

KENNEWICK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Administration Building
March 27, 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; Mallory Dupaquier, Student Representative to the Board; and Dr. Traci Pierce, Superintendent and Secretary of the Board.

Student Board Member-Elect: Annie Maltos, excused.

Cabinet Members: Matt Scott, Assistant Superintendent of K-12 Education; 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: Ron Cone, Executive Director of Information Technology.

Other Guest(s): Ryan Jones, Capital Projects Manager
April Heiser, Transportation Director

CALL TO ORDER

President Gabe Galbraith called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance with approximately 93 online and in-person staff and guests.

RECOGNITION

National Music in Our Schools Month

Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce thanked the Kamiakin High School Scarlet and Gold choir for performing before the Board meeting and thanked the Board for supporting our district music programs.

School Retirees' Appreciation Week

Superintendent Dr. Pierce recognized Dottie Stevens, President of the Benton-Franklin Retirees' Association, along with members Victoria Russell, Diana Baker, and Helen Bruggeman. Dr. Pierce read Governor Inslee's proclamation declaring March 18-22, 2024, School Retirees Appreciation Week, Dottie Stevens also shared a few words with the Board.

Winter Sports and Activities

Assistant Superintendent of K-12 Education Matt Scott recognized and introduced the high school athletic directors from Kennewick, Kamiakin, and Southridge. Athletic directors introduced coaches, who recognized student participants from the following athletics and activities: Kennewick High School bowling and robotics; Southridge High School competitive cheer and wrestling; and Kamiakin High for bowling, wrestling, and cheer.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARENTS, STAFF, AND RESIDENTS

Rachel LaBelle commented on the importance of funding mental health services for students. Ms. LaBelle suggested that the Board investigate grants through OSPI, the Washington Health Care Authority, and ESD 123.

Dottie Stevens commented on student and family support, mentioning Jan Link, who runs a non-profit tutoring program.

Rama Devagupta commented on STEM Excellence and shared that the Southridge Suns Science Club students earned an honorable mention at the recent science fair. She thanked Dr. Pierce and State Representative April Connors for co-teaching with her. She asked the Board to continue supporting teachers so they can continue to work after school hours volunteering.

Jan Link commented on academic student success. Ms. Link shared that she started Academic Link Outreach, a tutoring center and non-profit organization, with a generous donation through the Three Rivers Foundation from Dwayne Smith, who wanted to impact Kennewick students.

Kaeleigh Osborne attends Legacy High School and commented on the need for their support staff.

MaryJane Kelly attends Legacy High School and commented on the need for their support staff.

Diane Sundvik commented on the importance of retaining funding for mental health therapists.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Micah Valentine to approve the consent items as presented.

Seconded by Mike Connors.

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 March 13, 2024
- Personnel Actions – Certificated, Classified, and Extracurricular
- Out of Endorsement Teacher Plans 2023-24
- Budget Status Report Ending February 29, 2024
- Payroll and Vouchers Ending February 29, 2024
- Recommendation Instructional Material
Delta Math – Digital and PEAK – Novel Book

COMMUNICATIONS FOLLOW UP

Dr. Pierce shared that, in response to the community's comments emails regarding the need for mental health supports, the district will be reviewing all available grant opportunities. She stated that she appreciated people sharing the information about potential grant funding opportunities and not assuming the district might already know about them. She encouraged anyone with knowledge of additional opportunities to inform her, and she will ensure that the district looks into what is possible.

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Student Representative to the Board, Mallory Dupaquier, reported she attended the Superintendent Student Advisory Council meeting on March 13, which included additional students from the high schools, and were structured as focus groups on the topic of a potential financial literacy graduation requirement. Mallory shared that she felt that, overall, good feedback was received. Mallory shared that she and Annie Maltos, Student Representative-Elect, are working on a promotional video to recruit applicants for the incoming Board Representative-Elect for the 2024-25 school year.

Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce shared that she attended an excellent learning walk at Southridge High School. She also shared that she presented to the WSU Tri-Cities' superintendent certification program. She stated that she regretfully missed the 5th Grade Choral Festival this year. Dr. Pierce also noted that tonight is the Kennewick School District Student Job Fair at Kennewick High School, offering students a valuable opportunity to explore part-time and summer job options and connect with local businesses.

