

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

**Board Minutes of
Monday, March 12, 2012**

Members Present: Dan Raap, Vice Chairman
Tim Cook, Director
Jill Renz-Whitman, Director
Wayne Elston, Director
Rom Castilleja, Secretary to the Board

Members Absent: Charles T. Gray, Chairman; Kimberly Scott, Executive Director of Financial Services

Visitors: See Attached.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Raap called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. at the District Office.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

DELEGATIONS

Superintendent Castilleja shared with the Board that Jolyn McCarty received the Crystal Apple Award and invited the Board to attend the award ceremony being held in the Gjerde Center at Columbia Basin College.

FINANCIAL REPORT – None.

PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA

The Board Minutes from February 27, 2012
Leave of Absence Requests; Sherry Shuman, Para Educator; Torrey Borms, Teacher
AP General Fund- \$40,653.85 Warrants 102889-102912
AP ASB Fund - \$168.73

Motion was made to approve the consent agenda as amended to include leave request for Torrey Borms by Director Renz-Whitman and seconded by Director Elston.

Unanimous vote to approve consent agenda as amended with a 4/0 vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Policy 6217 - Travel

Superintendent Castilleja presented the Board with the second reading of Policy 6217 – Travel. He explained that the updates suggested at the previous meeting had been included in the second reading.

Motion was made to formally adopt updated Policy 6217 - Travel by Director Cook and seconded by Director Renz-Whitman.

Unanimous vote to approve the Policy 6217 – Travel with a 4/0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Operating Principles – First Reading

Superintendent Castilleja presented the Board with Operating Principles for first reading. There was discussion among the Board regarding whether the Operating Principles were reading enough to proceed past a first reading. The Superintendent explained that it was a first reading and by agreeing to move forward to a second reading by no means meant that the Operating Principles were being implemented as read at this time. Board members still expressed concern about moving forward and thought it should be tabled.

Motion was made to table the first reading by Director Elston and seconded by Director Cook.

Vote to table Operating Principles' first reading was a 2/2 vote.

Wrestling Room Wall Removal

Director Cook indicated that the wrestling staff members were requesting to remove the wall in wrestling room to make more room for mats. They indicated that they would like to start the work this week and that an estimate of the work costs had been submitted as requested. There was discussion regarding the removal of the wall to ensure that it was not load-bearing. It was asked that Mark Noyes check into the drawings of the room and make sure that the wall/room being removed would not affect the structure. There was also discussion regarding the additional mats needed for the area and if by removing the room that there would be a problem with the 10-year agreement made in regards to the use of the rooms. The Board asked again that Superintendent Castilleja and Mark Noyes research the request to remove the wall and come to the next Board meeting with more clarified information.

Middle School Wrestling Mat Purchase

Director Cook indicated that the wrestling staff members were requesting the full use of the multi-purpose room for wrestling practice due to the large number of participants as well as the purchase of another mat for the extended area at the cost of approximately \$10,000-\$11,000. There was discussion regarding the cost and possibly checking into other forms of funding to make the purchase. There was also discussion regarding a practice plan so that there was an equal use of facilities for all sports in the middle school. The Board asked that Superintendent Castilleja and Chuck Feth research the request for full use of the multi-purpose room and the possibility of other funding for the mat purchase other than levy funds and come to the next Board meeting with more clarified information.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

a. Teaching & Learning/Athletics

Chuck Feth discussed the Math Bench Mark assessments and they are planning for the last one coming up in April. The last writing assessment dates have been set. A curriculum team will be going to training on the common core state standards in April. He also updated the Board on spring sports and all is going well at the high school and middle school with the exception of the need for coaches at the middle school level.

b. Grants Manager

Joe Lloyd was absent, however Superintendent Castilleja shared with the Board a current print-out provided by Mr. Lloyd on the status of all grants. As well Barb Thomas was present and spoke about the bike grant and the training that they have completed. She indicated they are

looking for volunteers to help out. Vice Chairman Raap asked if Mr. Lloyd could provide an update on the grant opportunities.

