

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

**Board Minutes of
Monday, November 22, 2021**

Members Present: Dale Thornton, Board Chair
Julie Rheinschmidt, Director
Jacob Johnson, Director
Clark Carlson, Director
Teddy Bryan, Director
Kurt Beckley, Executive Director of Finance
Pete Peterson, Superintendent

Members Absent: None.

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.

Delegations

Mr. Peterson presented Director Carlson and Director Johnson with a plaque and thanked them for their service on the board. Mr. Peterson also shared accomplishments during their time on the board.

Board Chair Thornton asked if anyone had questions on the consent agenda. Director Carlson asked about the inclusion contract with the ESD and what we are paying them for. Mr. Peterson stated we are part of a cohort and the ESD is training staff on inclusion, which is part of a grant the district received. Board Chair Thornton asked if we pay by usage and Mr. Peterson explained the criteria and implementation portion of the grant.

Director Carlson expressed his discontent with the district having to pay the business and occupation tax.

PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA

New Hires: Sandy Clawson, Special Services Paraeducator
Resignations/Separation/Retirement/Termination: Jolene Calzadillas, Head HS Volleyball Coach
Amendment to Superintendent Contract

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 General Fund - \$1,586,219.48	Vouchers 1034, 1035
AP General Fund- \$57,434.99	Vouchers 1030, 1032, 1033
ASB- \$914.15	Vouchers 1031, 1032, 1033
Warrants 114524-114553	

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda by Director Carlson and seconded by Director Johnson.

Vote to approve the consent agenda with a 5/0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (In person, prior written or electronic)

Audience member, Josh Skipper, thanked Director Johnson and Carlson for their time on the board and he is looking forward to starting next month.

BOARD COMMENTS

Director Rheinschmidt thanked Jolene Calzadillas and stated she is sorry to see her go, and she really appreciated everything she did for the volleyball program. Director Carlson seconded that.

Board Chair Thornton echoed what Mr. Peterson said about Director Carlson and Johnson. Board Chair Thornton shared that he has appreciated working with a board that's on the same page because it really takes each one of them.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Policy 3225 School – Based Threat Assessment, Approval

Mr. Peterson shared that all the staff necessary has taken the training to be in compliance with this. This policy will be another step towards compliance Mr. Peterson stated.

A motion was made to approve Policy 3225 School – Based Threat Assessment by Director Rheinschmidt and seconded by Director Bryan.

A vote to approve Policy 3225 School – Based Threat Assessment with a 5/0 vote.

Policy 1340, Targeting Student Learning, Second Reading

Mr. Peterson stated that the only changes were in red. Board Chair Thornton asked if this was adjusted to match the districts needs and Mr. Peterson indicated this was a good move for the board and reminded the board they are here to make sure kids are getting the best possible education. Director Rheinschmidt shared that she noticed it stated in the policy that we will still seek input from staff and parents, so she felt the board is still within the limits. Board Chair Thornton stated this is the second reading, but could also be approved. Director Rheinschmidt shared she preferred to stick with going to a third reading. Mr. Peterson shared the policy can be viewed on the website and welcomes any input.

NEW BUSINESS

Minutes from 11/8/21, Approval

A motion was made to approve the minutes from 11/8/21 by Director Bryan and seconded by Director Johnson.

**A vote to approve the minutes from 11/8/21 with a 4/0 vote.
Director Carlson was absent from the 11/8/21 meeting.**

Levy Rate Update

Mr. Beckley shared the assessed value and Director Rheinschmidt wanted to make sure that \$1.50 was asked and the amount came in under that.

