

KENNEWICK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING / Remote Board Meeting
May 25, 2022

M I N U T E S

MEMBERS PRESENT

Board Members: Michael Connors, President of the Board; Ron Mabry, Vice President of the Board (attending remotely); Diane Sundvik, Legislative Representative of the Board; Micah Valentine, Board Member; Gabe Galbraith, 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; Jack Anderson, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education; Rob Phillips, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education; Vic Roberts, Executive Director of Business Operations; Ron Cone, Executive Director of Information Technology.

Other Guest(s): Bronson Brown, District Legal Counsel

CABINET MEMBERS ABSENT

Robyn Chastain, Executive Director of Communications and Public Relations; Excused.

CALL TO ORDER

President Michael Connors called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance with approximately 31 online and in-person staff and guests in attendance.

RECOGNITION

School Board Student Representative

The School Board members joined Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce in recognizing Zachary Glenn for serving as the School Board Student Representative for the 2021 – 2022 school year.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARENTS, STAFF, AND RESIDENTS

David Hall, a teacher at Kennewick High School, read from RCW 28A.405.030 Must teach morality and patriotism and from the article from WEA published on August 12, 2021, entitled Teaching Truth.

JoJo Davis, a counselor at Highlands Middle School, encouraged the Board to look at the whole child and our partnerships with the community. She stated that schools are the heart of the community and part of the body. Ms. Davis challenged the Board to look at who the District can partner with to improve the school district.

Elida Alvarez, parent and educator stated that she believes students are being bullied and racist towards each other and need to feel safe. She stated that she wants people to work together to find a solution to the problem of the levy not passing so that student programs don't get cut and nurses, counselors, resource classes, and life skill classes get more support.

Amanda Brown succeeded her time to Ms. Alvarez.

Ms. Alvarez continued by asking the Board to please provide support for all our students.

Kat Espinda stated that she currently has a tort claim against the Richland School District for their mandates against children. Ms. Espinda added that this Board also signed an oath of office to abide by the Constitution and that the Board must reject mandates that do not hold to the supreme law of the land. She stated that laws and mandates are not the same. Ms. Espinda shared that if mask and vaccine mandates are forced on our children, she will start the investigation, and a tort claim will be brought against the school district.

Ubbly Creek stated that she is a supporter of the school district and wanted to thank the Board for their continued work and the administration for all they do as a whole and as individuals.

Tina Gregory thanked the Board for the things they do for the community. She stated that mandates are not the law. She stated that she hopes the Board is prepared to stand against them in the future. She also stated that she wants the Constitution and the Bill of Rights to be taught again.

Linda Stephenson spoke regarding the Critical Writers Handbook. She stated that she would like to see the Board remain focused on students' learning and the operations and safety of our schools instead of focusing on a hunt to remove learning materials from students.

Marianne Bloxham succeeded her time to Annette Rose.

Annette Rose spoke on why she feels the levy failed twice and the importance of the Board standing up for students and making choices that serve the students. Ms. Rose added that she believes it is time to listen and build trust back with the community.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

Seconded by Micah Valentine.

Roll call vote:	Mr. Connors	Yes
	Mr. Mabry	Yes
	Ms. Sundvik	Yes

Mr. Valentine	Yes
Mr. Galbraith	Abstain

Motion carried 4-0.

The consent items were as follows:

- Minutes of Regular Board Meeting May 11, 2022
- Personnel Actions – Certificated, Classified, and Extracurricular
- Payroll and Vouchers Ending April 30, 2022
- Budget Status Report Ending March 31, 2022
- Budget Status Report Ending April 30, 2022
- Career and Technical Education 2022-2025 Four-Year District-Wide and Four-Year Plans for Middle Schools, High Schools, and Tri-Tech Skills Center
- Resolution No. 16, 2021-2022: Southridge High School Addition Project as Complete
- Curriculum Adoption:
Gathering Blue, book. Author, Lois Lowry, published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. This material will be used in 6th grade English Language Arts Honor Classes at Park Middle School.
- KEA – KSD Collective Bargaining Agreement 2022 - 2026

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce reported she attended the following events: Communities in Schools Spring into Action; the annual retirement celebration for retiring staff; the annual end-of-year Action Team for Partnership (ATP) celebration; Junior Achievement Annual Bowling event and fundraiser; and the Tri-City Regional Chamber luncheon and annual community recognition awards. She shared that tomorrow, she will attend the United Way Breakfast of Champions Campaign Celebration. Dr. Pierce added that she continues her spring school visits where she has visited eight schools over the past two weeks and plans to visit Keewaydin Discovery Center tomorrow.

