

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

**Board Minutes of  
Monday, February 11, 2013**

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** – Superintendent Castilleja recognized the High School Boys Basketball team for receiving the league title, the High School Girls Basketball team for reaching District level, and the accomplishment of the High School Wrestling team for having participants going to State.

**PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes from January 28, 2013

Retirement: Judy Reid, Elementary Office Manager

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.

There were minimal questions regarding invoices and these were clarified.

AP General Fund- \$115,423.01 Vouchers 1048, 1051, 1052, 1054, Manual Warrant (funding correction)  
AP ASB Fund - \$2,419.89 Vouchers 1048, 1054, Manual Warrant (funding correction)  
AP Capital - \$6,081.57 Vouchers 1048, 1054

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

There was discussion regarding the January 28, meeting minutes. Director Cook asked about missing information in the grading policy section. Superintendent Castilleja reminded the Board that the minutes were not verbatim, but a summary of the discussion. Director Cook was asked if there was something specific that needed to be added to the minutes and he indicated that there was nothing.

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

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Social Media Policy 5253 & Procedures – First Reading**

Superintendent Castilleja presented the Board with the first reading of the social media policy and procedures. There was discussion regarding the use of “unacceptable behavior” throughout the documents. The Board asked about condensing the procedures and as well about interpretive issues there may be with how some of it was worded and the examples that were provided. Director Cook requested that the draft documents be forwarded to staff for their input. The Superintendent indicated that this shouldn't be a problem and would send it out once the requested changes from the Board had been made. AS well, the Superintendent indicated that the intent was to make staff more aware of surrounding conditions and what liability they could place themselves in; which could also extend to the District. Director Raap indicated that this would also affect students. He indicated that the impact of the new policy and procedures would have to be shared with them, and should also be included in the student handbooks. Superintendent Castilleja also indicated that an icon could be placed on the main web page to indicate that there is a new policy available for viewing and he would take the Board suggestions, make changes, and forward to staff for input to provide to the Board by the next meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Resolution 1-2013**

Kim Scott presented to the Board with Resolution 1-2013 which addressed the transfer of general funds to transportation to meet the payment obligation of a new bus. As there is a longer timeframe for receipt of the bus, the request is being made now in the hope of having the bus available for use for the 2013-14 school year. There was discussion about the type of bus needed, whether buying two smaller buses was a better option. As well there were questions regarding the possibility of the requirement of seatbelts being a cost issue. Mark Noyes shared with the Board the information that he knew of and indicated he would follow up on their inquiries. Over all, he indicated that one (1) larger bus would be the best option for the District as almost every regular route had 59-70 students per bus. Chairman Gray expressed that he thought that it would be more cost effective to purchase the larger bus.

**A motion was made to approve Resolution 1-2013 by Director Raap and seconded by Director Cook.**

**Vote to approve Resolution 1-2013 with a 4/1 vote.**

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

### **a. Teaching & Learning/Athletics**

Vance Wing presented the Board with an update of curriculum and athletics. He indicated that currently the K-5 reading curriculum adoption committee was reviewing materials from Pearson Scott Foresman Program, the Psychology curriculum is open for public review, and the Health curriculum for the Middle School and High School was in the process of being reviewed. Mr. Wing indicated that the Elementary and Middle Schools were currently participating in the Reading and Math Benchmark assessments and the High School was working on the WELPA testing.

Mr. Wing shared that athletics are also going well. He reiterated what Superintendent Castilleja had shared regarding the basketball and wrestling teams. He indicated that there was a sendoff scheduled for the wrestling state participants and alternates on Thursday morning. Mr. Wing also shared that there were currently three (3) High School coaching positions open and that the District had just hired Stuart Allen as the 2012-13 Head Track Coach. He also shared that the Middle School girls basketball and wrestling were working through their schedules and that there were two (2) open coaches positions there.

### **b. Grants Manager**

Joe Lloyd shared with the Board updates on the Grants in process. He again shared that the District received the Youth Touch Robo Arm – 12 pieces of equipment through a grant for the Intermediate Science program. As well, Mr. Lloyd provided the Board information regarding a grant available

called Reducing the Risk, which was geared towards sex education curriculum. He indicated that it incorporated other issues in addition to what was already being provided by the District. He asked for Board and community input and indicated that if it was an option, the District would have to submit for the grant by mid-March.

