

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

**Board Minutes of
Monday, September 24, 2012**

Members Present: Charles T. Gray, Chairman
Tim Cook, Director
Wayne Elston, Director
Dan Raap, Director
Jill Renz-Whitman, Director
Rom Castilleja, Secretary to the Board
Kimberly Scott, Executive Director of Financial Services

Members Absent: None.

Visitors: See attached.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

DELEGATIONS – None.

PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from September 10, 2012

New Hire: Jessie Labrie, Middle School Language Arts (Information provided to Board)

Superintendent Castilleja indicated that there were two (2) vouchers to be added to the Consent Agenda to address payroll corrections. As well, he indicated that Joe Lloyd was asking for Board consideration in sending Joanna Reynolds out of state for GLAD training.

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. Voucher #1009 was previously approved during the September 10. Detail was provided at this meeting as informational only.

There were questions regarding the Superintendent of Public Instruction invoices and technology purchases. Those were clarified by Kim Scott.

Payroll \$917,887.72 Warrants total \$295,864.26, Direct Deposits total \$622,023.46. Warrants 103912-103944, 104039, and 104040.

AP General Fund- \$65,136.50

Vouchers 5, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013

AP ASB Fund - \$7,151.41

Vouchers 1011, 1013

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda by Director Raap and seconded by Director Cook.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Portable Demo Estimate

A certified test was conducted on three portables located on the west side of the elementary building. The test resulted in mold. The expected cost to demo and remove portables is at \$99,000. Director Raap asked about how having the portable's there vacant might affect the District's total seat count. The Board also asked the Superintendent to check with Canfield on the liability of them remaining. Director Elston also asked if the possibility of burning them was an option, and Superintendent Castilleja indicated that due to their location and other concerns, this could not be an option. Director Elston also asked again about the possibility of selling them and the Superintendent indicated that he has been looking in to that. Director Cook asked if it was possible to get local estimates with hopes of reducing cost and Director Raap expressed the request for more bids should also be done without the District incurring costs.

NEW BUSINESS

Transfer Report

Superintendent Castilleja shared with the Board a breakdown of Inter-District transfers. He indicated that 17 students have transferred into the District, 45 new students have requested transfers out of the District, and there were 72 annual transfer renewals. The Board expressed concerns regarding transfers from HomeLink. It was explained that some parents believe that the programs at other local districts is different than our district, however our program is modeled after those same districts. Director Elston also had questions regarding bullying as a reason for transfer and how that was being addressed. Superintendent Castilleja explained that it is the perception of the requestor(s) and that it goes both ways. Some have given that as reason for leaving the District and others have come to the District for that same reason.

Grad Requirements/Accreditation Report

Principal Wayne Barrett shared with the Board information regarding accreditation. For 2012, there is a 19 credit requirement and for 2012-13, it is 20 credits. As well, he indicated that the Alternative High School was grandfathered into the accreditation and to keep them joined, graduation requirements must be the same. If separated the Alternative High School would have to seek its own accreditation. Principal Barrett indicated that Sunset View and Kiona-Benton City High School students receive the same diploma. The Board had questions regarding accessibility of classes for Alternative students within the High School and Principal Barrett also explained some of the state requirements that have changed without funding.

Chairman Gray asked about the change to the Alternative online program and why the switch from APEX to E2020. He believes the students are being set up for failure due to the change with no training and the different requirements that E2020 has versus APEX. Principal Barrett explained that is a better program with the capability to pretest in a subject to allow appropriate placement based on need. He also indicated that training was being set up. Chairman Gray indicated that he did not think appropriate steps were followed in the implementation of E2020 and that timing was not appropriate. William Burke, teacher for the Alternative High School indicated that they received a two hour telephone training which was an overview of system. There are time constraints with the program, and he didn't believe it could produce packets for students like APEX could. Mr. Burke also indicated that there seemed to be a technology issue with trying to use this new program while at home. Director Raap indicated to the Superintendent to look into this issue. Superintendent Castilleja indicated that he would check into the new program use, set up to have APEX as the lead program, but allow students to continue using E2020. He will also contact Joe Lloyd in the morning about obtaining APEX for the Alternative school and email the Board regarding the status of the situation.

Common Core State Standards Report

Vance Wing reported on Common Core State Standards (CCSS). With Washington State standards, teachers only have 180 days to try and meet those and there is no way to hit every standard. He indicated the question that needs to be asked is, "what are the most critical standards our kids would need to

succeed?" He indicated that currently, 48 states, District of Columbia, and two territories are using CCSS which will create equity amongst all states. Mr. Wing indicated that proficiency has to rise. Comparisons can be made through common assessments and the sharing of resources. Student mobility and test complexity will rise with CCSS. There will also be a balance of literature and informational text, direct links to college readiness. Mr. Wing stated there is an expectation for a student to rise, as the bar is being raised. There was Board discussion regarding the reality of college costing more and for students to have to take several classes to reach college level courses is even more of a cost. It was indicated that we need to do as much as we can to get our students to the level they need to be so this doesn't happen to them.

