KENNEWICK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
March 27, 2019  

M I N U T E S  

MEMBERS PRESENT  

Dawn Adams, President of the Board; Brian Brooks, Board Member; Ron Mabry, Board Member; Ben Messinger, Board Member; Naresh Schmad, 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; and Robyn Chastain, Director of Communication and Public Relations.  

Other Guest: Bronson Brown, KSD Attorney  
Michael McFarland, Attorney (via phone)  

MEMBERS ABSENT  

Heather Kintzley, Vice President of the Board; Excused  
Vic Roberts, Executive Director of Business Operations; Excused  

CALL TO ORDER  

President Dawn Adams called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance with approximately 95 staff and guests in attendance.  

RECOGNITION  

National Music in Our Schools Month  

Superintendent Dave Bond introduced Jon Miller, Band Director at Kennewick High School, who shared with the board that it is National Music in Our Schools month. Mr. Miller acknowledged the Kennewick High School Wind Ensemble who played before the board meeting and thanked the board for being supportive of our district K-12 music programs.  

Fall Sports Recognition:  

Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education Ron Williamson introduced the Kamiakin High Athletic Director, Casey Gant who thanked the Board for all their support. Mr. Gant introduced Kamiakin Gymnastics Coach, Sarah Garrett who recognized Abby Winstead for placing third in the floor exercise and Piper Polanik for placing fifth in the beam at the state gymnastics championships. The Kamiakin gymnastics team took second at state.
COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARENTS, STAFF, AND RESIDENTS

None

CONSENT ITEMS

Superintendent Bond announced his intention to resign and noted that one of the items on the consent agenda is the approval of Northwest Leadership Associates to begin the search for a new Superintendent. Mr. Bond stated that he would stay up to a year to work with the Board and the new Superintendent if needed, with the summer of 2020 as the absolute limit of when he wanted to be retired.

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

Seconded by Ben Messinger.

Roll call vote: Adams Yes
               Brooks Yes
               Mabry Yes
               Messinger Yes

Motion carried 4-0.

The consent items were as follows:

• Minutes of Regular Board Meeting March 13, 2019
• Personnel Actions – Certificated, Classified and Extracurricular
• Payroll and Vouchers Ending February 28, 2019
• Budget Status Report Ending February 28, 2019
• Approve Northwest Leadership Associates for Superintendent Search Services
• Bid Award – Horse Heaven Hills Middle School Track

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Superintendent

Superintendent Bond gave each of the Board members documents from Northwest Leadership Associates Dr. Bill Jordan showing suggestions for different focus groups along with a calendar with different dates for focus groups to meet. The second document involves the qualities and characteristics the Board would like to see in the new Superintendent. Mr. Bond added that on Monday, April 8th Robyn Chastain and Dr. Jordan would coordinate different times for input from a variety of groups to create a job posting.

Board discussion followed regarding community time on April 8th being widely publicized and possibly adding another meeting time on April 2nd for Board members to meet with Dr. Joran. Robyn Chastain shared that she is ready to go as soon as she has the dates and times
and added that Dr. Jordan is flexible on Tuesday, April 2nd, but not on Monday, April 8th.

Mr. Bond added that Associate Superintendent Dr. Chuck Lybeck and Assistant Superintendent Greg Fancher had announced their retirement for the end of this school year. The Board will have final approval of transition time.

Superintendent Bond shared postcards with the Board members letting them know about the upcoming ribbon cutting at Legacy High School.

Superintendent Dave Bond reported that, with the passing of the Consent Items, the Board had officially approved the hire of Mary Isley as the new principal of Horse Heaven Hills Middle School. Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education Ron Williamson introduced Mary Isley to the School Board.

Board Member

Ron Mabry shared that he had participated as one of the judges in the Sodexo Future Chef contest, noting that it was a tight competition as the kids were all great cooks. Mr. Mabry added that it was a fantastic experience and a great program for students.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

School Employees Benefits Board (SEBB)

Superintendent Dave Bond presented information about the January 1, 2020 transition to the SEBB administered health insurance plan. He shared what the role of SEBB is, and talked about the significant financial impact it would have on Kennewick School District. Part-time employees will get significant benefits increases under SEBB, and may make it so that it is difficult to employee part-time workers in the future. Mr. Bond added that the Board didn’t need to do anything yet, but that he would provide an update again on April 17th.

