

KENNEWICK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING / Remote Board Meeting
August 24, 2022

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Board Members: Michael Connors, President of the Board; Ron Mabry, Vice President of the Board; Diane Sundvik, Legislative Representative of the Board; Micah Valentine, Board Member; Gabe Galbraith, Board Member; 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 K-12 Education; Rob Phillips, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education; Alyssa St. Hilaire, Assistant Superintendent Teaching & Learning; 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): Bronson Brown, District Legal Counsel

CALL TO ORDER

President Michael Connors called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance with approximately 59 online and in-person staff and guests in attendance.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARENTS, STAFF, AND RESIDENTS

Tyler Thompson – Commented on his concerns regarding a Board member posting a picture of himself on social media with United States Representative Matt Gaetz, as he is being investigated by the Justice Department.

Rachel Ostler – Commented on Critical Race Theory (CRT) in schools.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

Seconded by Gabe Galbraith.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

The consent items were as follows:

- Minutes of Regular School Board Meeting July 27, 2022
- Personnel Actions – Certificated, Classified, and Extracurricular
- Out of Endorsement Teacher Plans (2022-2023)
- Payroll and Vouchers Ending July 31, 2022
- Budget Status Report Ending July 31, 2022

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce reported that new administrators and our new student Board Representative, London Moody, would be introduced at the September 14 School Board Meeting. Dr. Pierce shared that Staff Professional Days would occur Friday, Monday, and Tuesday, and that the annual All Staff Welcome Back event would be held Tuesday morning. She invited Board members to attend. She added that the district provided a Kindergarten Kick-Off for many of the incoming kindergartens and that many high schools do a “freshmen only” day on the first day of school, August 31. Dr. Pierce shared that Gesa Credit Union donated \$59,233, through the Affinity Debit Card program, and that the funds go directly to support student ASB programs.

Board Member Gabe Galbraith reported he attended the recent Kennewick Police Department active shooter training held at Kamiakin High School. He also gave a “shout-out” to Ms. Heights at Ridge View Elementary for sending letters to her students from last year (his child included) and complimented her for her positively impacting students.

Board Member Micah Valentine shared that he was able to meet with the new Southridge High School Athletic Director, Rick Wells, as well as with some other great teachers. Mr. Valentine commented that the district is working to create a soccer field in the grass area along 4th Avenue.

Board Member Diane Sundvik reported attending the active shooter training at Kamiakin by listening on her scanner. Ms. Sundvik shared that she attended the Benton Franklin Mobility Task Force meeting, the Richland School District Board meeting (online), the Racial Equity and Social Justice Tri-Cities Coalition meeting, the League of Urban Latin American Citizens meeting, and the WSSDA networking meeting.

Board Member Ron Mabry reported he attended the National School Board Association meeting in San Antonio, Texas. He shared that he was also invited by the library staff at Washington Elementary School to visit them, along with all the Board members.

President Mike Connors reported that he attended the active shooter training and complimented Kennewick Police Department on their efforts to help keep our schools and students safe.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

2022 - 2023 Strategic Objectives

Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce presented the strategic objectives for 2022 – 23, sharing how the objectives are updated each year and aligned with the Board’s priorities.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Policy No. 2340, INSTRUCTION: Race and the Curriculum, First Reading

Dr. Pierce reviewed the Board discussion that was held during the June 8 Board retreat, along with the policy she drafted and first presented on June 22. She reminded the Board of their discussion from June 22 and possible minor edits to the proposed Policy No. 2340.

Attorney Bronson Brown explained the difference between a policy and a resolution, highlighting that a resolution is a statement of where the Board stands, and a policy provides direction for staff and is also an enforceable.

Motion by Gabe Galbraith to approve Policy No. 2340, INSTRUCTION: Race and the Curriculum for first and second reading.

Seconded by Micah Valentine.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

Ron Mabry commented that while this policy covers race and our curriculum, he also wants to ensure that there are appropriate policies to prevent and hold students accountable for racism or racist acts. Mr. Mabry noted a racist incident that occurred at a school last year and shared that he did not see the disciplinary results from the incident that occurred last year. Dr. Pierce replied that she does have specific discipline information regarding the incident, and while she cannot share it publicly, she would follow up with information to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Policy No. 7430, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT: Lease Capitalization Threshold, First Reading

Vic Roberts presented a new policy regarding the accounting of leases on financial statements. The policy specifies that the new accounting standard would be effective for leases if the lease cost is greater than 1.5% of prior year's General Fund expenditures. Washington School District Business Officials (WASBO) recommended that school districts adopt a policy to create a threshold for when the new lease capitalization standard (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) would be in effect.

Motion by Diane Sundvik to approve Policy No. 7430, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT: Lease Capitalization Threshold for first and second reading.

Seconded by Ron Mabry

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

Motion carried 5-0.

Policy No. 3545, STUDENTS: Interscholastic Academic Eligibility, First Reading

Matt Scott explained that Policy No. 3545 needed some revisions per WIAA eligibility requirements.

Board discussion followed regarding “initially enrolled” classes and eligibility.

Motion by Ron Mabry to approve Policy No. 3545, STUDENTS: Interscholastic Academic Eligibility for first reading.

Seconded by Diane Sundvik.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

Policy No. 3122, STUDENTS: Excused and Unexcused Absences, First Reading

Matt Scott presented updates regarding symptoms of mental health being included under excused absences per recent legislation.

Motion by Diane Sundvik to approve Policy No. 3122, STUDENTS: Excused and Unexcused Absences for first and second reading.

Seconded by Gabe Galbraith.

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

Mr. Valentine	Yes
Mr. Galbraith	Yes

Motion carried 5-0.

Policy No. 2310, INSTRUCTION: Selection and Adoption of Instructional Materials, First Reading

Dr. Pierce presented updates to Policy No. 2310 and 2311, combing the policies into one.

Discussion by Board members included the possibility for more public opportunities online to weigh in on material being looked at for adoption, along with interpreters.

Motion made by Diane Sundvik to approve Policy No. 2310, INSTRUCTION: Selection and Adoption of Instructional Materials for first and second reading.

Seconded by Ron Mabry.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Board reviewed items for the next meeting agenda:

- A. Strategic Goal Report: All Students are Engaged Learners (Reading and Math Results)
- B. Strategic Goal Report: All Families are Key Partners
- C. Annual Update: Technology Operations

Per Board's request, an update on our arms policy will be added to the list of items above.

OTHER BUSINESS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

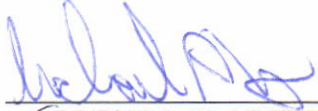
Board Preparation for WSSDA General Assembly

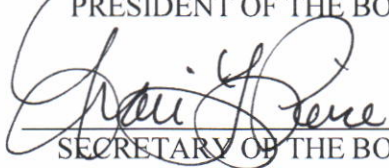
Following Board discussions, it was decided that each Board member would review the legislative positions, identify their priorities, and send them to President Connors and Dr. Pierce. Dr. Pierce would then compile the results and send them back to the Board. Diane Sundvik, Legislative Representative, will be voting on behalf of the Board and has asked the other members to let her know who else would be available to help with the vote and what times would work best for them.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 7:17 p.m.



RECORDING SECRETARY



PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD


SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Approved: September 14, 2022