

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

**Board Minutes of
February 9, 2009**

Members Present: Dan Raap, Chair
Joe Schroeder, Vice Chair
Jill Renz-Whitman, Director
Charlie Gray, Director
Cole Gunter, Director
Rom Castilleja, Secretary to the Board

Members Absent: Kimberly Scott, Executive Director of Financial Services, **Excused**

Visitors: Kevin Pearl, Vance Wing, Craig Bailey, Joe Lloyd, Troy Jaimeson, Jesus Alvarado

CALL TO ORDER

Director Raap called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the District Office.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

DELEGATIONS

None

FINANCIAL REPORT

None

BUDGET STATUS REPORTS

None

PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Minutes from January 26, 2009 meeting**
- 2. Retirement letter from Linda Westerfield, submitted**

Motion was made to approve the consent agenda by Director Gray and seconded by Director Schroeder.

Unanimous 5-0 vote to approve consent agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2009-2010 District Calendar Approval

M: Charles Gray S:Jill Renz-Whitman V:5-0

Request to Modify CRT Pilot- It was requested by the administration in consultation with the teacher's union leadership that the second year of the CRT Pilot be modified to remain in the current every other week format. CRT dates will be the same as this year...first and third Wed. of each month except where vacations make it a shorter week. Calendar update will be presented to the board for review. Chairman

Raap noted the positive impression of the time we have allocated and looks forward to evidence of improved student learning. It was also approved that the district would survey the parents of the students who are using the student activities provided on these Wednesdays and determine the impact of not providing this time next year for board decision. The request was approved by the board.

NEW BUSINESS

Attendance and Discipline Reports

Each principal submitted reports documenting average daily attendance for the time period Aug. through January the elementary and high schools showing an improvement in daily attendance. Also provided were reports on discipline suspensions for each school including the reasons for suspensions. Most notable was the decrease in suspensions at the high school down nearly 50% from the previous year.

CEE Achievement Report

Joe Lloyd reviewed the reports provided by the Center for Educational Excellence. The information was invaluable for staff discussions on the challenge in front of the district to improve student achievement. What was critical for the district to understand was the majority of student who struggle in Math and Reading are not from a targeted group typically identified with poor achievement. Our data suggests that the one factor that impacts a significant population of ours students is poverty. The largest portion of students who struggle are students without the risk factors of special education, migrancy, or ELL. Chairman Raap noted that this was the best report of student achievement the Board has ever received. He believes this information will help the Board to be more effective in helping direct Student Achievement. The district now needs to build a template for success at all levels and subject areas.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Supt. Castilleja reported that he would and a team would be attending the Gear Up Conference through 2/11/09

EXECUTIVE SESSION- 8:05

Short executive session was requested to update the board on a personnel matter.

Regular board meeting adjourned at 8:18 P.M.

Dan Raap, Chairman

Joe Schroeder, Vice Chairman

Charles T. Gray, Director

Cole Gunter, Director

Jill Renz-Whitman, Director

Rom Castilleja, Superintendent