#### **c. Technology**

Troy Jamieson addressed social media and indicated that some training was available through I-Safe. AS will Margaret Haugland was integrating it into the lesson plan. He indicated that time was an issue at the Middle School and High School levels. Mr. Jamieson did express that I-Safe was aligned with policy and it is required to comply with the Children's Safety Act. He indicated that he was still working on the technology plan for future years, to include building out the wireless infrastructure. Director Raap asked about letting him know of any bills to would assist. Mr., Jamieson indicated that Dennis Small at OSPI was pushing for technology dollars. He also shared that 1 Billion dollars was spent this past year on state technology alone and the state will be revisiting this issue and the potential outcomes will have to be clearing defined, with money being tied to the outcomes.

#### **d. Special Services**

Heather Franklin indicated that she currently has 203 students enrolled in Special Services. She also reminded the Board the Lynn Thacker was getting close to her final days before retirement and currently applications were being accepted and reviewed for her replacement to complete the school year. Ms. Franklin also shared that the department was already working on next year's paraeducator schedules. There was a question from the Board regarding Mrs. Thacker's replacement and she indicated that the job was posted as non-continuing for the remainder of the 2012-13 school year per contract.

#### **e. Maintenance & Operations**

Mark Noyes started off by verifying with the Board that he confirmed that the new bus would come seatbelt ready. He also explained that replacing the buses with high mileage ranging from 200,000 – 300,000 miles was a requirement of the Department of Ecology. Mr. Noyes shared that the restorative work done at the bus garage was almost done. There was again discussion about the coverage of the costs as it was the city's responsibility for the damage due to a backflow. Mr. Noyes indicated that the District was covering through Canfield to expedite the work and in turn Canfield would address the city's liability. Mr. Noyes indicated that he was also checking with the City of Richland regarding getting more poles donated if they are available. The one that was just erected looks great and was very easy to set up, especially with the concrete pedestal.

### **SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORT**

Superintendent Castilleja addressed the Board regarding legislative issues. He explained that more money was coming into education and there needs to be accountability. They are stressing that with this money there needs to be more outcomes for kids, and do not bring it into education as more things to do; don't add to the long list of requirements. The Superintendent also talked of all-day kindergarten funding, and there was discussion around that for there some Districts that do not have the facilities available to accommodate the all day program. The hope is that if there are any funding limitations, it would be for those Districts that did not have the space to accommodate. If they received the funds, the question would be where is the funding to create space for the program. The hope is that they fund the schools that have the space first. Superintendent Castilleja shared with the Board about the recent out of state trip to talk to a federal officer in regards to the Gear Up grant. They expressed concerns at the federal level about the grant coming in late and not being able to spend all the money, and not being able to carry it over. They asked for an agreement in writing that would allow for carry over. As well, there would be leadership monies available for past students as old as 21 for leadership opportunities. The Superintendent asked the Board to consider an invitation to review the High School Bear Books. He indicated that the books went through the first cycle and some would students would need to represent and he will provide them with dates if they would like to participate. The Board questioned the issue of it being a quorum and Superintendent Castilleja indicated it was fine as no business was being transacted and no policies being addressed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dan Johnson made mention of the no public comment issues. He also expressed concerns about the message being sent by things said during a previous Board meeting that cheating is okay. He stated this is not the message we should be sending out. He reiterated his concerns by stating that the Board should not be stating "everybody cheats, its okay".

Lonnie Renz addressed the Board and indicated he was not sure about what was said; however he thought that the District and Board be presented with suggested curriculum, and establish security and mandates if needed before implementing. Establish a process that prevents assistance through online/media sources. If criteria not established, cheating shouldn't be an issue.

Connie Meredith addressed the Board about a memo that was sent to all staff regarding behavioral expectations. She stated she and other staff felt threatened by the content related to discipline. She felt that Mr. Nordlof's (District's contracted lawyer) intent was to discipline staff by stating in the memo, "if you violate this prohibition, and I can prove it, you will be disciplined in accordance with the disciplinary standards set forth in your various labor agreements." Director Renz-Whitman asked Mrs. Meredith "what is the threat?" To clarify for those all in attendance, the Board asked Mrs. Meredith to read the memo out loud. The majority of the Board indicated that it did not consider what was in the memo as Mr. Nordlof being the one disciplining, and that it was not viewed as a threat. There were more Board comments indicating that the memo should have come from the Superintendent, and not Mr. Nordlof.

**CONVENED**

At 8:31 p.m., the Board convened for executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110, Section (g) personnel matters, for approximately 30 minutes. At 9:07 p.m., Chairman Gray extended executive for approximately 10 more minutes.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Regular board meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wayne Elston, Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jill Renz-Whitman, Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Raap, Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Cook, Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles T. Gray, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rom Castilleja, Superintendent