

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

**Board Minutes of
Monday, October 22, 2012**

Members Present: Charles T. Gray, Chairman
Tim Cook, Director
Wayne Elston, Director
Dan Raap, Director
Jill Renz-Whitman, Director
Joe Lloyd, Superintendent Designee

Members Absent: Rom Castilleja, Secretary to the Board; Kimberly Scott, Executive Director of Financial Services (at law conference).

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.

FINANCIAL REPORT

In Kim Scott's absence, Superintendent Designee Lloyd presented the financial numbers of all fund activity to the Board. Ending fund balance numbers were reviewed and shared. The General Fund balance is \$1,147,399.53, Capital Projects \$36,717.34, Debt Service \$228,556.73, ASB \$247,757.85, Transportation \$41,798.81, and PILT \$40,023.40. There was discussion regarding the current numbers for the Capital fund. It was explained that the balance is not the current to-date balance and there were still outstanding invoices to process for the Field House project. Director Raap indicated he had walked through the Field House and indicated that project update was minimal.

PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from October 8, 2012

New Hire: Amber Minnich, Food Service; Patrick Kerrone, Custodial

Addition to Consent Agenda – Katy Storm, Leave of Absence

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 minimal questions regarding invoices and were clarified.

Payroll \$955,622.50 Warrants total \$304,054.20, Direct Deposits total \$651,568.30. Warrants 104179-104215

AP General Fund- \$62,348.27

Vouchers 1022, 1023

AP ASB Fund - \$1,650.13

Vouchers 1023

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda by Director Raap and seconded by Director Renz-Whitman.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Post Issuance Compliance Procedures

The Board reviewed post-issuance administrative procedures for implementation of Resolution No 3-2012. By adopting these procedures the District would save \$500,000 over the course of the loan for the tax-exempt bonds. The goal was to save 5% by refinancing the loan, and at this time the District savings reached 8%.

A motion was made to approve implementation of post compliance procedures for tax-exempt Bonds by Director Raap and seconded by Director Cook.

Unanimous vote to approve implementation of Post Compliance Procedures for Tax-Exempt Bonds with a 5/0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Grading Policy – Participation Points

Due to the Superintendents absence, the Board will hold over this item until the next scheduled Board meeting.

PRINCIPAL REPORTS

a. KB Elementary School

Principal Jennifer Behrends presented to the Board information regarding MSP scores. She indicated that there was discussion with staff after the scores were released to get a better understanding of the scores. She indicated that there was concern over it being the first year the testing was done on the computer, which in turn created some frustration with the students due to extensive keyboarding. There was also discussion regarding staff concentrating on basic reading skills and how it may have hindered the ability for students to answer the higher level questions. Principal Behrends did want the Board to see that there was positive movement, even though some students did not reach the next level. The elementary plans to continue to use GLAD training as a tool and place a greater emphasis on keyboarding skills. She indicated that by using GLAD, there is more connection to the data and more commitment as the students document and track their own progress.

b. KB Middle School

Principal Chuck Feth indicated that the Middle School would be participating in the first reading benchmark assessment the next day. He indicated that they are working to do a better job with common assessment – it is a new team and they fit well together. Principal Feth also indicated that there was cross-training happening with teachers instructing two (2) grade levels which assists with working across boundaries. Previously, if there was a change in staff at one grade level, the scores would dip. He also indicated that the Middle School had sent a couple of teachers to Range Finding training. He also indicated that the Math Benchmark group was working together a little better which could be seen in the math scores that moved from 26% to 55%. An ESD representative will also be coming in to interpret results and assist. Principal Feth also indicated that they were looking into new 6th grade math curriculum and will make a request to update down the road. Director Rapp asked about some of the test scores and Mr. Feth indicated that there were some missteps to get to these goals in addition to two (2) of the three (3) Language Art teachers being new, but he hoped to reach to reach their goals

c. KB High School

Principal Wayne Barrett indicated that the High School's goal is to have the student's college ready. To share with the Board, he asked Stuart Allen to share with the Board the scores associated with Language Arts. Mr. Allen showed the Board the varying movement from each class to show where the percentage may have dropped, including two (2) no-shows which count against the scoring percentage. He also indicated that the department as a whole was working to identify the kids that need help and indicated that writing skills was what needed work. Mr. Allen also proposed a suggestion to the Board about the possibility of implementing a 9th and 10th grade pass essay or as he called it an "Exit Exam". He indicated that this would definitely assist with identifying those that need the help. He also suggested that breakfast/snacks be available as the students would think better with nourishment.

