

KENNEWICK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
OCTOBER 9, 2013

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dawn Adams, President of the Board; Heather Kintzley, Vice President of the Board; Ron Mabry, Board Member; Ben Messinger, Board Member; Kaylee McClure, Student Representative to the Board; and Dave Bond, Superintendent and Secretary of the Board.

Cabinet Members: Chuck Lybeck, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum Services; Beverly Johnson-Torelli, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Ron Williamson, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education; Greg Fancher, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education; and Vic Roberts, Executive Director of Business Operations.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Brian Brooks, 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 14 staff and guests in attendance including the media.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARENTS, STAFF, AND RESIDENTS

Jim Wade, 1813 S. Rainier Place, Kennewick, expressed concern for the quality of today's education system and asked several questions regarding Common Core standards taught in the Kennewick School District.

Superintendent Dave Bond responded that Common Core learning standards had been adopted by over forty states across the country including the State of Washington and students are assessed on Common Core standards that have been defined for all subject matter in grades K-12. Mr. Bond gave some examples of standards in math to illustrate what a standard might be for a particular grade level. The curriculum the district chooses to achieve those standards is determined by the Board, based on extensive research by district curriculum committees comprised of teachers, parents and community members. The Board adopts curriculum that meets the standards that students are being assessed on. The student benefits by being taught the same standards when a family moves from state to state and there is more consistency in their education. Mr. Bond cited evidence using algebra as an example that the Common Core standards are actually higher than our current state standards. Mr. Wade was offered the opportunity to contact the Associate Superintendent of Curriculum Chuck Lybeck to set up a meeting for further information on Common Core.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Mrs. Kintzely to approve the consent items as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Mabry.

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----|
| Roll call vote: | Messinger | aye |
| | Mabry | aye |
| | Kintzley | aye |
| | Adams | aye |

Motion carried 4-0.

The consent items were as follows:

- Minutes of Regular Board Meeting September 25, 2013
- Personnel Actions – Certificated, Classified and Extracurricular
- Approval of 2013-2014 State Transitional Bilingual Instruction Program Grant
- Bid Award – Amistad Elementary Access Road and Additional Playground Project

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD REPORT

Superintendent

Superintendent Dave Bond noted that under Certificated Personnel Actions the Board had approved the hire of Robyn Chastain as the new Director of Communications and Public Relations.

Superintendent Dave Bond shared that approximately 120 community members participated in the 4th Annual Community Event and attended sessions on technology, math instruction, power school, nutrition services, and watched a video highlighting KSD construction projects.

It was noted that a fire in the Kennewick HS girls' restroom was believed to be related to a ballast and that restoration was moving along well with little interruption or discomfort resulting from the incident.

Board

No report.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Ten-Year Facilities Plan

Superintendent Dave Bond reviewed considerations in the development of the next Ten-year Facilities Plan. He noted that there are state standards for the number of square feet per student, and that those standards are used to develop building sizes. He outlined facility inventory including the size of each site and the equivalent student capacity. He noted that the 42 portables currently on our 14 elementary sites equate to two additional elementary schools and that the 26 portables on our four middle school sites is nearly the equivalent of an additional middle school. He noted that the district plans to purchase a minimum of eight portables for next year just to handle elementary student growth and presented a chart that showed where those additional eight portables would be located. He shared that at a recent meeting on economic growth, it was projected that steady growth is expected in the Tri-Cities and offered different scenarios on student growth projections for the Board's consideration in setting parameters for the Facilities Planning Committee. He also pointed out that the legislative impact to reduce class size and implement full-day kindergarten would stress building capacity and asked for parameters around building the same size or larger schools in the future. Information was shared on the impact of larger schools experienced by other school districts.

Following discussion, the general feeling of the Board was for the urgency to build two new elementary schools and to estimate growth somewhere between the conservative and the aggressive numbers presented in determining future needs. The Board recognized the need for slightly bigger schools to accommodate growing student populations and to meet the legislative criteria for class size reduction but still liked the neighborhood school concept. The administration also expressed the opinion of staying away from building larger schools in lower income populations.

Levy Information

Executive Director of Business Operations Vic Roberts shared the timeline leading up to the levy election on February 11, 2014. He pointed out that a levy is for learning and a bond is for building. He covered the basics of each and the impact to taxpayers. He noted that a bond is scheduled to be presented to the voters in February 2015 and another two-year levy in February 2016. Mr. Roberts asked for the Board to let him know if there were any new or expanded programs that the Board wanted included when setting the levy amount. There was some interest in gathering information on moving the STEM concept into lower grade levels. Mr. Roberts reviewed levy amount trends from 2002 through 2014 with projections through 2016.

Following Board discussion, the desire was to maintain similar levy rates as 2014 since the District anticipates that there will be increases in bond amounts in 2015 to provide growing facility needs in keeping with student growth.

Elementary Security Systems

Executive Director of Technology Ron Cone gave an update on the progress of cameras, Locknetics, and staff training. He shared that the server drive went down disabling the

camera that would have recorded the fire incident at KeHS. Mr. Cone shared that installation of S2 locks, integration of security panels, intercoms, staff badges, door Locknetics, installation of cameras and training of staff is progressing well with projected completion at the elementary schools by end of December. Phase II Locknetics and cameras for middle and high school will be designed and installed by mid-June. Issues are being addressed to accommodate lockdowns, cameras, audio in Park MS cafeteria, and automating system monitoring.

Kindergarten Fall Assessment Results

Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education Greg Fancher reviewed the Fall 2013 kindergarten assessment results in reading and math. A comparison over the years shows that entering reading skills are down slightly with math being up slightly. There was speculation that changing demographics could be a contributing factor, but teachers continue to do an excellent job of helping students achieve skill levels by the spring assessment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

OTHER BUSINESS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

There being no further business, President Dawn Adams adjourned the Board at 7:57 p.m.

RECORDING SECRETARY

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Approved: October 23, 2013