

KENNEWICK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
OCTOBER 21, 2015

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dawn Adams, President of the Board; Brian Brooks, Board Member; Ron Mabry, Board Member; Charlie Landefeld, Student Representative to the Board; and Dave Bond, Superintendent and Secretary of the Board.

Cabinet Members: Chuck Lybeck, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum Services; Doug Christensen, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Ron Williamson, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education; Greg Fancher, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education; Vic Roberts, Executive Director of Business Operations, and Robyn Chastain, Director of Communications and Public Relations.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Heather Kintzley, excused.  
Ben Messinger, excused

CALL TO ORDER

President Dawn Adams called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance with approximately 25 staff and guests in attendance.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARENTS, STAFF, AND RESIDENTS

None.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Brian Brooks to approve the consent items as presented.

Seconded by Ron Mabry.

Roll call vote:	Mabry	aye
	Brooks	aye
	Adams	aye

Motion carried 3-0.

The consent items were as follows:

- Minutes of Regular Board Meeting October 7, 2015
- Personnel Actions – Certificated, Classified and Extracurricular

- Payroll and Vouchers Ending September 30, 2015
- Accept Completion of Projects
  1. Exterior Painting and painting of two dugouts, internal courtyards and miscellaneous items at Kennewick High School
  2. Highlands Middle School Summer 2015 Project
  3. Re-roofing of Edison Elementary School and installation of new coping cap, new gutter, new downspout and roof drain improvements
  4. Installation of gym flooring at Edison Elementary
  5. Installation of new parking lot between Legacy High School and Kennewick High School
  6. Installation of carpet and flooring at Highlands Middle School
  7. Installation of carpet and flooring at Horse Heaven Hills Middle School
  8. Installation of gym flooring at Vista Elementary School
  9. Re-roofing of Vista Elementary School
  10. KSD 2015 Edison Portables Project (portable site preparation)
  11. Exterior painting and sealing of Southridge High School

## SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD REPORT

### Superintendent

Superintendent Dave Bond reported that Delta High School's graduation will be held on June 11, 2015. He proposed that Southridge High School's graduation time be moved up to Delta's time slot at 3:00 p.m. rather than wait until 5:00 p.m., as was done in previous years. The Board members agreed with that change.

### Board

Ron Mabry reported that he had great time at Delta High School's open house and dedication on October 8<sup>th</sup>. The Board members agreed that the event was very nice.

## REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### Safety Goals

Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, Greg Fancher, and Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, Ron Williamson reviewed the annual student survey results on how safe students feel in various school environments. The goal is to have 90% of students report they feel safe at school. Mr. Williamson stated that Mr. Fancher and he are pleased with the survey results and added that every year the results get better. He stated that, overall, 92% of students in the District reported that they feel safe at school. Mr. Williamson explained that each year the principals review the results of the survey, identify the areas of concern, develop an improvement plan, and share the plan with the District and building staff. The following year the principals review the survey results and look for improvement. Mr. Williamson reported that the building focus areas for 2012 through 2015 were the school bus for the elementary grades and

having a trusted adult for the middle school and high school grades. He noted that those focus areas improved significantly during that period. Mr. Williamson added that the area of focus for all middle schools continues to be a trusted adult.

Mr. Fancher reported that the elementary schools are working on bullying and the playground area. Mr. Williamson and he shared sample goals and strategies the schools have developed to address areas where students feel less safe. A Board member asked how effective the anonymous hotline has been in identifying problems with bullying. Mr. Williamson responded that the hotline has been very effective. He explained that Robyn Chastain forwards reports of bullying to Mr. Fancher and him and they then schedule meetings with the students involved, and their parents, to resolve the issues.

#### District Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) Test Results

Greg Fancher and Ron Williamson reviewed the results of the fall MAP tests taken by students in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Mr. Fancher explained that the test results provide a baseline of students' reading and math skills, which helps principals and teachers determine areas in which they need to work with students. He reported that overall, MAP reading scores at the 50 percentile increased or stayed the same in all grades compared to fall 2014 scores, except for 4<sup>th</sup> grade, which was down slightly. Mr. Williamson reported that MAP Reading scores were also up for middle and high school students except for grade 6 which remained the same. Mr. Fancher added that, on average for all grades 3-10, the scores are up 3.625%.

Mr. Fancher reported that MAP math scores for elementary students were up at 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> and stayed level at 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Williamson reported that overall, MAP math scores at the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile increased or stayed the same in all middle and high school grades compared to fall 2014 scores, except for scores in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Mr. Williamson reported that, on average, the math scores are up by 3.9%. He reminded the Board that the goal is for every student to make annual growth. Dawn Adams commented that these were fantastic results and this is a good news story for the District.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

##### Boundary Update – Community Input

Mr. Fancher reviewed the Board priorities for boundaries as well as the timeline for setting the boundaries. He reported that attendance was surprisingly low at the boundary meetings and that he believes it is because all of the boundary options were posted on the KSD website and were readily available to the public. Mr. Fancher noted that having smaller groups in attendance allowed Mr. Williamson and him to have one-on-one conversations with people at the meetings. He added that the attendees were very open and courteous during the discussions. Mr. Fancher shared some comments from elementary parents in support of the four boundary options, as well as some sample concerns from elementary parents. He reviewed the current boundaries and the current demographics at each elementary school. Mr. Fancher then reviewed boundary Options 1

through 3 and the demographics at each school that would result from each of the boundary options. He noted that based on parent feedback, he had created an Option 4 that attempts to address the issues parents raised about Options 1-3. He recommended Option 4 because it is a hybrid of the original three boundary options and is based on parent and community input.