c. Technology

Troy Jamieson indicated that he was in the process of setting up 56 computers with flat screens. The kids are excited to have new computers. He also talked about a lot of upgrades to include Bring Your Own Device with a goal of every child having their own personal device by 2015-16. Mr. Jamieson indicated that the district would need access points, controllers, and security devices. In addition, there are aging servers and there are a lot of updates. He indicated that Battelle is the only one really supporting school districts and have been very supportive. The district needs about 60 more computers as there are a lot of old CRT monitors that need replacing. Director Renz-Whitman asked about the locations for testing and Mr. Jamieson indicated that Portable 9 plus two (2) other computer labs in the middle and elementary schools will be used. Director Renz-Whitman mentioned that she hopes the heating and air are regulated for the best testing environment.

d. Special Services

Dr. Theresa McDowell presented the Board with information regarding the referral and re-evaluation process, and the manifestation determination meeting. She indicated that it is difficult to put a number on how much time is needed for each meeting. Dr. McDowell explained a few meeting types such as manifestation determination meetings. In addition, there are several students that are high needs. There are runners and some children that need extra attention. She also talked about transfer meetings and how the program has had at least 25 transfer children alone this year and have had meetings for each child. Dr. McDowell also talked about recommended caseloads and the transfer of students in and out of our district. They have to deal with incomplete files requiring amended IEP's to reflect team decisions for placement.

e. Maintenance & Operations

Mark Noyes indicated that the high school will be evaluated. There is still the concern for the carpet in the middle school and it not being a manufacture defect. The goal is to replace is this summer. Mr. Noyes indicated that out of 132 work orders, 118 have been completed. There was a question regarding the radios being taken out of the buses and using only phones. There is a concern about the range and inability to have proper connection if needed for kids. Mr. Noyes indicated that there were various things to take into account. Director Cook asked about the fencing around the new field house and Mr. Noyes indicated that hog wire fencing is there and they are ready to have the concrete poured before the weekend. He indicated that Tom with Quality Structures is working on it.

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORT

Superintendent Castilleja provided a legislative update and budget highlights. He also indicated there is another bill that brought back the Charter Schools Bill in another form. As the special sessions continue, Superintendent Castilleja will provide further information.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – *Vice Chairman Raap requested that public comments be limited to 3 minutes.*

A father spoke to the Board regarding his daughter who was emergency expelled. He expressed concerns about bullying and feels that it has become a hostile environment for his daughter. He stated that per Chapter 4.96 Revised Code the Board has 60 days to respond. He indicated that if it is not resolved after 60 days, he will take it forward to a civil claim. The students' mother wanted to know about a bullying policy. She doesn't know who else to talk too and she has recently tried contacting the office. They feel the principal should apologize and they would like an assembly regarding bullying. The student that was emergency expelled indicated that she had to pay to get back into school. She asked if the Board still had a letter requesting reimbursement of \$180 for lawyer costs.

Connie Meredith asked about what the Operating Principles were. She also asked about the advertisement in the Tri-City Herald and closed session. Could the announcement go on the reader board and can the board agenda be sent out. It was explained that board agenda's go out on Fridays prior to board meetings. She asked if they could be sent out a week before. The Board indicated that they don't even get them until the Saturday or Sunday before the meeting. The Superintendent indicated that he can send them by email, but most won't receive the agenda until Monday unless they check their email over the weekend.

A parent with three (3) students in the high school and middle school with concerns about how a situation was handled with one of her 13 year old daughters and another student. Threats were made and she is concerned about how staff handled the situation. The parent asked where the commitment to safety was. The Board and Superintendent requested more information to clarify the situation and asked that the parent come in for a meeting. The parent is concerned that the situation was being minimized.

The student that was emergency expelled indicated that she had to pay to get back into school. She asked if the Board still had a letter requesting reimbursement of \$180 for lawyer costs.

CONVENED

At 8:48 p.m., the Board convened for executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110, Section (g) personnel matters, for approximately 20 minutes. Vice Chairman Raap extended the meeting for an additional 20 minutes at 9:15 p.m. No matters were addressed after executive session.

ADJOURNMENT – Regular board meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Wayne Elston, Director

Jill Renz-Whitman, Director

Dan Raap, Director

Tim Cook, Director

Charles T. Gray, Chairman

Rom Castilleja, Superintendent