

**KIONA-BENTON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 52  
1107 GRACE AVENUE  
BENTON CITY, WASHINGTON 99320**

**Board Minutes of  
Monday, April 28, 2014**

Members Present: Tim Cook, Chairman  
Wayne Elston, Director  
Leslie Johnson, Director  
Ivan Howard, Director  
Tawny Garrett, Director  
Kimberly Scott, Assistant Superintendent  
Wade Haun, Superintendent

Members Absent: None.

Visitors: See attached.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Cook called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. the District Office.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

**DELEGATIONS:** None.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Assistant Superintendent, Kimberly Scott presented the financial numbers of all fund activity to the Board. Ending fund balance numbers were reviewed and shared. The General Fund balance is \$1, 049,767.08, Capital Projects \$121.96, Debt Service \$170,643.57, ASB \$302,915.90, Transportation \$94.36, and PILT \$44,328.15.

**PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes from April 14, 2014

Resignations: Estella Sanchez, Custodian

New Hire: Lisa Stade, Emergency MS Softball Coach; Joseph Hertz, 2014-15 School Psychologist.

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.

Payroll General Fund - \$973,518.40	Vouchers 10, 1049, 1050
AP General Fund- \$46,030.14	Vouchers 1047, 1048
AP ASB Fund - \$5,637.65	Vouchers 1047, 1048
Warrants 106525-106585	

**A motion was made to approve the consent agenda by Director Elston and seconded by Director Garrett.**

Director Johnson asked about the continuing school psychologist position and Assistant Superintendent Scott clarified that it meant that the position would be a permanent position starting the 2014-15 school year.

**Unanimous vote to approve the consent agenda with a 5/0 vote.**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Flags**

Superintendent Haun verified that two flags had been placed in the High School PAC. Director Elston asked about updating the plaques in the High School gymnasium, and the Superintendent verified that they have been updated, but was looking to schedule a time to get them placed.

### **Elementary Maintenance**

Assistant Superintendent Scott shared with the Board that in May 2013 she was presented to the Board to approve a study and survey for Elementary and Middle School renovations. She presented Resolution 1-2014 to the Board approving the survey, which needs to be provided to the State. She also presented Resolution 2-2014 verifying there was no available space with neighboring districts.

**A motion was made to approve Resolution 1-2014 Approval of Study and Survey and Resolution 2-2014 Available Space in Adjacent School Districts by Director Johnson and seconded by Director Howard.**

**Unanimous vote to approve Resolution 1-2014 Approval of Study and Survey and Resolution 2-2014 Available Space in Adjacent School Districts with a 5/0 vote.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Policy & Procedure 3247 / 3247P**

Superintendent Haun presented Policy 3247 and Procedures 3247P for second reading. Chairman Cook asked if all corrections on wording had been completed and he confirmed that they had.

### **Raptor Approval**

Chairman Cook presented information regarding Raptor, explaining that it was an electronic badging system that could track students, staff and volunteers. He further explained that driver licenses could be ran through State Patrol databases. Chairman Cook indicated that they had looked at piloting this at the High School, but have since decided to pilot it at the Elementary, using it for volunteer staff and volunteer parents that are coming in to help. He explained that it was going to cost \$1,600 for the Elementary setup and after a year of piloting, review how it worked and possibly expand it to the other buildings. It was clarified that this is a tracking system that would be in place starting the next school year and is for the safety of the students. Director Elston indicated that there had been an issue at the High School last year and this system would protect against this. It was also explained that after the first year, the cost would drop to \$385 for the software access fee and maintenance. Director Howard questioned what the cost would be for the additional buildings and Chairman Cook indicated that it would be \$1,600 per building.

**A motion was made to approve the purchase of the Raptor system and equipment by Director Elston and seconded by Director Howard.**

The Board shared with the audience that if they wanted to review the Raptor system further that it was available via their website.