Mr. Williamson provided sample comments from parents in support of the two middle school boundary options as well as some concerns of middle school parents. He then reviewed the boundary options and the demographics at each middle school resulting from each boundary option. Mr. Williamson explained that Option 3 was created after receiving parent and community input and he recommended Option 3 to the Board. Mr. Williamson and Mr. Fancher also recommended that the District hold another community meeting to share the revised boundary options for elementary and middle schools and to solicit input from the community about Option 4 for elementary and Option 3 for middle school.

Concern was raised by a Board member that the demographics of Highlands Middle School would become even more challenging with the new boundary options. Mr. Fancher explained that when No Child Left Behind allowed students the choice to move to another school, those students at Highlands didn't choose out; they chose to stay in their neighborhood school. Mr. Bond added that Highlands and Park Middle School receive federal funding that provides them additional resources and support programs because they have high poverty levels and second language learners. The Board members agreed that it is important that the District maintain the Dual Language program at Highlands. Mr. Williamson stated that the program would only move if it grew to the point that the District would need to add an additional program at another school. The Board agreed that Mr. Fancher and Mr. Williamson have put a lot of work into developing the boundary options and that another community meeting should be held to gather more feedback. Mr. Bond reminded the Board that they will need to make a boundary decision at the November 4<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, so that letters can go out to the families and School Choice can take place in December 2015 and January 2106.

#### Levy Information

Vic Roberts, Executive Director of Business Operations, reported that the Levy Executive Committee met on October 12<sup>th</sup> and that Mr. Bond and he explained to them the various levy amount options and discussed the deficit budget situation for the next two years and the possible impact on the 2018 levy. Mr. Roberts shared that the Levy Executive Committee supports increasing the levy amount/levy rate to somewhat mitigate a larger levy amount/levy rate increase in 2018. He reported that the Committee proposed that additional levy amount scenarios be brought to the Board at this meeting where a final decision on setting the levy amount will be made.

Mr. Roberts briefly reviewed the 2015-2016 adopted budget and expenditures and the preliminary 2016-17 budget which could result in a budget deficit of \$4.0M to \$5.0M on paper. He explained that, to cover the deficit with property taxes, the District would have to

raise the levy rate by \$.70 or \$.80, which we don't want to do. Mr. Roberts explained that the fund balance can be used to cover the projected deficit for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. It is expected that the actual deficit would end up less than the projected \$4.0M - \$5.0M deficit as some budgets are not spent and some positions are not filled.

Mr. Roberts reviewed the August 31, 2015 year end fund balance categories indicating various restricted, assigned, and unassigned categories, noting that close to \$7.5M is assigned for new school operating costs and future staff related costs. He explained that the \$7.5M would be the portion of fund balance that would be used to cover any actual deficit for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018.

Mr. Roberts then presented five levy amount scenarios for the Board to consider when making a final decision on setting the levy amount. Option 1: Levy amount of \$25.0M and \$25.6M resulting in no increase to the levy rate in 2017 or 2018; Option 2: Levy amount of \$25.4M and \$26.35M resulting in a rate increase of \$.05 to \$3.55 for 2017 and increased by another \$.05 to \$3.60 for 2018; Option 3: Levy amount increase of \$25.0M and 26.35M resulting in no increase to the levy rate in 2017 and levy rate increased by \$.10 to \$3.60 for 2018; Option 4: Levy amount of \$25.4M and \$25.95M resulting in a rate increase of \$.05 to \$3.55 for 2017 and no increase to the levy rate in 2018 and Option 5: Levy amount of \$25.75M and \$26.35M resulting in a levy rate increase of \$.10 to \$3.60 for 2017 and no increase to the levy rate for 2018. Mr. Bond commented that, after meeting with the Levy Committee, Vic and he agreed that it may be prudent to ask for a \$.10 increase over two years, understanding the Committee's concern that the District may end up in a financial bind in 2018 with the uncertainty in levy equalization funding from the state. He noted that Option 2 would result in an increase of \$.85 per month for a \$200K home. After some discussion, the Board members agreed that it would be best to ask for a conservative increase now than to have to ask for a larger amount in a future levy.

Mr. Roberts recommended Option 2 with levy amount for 2017 set at \$25,400,000 and the levy amount for 2018 set at \$26,350,000 resulting in a projected levy rate increase of \$.05 to \$3.55 for 2017 and an increase of another \$.05 to \$3.60 for 2018

Motion by Ron Mabry to accept the recommendation of Option 2 and set the levy amount at \$25,400,000 for 2017 and the levy amount at \$26,350,000 for 2018 as presented.

Seconded by Brian Brooks.

Roll call vote	Mabry	aye
	Brooks	aye
	Adams	aye

Motion carried 3-0.

## NEW BUSINESS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Dawn Adams moved the Board into executive session at 7:40 p.m. for approximately 15 minutes per RCW 42.30.110 (1) (f) for a personnel issue. She noted that no further formal action would be taken. At 7:55 p.m. Ms. Adams extended executive session for an additional 15 minutes.

OTHER BUSINESS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

Regular session was reconvened at 8:11 p.m. There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

---

RECORDING SECRETARY

---

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

---

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Approved: November 4, 2015