2019-2020 Budget Update

Superintendent Dave Bond presented an update on the 2019-2020 budget. He reviewed legislative actions that were taken and the major impact those actions had on the district. Mr. Bond shared that the District expects to have a budget deficit of $5-$7 Million in 2019-2020 and $8-$10 Million deficit in 2020-2021 if cuts are not made. The District has an unreserved, undedicated fund balance of $7.4M and a total fund balance of $24.4M. Mr. Bond added that some of the total fund balance belongs to programs like Tri-Tech, CTE, Science Resource Center, LAP, etc. and can only be used for those programs. Moving forward, Mr. Bond shared some options for the Board to consider in making reductions. He asked the Board to give direction on how they want to address the $5-$7M general fund budget shortfall; use only reductions/cuts, use only fund balance, or use a combination of both. He stated that if the Board decided to use a combination, the District would need guidance on how much would be cut/reductions and how much would be fund balance. Mr. Bond noted that no decision is needed at this time and another update would occur on April 17th as we are waiting on the Legislature to pass its 2019-2021 budget, so the district knows
its final funding. In the meantime, the Board can be thinking about how they will want to address the shortfall.

Ms. Adams asked if the $5-$7M deficit also factored in the SEBB and added that she doesn’t see how the District can go forward without a combination of reductions/cuts and fund balance.

Mr. Brooks agreed with President Adams that a combination would need to be used as using fund balance alone makes him nervous and would not be a long-term fix.

Ms. Adams suggested coordinating with the building personnel to see if they know of some areas that might be better than others as to where to make cuts.

Mr. Messinger agreed to use a combination of reductions and fund balance, noting that if only the fund balance is used, a cap may be needed so if utilized for a few years, the district will be okay.

Mr. Mabry replied that he doesn’t feel knowledgeable enough to make a recommendation at this time and would need to look at everything.

Mr. Bond shared news clippings from the last thirty days, noting this is not a Kennewick problem; this is a state problem.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Curriculum Adoption – Social Studies Grades 3-5

Associate Superintendent Chuck Lybeck presented an overview of the Social Studies curriculum adoption timelines and the process followed by the Adoption Committee to select the materials. Dr. Lybeck recommended that the Board adopt the following: Into Social Studies: Communities, Near and Far; Publisher HMH ©2018 for 3rd grade level, Washington, Our Home; Publisher Gibbs Smith ©2018 for 4th grade level, Tribal Sovereignty (supplemental); Publisher OSPI (free and approved by OSPI) for 4th grade level, and Into Social Studies: The United States; Publisher HMH ©2018 for 5th grade level.

Mr. Mabry asked if there is a cost involved in these materials as compared to other materials.

Mr. Lybeck replied that the projection for K-12 is about $1.2M, but will come in closer to $1M.

Mr. Mabry asked if cost is a consideration when selecting one set of materials from one
publisher rather than another.

Mr. Lybeck answered that all the publishers are pretty competitive and that he wouldn’t choose a curriculum that teachers didn’t want just to save a dollar or two per book.

Ms. Adams commented that she appreciates that the District Curriculum Committee has done such a great job bringing the community and staff together to look at the curriculum and finding such a colorful and great program.

Motion by Ron Mabry to accept the recommendation as presented.

Seconded by Brian Brooks.

Roll call vote: Adams Yes
Brooks Yes
Mabry Yes
Messinger Yes

Motion carried 4-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Dawn Adams moved the Board into executive session at 6:46 p.m. for approximately 30 minutes per RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i) for a Legal Issue. Ms. Adams noted that no further formal action would be taken. At 7:16 p.m. Ms. Adams extended executive session for an additional 60 minutes.

OTHER BUSINESS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

Regular session was reconvened at 8:13 p.m. There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

RECORDING SECRETARY
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PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD
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SECRETARY OF THE BOARD
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Approved: April 17, 2019