

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

**Board Minutes of
May 19, 2008**

Members Present: Dan Raap, Chairman
Joe Schroeder, Director
Charles T. Gray, Director
Jill Renz-Whitman, Director-Excused
Cole Gunter, Director- Excused
Rom Castilleja, Secretary to the Board, Recorder
Kimberly Scott, Executive Director of Financial Services, Excused

Visitors: Jill Falkner, Kim Minkler, Donna Baumgartner, Teddy Bryan, Mary Smith, Bob Spink, Mayor Carnahan, Bornson Brown, Kendrick Leist, Kevin Pearl

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman D. Raap called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Kiona-Benton School District Board room.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

DELEGATIONS

Congratulations to Manuel Sanchez, 30 Yrs Service.

Also noted but not in attendance were Barb Barnes...30 Yrs. and Lori Collins 10 Yrs

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA

The Board:

Approved minutes for the regular board meeting – April 28, 2008

Motion was made to approve the consent agenda Items 6-13 by Director Schroeder and seconded by Director Gray.

Unanimous vote to approve consent agenda. 3-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Community Pool – Bronson Brown City Attny, Mayor Lloyd Carnahan, Bob Spinks, City Engineer Update of the plans for city pool. Diagram shared with board. Not only city benefit but also benefit to the district...PE water safety, after school or summer program.

Funded through bonds would establish a taxing district similar to the library taxing district. City has purchased a 6 acre parcel.

Timeline for approval from county? In the next two months...need to file 60 days prior to the election.

Mayor reported long drawn out process going to county commissioners next month. West Richland is part of the school district because of overlap...don't want to have two cities represented on the park district if possible. Should be between 71 and 75 cents per 1000. Bob Spinks added that the maintenance and operation levy would be only around 10 to 20 cents per 1000 can be assessed by park board without a vote.

We are talking two years away if everything passes. Must have a super majority to pass. 3.5 million in bonds. Meeting on the 28th of May, 7p.m. , consultant will have conceptual plans to present and cost

estimates somewhere around 100-150K per year to operate...could raise more than half through lessons fees and concessions,....subsidize \$75K per year. Could be as low as 10-15cents per 1000.

Wall of Honor

Dan Raap stated because of the caliber of people is there a wall in the school where they could be more visible...no problem with the proposal but wonder if there is another option more visible. Mr. Barrett responded that maybe when the project is finished but possibly renaming it as a Wall of Fame.... Mr. Schroeder stated his concern that he hoped that the dying wasn't a criterion for establishment of the honor. Board wants to recognize the student for all of the work he has done and provide him with a letter of commendation to future colleges or work. The board would also like to have him work with Mr. Barrett on criteria for inclusion into the Wall of Fame.

NEW BUSINESS

4 Period Day- Jill was here for Rick Harding....when committee came together for this work were told this would be for 08-09. Staff prefers 4 period day with some exceptions. We do have some students scheduled for math 1A 1B, 2A, 2B

Would you need a full year for starting this program? It would only take a year to start...some classes would be full year and some would be half year. Would be hardest on Srs...transitioning to complete, underclassmen are aware that it may be coming so can plan, One of the program challenges is the construction sharing of classrooms. In Sci it has worked well offering more courses...in the electives yes there is more offerings. They would have the classes all year long. She would have more sections same number of kids more times a day.

How does this line up for college preparation? Does this prepare them as well for next step? Doing most of their homework in class...college not going to be that way. Number of classes will be similar but not the amount of work.

AP classes Bio or Chem will do a two semester course, the equivalent of 2 years in the 4 period format. New student coming in may have been in a math course will have a significant gap in math prior to WASL.

On the con side, the material is so condensed that you cover all of the info in one day, if you miss the course you are way behind.

Yes, as a student I would have preferred the 6 period format, I would have learned a lot more.

We will have to convert courses and credits for students...

Parent...so many thoughts because we have been fighting to keep our students challenged. Right now the district teaches by age not by ability. System needs to be integrated throughout the district. Have to allow students to access courses as they need them.

Need to have a mechanism in place for all kids to excel if they are able/ready. 4 period day made that virtually impossible.

Dan Raap,....would like superintendent cost analysis...benefits to school. Based on my experience are we doing the best for our students. For next meeting.

JS- From the report I thought it was better to do 6 period day now I am hearing you say 4 period is better.

Art? Full year or half year. Art teacher prepared the report. More variety of offerings in 6 period day.

Only need 1 credit in fine arts. Most HS operate on 55 minute day per semester. Sculpting one semester. You could get a good variety of art.

We don't have a graph of how we have done before the 4 period day and on the 4 period day.

CG- if prior to 4 period day did kids do better on tests, attendance...are their grades the same or better?

WB hard to quantify because there are so many factors....the realistic position is that 6 period day gives kids the better option.

Staffing costs, books, materials.

CG I just want what is best for the kids...prepares them for next step...college.

Jill most teachers filled this out with what is best for kids in mind.

Summer School

The schedule for summer school was reviewed and it was explained that the new schedule was partly because of the addition of snow days and the need for a minimum of three weeks of instruction. The additional week meant that summer school would last through the Fourth of July vacation and would require a break at some point in the summer schedule. It was determined that the new schedule created less interruption and coincided with the WASL summer school that would extend to the end of July.

Collaborative Release Time

Proposal to create 3 hours of release time for all staff on an every other Wednesday format was presented. An Activity program was also presented as part of the package that would be supported by Para Staff, students from MS and HS, and parent volunteers from the community. The Activity Program would provide services for students who because of family work circumstances would not be able to go home after a shortened day.

Discussion ensued regarding the amount of time...3 hours may be too long for one day. It was shared that the committee had had the same discussion and was split on the amount of time needed, so we determined to go with this in the pilot format. The board liked the fact that there was a sunset clause in the proposal that would set a time for review and evaluation for decision of final implementation or different direction.

Final schedule and criteria for evaluation was requested for review at the next board meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Castilleja reported that the floor issue in the PAC is yet unresolved and the district is taking steps to insure that our investment in the facility is protected which could mean a new floor will need to be installed this summer. This creates a challenge because there is a possibility that the main gym will not be ready on the Aug 20 deadline as projected which means the PAC has to be available by mid August for fall volleyball season. We will continue to update the board as the manufacturers of both the bleachers and the floor come back to make adjustments to their product and report on findings.

Supt. Castilleja also reported on the request to OSPI for a waiver of attendance for the HS only for the last three days of school June 9-11. We are requesting this waive only at the HS level due to the scheduling difficulties of the construction project and our goal to stay on schedule for the start of the school year in the fall.

The last item reviewed with the update to the board on the staff professional development plan to attend the Robert Marzano training at the ESD for 28 staff including teachers and administrators.

ADJOURNMENT

Regular board meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Executive session was approximately 20 minutes: **Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (g)** Board reviewed and approved recommendations for parapro rehires for the coming year.

Dan Raap, Chairman

Jill Renz-Whitman, Director

Charles T. Gray, Director

Cole Gunter, Director

Joe Schroeder, Director - Director

Rom Castilleja, Superintendent