

**KIONA-BENTON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 52
1105 DALE AVENUE
BENTON CITY, WASHINGTON 99320**

**Board Minutes of
Monday, February 8, 2021**

Members Present: Dale Thornton, Board Chair
Teddy Bryan, Director
Julie Rheinschmidt, Director
Jacob Johnson, Director (Joined at 6:37)
Kim Scott, Executive Director of Finance
Pete Peterson, Superintendent

Members Absent: Clark Carlson, Director

Visitors: See attached.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Thornton called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

DELEGATIONS

Mr. Peterson asked to add a delegation. Mr. Peterson stated that it was CTE Awareness Month across the stated and he wanted to thank all of our CTE teachers for all they do for our kids.

PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA

New Hires; Leonela Arceo, #4 Special Services/Bilingual Paraeducator; Sarah Kurth, HS Attendance Secretary

The following vouchers as audited and certified by the auditing officer, as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified, as required by RCW 42.24.090, are approved for payment.
AP General Fund- \$267,667.26 Vouchers 1051, 1052, 1053, 1054, 1056
ASB- \$4,790.00 Vouchers 1055
Warrants 113961-113986

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda by Director Rheinschmidt and seconded by Director Bryan.

Vote to approve the consent agenda with a 3/0 vote.
Director Johnson arrived at 6:37 to the Zoom meeting.
Director Carlson was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (limited to prior written or electronic only)
None.

BOARD COMMENTS

Board Chair Thornton stated he was glad to be back and hopefully healthier and ready for the year.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Athletics

Mr. Den Boer stated it was great to have freshman in the building today and to be able to build those relationships in person. Mr. Den Boer stated that he has been meeting with the sport committee to try and

come up with a plan for sports to happen this year. Mr. Den Boer stated that cross country has three athletes, girls soccer has about 14 with adding 8 graders, volleyball has 15-20 and football has about 23. Mr. Den Boer stated he will speak more later in the meeting about sports so he wanted to keep this one shorter.

Student Support Services

Mr. Castillo stated there are 36 students at ECEAP and fully enrolled. Mr. Castillo stated that ECEAP has 8 students they are still serving with at-home learning. Mr. Castillo stated that 21st Century is going well and that the program has had to adapt this year to help our staff out with the current school day schedule we have. Mr. Castillo stated he has been busy with attendance and home visits; he stated he's been taking a lot of referrals from staff to help get kids back in the building. Mr. Castillo stated that with the families in need grant he has been able to help families with rent, clothing and food. Mr. Castillo stated that he is working with clock hours and there will be an opportunity coming up to offer about 6 clock hours.

Special Services

Ms. Zavala sent her report to the board via email and reviewed it with the board.

Maintenance/Transportation

Director of Maintenance and Operations/Transportation, Dan Adamson stated that transportation is short a few drivers and he is working on getting another driver trainer, so if anyone knows of someone that would like to drive then send them our way. Mr. Adamson stated that the State Highway Patrol inspection is coming up and they are at 15% of the normal student count and still waiting on the funding model. Mr. Adamson stated that there was another issue with the dry side, but he and his staff were able to get that fixed. Mr. Adamson stated with the cold weather coming, that will be another test for the system. Mr. Adamson stated new custodial staff is being trained and there are some good candidates. Board Chair Thornton stated that the basketball area in front of the high school looks nice. Mr. Adamson stated that they still have some work to do on it and will bid the paving job in the back of the high school this spring.

Technology

David Rodriguez stated that his department has closed 298 tickets since November and staff is really starting to understand the importance of using the ticketing system. Mr. Rodriguez stated that 143 laptops were received from the stated and we have about 40 that are broken from students. Mr. Rodriguez stated that he will be starting the E-Rate process and will be looking at upgrading the access points with that. Mr. Rodriguez stated that his department is starting to build a uniform system right now and he would like to continue that. Mr. Rodriguez stated that his department has had two paras that have been able to work with them and they are rock stars, he wanted to thank them for all their hard work. Board Chair Thornton asked if the laptops are coming back beat up more than normal and Mr. Rodriguez stated that they are being put to the test for sure.

