

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

**Board Minutes of  
Monday, October 9, 2023**

Members Present: Dale Thornton, Board Chair  
Julie Rheinschmidt, Director  
Teddy Bryan, Director  
Josh Skipper, Director  
Rick Gonzales, Director  
Drew Raab, 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**

The pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

Board Chair Thornton asked if there were any changes or updates to the agenda and Mr. Peterson asked to remove Diann Zavala because she submitted a written report and add Food Service, Jenny Swiger to letter e under directors' reports.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**A vote to approve the amended agenda with a 5/0 vote.**

**DELEGATIONS**

Mr. Peterson shared that next week is school bus safety week and thanked all the drivers and staff that keep the buses going. Board Chair Thornton asked about the manual warrant and Mr. Raab stated it was for a check that was lost by a vendor.

**PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA**

New Hires: Olga Solorzano, #1 Special Services/Bilingual Para; Maria Mondragon Dominguez, #1 Bili. Para; Jesus Mendoza, #2 Custodian  
Resignations/Separation/Retirement/Termination: Stephen Kelley, Drama Advisor

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.

AP General Fund- \$197,384.55	Vouchers 1011, 1012, 1014, 1015, Manual Warrant
ASB- \$7,036.62	Vouchers 1013, 1014, 1015
Warrants 115967-115999	

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

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

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS (In person, prior written or electronic)**

Wade Haun asked about the teachers contract and stated that the email he received stated he should have received it by September 30<sup>th</sup> along with other information. Mr. Peterson stated he could respond in two separate emails to those questions until the contract is ready. Mr. Haun asked how the district is doing on the consolidated grants and Board Chair Thornton stated he will respond to that.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

### **Athletics**

Mr. Hansen gave the board an update on middle school athletics and how positive the coaches are coaching the athletes at the middle school. Mr. Hansen updated the board on high school sports and that Winter sports start November 13<sup>th</sup> at the high school. Mr. Hansen thanked Dan and all the maintenance crew because they do a great job. Mr. Hansen shared that he compiled a game day print that has all athletics events district wide so everyone can reference it.

### **Student Support Services**

Mr. Castillo shared that ECEAP is three students from being fully enrolled. He stated that enrollment is an issue statewide, but they have done a lot to get the word out and recruit. November 2<sup>nd</sup> is the high school migrant family night and ECEAP will have a table there for information. ECEAP night is tomorrow, and the pumpkin patch field trip is October 27<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Castillo stated that the clock hour process has been going smoothly. Mr. Castillo gave an update on McKinney Vento and after school tutoring.

### **Maintenance/Transportation**

Director of Maintenance and Operations/Transportation, Dan Adamson shared that his door is always open. Mr. Adamson shared some of the issues at the high school and that they are getting ready for Winter. Mr. Adamson thanked Joe for doing whatever is needed and to all his staff for pitching in to get things taken care of. Mr. Adamson stated that they have had to get creative with bus routes. He shared that Mr. Hansen has done a great job with sports and has helped a ton. Mr. Adamson stated that he is hopeful that we get some candidates to apply to be drivers.

### **Technology**

Mr. Rodriguez handed out his written report and reviewed it. Mr. Rodriguez explained the issue with the repeater in the middle school for the intercom. Board Chair Thornton asked about staying with Windows and Mr. Rodriguez stated yes, that will be the case. Director Rheinschmidt asked for an update on the asset inventory and Mr. Rodriguez stated it was finished last year but one hasn't been done to start the year off, but it is on the to do list.

### **Food Service**

Jenny Swiger stated the fresh fruit and vegetable program has started and she is looking into more things for the farm to table program. She shared that she is looking into expanding the reusable trays and drying racks for them. Middle and high school numbers are up. Mrs. Swiger shared that the elementary had a surprise inspection and explained that the three areas have been addressed. Mrs. Swiger stated that the high school was good on their inspection. Mrs. Swiger shared that breakfast schedule and Board Chair Thornton asked how many students are getting a second chance breakfast and Mrs. Swiger stated there are more at the high school and middle school, but she didn't have the exact number on hand.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Board Workshop**

Mr. Peterson stated that the board workshop will be on Friday October 20<sup>th</sup> from 9-12 and it will be a focus on secondary. Director Skipper stated he would be out of town but would like a recap after the workshop.

