

KENNEWICK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
OCTOBER 11, 2017

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brian Brooks, Board Member; Ron Mabry, Board Member; Ben Messinger, Board Member, 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

Dawn Adams, Excused
Heather Kintzley, Excused

CALL TO ORDER

Board Member Brian Brooks called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance with approximately 35 staff and guests in attendance.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARENTS, STAFF, AND RESIDENTS

None.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Ron Mabry to approve the consent items as presented.

Seconded by Ben Messinger.

Roll call vote:	Messinger	aye
	Mabry	aye
	Brooks	aye

Motion carried 3-0.

The consent items were as follows:

- Minutes of Regular Board Meeting September 20, 2017
- Personnel Actions – Certificated, Classified and Extracurricular

- Additional Variances for the 2017-2018 School Year
- Resolution No. 3, 2017-2018; Terminate Membership in ESD 123 Unemployment Pool
- MTS Facility Bus Parking Expansion Project
- Hawthorne Elementary Playground Area Paving
- Curriculum Adoption – *You're Not a Little Kid Anymore!* Author, Marsh Media, Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt © 2013. This material will be used with grade 6 students in Growth and Development classes district-wide.

Superintendent Dave Bond noted that, with the approval of the Consent Items, the new principal was hired for Elementary #16. Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education Greg Fancher introduced Chad Foltz as the new principal of Elementary #16.

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD REPORT

Superintendent

Superintendent Bond reported that the Board members have been invited by the Home Builders Association of Tri-Cities and the Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce to attend the 15th Annual Elected Leaders Reception on Wednesday, November 15, 2017. He asked the Board members to let Patty Lord know if they are interested in attending.

Board

Brian Brooks reported he attended the WSSDA Fall Regional Meeting along with Dawn Adams and Dave Bond. He stated it was nice to meet with Board members from around the area and enjoyed the Science Resource Center tour showing how science kits are put together and delivered all over the area.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Get To Know Kennewick Schools

Robyn Chastain, Director of Communications and Public Relations, presented a video of the Parent and Community Workshop that was held on September 29th. The workshop offered breakout sessions that allowed parents to become better acquainted with the District. Ms. Chastain shared positive feedback received about the event from parents and community members.

Kindergarten Assessment

Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, Greg Fancher, reviewed the fall 2017 kindergarten reading and math assessment results. He reported that 45% of kindergarten students scored more than 30 points on the test with an average score of 35% on the fall reading test. Mr. Fancher reported that 33% of student scored more than 60 points on the

test with an average score of 47% on the fall math test. Mr. Fancher reminded the Board that past history has shown that scores have greatly improved on the spring reading and math assessments each year, which attests to the great job the kindergarten teachers do to provide their students with the skills they need to be successful.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

Conner Mertens, 4006 W. 43rd Ave, Kennewick, WA interrupted the Board meeting and asked the Board members for an update on three different action items mentioned in last June's Board Retreat. Board Member Brian Brooks stated the issue was not on tonight's Board agenda, but Mr. Merten was welcome to request the topic be added to an upcoming Board meeting. Mr. Brooks further stated that the time to stand and speak would be during the Communications from Parents, Staff, and Residents.

Superintendent Bond commented that one of the June action items discussed was forming some kind of a student group and today the Superintendent/Student Advisory Group met for the first time. The group includes high school students from each of our high schools: (4) Kennewick, (4) Kamiakin, (4) Southridge (2) Legacy, (2) Delta, (1) Phoenix and (1) MCP. Mr. Bond reported the group discussed some past and future Board agenda items, and identified a list of future topics.

NEW BUSINESS

Facility Use Rates R4330 R1

Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education Ron Williamson shared that a multi-district committee, made up of Kennewick School District, Pasco School District and Richland School District, met once a month from May through August of 2017. After the committee reviewed and compared facility rental rates, all three districts are recommending to their school Boards to implement the new facility rental rates beginning January 1, 2018.

