculum for the program. He added that he feels his time is not being valued.

Sue Nunez, 1355 Belmont Boulevard, West Richland, dual language reading interventionist, shared that Dual Language teachers are not treated with the same respect as other teachers. She alleged that they are being controlled and micromanaged.

Elida Alvarez, 209 S. Dawes Street, Kennewick, dual language teacher, thanked the Board for listening and thanked the administration for meeting with the 4th-grade team. Ms. Alvarez shared that the group was asked to meet with the administrators to figure out a solution.

Matthew Yeager, 2303 W. 23rd Ave., Kennewick, dual language teacher, thanked the Board for having heard their concerns. Mr. Yeager shared that the District expects dual language teachers to teach from incomplete frameworks with no curriculum, with only scattered resources.

Nancy Ortiz, 8208 Fernow Street, West Richland, dual language teacher, shared that there is a lack of resources and not enough planning time.

Caitlin Flemming, 2708 West 43rd Place, Kennewick, shared that she has three children who attend Kennewick School District. She stated that her three-year-old attends Keewaydin for only two days each week. Ms. Flemming commented that two days a week is not enough time and that if her three-year-old attended school in Pasco or Richland, they could be in school four days a week. She requested that time and inclusion for students with disabilities be looked at.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Diane Sundvik to approve the consent items as presented.

Seconded by Mike Connors.

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| Roll call vote: | Adams | Yes |
| | Kintzley | Yes |
| | Mabry | Yes |
| | Connors | Yes |
| | Sundvik | Yes |

Motion carried 5-0.

The consent items were as follows:

- Minutes of Regular Board Meeting October 13, 2021
- Personnel Actions – Certificated, Classified, and Extracurricular
- Payroll and Vouchers Ending September 30, 2021
- School Improvement Plans
- Curriculum Adoption
 - ✓ *Essentials of Materials Science and Engineering, Textbook/ebook.* Author Donald Askeland and Wendelin Wright, published by Cengage Learning.

This material will be used in 9th – 12th-grade Material Science classes at Kennewick High School.

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce reviewed Kennewick School District’s internal process for addressing parent and staff concerns raised during Public Comment.

Student Representative to the Board, Zachary Glenn, reported that he was part of a WSSDA state networking call. Zachary expressed his excitement to be a part of a state-wide group of young people working together to share best practices. Zachary shared that students are excited about being in person and how beneficial it is to have rapid testing available. Zachary reported that he attended part of the Richland School District Board meeting and will be attending the Pasco School District Board meeting.

Board Member Diane Sundvik reported that she attended the WSSDA Networking Webinar (2) (Zoom); Tri-Cities Coalition for Racial Equity & Social Justice monthly meeting (Zoom); WSSDA Equity & Access Caucus meeting prior to General Assembly (Zoom); ESD #105 Modified Calendar Statewide meeting, Part 2 (Zoom); KEY Connections training Resiliency: Bounce Back Stronger, Part 2 (Zoom); WSSDA Legislative Representatives Learn Digital Equity with Rep. Mia Gregerson and Bre Urness-Straight, OSPI (Zoom). Ms. Sundvik attended the last half of the RSD School Board meeting (Zoom), KEY Connections monthly meeting (Zoom), WA DOH COVID19 briefing on TVW, and the WA State Board of Education “Ethnic Studies Listening Session” (Zoom).

REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Communities in Schools

Abby Mattson, Assistant Director, Career & Technical Education, and Lupe Mares, Executive Director, Communities in Schools of Benton -Franklin, presented data on Communities in Schools in the Kennewick School District. Tyler Ramos, the Site Coordinator at Legacy High School, shared how Communities in Schools works with the students one-on-one to support academics and provide for some of their basic needs.

Reading Foundation

Rob Phillips, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, and Elizabeth Barnes, Executive Director, The Children’s Reading Foundation of the Mid-Columbia, presented on Ready! For Kindergarten and Team Read. The Ready! For Kindergarten school readiness program provides parents and caregivers with tools and activities to optimize children’s natural curiosity and nurture learning and development. Team Read provides one-on-one reading tutoring to KG-3rd graders at seven elementary schools in the Kennewick School District. Volunteers tutor the same student throughout the school year, tutoring 30 minutes each day, two times a week.

Community Education

Robyn Chastain, Executive Director of Communications and Public Relations, reported on Community Education, which provides in-person evening and weekend classes, workshops, and lectures for adults and families.

Student Growth and Proficiency Targets

Dr. Pierce, Superintendent, and Matt Scott, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Assessment, and Professional Development, reported on the graduation rates, dual credit rates, and middle school algebra.

Levy Information and Planning

Dr. Pierce, Superintendent, and Vic Roberts, Executive Director of Business Operations, reported on the levy planning timeline, local funding, recommended EP &O Levy amount for four-year levy 2023-2026, and current and recommended technology levy rates.

OTHER BUSINESS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 8.01 p.m.

RECORDING SECRETARY

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Approved: November 17, 2021