**Unanimous vote to approve the purchase of the Raptor system and equipment with a 5/0 vote.**

## PRINCIPAL REPORTS

### a. KB High School

Acting Principal DiFalco indicated that the High School was looking to do something different by showcasing High School talent and she introduced the A Cappella choir directed by Rob Hanson. Acting Principal DiFalco explained that she wanted to be able to share with others what they see at the High School every day. She shared that five (5) students from Mrs. Herrington's photography class received awards from the Hanford Reach Photography contest. The students were Ciara Howard, Brittany Green, Madelynn Gallagher, Seth Garcia, and Kareem Johnson and their photographs will be on display at the Union Branch of the Mid-Columbia Library from April 28 to May 3. Acting Principal DiFalco shared that the High School just completed the Every 15 Minutes program, which is an impactful program for the juniors and seniors to teach the students the harms of drinking and driving. She also thanked Deputy Klippert for bringing the program to the High School. She also indicated that the Master Schedule is complete for the 2014-15 school year and it is available to the public if anyone is interested in what courses will be offered and they are updating course descriptions in the course catalog, which can be found on the High School web site. Acting Principal DiFalco addressed concerns from previous meetings regarding the Ag Biology credit equivalency and CTE courses and how they are accepted for graduation. She provided the Board and audience with information on the current laws relating to Ag Biology. She encouraged anyone that had questions regarding graduation requirements to contact her and provided cards with her contact information. Acting Principal DiFalco indicated that they are working hard at tracking the seniors to ensure they are meeting graduation requirements and planning for the incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students by planning an overnight event prior to school starting, to include informational sessions, scavenger hunt and watching the movie Bully. Acting Principal DiFalco welcomed Craig Beverlin to the High School as the new head football coach and indicated that he is already busy working on the summer program and assessing the weight room. She also indicated that next week is teacher appreciation week and that activities and treats have been planned for that and that Prom is scheduled for May 10, inviting the Board to attend.

### b. KB Middle School

Principal Chuck Feth shared that they had the Student of the Month assembly last Wednesday and some of the photos from that are posted on Face Book and ASB elections were held last Friday. He indicated that MSP testing has started and it is going well and during the past staff meeting, there was discussion regarding test strategies, and encouraging the teachers to promote it as a positive experience although it can be trying and stressful. Principal Feth also commended the Science Team for their hard work to assist the students with refresher material for science testing. He stated that on May 22 at the Middle Schools Service Learning Project, all of the CAVE students have chosen various activities throughout the schools and community.

### c. KB Elementary School

Principal Castillo updated the Board on the School Improvement Process. He indicated that the Leadership Teams biggest challenge has been the master schedule adjustment to accommodate for more math and reading. He indicated that his hope is to have it completed by the end of the year and will keep the Board updated. Principal Castillo indicated that they had completed this evening the review of the reading curriculum that they are looking to adopt. He indicated that it went really well and there was a representative there to answer questions regarding the Journey curriculum. Principal Castillo indicated that June 10 is going to be a big day for the Elementary with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade promotion at 8:30 and Kindergarten graduation at 10:30, both to be held at the Middle School.

## SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORT

Superintendent Haun shared with the Board the recent development of Washington State's waiver regarding No Child Left Behind being denied, which may result in the District setting aside 20% of Title I funds depending on the national yearly progress. He wanted the Board to know that this was being handled. Chairman Cook asked Superintendent Haun about the assistance needed at the High School. The Superintendent indicated that Vic Engelhart was brought in to assist Interim Principal DiFalco with discipline, student/parent meetings, and assisting the principal as needed.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bruce Gradisher thanked the Board for having the Kindergarten graduation reinstated. He indicated that a lot of the parents pitched in money for the 2014 tassels, which were delivered to Principal Castillo today.

Dejah McConn indicated that at the last Board meeting that she was told there would be a report available regarding the investigation with the president of the School Board and the girls wrestling coach. Director Johnson indicated that she thought that a meeting had been scheduled regarding that, but an outcome had not yet been provided and should be available by the next Board meeting.

Donna Baumgartner asked Assistant Superintendent Scott to help her by sharing the announcement that was sent out earlier in the day. She indicated that Acting Principal Dr. Shawnta DiFalco was one of two people to receive the Outstanding Alumni Award from Heritage College.

Micah Wilson wanted to remind the Board of the FFA plant sale that was coming up on May 2 & 3, and again on May 9 & 10. He provided a flyer with the dates and times as well. He indicated that there were tomatoes, flowers, etc... available and that the horticulture class grew the plants from seeds. Mr. Wilson indicated that the funds raised help FFA members attend state convention and other career development events.