Ben Messinger shared his concerns that the facilities still be cost effective for the community. Ron Williamson replied that the group priced check other facilities and the school districts would still be much cheaper.

Motion by Ben Messinger to adopt the presented facility rental rates beginning January 1, 2018 as recommended.

Seconded by Ron Mabry.

Roll call vote:	Messinger	aye
	Mabry	aye
	Brooks	aye

Motion carried 3-0.

75th Percentile Growth Goal Update

Superintendent Bond shared Goal #7: The Kennewick School District is in the seventy-fifth percentile of all districts in achieving annual growth for its students. He explained how the district determines if they have met this goal by comparing our Kennewick School District/School results to the results of a study published by NWEA in 2009 on growth. Mr. Bond shared one of the challenges in determining how we are doing with our annual growth compared to others is that NWEA has decided not to update their 2009 standards. Instead, they have chosen to compare groups of students to similar groups of students (based on beginning RIT scores) to see where greater/lesser growth is taking place. Mr. Bond stated that district administration believes that the KSD should transition to using this system rather than continuing to compare ourselves to the 2009 data. Mr. Bond explained that each school and the District would still get a ranking based on how that group of students grew, but it would be based on a comparison to similar groups of students based on RIT scores, rather than the whole national data base. Some schools would see their scores improve while others would see a decline. The recommendation to the Board was to stop using the chart from the 2009 study to measure growth for our 75th Percentile Growth Goal and to use the individual building data provided by NWEA to measure our progress against the 75th Percentile Growth Goal.

Ben Messinger commented that he likes the idea because currently if a schools growth measured low, the teacher might lose their enthusiasm to get things done, but by comparing like students, it may be more encouraging to the teacher. However, if you are on the other end of the scale, you may have wanted to just coast.

Dave Bond commented that the schools with fewer free and reduced students are seeing they may have been misled on how they were really doing.

Motion by Ben Messinger that we discontinue use of the 2009 study and we adopt the individual building data provided by NWEA as presented.

Seconded by Ron Mabry.

Ben Messinger asked if there was any potential downside in making this change and Ron Williamson replied that he had not heard of anything other than upper end schools were going to have to work harder to keep up with the other schools.

Roll call vote:	Messinger	aye
	Mabry	aye
	Brooks	aye

Motion carried 3-0.

Policy No. 2423 INSTRUCTION: Adding or Dropping a Course by a High School Student,
First Reading

Discussion:

Ron Mabry asked if the word “Unique” needed to be defined as it could be a tricky path if a student at one high school is given permission to waive the ten-day or twenty-day requirement but another student from a different high school with the same situation is not allowed to waive the ten or twenty day requirement.

Dave Bond reminded the Board that students can always appeal the decision, but right now things are just so rigid. There are just a few situations that come up that would give the principal some flexibility.

Brian Brooks asked if there was a situation that came up that made them want to update this policy.

Mr. Bond replied that there was a situation where a principal shared that the language prevented him from being able to advocate for a student. He stated that the district would rather trust the judgement of our principals. Mr. Bond shared an example of when he was a principal at Kamiakin high school and how the schedule for Running Start didn't coincide with the school schedule. A student might decide they don't really like Running Start, and he would have to tell them that they were going to have to stick with Running Start because if they came back, they would not be able to get credit for the class, instead of him being able to say you can come back, but you are going to have to do a lot of work to get caught up.

Ron Mabry shared that students come up with “unique” situations as to why they should get to walk for graduation even though they didn't finish everything.

Motion by Ben Messinger to adopt Policy No. 2423 INSTRUCTION; Adding or Dropping a Course by a High School Student for first and second reading as presented.

Seconded by Ron Mabry.

Ben Messinger added he would like to express that he is glad our administration is thinking this way, as he thinks it's a good thing.

Dave Bond replied that he was glad it was brought to our attention by Principal Chelin.

Roll call vote:	Messinger	aye
	Mabry	aye
	Brooks	aye

Motion carried 3-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

OTHER BUSINESS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

RECORDING SECRETARY

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Approved: October 25, 2017