Federal Programs

Mr. Haun stated that he has applied for some grants and is waiting to hear back on those. Mr. Haun stated the district received a Transitional Kindergarten(TK) grant that allowed the district to purchase curriculum and some professional development came along with that. Mr. Haun stated that he and Mrs. Hanson have attended monthly meetings for TK to keep on top of things and Mrs. Hanson has been a great person to lead this program. Mr. Haun stated he applied for a meal access grant and the district has a good chance of getting that. Mr. Haun stated that the Crime Prevention grant allowed Mr. Tovar to help families that were in need of food during a difficult time of year and wanted to thank him for his work on that. Mr. Haun stated he would like to thank the board for allowing him to be here and allowing him to do his small part to help out.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Re-Opening Update

Mr. Peterson stated that today was another step in the right direction from the beginning of October till now. Mr. Peterson stated the buildings are seeing these kids for the first time and hats off to the middle school staff; that's a challenging age and they did a great job today. Mr. Peterson stated that just the 9th graders were at the high school today and the leadership students were there to help with the transition and they did a great job. Mr. Peterson stated that tomorrow 10-12 graders will be added and it will be great to say we have all our kids in every building. Mr. Peterson stated that the elementary staff doesn't get enough credit for

everything they have done, it was a great day at KiBe and we all look forward to tomorrow. Board Chair Thornton stated he had two excited kids to go to school today. Mr. Peterson stated at the last board meeting the district put out a survey about transition to hybrid learning and the biggest thing was only 8 of the responses were not comfortable with returning; so we are identifying those parents to make contact with and as of now we have 11 online students. Mr. Peterson stated that he will work with David and Heidi on another survey that would go directly to families.

Levy Discussion

Mr. Peterson stated that he would like to move this to New Business letter g and continue the discussion then.

NEW BUSINESS

Minutes from 1/25/2021, Approval

A motion was made to approve the minutes from 1/25/2021 by Director Rheinschmidt and seconded by Director Bryan.

A vote to approve the minutes from 1/25/2021 with a 3/0 vote.

Board Chair Thornton was absent from the 1/25/21 meeting.

Director Carlson was absent from 1/25/21 meeting.

Policy 3510, Associate Student Bodies, Revision

Mr. Peterson stated that this is just a revision to the policy and keeps it in line with the new updates from HB1660. Board Chair Thornton asked if the procedure needed to be discussed and Mr. Peterson stated that will be the next item. Board Chair Thornton stated he reviewed it and it is pretty much in line with what WSSDA recommends.

A motion was made to approve the revision of Policy 3510, Associated Student Bodies by Director Rheinschmidt and seconded by Director Johnson.

A vote to approve Policy 3510 Associated Student Bodies with a 4/0 vote.

Director Carlson was absent.

Procedure 3510P, Associated Student Bodies, Approval

Mr. Peterson stated he would recommend the adoption of 3510P to the board. Mr. Peterson stated the waivers will be available on the website for the students and families to have a little more privacy about filling it out. Mr. Peterson stated this is the WSSDA recommended procedure and the waiver form is ready to go.

A motion was made to approve Procedure 3510P Associated Student Bodies by Director Rheinschmidt and seconded by Director Bryan.

A vote to approve Procedure 3510P Associated Student Bodies with a 4/0 vote.

Director Carlson was absent.

Sports Finance Update

Mr. Den Boer stated he was encouraged to put together a bare bone budget to be able to have sports this year with zero transportation. Mr. Den Boer stated that this budget he shared with the board doesn't include the transportation, sports equipment updates and is varsity only squads. Mr. Den Boer stated he and Mr. Henry have volunteered to run clocks and referee games if needed. Mr. Den Boer stated he had two columns; one bare minimum coaches and the other with all coach's contracts and that he felt fairly confident with his numbers.

Mr. Kantman stated he sent some numbers to the board as well for middle school sports. Mr. Kantman stated that middle school is looking at just holding a spring sports season only this year. Mr. Kantman stated that it would start after spring break and it would be about \$20,000.00 for that to happen. Mr. Kantman stated that a lot of their parents don't come to games so the transportation would be the biggest hurdle for them.

Mr. Peterson stated he wanted to make sure the board had time to reflect on these numbers that were present by both athletic directors. Board Chair Thornton stated he personally see they both have done their best with bare bone figures and asked if they needed an approval. Mr. Peterson stated that he would like to commend the people who worked on the MOU; the salaries are being reduced for coaches by about 50% and would like to commend them for taking a hard look in the mirror and decided to do what's best for the kids. Mr. Peterson stated the official's costs are pretty high and the middle school got it right when they decided to focus just on a spring season since that's what took the hit last year. Mr. Peterson reviewed the online survey. Mr. Peterson stated that the proposition he has for the board is roughly \$100,000.00 was saved from last seasons. Mr. Peterson stated that we have a large group of constituent's that think we have large amount of money and that would go a long way with our community if the board would allow the district to use \$100,000.00 for high school varsity athletics. Mr. Kantman stated the middle school would go with the WIAA recommended games and that would be 7 games. Mr. Peterson stated that the number would be about \$120,000.00 if all of these sports happened. Mr. Peterson stated we cannot do this again without a levy passing though; this would be a one-year thing. Mr. Peterson stated a decision didn't have to be made on middle school tonight if the board felt that was necessary, but he feels confident that this is a good move. Board Chair Thornton asked if the \$120,000.00 included transportation for select games and Mr. Peterson said no, but more conversations would need to be had about middle school transportation. Director Rheinschmidt stated she appreciated all the work that was done on this and he biggest concern is transportation and getting the funding from the legislature. Director Rheinschmidt stated she appreciated the coaches. Director Rheinschmidt stated she would like the district to be able to provide this for the students this year.