Student Representative to the Board, Zachary Glenn, reported he attended WSSDA Student Representative Network and Buddy Club Prom at Kennewick High School.

Board Member Gabe Galbraith reported attending the Canyon View School carnival, visiting five schools, and attending the retiree's celebration.

Board Member Micah Valentine reported that he visited Legacy and Endeavor High Schools and participated in the interviewing of the new Student Board Representative.

Board Member Diane Sundvik reported that she attended the KSD staff retirement celebration, Kennewick Empowering Youth (KEY) Connections monthly meeting, League of Urban Latin American Citizens (LULAC) monthly meeting (Zoom), and the WA DOH COVID 19 update (TVW).

Board Member Ron Mabry shared that he was hit with a video this past week that “took

his breath away” and “knocked him right off his feet.” He shared that the Board has a crisis on its hands, and they need to let our citizens know that we see this as a crisis.

President Mike Connors reported he attended Community in Schools breakfast.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Preliminary Budget 2021 - 2022

Vic Roberts, Executive Director of Business Operations, reported on the preliminary 2022 – 2023 General Fund budget. He reviewed budgeted revenues and costs by program. Mr. Roberts shared that the public hearing for the adoption of the district budget is on June 22.

Annual K-12 Student Goal Report

Dr. Pierce, Superintendent, and Matt Scott, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Assessment, and Professional Development, reported district and school-level data, including reading and math grade-level growth and proficiency targets.

Mr. Galbraith was excused to leave the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Adoption Recommendation

Matt Scott, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Assessment, and Professional Development, provided an overview of the materials and the committee’s process, followed by a recommendation for the School Board to accept the 6-12 Health Committee’s recommendation to adopt Essential Health Skills for Middle and High School as presented.

Motion by Diane Sundvik to accept the 6-12 Health Committee’s recommendation to adopt Essential Health Skills for Middle and High School as presented.

Seconded by Micah Valentine.

Roll call vote:	Mr. Connors	Yes
	Mr. Mabry	Yes
	Ms. Sundvik	Yes
	Mr. Valentine	Yes

Motion carried 4-0.

Policy No. 3290 STUDENTS: Social-Emotional Climate, First Reading

Dr. Traci Pierce presented a new policy regarding social-emotional climate to bring the District into compliance.

Motion by Diane Sundvik to approve Policy No. 3290 STUDENTS: Social-Emotional Climate for first and second reading.

Seconded by Micah Valentine.

Roll call vote:	Mr. Connors	Yes
	Mr. Mabry	Yes
	Ms. Sundvik	Yes
	Mr. Valentine	Yes

Motion carried 4-0.

Policy No. 3308, STUDENTS: Students and Personal Electronic Devices, First Reading

Dr. Traci Pierce presented updates to Policy 3308 regarding using electronic devices by students and staff.

Zachary Glenn asked if the last sentence under “d” on page one was needed as students use portable hotspots. Ron Cone, Executive Director of Information Technology, explained that the sentence could be removed as it is no longer applicable.

Motion by Micah Valentine to approve Policy No. 3308 STUDENTS: Students and Personal Electronic Devices for first and second reading with changes identified by the Board.

Seconded by Diane Sundvik.

Roll call vote:	Mr. Connors	Yes
	Mr. Mabry	Yes
	Ms. Sundvik	Yes
	Mr. Valentine	Yes

Motion carried 4-0.

NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Board reviewed items for the next meeting agenda:

- A. Board annual self-assessment
- B. Critical Race Theory discussion
- C. Conspiracy Theories in Education
- D. Board goal setting

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Michael Connors announced an end to the business portion of the meeting at 7:44 p.m. and moved the Board into an executive session at 7:55 p.m. per RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i) to discuss a legal issue and per RCW 42.30.110 (1) (g) to discuss a personnel issue for approximately 60 minutes. Mr. Connors noted that no further formal action would be taken. At 8:55 p.m. Mr. Connors extended the executive session for an additional 20 minutes.

OTHER BUSINESS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

Mr. Connors reconvened the regular session of the Board at 9:15 p.m. There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

RECORDING SECRETARY

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Approved: June 22, 2022