

**KIONA-BENTON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 52  
1105 DALE AVENUE  
BENTON CITY, WASHINGTON 99320**

**Board Minutes of  
Monday, June 26, 2023**

Members Present: Dale Thornton, Board Chair  
Julie Rheinschmidt, Director  
Teddy Bryan, Director  
Josh Skipper, Director  
Drew Raab, Director of Finance  
Pete Peterson, Superintendent

Members Absent: Rick Gonzales, Director

Visitors: See attached.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Thornton called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the District Board Room and to view via Zoom.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**A motion was made to approve the agenda by Director Rheinschmidt and seconded by Director Skipper.**

**A vote to approve the agenda with a 4/0 vote.  
Director Gonzales was absent.**

**Delegations**

None.

Mr. Peterson noted that item K is on the agenda due to CEDARS not updating.

Board Chair Thornton excused Director Gonzales.

**PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA**

New Hires: John Nielson, HS English Teacher .6 FTE; Maria Ortega, #1 SS Para; Lillie Howard, #2 SS Para; Kayla Persinger, #3 SS Para; Courtney Berg, #4 SS Para; Alice Toombs, #5 SS Para; Sondra Edwards, HS Summer Math Teacher; Elzzy Gonzales, HS Head Volleyball Coach; Jacqueline Martinez, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Dual Language Teacher

Resignations/Separations/Retirements/Termination/Non-Renewal: Barb Thomas, HS Asst. Tennis Coach; Travis Kafentzis, HS Asst. Track Coach; Agustin Tovar, Asst. HS Wrestling Coach

**Financials**

Out of Endorsement: Elementary- Analicia Alvarado (Emergency Certificate), Language Arts, Social Studies, Math, General Education; Middle School- Stephen Kelly (Conditional Certificate), Chorus; High School- Donna Fluharty, Physical Science; Stephen Kelley, Chorus, Theatre-Comprehensive; Daniel Sonderland, General Math

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.

Payroll - \$1,703,780.01

Vouchers 15, 1106, 1107

AP General Fund- \$76,937.34

Vouchers 1108, 1111

ASB- \$10,006.08  
Warrants 115743-115787

Vouchers 1109, 1110

**A motion was made to approve the consent agenda by Director Bryan and seconded by Director Skipper.**

**Vote to approve the consent agenda with a 4/0 vote.  
Director Gonzales was absent.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (In person, prior written or electronic)**  
None.

**Board Chair Thornton recessed the regular board meeting at 6:33**

**Public Hearing for 22-23 Budget Extension General Fund & Debt Service Fund**

Mr. Raab shared and reviewed his Power Point. Director Skipper made a comment about not having funds on hand yet and asked about the timing for the 23-24 budget which Mr. Peterson stated that will be part of his report. Mr. Peterson made sure the board was aware that he would come to them with anything major. Director Skipper stated that an extension was done last year, and it wasn't need and Mr. Raab confirmed that.

**Board Chair Thornton opened for public comment.**

Director Skipper stated there isn't a way for electronic comments at this point and Mr. Raab stated that notification was published so there had been time for comments to be submitted.  
No public comment.

**Public Hearing closed at 6:44.  
Resume regular board meeting at 6:44.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Policy 6882, Sale of Real Property, Approval**

**A motion was made to approve Policy 6882 by Director Skipper and seconded by Director Bryan.**

**A vote to approve Policy 6882 with a 4/0 vote.  
Director Gonzales was absent.**

**Policy 6905, Site Acquisition, Approval**

**A motion was made to approve Policy 6905 by Director Rheinschmidt and seconded by Director Bryan.**

**A vote to approve Policy 6905 with a 4/0 vote.  
Director Gonzales was absent.**

**Policy 6970, Naming Schools, Facilities, and Teams, and Use of School Mascots, Images, or Logos, Approval**

**A motion was made to approve Policy 6970 by Director Bryan and seconded by Director Skipper.**

**A vote to approve Policy 6970 with a 4/0 vote.  
Director Gonzales was absent.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Minutes from 6/12/23, Approval**