Clark Carlson apologized for raising his voice to the Board during the previous meeting. He explained that he sometimes gets louder when he is excited and intended to be professional. He then shared that he was able to meet with the Acting Principal of the High School and was very impressed with her methodical way of making sure she was doing the correct thing in regards to the CTE classes and credits. Mr. Carlson asked the Board about questions that he asked of the Board during the March 10 meeting. He asked about the vision or plan that the current Superintendent has for the District moving forward. Mr. Carlson indicated that this was a very important thing to do and that the Superintendent has been in the position for three (3) months. He asked the Board if an outline could be provided at the next meeting. Chairman Cook responded by indicating that some goals of the Board were communicated to the Superintendent while in the interim position and not within his contract. Once there is a new contract, actual goals will be included. Chairman Cook stated that the goals for the interim position included better communication and mending partnerships with everyone, which he indicated Superintendent Haun has done an excellent job at. He also indicated that the 2014-15 contract should be available before June 30, which will outline the Boards goals for the Superintendent. Mr. Carlson then asked the Board about the extension of the Superintendents contract and what objective criteria was used to make this decision. He indicated that the Board in a previous meeting stated that one reason was that the teachers were happier. He then asked the Board how many teachers were interviewed by in impartial source to determine this happiness factor. Mr. Carlson explained that some people will not put themselves in a position to single themselves out, but may not necessarily be happy. He again asked to know what the criteria was relating to the Board decision. Mr. Carlson indicated that another reason the Board stated was no more grievances like there was with Superintendent Castilleja, and he felt that this was more due to Superintendent Haun not being Superintendent Castilleja and not anything that Superintendent Haun was doing differently. Mr. Carlson again asked for an outline of the objective criteria used by the Board to extend Superintendent Haun's contract. He then stated that the first time he addressed the Board he asked what Mr. Haun's qualifications were for being Superintendent. Chairman Cook stated that they talked about this after the meeting; however Mr. Carlson disagreed and was told to fill out a form. Mr. Carlson stated that he wanted to know if the Board talked to any of Superintendent Haun's previous employers or references to determine what his strength and weaknesses were, and was any information corroborated on his application or resume. He asked the Board to provide information to show to him and the public that the Board went through the steps of doing a good job of spending our money and running our school. Mr. Carlson submitted his questions in writing to the Board.

Kelly Wheeler stated that she would like to see things kept positive. She indicated that now when you walk in the buildings, it doesn't feel like a morgue. People have their heads up, smiling and saying good morning. Mrs. Wheeler stated this included teachers and office staff. She stated that she can see the improvement. Mrs. Wheeler indicated that her main reason for speaking was to address Family Link. She indicated that for working parents this is one avenue that parents can ensure their kids are staying in line and on top of things. She wanted to share that the Middle School teachers are excellent at using it and responding in a timely manner if there were any questions regarding your student(s) progress. She wanted to make sure the Board recognized this as these teachers go above and beyond to answer the emails and in making sure questions are answered.

Summer Smith addressed the Board, thanking them, Superintendent Haun, and all of the teachers and parents who came together for the kindergartners. She indicated that this was awesome and that she is so excited. She then asked the Board about the funding and the introduction of Common Core curriculum into the schools, and if it would be possible to have a public meeting during a Board meeting or other venue where parents could be educated on what Common Core stands for, where is the District going with it, and how it will affect students. Mrs. Smith indicated that she feels that many parents in the community would like to be educated about this. She stated that you can go online and get horrible vs. great reviews. Mrs. Smith indicated it would be great to get the community educated on it.

**CONVENED**

At 7:39 p.m., the Board convened for executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110, Section (g) personnel matters, for approximately 30 minutes with no business to follow. Executive session started at 7:50 p.m. after a short break.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Regular board meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

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**Wayne Elston, Director**

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**Leslie Johnson, Director**

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**Ivan Howard, Director**

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**Tawny Garrett, Director**

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**Tim Cook, Chairman**

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**Wade Haun, Superintendent**