

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

**Board Minutes of  
Monday, April 15, 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

Members Absent: Kimberly Scott, Executive Director of Financial Services

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 shared with the Board that the High School was again a recipient of the Washington State Achievement Award; Closing the Gap. He congratulated all staff, and indicated that KBEA members were present this evening prior to the meeting with refreshments to help in celebrating the award. Superintendent Castilleja also recognized Joe Lloyd for receiving the highest honor from the Boy Scouts of America.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Superintendent Castilleja presented the financial numbers of all fund activity to the Board in Mrs. Kim Scott's absence. Ending fund balance numbers were reviewed and shared. The General Fund balance is \$559,217.45, Capital Projects \$20,657.70, Debt Service \$126,001.01, ASB \$301,212.57, Transportation \$41,882.34, and PILT \$50,395.48. He also shared enrollment projections, and from the report it indicates that the District is only eight (8) students lower than last year.

**PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes from February 25, 2013

New Hires: Judi Harding, 2013-14 Continuing Preschool Teacher; Tenneile Thompson, Continuing Food Service Cashier; Christine Petty, Non-Continuing .4 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.

Chairman Gray had a clarifying question regarding the preschool position.

AP General Fund- \$123,728.53 Vouchers 1064, 1065, Manual Warrant (ACH Issue/Lost Warrant)  
AP ASB Fund - \$22,679.89 Vouchers 1064, 1065  
AP Capital - \$5,692.89 Vouchers 1064, 1065  
Warrants 104920-104978

**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**

### **Discussion of Graduation Credit Requirements**

Superintendent Castilleja addressed the Board with clarification on graduation requirements from other schools. After checking with more schools our size and similar demographics, it was noted that for the most part they required more credits than Kiona-Benton City did, including Naches at 31 credits and Connell with 26. He indicated that we are more in line with local larger schools such as Richland, Pasco and Kennewick.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Metal Bear**

Superintendent Castilleja shared with the Board that the District has an opportunity to acquire a metal sculpture of a bear from a local artist. It is made of three (3) different metals that will change color as it weathers. He indicated that the artist has to move and he hopes to make an offer soon. The bear would be located at the High School and safe areas are being considered as the bear does have sharp edges.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

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

Vance Wing was absent; however his items for Board review were placed in their shared folder.

### **b. Technology**

Troy Jamieson shared with the Board information regarding the quote he received for upgrading the wireless infrastructure for the District. He indicated that it included putting in access points for one-to-one ratio and was close to the previous quote he had shared with the Board. There was discussion regarding online resources and curriculum, quality of the free resources, infrastructure concerns, and cost. It was agreed that this was the direction that the world was moving towards and today's children need to be prepared. There were also questions from the Board regarding possible grants available to assist with the upgrading. Mr. Jamieson indicated that the best time to do the work would be during the summer.

### **c. Special Services**

Heather Franklin expressed to the Board again that Special Services was very happy in having Judi Harding join the department as the new preschool teacher. She indicated that staff are meeting to project numbers for next year, and preschool is already at 26 with the probability of those numbers possibly increasing.

### **d. Grants Manager**

Joe Lloyd first thanked the Board for their acknowledgement of the Boy Scouts of America honor he received. He indicated that he would work with Troy Jamieson on checking into grants and funding proposals for the infrastructure project. Mr. Lloyd updated the Board on the status of grants, including the last one for a mobile cooling cart for Food Service. The Board discussed possibilities for contacting Battelle for assistance as well as they asked about the possibility of scholarship searches. Director Renz-Whitman offered to help research the idea.

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

Mark Noyes – excused. Director Elston and Director Cook expressed their concerns to Superintendent Castilleja in Mr. Noyes' absence regarding the issue of problems with playground equipment /area. There were also questions regarding the spraying of the fields, parking lots, etc...

The Superintendent indicated that Maintenance and Ground staff have been working on a number of the items discussed as well as dealing with weather when it comes to spraying. The Superintendent offered to set up a walk-through with the Board to assist in addressing their concerns.

### **SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORT**

Superintendent Castilleja shared that he had recently attended the WIAA Task Force Workshop on April 12 & 13. This time it was a smaller workgroup to establish goals. The task force's intent is to change the focus to address all culture/activities, not just athletics. They shared that it will take everyone to do it. The Superintendent also shared that ten (10) staff were scheduled to attend the next RIG training; some staff would then be attending the LERA conference, and returning for the TPEP Steering Committee meeting on Monday, April 22 with the intent to discuss a number of items to include the implementation plan.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bill Adams first asked the room for a moment of silence for the victims of the Boston Marathon bombing. He then addressed the Board regarding his position regarding the Special Services Program. He read from a prepared statement outlining his concerns and asked the Board as elected officials to pay attention to what is going on in that area. Mr. Adams then asked the Board to consider removing the Superintendent and Specialist Services Director from their positions.

Jennifer Kinnison indicated that she knew of resources that could assist with obtaining materials needed.

Dakota Renz addressed the Board and asked if he could address the Board and audience by inviting all to participate in the upcoming Bear Activity Day. He shared that they would be painting bear paws on the city streets and at the doors of local businesses that wanted to participate. He also brought in an example of Bear flags that will be hung on the poles along main street of town. He indicated that Heather Duncan had prepared a press release for the activity and notices were to be sent out in the water bills. Dakota indicated that any supplies or help would be greatly appreciated,

Jennifer Gilliland indicated that the cupcakes were provided by the KBEA for everyone and stated that all teachers played a role in achieving the "Closing the Gap" award.

Barb Thomas addressed the Board and stated she was in agreement with Director Cook and Director Elston in regards to issues with Maintenance. She indicated that the Principals should have a list of the work orders and completion of work orders. She mentioned that there was a worker using a weed-eater and had concerns about a teacher walking with a student being hit by a flying rock. She also stated that she had concerns about their staff lounge and the perception it creates.

Vic Engelhard indicated that he wanted to piggy-back on what Barb had just mentioned as well as point out the lighting issue outside the District Office and a missing cover on an exposed sprinkler/hole. He said it was very visible and if they see it; fix it. Mr. Engelhard then asked about the metal bear and where would the funds be coming from and expressed his belief that public comments were not limited to what was on the meeting agenda.

### **CONVENED**

At 7:59 p.m., the Board convened for executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110, Section (g) personnel matters and for Level II Grievance Hearing. Chairman Gray indicated that no business was expected to follow.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Regular board meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

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**Wayne Elston, Director**

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**Jill Renz-Whitman, Director**

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**Dan Raap, Director**

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**Tim Cook, Director**

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**Charles T. Gray, Chairman**

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**Rom Castilleja, Superintendent**