Keely Matteson with the Gear-Up program presented the Board examples of handouts that they program provides to the students as well as shared with the Board the various field trips, services, activities, and assistance that Gear-Up has provided over the past few years. Director Raap asked at what point do students really need to worry about their grades to get on the 4-year secondary school path. She indicated that it is never too early – programs such as NAV 101 and student led conferences starts in middle school. Kimm Minkler co-presented as a counselor and shared with the Board the great partnership that the counselors have with the Gear-Up program and staff. Mrs. Minkler provided some information and indicated that there is so much for a student to do to prepare that they created a cheat sheet to assist the students. She also shared the various links and information that is available via the school website, to include scholarship news. There is also classroom contact and one-on-one visits with students to ensure they are on the right track and get the assist they may need to succeed. She also wanted to share with the Board that it was in the paper that Washington students for the 9th year were ranked highest in SAT scores in the nation.

The Board asked Principal Barrett regarding the E2020 program and if it was still in use and he indicated that yes it was and those teachers that used it received training and now have a better grasp of the program. He also indicated that the school also purchased APEX for the seniors and alternative students that were in question of not meeting graduation requirements. Director Renz-Whitman indicated that she wanted to confirm that the District didn't leave those students hanging.

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORT

Superintendent Castilleja - absent.

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

Connie Meredith asked about E2020 and if the Board approved the purchase. Principal Barrett shared that part of the cost was covered by the Gear-Up program and the Board indicated that they did not approve those purchases. Mrs. Meredith also asked if the Board was aware grievances and at what level they were at. Three (3) of the five (5) Board members indicated they were aware, the other two (2) indicated they didn't. Chairman Gray indicated that they only are to hear level III grievances and if they reach that level, then yes the Superintendent provides all necessary information to them. (*Further discussion about grievances and process, however multiple people talking all at once so no good notes could be taken*). Mrs. Meredith then asked about the Field House and the total cost associated with it. She will be submitting a public records request. She then asked why Board minutes were not up to date on the website. Ms. Van Hollebeke indicated she would work with the COE student who was currently trained to process web updates for the District Office. Mrs. Meredith then stated that providing keyboarding at the Middle School level would be great.

Barb Thomas indicated that she felt there was still concern regarding the substitute issue and that the possibility of good substitutes being removed from the system. She indicated that she knew that the new person was working hard and cleaning it up, but did she have the most current information. Mrs. Thomas

also asked why flu shots were provided by an outside agency and not our local clinic. There was also some discussion regarding the old Prosser Clinic building and the Board wanted to insure Mrs. Thomas that no decisions had been made and that the District was still waiting on information. As for the flu shots, it was understood that the clinic was contacted, but unavailable so Rite Aid was contacted. The Board indicated that they would have the Superintendent get with her regarding the building issue.

Jan DeFord spoke and indicated that substitutes were not eliminated unless contact by the District Office. She indicated from past experience, that the District notified the substitute dispatcher of additions and removals. She expressed concern about how SubFinder was being cleaned up and about the Board considering increasing substitute pay from \$125.00 per day. She indicated that better pay may bring in more substitutes.

Joni Ashley stated she had an issue with the busing situation. She indicated she got home to find that she beat the kids' home. She was not notified that the bus broke down and that there would be a delay. She also indicated that her son was kicked off a bus due to capacity and told to wait. Better communication is needed.

Nicole DeRousie indicated that she knew that the District in which her children attended had a system in place and automated calling to notify parents as soon as possible. She indicated that a plan should be put in place.

Vic Engelhart asked about the Board to reflect... why teachers were dismissed. No discipline, but just removed. The District then indicates offers are being processed for settlement yet the offers were not directed to them. They have only received a letter indicating that an offer was being processed. Was the grievance not answered? Director Cook asked if he had talked to anyone concerning this as he did not know of an offer.

CONVENED

At 7:43 p.m., the Board convened for executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110, Section (g) personnel matters, for approximately 30 minutes.

ADJOURNMENT – Regular board meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Wayne Elston, Director

Jill Renz-Whitman, Director

Dan Raap, Director

Tim Cook, Director

Charles T. Gray, Chairman

Rom Castilleja, Superintendent