### **Elementary Afterschool Program, Discussion**

Mr. Raab stated that he was asked to come up with some options and he shared those with the board. Board Chair Thornton asked if it makes us uncomfortable in our financial position and Mr. Raab stated no not with a director and two positions. Director Skipper asked if these positions are bargainable, and Mr. Peterson stated the site supervisor will be exempt, but the other two positions could put us in a tough spot depending on how it works out. Director Rheinschmidt asked what the numbers are for this program and Mr. Peterson stated

about 60 and this would be a temporary program for this year. Director Skipper asked if the student volunteers could be paid, and Mr. Peterson stated that something like credit for service hours can be looked at instead of paying them. Board Chair Thornton stated that he likes the idea, and it keeps our paras employed even if it costs a little more. Director Gonzales asked what the qualifications are for the program and Mr. Peterson stated a need and academic. Director Rheinschmidt asked about 60 kids and only two staff members and Mr. Peterson stated that the site supervisor would be there and student volunteers. Board Chair Thornton asked if there is organized activities and Mr. Peterson stated yes and Mr. Castillo made sure that stuff is secured.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Minutes from 9/25/23, Approval**

**A motion was made to approve the minutes from 9/25/23 by Director Skipper and seconded by Director Bryan.**

**A vote to approve the minutes from 9/25/23 with a 4/0 vote.**

**Director Gonzales was absent from the 9/25/23 meeting.**

### **Board Director Positions 1 & 5, Discussion**

Mr. Peterson wanted to bring everyone up to speed on a letter received from the elections department, Mr. Peterson read the letter. Mr. Peterson stated he shared this at his superintendent meeting and nobody else had heard of this including the districts attorney. Mr. Peterson stated he is still exploring this and will update the board when he hears more about it. Mr. Peterson shared that once the two Directors decide to resign then the process will start to appoint someone. Director Skipper shared that we are one of only three districts that still do director districts maybe its something we look at doing two at large and three districts. Director Rheinschmidt asked when a letter was needed, and Mr. Peterson explained the process.

### **Elementary Afterschool Program, Approval**

Director Rheinschmidt thanked Mr. Raab for presenting the numbers and is glad the district can provide this opportunity. Mr. Raab stated he is hopeful that this will only have to be a one-year fix and the ESD will get the funding next year.

**A motion was made to approve the afterschool program with the proposed budget by Director Rheinschmidt and seconded by Director Gonzales.**

**A vote to approve the afterschool program with the proposed budget with a 5/0 vote.**

### **GoFan Online Ticketing System, Discussion**

Mr. Raab shared that there is a push across the State to use GoFan and we are one of two districts that currently do not use it. Mr. Raab explained the process and benefit such as shorter lines and easier access due to wifi issues. Director Skipper asked what the contract is committing us to and Mr. Raab stated that we agree to a contract with them. Director Bryan asked if the people that purchased on GoFan would have another entrance and Mr. Raab said yes. Director Skipper stated that he liked the idea as long as we are offering another option as well. Mr. Raab stated that we would still take cash as well. Director Skipper asked that the communication gets out about this and Mr. Peterson shared that a message would go out on social media as well as Final Forms. Board Chair Thornton said so does that mean no debit cards at the gate and Mr. Raab stated that yes, they just have to scan the QR code through GoFan. Mr. Raab also shared that this is the same process they use for playoffs. Director Rheinschmidt also asked that this be communicated well. Board Chair Thornton stated he didn't see a downside to this.

## **BOARD COMMENTS**

Director Skipper stated that he visited the high school and thanked Mr. Henry and his staff. He also shared that he had great conversations with teachers and students.

Director Rheinschmidt shared that she attended the STEM meeting on Friday and really enjoyed it.

Board Chair Thornton shared that he attended the football game and enjoyed that.

Director Gonzales stated that at the volleyball game he noticed they had to take a timeout to tape a metal piece on the floor and would like it if someone could look at that. Mr. Peterson stated he would work with Mr. Hansen on that.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Regular board meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

---

**Dale Thornton, Board Chair**

---

**Julie Rheinschmidt, Director**

---

**Josh Skipper, Vice Chair**

---

**Rick Gonzales, Director**

---

**Teddy Bryan, Director**

---

**Pete Peterson, Superintendent**