A motion was made to approve not to exceed \$123,000.00 for sports by Board Chair Thornton and seconded by Director Rheinschmidt.

**A vote to approve not to exceed \$123,000 for sports with a 4/0 vote.
Director Carlson was absent.**

Mr. Peterson stated he wouldn't bring this to the board if he thought it would harm the district. Mr. Peterson stated that it shows that the district will use what we put in the budget specifically and sometimes we have to balance what's right for kids and spending these dollars is what is right for kids. Board Chair Thornton stated that was his feeling also; plus Mr. Den Boer and Mr. Kantman have put in a lot of time to be fiscally responsible with the dollar and it behooves the district to honor that. Mr. Peterson thanked the board.

ASB Fee 20-21, Approval

Mr. Peterson stated we have a very good leadership at our middle school and high school and our kids know what's right sometimes. Mr. Peterson stated the ASB voted to reduce the ASB fee for the remainder of this school year to \$20.00 instead of \$35.00 Mr. Peterson asked the board for approval on this fee.

A motion was made to approve the \$20.00 ASB fee at the high school for the remainder of the school year by Director Bryan and seconded by Director Johnson.

**A vote to approve the \$20.00 ASB fee at the high school for the remainder of the school year with a 4/0 vote.
Director Carlson was absent.**

Sports Participation Fee, Approval

Mr. Peterson thanked the board for approving the funding for the Spring season of sports at the middle school and high school varsity sports. Mr. Peterson stated that sometimes our students know more than we give them credit for; our high school ASB voted to implement a participation fee of \$25.00 per sport to help fund athletics. Mr. Kantman stated that the middle school ASB also voted a \$25.00 participation fee and a \$15.00 ASB fee. Mr. Peterson stated he would ask the board for approval of this fee. Board Chair Thornton stated he thought this was fair.

A motion was made to approve the \$25.00 sports participation fee for each sport at the high school and middle school by Director Rheinschmidt and seconded by Director Bryan.

A vote to approve the \$25.00 sports participation fee for each sport at the high school and middle school with a 4/0 vote.
Director Carlson was absent.

Levy Discussion

Mr. Peterson stated that if the board chooses tonight a rate may be approved and we can ask Kim to start preparing a resolution for the next board meeting to submit for the April election. Mr. Peterson stated that he thinks the consensus is \$1.50. Mr. Peterson stated that the best news he had heard in a while that we don't have to hit a validation number, that is only with a bond. Mr. Peterson stated the work won't change with that information, it just eases the mind a little more of trying to find 500 more votes. Director Rheinschmidt stated the levy committee is great and majority thought this was the best time to run a levy and that we need to get moving because we don't have a lot of time. Director Rheinschmidt stated that what sealed the deal for recommendation of \$1.50 was that we will still get the equalization at that rate still. Director Rheinschmidt stated that the levy committee is eager to get started and would like a decision from the board. Director Rheinschmidt stated that the last time we went out at \$1.72 and Mrs. Scott stated that the first time was \$2.50 and the second time was \$1.72. Mr. Peterson stated that these funds will stay local and it would be foolish to ask without that equalization dollars. Mr. Peterson wanted to compliment Mrs. Scott on her work with these levy amounts because she has been sport on. Mr. Peterson stated that he thinks this is a good move and we have a short amount of time but we can come back with showing where these monies are spent. Director Rheinschmidt stated that the district had talked about sending an information post card fact list about levy funds. Board Chair Thornton stated that he fully supports what Julie is putting out; \$1.50, two years and running in the April election. Mr. Peterson stated that there are always other ideas, but the best right now is this two years, \$1.50 and April election.

A motion to approve the \$1.50 amount, two years and for the April election for the levy by Board Chair Thornton and seconded by Director Johnson.

A vote to approve the \$1.50 amount, two years and for the April election for the levy with a 4/0 vote.
Director Carlson was absent.

CONVENED


At 8:17 p.m., the Board convened for executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110, Section (g) personnel matters, for approximately 30 minutes. Business to follow.
Resumed at 8:42.

LOA, Approval

A motion was made to approve the leave of absence without pay by Director Rheinschmidt and seconded by Director Bryan.

A vote to approve the leave of absence without pay with a 4/0 vote

ADJOURNMENT – Regular board meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

 3-8-21
Dale Thornton, Board Chair

 3/8/21
Julie Rheinschmidt, Director

 3-8-21
Jacob Johnson, Director


Clark Carlson, Vice Chair

 3/8/2021
Teddy Bryan, Director

 3/8/21
Pete Peterson, Superintendent