

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

MINUTES

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; Annie Maltos, Student Representative to the Board; and Dr. Traci Pierce, Superintendent and Secretary of the Board.

Student Representative-Elect: Diego Anguiano

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; Dr. Thomas Brillhart, Assistant Superintendent of Operations; Robyn Chastain, Executive Director of Communications and Public Relations; and Eric Veach, Director of Information Technology.

Excused: Ron Cone, Executive Director of Information Technology

Other Guest(s): Leanne Luehrs-Purcell, Executive Director Mid-Columbia Children's Reading Foundation

CALL TO ORDER

President Gabe Galbraith called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance with approximately 37 online and in-person staff and guests.

RECOGNITION

Veteran's Day

Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce acknowledged November 11 as Veteran's Day, read a proclamation from Governor Inslee, and recognized Veterans present at the meeting.

Native American Heritage Month

Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce read Governor Inslee's Proclamation proclaiming November 2024 as Native American Heritage Month and November 29, 2024, as Native American Heritage Day. Dr. Pierce introduced Victoria Barajas, the district's Native American Education Liaison.

Foreign Exchange Students

Director of K-12 Student Services BJ Wilson introduced three foreign exchange students who are all attending Kamiakin High School: Johann Woempener from Germany, Carlota Bleye Remis from Spain, and Amanda Rodriguez Davila from Spain.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARENTS, STAFF, AND RESIDENTS

Melissa Kelly and Janeene Sanderson asked the Board to consider bond money to build an indoor swim facility for swim and dive competitions.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

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 October 23, 2024
- Personnel Actions – Certificated, Classified, and Extracurricular
- Budget Status Report Ending August 31, 2024
- Payroll and Vouchers Ending August 31, 2024
- Resolution No. 1, 2024 – 2025: Accept Tri-Tech Skills Center Building Project as Complete
- Resolution No. 2, 2024 – 2025: Accept Tri-Tech Skills Center Building “C” Project Commissioning Report

COMMUNICATIONS FOLLOW UP

Superintendent Dr. Pierce followed up on public comments from the previous Board meeting about the need for training to ensure all our special education students and families are welcomed and provided with appropriate educational opportunities. She reported that the information was also shared at last month’s special education parent advisory committee, and the team is currently working to address the concerns shared.

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Student Representative to the Board Annie Maltos reported attending the Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council (SSAC) meeting.

Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce reported visiting an Open House/Learning Expo at Phoenix High School, the Tri-Tech Skills Center Soup Competition, and a Veteran’s Day Assembly at Park Middle School. She also visited Cascade and Edison Elementary Schools and Delta

High School. Dr. Pierce shared how the Kennewick School District has partnered with United Way to establish a Kennewick Student Success Fund. She then recognized and thanked Vic Roberts for his service and dedication to our community, district, staff, and students.

Board Member Mike Connors thanked Vic Roberts for all his service and reported visiting Westgate and Edison Elementary Schools.

Board Member Dr. Josh Miller thanked Vic Roberts for helping him understand the district budget and for all his work to keep our district financially sound. He reported visiting Chinook Middle School and attending sports and robotic events. Dr. Miller thanked volunteers who have given so much time to school events to help students succeed and he encouraged others to volunteer.

Board Member Brittany Gledhill thanked Vic for his time tutoring her on how the district budget works. She reported visiting Legacy High School, Washington Elementary, a middle school orchestra, and the Tri-Tech Skills Center Soup competition. Ms. Gledhill also visited Westgate Elementary, the two dual language schools, and a Kamiakin High School State Cross Country meet.

Board Member Micah Valentine expressed his appreciation for Vic and his hard work and reported attending the Tri-Tech Skills Center Soup Competition. He also congratulated Representative April Connors on her election.

President Gabe Galbraith thanked Vic for all his hard work and reported working with Dr. Pierce on the superintendent search. He shared that the WSSDA Annual conference is next week and that he has been asked to be a panelist again at the Pacific Research Institute.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Children's Reading Foundation of the Mid-Columbia

Matt Scott, Assistant Superintendent of K-12 Education, introduced Leanne Luehrs-Purcell, Executive Director, and Erin Lee, Educational Programs Director for The Children's Reading Foundation of Mid-Columbia, who presented the annual report 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 kindergarten-3rd graders at ten elementary schools in the Kennewick School District. Volunteers tutor the same student throughout the school year, tutoring 30 minutes daily, twice weekly.

School Improvement Plan Monitoring Processes

Matt Scott, Assistant Superintendent of K-12 Education, and Alyssa St. Hilaire, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, reported on how School Improvement Plans are monitored and supported throughout the year.

Choice Schools and Programs

Matt Scott, Assistant Superintendent of K-12 Education, presented an update on the work completed to refine choice schools and program offerings. He shared some of the school's strengths, successes, and challenges.

2025 Legislative Priorities

Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce presented a copy of the 2025 Board Legislative Priorities for approval.

President Galbraith suggested holding roundtable meetings on December 3, 4, and 5 to hear from staff.

Motion by Mike Connors to adopt the Board's 2025 Legislative Priorities as presented.

Advisory Vote:	Annie Maltos	Yes
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Roll call vote:	Mr. Galbraith	Yes
	Mr. Valentine	Yes
	Ms. Gledhill	Yes
	Dr. Miller	Yes
	Mr. Connors	Yes

Motion carried 5-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Policy No. 2315, INSTRUCTIONAL: Digital Citizenship and Media Literacy, First Reading

Alyssa St. Hilaire, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, presented a new policy that aligns with the WSDDA model policy language.

Motion by Micah Valentine to approve/accept Policy No. 2315 INSTRUCTION: Digital Citizenship and Media Literacy for first and second reading.

Advisory Vote:	Annie Maltos	Yes
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Roll call vote:	Mr. Galbraith	Yes
	Mr. Valentine	Yes
	Ms. Gledhill	Yes

Dr. Miller	Yes
Mr. Connors	Yes

Motion carried 5-0.

Policy No. 2313, INSTRUCTIONAL: Electronic Resources and Internet Safety, First Reading

Alyssa St. Hilaire, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, presented updated language.

The Board requested to see the administrative procedure along with amended policy before approving the policy.

NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Board reviewed items for the next meeting agenda:

- A. Officer Elections
- B. 2023-24 Financial Closeout
- C. Tri-Tech Skills Center Annual Report
- D. Delta High School Annual Report
- E. Student Goal Report: All Students Are Ready for Their Future

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

RECORDING SECRETARY

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Approved: December 11, 2024