Curriculum Review/Cycle Draft

Mr. Peterson shared a draft of the curriculum review/cycle draft. Mr. Peterson indicated that the K-5 reading curriculum review will be starting in December with the hopes of implementation soon. Board Chair Thornton shared that the district used to offer a curriculum committee and Mr. Peterson said a committee will present to the board all the information. Board Chair Thornton explained it was a group that would physically look at the curriculum and share likes and dislikes, Mr. Peterson indicated that public review is standard and that will be an option again. Director Rheinschmidt stated she liked that the cycle doesn't double up on a certain subject and that she is happy the reading curriculum is getting looked at this year. Director Rheinschmidt also shared that if the primary and intermediate felt the need to use different curriculum that should be an option and Mr. Peterson stated that options aren't off the table, but in that case the fear of having a gap would be a possibility.

Athletic Covid Testing

Director Carlson shared some statistics from the FDA and suggested not blanket testing. Director Rheinschmidt shared she had some concern from parents that the privacy of student's vaccination status wasn't private due to testing procedures. She stated that it would only be those additional 35 students if everyone was tested or if it would be possible for the parents to test at home. Director Carlson asked what the requirement was from the WIAA and Mr. Peterson shared that information. Mr. Peterson stated that one thing he would remind the board is that they are charged with following the DOH and WIAA guidelines. Director Rheinschmidt stated she is just stating that she would like testing to be handled in a private manor. Mr. Peterson stated if the issue is privacy, then we can review the plan and make that happen. Director Carlson asked if there are only an additional 35 then how much are we really saving. Mr. Peterson reiterated what the WIAA had stated and Director Bryan shared that if none of our athletes were vaccinated we would be testing them anyway. Mr. Peterson asked what the issue was again and stated if it is the privacy of it then that can be figured out and fixed. He also shared that the high school administration is concerned if we go outside the guidelines that we have adhered to the whole time. Director Rheinschmidt reiterated again it's a privacy thing and she feels that the WIAA mandate puts pressure on others to make decisions. Director Carlson shared some more statistics and indicated he would error on the side of testing everyone. Director Rheinschmidt stated something must be figured out because this is our last meeting before testing starts. Director Bryan stated the number one concern must be privacy and it's the districts job to protect that. Mr. Peterson asked the board for the next three days to iron the plan out for this change. Director Rheinschmidt indicated she was skeptical of how it would work, and Mr. Peterson shared some ideas of different locations as a possibility. Board Chair Thornton shared his experience with testing. Director Rheinschmidt asked how long the test is valid for and Mr. Peterson stated that athletes are tested Friday morning and that will be for Friday and Saturday games. Mr. Peterson stated that what he is hearing from the board is that we need to find a way for everyone to be tested in a private area. Director Carlson stated we must do that. Board Chair Thornton stated we aren't the only district having this conversation. Mr. Peterson indicated that we aren't and invited the board to view the process of testing when it starts. Director Rheinschmidt asked that parents are notified of the process before testing starts. Board Chair Thornton asked that Mr. Peterson send the board an update mid-week next week on how testing is going.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Peterson thanked Mr. Skipper for attending and stated the application for the vacant position will be posted soon with the hopes of filling that vacancy in January. Mr. Peterson shared that a special meeting might need to happen right before break to conduct interviews of potential board members. Board Chair Thornton shared that the county would confirm if someone is in the area or not.

Mr. Peterson shared that lockers were moved in Mrs. Baumgartner's room and it looks great. The water softener in the elementary is being installed and 100% of the administrators are trained in the treat assessment. 21st Century would like to meet and talk about extending services and apply for the grant again.

Director Rheinschmidt asked how the facilities committee is coming and Mr. Peterson stated that meeting will happen in December, possibly the week of the 6th.

Mr. Peterson shared that he and Mr. Boltz will have a presentation of the staff survey for the December board meeting.

CONVENED

At 7:48 p.m., the Board convened for executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110, Section (g) personnel matters, for approximately 15 minutes. No business to follow. Executive session was extended.

ADJOURNMENT – Regular board meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Dale Thornton, Board Chair

Jacob Johnson, Director

Teddy Bryan, Director

Julie Rheinschmidt, Director

Clark Carlson, Director

Pete Peterson, Superintendent