**A motion was made to approve the minutes from 6/12/23 by Director Rheinschmidt and seconded by Director Skipper.**

**A vote to approve the minutes from 6/12/23 with a 4/0 vote.**

**Director Gonzales was absent from the meeting and the 6/12/23 meeting.**

**Resolution 4-2023, 22-23 Budget Extension General Fund & Debt Service Fund, Approval**

**A motion was made to approve Resolution 4-2023, 22-23 Budget Extension General Fund & Debt Service Fund by Director Rheinschmidt and seconded by Director Bryan.**

**Roll call:**

**Board Chair Thornton, Yes; Director Skipper, Yes; Director Bryan, Yes; Director Rheinschmidt, Yes**

**A vote to approve Resolution 4-2023, 22-23 Budget Extension General Fund & Debt Service Fund with a 4/0 vote.**

**Director Gonzales was absent from the meeting.**

**Audit Update**

Mr. Raab gave an update on the audit and stated it was clean with a couple of findings. Mr. Raab shares that this has been a huge learning curve for Mona and him and they are doing the best they can, and these mistakes will not be made again. Director Skipper asked if anyone wanted a copy, is it available on the auditor's website and Mr. Peterson stated it is available online. Director Skipper stated he was a part of the exit interview and he is confident moving forward. Board Chair Thornton stated that two findings is pretty good and neither are red flags. Mr. Peterson stated that he believes we are in better shape right now to be able to internally process things. Director Rheinschmidt thanked Drew and Mona for always being patient and answering any question she had.

**Assessment Update**

Mrs. Ashley thanked the board for allowing her to give an update at this meeting. Mrs. Ashley gave her update on the overall growth of the students. Director Skipper asked if there was anything that could be done to mitigate that summer slide and Mrs. Ashley stated a flexible calendar and turn the T.V. off and get books in front of kids. Director Skipper asked about packets to send home for the summer and Mr. Peterson said the short answer is yes. Director Skipper asked about data prior to the pandemic and Mrs. Ashley stated it is like comparing oranges and tangerines. Director Rheinschmidt asked if it is possible to segregate data with ELL students and Mrs. Ashley stated it is possible. Mr. Peterson thanked Mrs. Ashley and shared that this is one of the many reasons we went from STAR to MAP is this data will help us continue to monitor.

**Capital Improvements-Community Traffic & Safety Project**

Mr. Peterson stated that Greg presented some very conservative numbers and would like to ask the board to do some public outreach. 2.5 million dollars for phase 1, which would be that parking lots. \$1.23 is the amount we would ask for and a 2-year capital levy, which would pay for that parking lot improvement. Mr. Peterson met with Bill Reed and Alan Spink today and the City Council's issue is the traffic on Horne and Mr. Reed shared with Mr. Peterson that he seen no negative from this. The city will have some numbers by the end of the week on this. Mr. Peterson stated these aren't short-term fixes and he will attend the July work session that the City is holding. Board Chair Thornton agreed that this is a good thing to move forward on. Mr. Peterson stated this can be done without a true tax increase and more discussion at the July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Board Chair Thornton stated he was glad we got through another year.

**SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT**

Mr. Peterson stated summer school is up and running and principals have been conducting interviews. Mr. Peterson shared that he wanted to thank the Red Cross and our local Fire Department; there were about 20 people and 5 R.V.'s at the high school and the community reaction was great. Mr. Peterson shared he would like to tentatively have a budget workshop for July 14 at 9:00, Director Bryan stated she would be gone but could possibly join via phone. Everyone else is available.

**CONVENED**

At 7:39 p.m., the Board convened for executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110, Section (1) (g) performance of a public employee, for approximately 30 minutes with no business to follow. Executive session was extended.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Regular board meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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**Dale Thornton, Board Chair**

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**Julie Rheinschmidt, Director**

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**Rick Gonzales, Director**

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**Josh Skipper, Director**

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**Teddy Bryan, Director**

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**Pete Peterson, Superintendent**