

KENNEWICK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Administration Building
March 13, 2024

M I N U T E S

MEMBERS PRESENT

Board Members: Gabe Galbraith, President of the Board; Micah Valentine, Vice President of the Board; Brittany Gledhill, Legislative Representative of the Board; Dr. Josh Miller, Board Member; Mike Connors, Board Member; and Dr. Traci Pierce, Superintendent and Secretary of the Board.

Cabinet Members: Alyssa St. Hilaire, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning; Vic Roberts, Executive Director of Business Operations; Robyn Chastain, Executive Director of Communications and Public Relations.

Excused: Annie Maltos, Student Board Member-Elect
Mallory Dupaquier, Student Representative
Matt Scott, Assistant Superintendent of K-12 Education
Ron Cone, Executive Director of Information Technology

Other Guest(s): Dr. Bill Jordan, Northwest Leadership Associates
Sergio Hernandez, Northwest Leadership Associates

CALL TO ORDER

President Gabe Galbraith called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance with approximately 49 online and in-person staff and guests.

RECOGNITION

National Music in Our Schools Month

Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce thanked Teri Glasford, Orchestra Teacher at Chinook Middle School, and the Chinook Wolfpack 8th grade Orchestra, who performed before the Board meeting in recognition of National Music in Our Schools Month.

Education Support Professionals Month

Superintendent Dr. Pierce read Governor Inslee's proclamation declaring March 2024 as Education Support Professionals Month and played a video celebrating KSD Education Support Professionals.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARENTS, STAFF, AND RESIDENTS

Dottie Stevens commented on students having a voice and appreciated Mallory Dupaquier, the Student Board Representative, for expressing her views and the students she represents.

Amy Payson commented that she opposes the district cutting mental health services.

Diane Sundvik commented on the Healthy Youth Survey and the importance of keeping on-site mental health counselors.

Mary Jo Wilkins commented that she opposes the district cutting mental health services.

Rachel Labell commented on the importance of keeping mental health services.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Dr. Josh Miller to approve the consent items as presented.

Seconded by Micah Valentine.

Roll call vote:	Mr. Galbraith	Yes
	Mr. Valentine	Yes
	Ms. Gledhill	Yes
	Dr. Miller	Yes
	Mr. Connors	Yes

Motion carried 5-0.

The consent items were as follows:

- Minutes of Regular Board Meeting February 28, 2024
- Personnel Actions – Certificated and Extracurricular
- Out of Endorsement Teacher Plans 2023 - 2024

COMMUNICATIONS FOLLOW UP

None

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce reported visiting Chinook Middle School, Horse Heaven Hills Middle School, and Lincoln Elementary School. She attended the ESD 123 Crystal Apple Awards ceremony and formerly presented the 2024 KSD Crystal Apple Award to Kaycee Ferguson, a 6th-grade English Language Arts teacher at Chinook Middle School. Dr. Pierce shared that tonight is the regional high school art award ceremony. She stated that she visited the exhibit last week at Columbia Basin College and made her selection for the Superintendent's Choice Award. Dr. Pierce noted that Matt Scott, Assistant Superintendent of K-12 Education, will award our student in her place tonight. She also shared that earlier today, she met with Mallory Dupaquier, Student Representative to the Board, and Annie Maltos, Student Representative-Elect, to talk about how things are going with the new model put in place this year, which has a student board representative and representative-elect. Dr. Pierce stated that both Mallory and Annie had good reflections and feedback on how to modify things for next year. She also stated that information and applications for the 2024-25 student board representative-elect would be

publicized soon, as the application due date is May 15.

Board Member Josh Miller shared that he attended the Future Chefs Competition.

Board Member Brittany Gledhill reported visiting Amon Creek Elementary, Kamiakin High School, Hawthorne Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, and Chinook Middle School. She also stated that she attended the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council meeting this morning and reviewed candidates for the deputy successor superintendent position.

Board Member Micah Valentine reported reviewing candidates for the deputy successor superintendent position and attending the Future Chef Competition. He thanked community members who contacted him and engaged in meaningful conversation.

President Gabe Galbraith reported attending the Future Chef Competition. Mr. Galbraith also provided clarification on a topic previously raised during public comment, sharing that the F-1 filings on completed on an annual basis, like taxes, and are due on April 15.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Enrollment Analysis

Superintendent Dr. Pierce reported that during the last budget presentation, the Board asked for a follow-up analysis of the current enrollment situation, trends, and influencing factors. She reviewed the difference between Headcount and Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) enrollment and apportionment, shared statewide enrollment trends, and explained Kennewick enrollment trends.

Legislative Update

Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce presented highlights from the 2023-24 legislative session, which ended on March 7. She reported on key funding items connected to the Board's legislative priorities and provided an update on funding bills passed during the session. Dr. Pierce noted that the Board would receive budget presentations throughout March, April, and May and see the impact of key legislation on the district budget.

General Fund 2023-24 & 2024-25 Preliminary Budget Information

Executive Director of Business Operations Vic Roberts presented information on the current 2023-24 and preliminary 2024-25 General Fund budget. Financial challenges associated with projected lower student enrollment and reduced levy equalization funding were discussed. It was explained that current staffing levels have been maintained with COVID relief funding during a time of lower enrollment and lost revenue from the levy failure. COVID relief funding will be entirely spent at the end of the 2023-24 school year. Programs funded by COVID relief funding will end in the 2023-24 school year when the funding expires. Vic shared that district administration is working through staffing reductions that will be in place for the 2024-25 school year, and it is projected more staffing reductions will occur in the 2025-26 school year 6.

Mr. Roberts also presented a budget timeline showing June 26 as the date for the Board adoption of the 2024 – 2025 budget.

President Galbraith announced a five-minute break at 7:44 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 7:52 p.m.

K-12 Academic Progress Update

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning Alyssa St. Hilaire presented data from academic assessments administered in the fall and winter along with updates on two key strategies the district is employing to improve student academic outcomes: Professional Learning Communities and an Assessment Pilot Study.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Board reviewed items for the next meeting agenda:

- A. 2024-25 Preliminary Budget
- B. Transportation – Annual Bus Purchase
- C. Asset Preservation/Capital Projects Update
- D. K-5 Math Adoption Recommendation

The Board also identified topics for future meetings including the potential of having a committee look into options for mental health services and the Second Step digital program.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Gabe Galbraith announced an end to the business portion of the meeting at 8:50 p.m. He moved the Board into executive session at 8:56 p.m. per RCW 42.30.110 (1) (g) to discuss the Deputy Successor Superintendent Applicant Evaluation for approximately 30 minutes. Mr. Galbraith noted that no further formal action would be taken. At 9:26 p.m. Mr. Galbraith extended the executive session for an additional 40 minutes.


OTHER BUSINESS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

Mr. Galbraith reconvened the regular session of the Board at 10:06 p.m. and shared that no

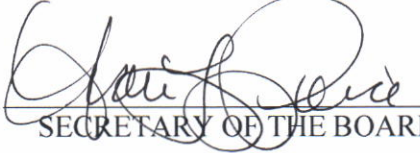
decision was made to bring in candidates for interviews next week. Since there was no further business, the Board adjourned at 10:06 p.m.



RECORDING SECRETARY



PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD



SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Approved: March 27, 2024