PRINCIPAL REPORTS

a. KB Elementary School

Principal Jennifer Behrends shared enrollment for the elementary was at 631, with 114 kindergartens. There are no classes on overload. As indicated in a previous meeting, testing scores have been received and reviewed. She indicated that administration has met with 3rd – 5th grade teachers regarding the scores and will report back to the Board in October. She indicated that the BBQ on September 14 was a great success. Principal Behrends indicated that fall testing was scheduled. Due to the use of the Math and Reading Benchmark assessments that MAP testing would be reduced to only twice a year, once in October and once in May, and a fall writing prompt on September 18. She shared some upcoming events to include September 28, Fall Sports Dress-Up Day, October 2, first grade field trip to the pumpkin patch, and October 4, Open House.

b. KB Middle School

Principal Chuck Feth shared with the Board that the school year was off to a good start. They have been having their Department Meetings, working on the Reading and Math Benchmark assessments. Two staff members, Maria Weakley and Lisa Stade, are heading to Tacoma, WA on October 1, 2012 for Range Finding training. Another teacher has participated in CPO training all day, learning tools to implement the new curriculum. They are also refining things daily. Director Raap asked if this was same testing as before, and Principal Feth indicated that yes it was, they were busy setting current goals for reading and math and there would also be training coming in from ESD 123 to work with the teachers.

c. KB High School

Principal Wayne Barrett shared with the Board that he as well had teachers scheduled to attend Range Finding training as well as the High School would be participating in the Reading Benchmark this year. There is the fall sports assembly scheduled for this coming Friday during Bear Time. As for Bear Time, the school is receiving great feedback from the students themselves and things have been very positive. Principal Barrett indicated that the one thing he would like to change would be the use of the spreadsheet for tracking which is read only. He also indicated that Homecoming weekend is October 19, 2012.

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORT

Paperless Board Packets

Superintendent Castilleja proposed to the Board paperless board packets. The alternative would be to email a PDF file or log into the portal. He shared information with the Board from a company that could be easier and very accessible, and would even have a book mark option. The Board would also be able to add notes as they reviewed the document. The projected saving to the District would be \$2,200 in material and printing costs. The Board asked how much the service would cost and the Superintendent indicated \$1,500 per year. The Board discussed different options and the sending of PDF's as an easier fix. The Superintendent indicated that they would work on various options with less to no cost, as well as providing I Pads to the Board, which would be at no additional cost to the Board as they would come from Administrators that have upgraded.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - *Chairman Gray requested that public comments be limited to 3 minutes, no names be used, and to not ask about personnel issues.*

Joni Ashley expressed to the Board that she works with an amazing Elementary staff and things seem to be going well. She expressed that she was dealing with a stinky room, but was being accommodated by her fellow staff by their allowing her to use their rooms as needed.

The Rhoads parents addressed the Board as they have a student in the Alternative school that is being affected by the change to E2020. He is a senior and was excited about school until having to use E2020. They indicated that they don't want to have him fall through the cracks. They also indicated that the program is not compatible with their computer at home. As parents they indicated that they did not know about the change and should have been notified. Their thought as parents is to let seniors complete their year with old program.

Connie Meredith asked about E2020 and what it was. She also asked about the District purchase of Read 180 and why two sections had been cancelled due to a teacher being moved. It was verified that the program was being used. Mrs. Meredith also stated that Bear Time gives students an hour for lunch, which enables them to drive into the Tri-Cities for lunch. She asked if the District understood what could happen and asked that this be looked at. She also asked if the Bullying of Staff Members policy will be followed and when will the Insurance Arbitration payment be made back to teachers. The Superintendent again extended an invitation to Mrs. Meredith to come to his office to discuss these issues. She then added that more lights were needed for safety in the parking lot.

Bill Adams commented on the August 27, Board meeting and the number of kindergartners and the need for another teacher. He then asked why they were turned away from the Elementary office when his daughter was brought in to test into kindergarten as she did not meet the age requirement. Principal Behrends indicated that there should be no problem with testing her, it was that they had to accommodate the students that were of the correct age first. Principal Behrends asked to contact the office and schedule a time with Judy.

CONVENED

At 8:44 p.m., the Board convened for executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110, Section (g) personnel matters, for approximately 20 minutes with a Level III hearing to follow. At 9:14 p.m., Chairman Gray announced that executive session would continue for another 20 minutes following the hearing.

ADJOURNMENT – Regular board meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Wayne Elston, Director

Jill Renz-Whitman, Director

Dan Raap, Director

Tim Cook, Director

Charles T. Gray, Chairman

Rom Castilleja, Superintendent