Mike Connors commented on the Kennewick School District Student Job Fairs, how excellent they have been in the past and encouraged his kids to attend. He also shared how the Varsity Tutors program, which is coming to an end, helped both his kids and stated that the program was beneficial to students.

Board Member Dr. Josh Miller congratulated all students in athletics and clubs who were acknowledged at the Board meeting. He shared that he attended the Choral Festival and commended the teachers' exceptional work and the students' impressive performances. Additionally, Dr. Miller expressed that Varsity Tutors has been a great program and a

considerable benefit and talked about possible ways to partner with community groups to help fill existing gaps.

Board Member Brittany Gledhill reported meeting with school counselors and reviewing their priorities and concerns. She also shared that she attended the Amon Creek PTO meeting and hopes to partner with them on levies and bonds. Ms. Gledhill shared that she received a phone call from State Legislative Representative April Connors with information on potential funding opportunities for mental health assistance. She also stated that she attended the 5thgrade Choral Festival and the all-middle school track meet at Horse Heaven Hills. which unfortunately, was canceled due to rain.

Board Member Micah Valentine reported attending a leadership conference over the weekend with other Board members from across the state. He also shared that he met with State Representative Skyler Rude and helped organize a fundraiser for kids. Mr. Valentine shared that a community member contacted him regarding some free financial literacy programs for the Board to look into.

President Gabe Galbraith reported having conversations with teachers who have been following along with meetings and provided input from classrooms. He shared those two teachers reached out to him due lice issues in the classroom. Dr. Pierce stated that she would provide information to the Board on the district's head lice protocol.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

2024 - 2025 Preliminary Budget Update

Executive Director of Business Operations Vic Roberts presented information on the Transportation Vehicle Fund and the Debt Service Fund. He provided a budget timeline showing June 26 as the date for Board adoption of the 2024 – 2025 budget.

Asset Preservation/Capital Projects Update

Ryan Jones, Capital Projects Manager, presented the District's Asset Preservation Program demonstrating the district's commitment to maintaining buildings through upgrades to building infrastructure. Mr. Jones stated that one of the state's requirements is to ensure that a certified evaluator completes a building condition evaluation every six years, and that evaluation was completed in March 2020. He then reviewed the building condition scores and explained the scoring evaluation process. He also provided brief updates on the recently completed Ridge View Elementary project and the upcoming \$45M Tri-Tech Core Modernization project.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

platform revisions.

Dr. Pierce provided a sheet for Board members to indicate which graduation ceremonies they plan to attend and who will speak at each ceremony.

OTHER BUSINESS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

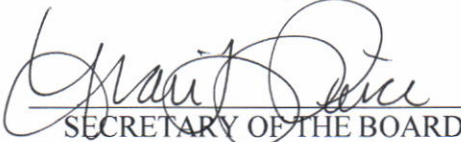
There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 7:55 p.m.



RECORDING SECRETARY



PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD



SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Approved: April 10, 2024

Transportation – Annual Bus Purchase

April Heiser, Transportation Director, presented an annual transportation report, a bus surplus report, and a recommendation to authorize the transportation director to order nine new buses for delivery in the summer of 2025.

Motion by Mike Connors to approve the request to purchase nine new buses.

Seconded by Dr. Miller.

Board discussion followed.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

Math Adoption

Alyssa St. Hilaire presented the background and rationale for the accelerated timeline for K-5 math adoption. She also shared the review process, information about the recommended materials, and a recommendation for approval.

Dr. Miller made a motion to accept the recommendation to adopt Carnegie Learning ClearMath Elementary for grades K-5.

Seconded by Mike Connors.

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

Motion carried 4-1-0.

NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Board reviewed items for the next meeting agenda:

- A. Preliminary Budget 2024-25
- B. Annual Staff/Human Resources Update
- C. Highly Capable Program Update
- D. Second Step Digital Materials

The Board also identified topics for future meetings, including the discussion of WSSDA