

REGULAR MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD JANUARY 26, 2021

A regular meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 7:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the Educational Support Center. Mr. Duncan, President, presided.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. with the following Board members present: Mr. Battle, Ms. Stevens, Mrs. Modder, Mr. Garcia, Ms. Adams, Mr. Wade, and Mr. Duncan. Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the following report:
Coaches of America Academic All American Team Award to the Tremper Girls Soccer Team.

There were no Administrative and/or Supervisory Appointments.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis gave the Superintendent's Report.

Mrs. Modder gave the legislative report.

Views and comments were made by the public.

Remarks by the President were made by Mr. Duncan.

Board members considered the following Consent-Approve items:

Consent-Approve item X-A – Recommendations Concerning Appointments, Leaves of Absence, Retirements, Resignations and Separations.

Consent-Approve item X-B – Minutes of the 12/8/20 and 1/6/21 Special Meetings and Executive Sessions, 12/8/20 Regular Meeting and 1/6/21 Special Meeting.

Consent-Approve item X-C – Summary of Receipts, Wire Transfers, and Check Registers submitted by Mrs. Lisa Salo, Accounting Manager; Mr. Tarik Hamdan, Chief Financial Officer; and Dr. Sue Savaglio-

Indoor Spectator Protocols administration recommends that the Board of Education approve the following:

- x Allow two adult spectators (18 years of age or older) per athlete for KUSD teams only during regular season events.

- x Allow two adult spectators (18 years of age or older) per athlete per home and away teams, regardless of where the competing team is located for the WIAA tournament series.”

Mr. Battle moved to allow two adult spectators (18 years of age or older) per athlete for KUSD teams only during regular season events and to allow two adult spectators (18 years of age or older) per athlete per home and away teams, regardless of where the competing team is located for the WIAA tournament series. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis introduced the District Services Survey and Employment Engagement Survey. Dr. Melissa Matarazzo, Senior Director at Studer Group, and Mr. Kristopher Keckler, Chief Information Officer, gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled Rolling Out Results for Improvement which covered the following topics: district services survey results, departments above 4.0, district services survey results rollout, employee engagement survey, employee engagement results, what can we celebrate, what can we focus on for improvement, and employee engagement results rollout.

Dr. Matarazzo and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis answered questions from board members.

Mrs. Ruder presented the Revision of Policy 1510 – Advertising/Promotions submitted by Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“In late October 2020, board members were contacted by a citizen who questioned the removal of a political sign from school property and requested a copy of the school board policy associated with the removal of the sign. Upon investigation, it was discovered that the sign was not removed by staff, but rather by a citizen.

As a follow up to the inquiry, Policy 1510 – Advertising/Promotions was reviewed. In an effort to prevent further issues from arising surrounding this topic, additional language was added to prohibit any advertising that is political in nature on school buildings and/or on district property.

It is recommended that the Board approve revised Policy 1510 – Advertising/Promotions as a first reading at the January 26, 2021, regular school board meeting and as a second reading at the February 23, 2021, regular school board meeting.”

Mr. Battle moved to approve revised Policy 1510 – Advertising/Promotions as a first reading. Ms. Adams seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the New Course Proposal: Indian Trail High School and Academy – Business Academy submitted by Mrs. Housaman and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis excerpts follow:

“Indian Trail High School and Academy and the Office of Teaching and Learning are proposing, for Board of Education approval, the addition of three courses as detailed below. The attached appendices include the Course/Program Change Proposal forms.

Innovation Lab will be the capstone course for the Business Academy and allow students to experience a real-world experience in preparation for graduation. Students will create and manage a virtual company during this year-long course.

Law and Order in Business will provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the legal elements involved in business. Key course components include: tort law, contract law, agency and employment law, cyber law and e-commerce.

Business Management will provide students with the core components of every business and an understanding of how these components determiner the success or failure of a business.

Administration recommends that the School Board approve the proposal for the aforementioned Business Academy courses.”

Mr. Wade moved to approve the proposal for the Business Academy courses noted in the report. Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis presented the New Course Proposal: Indian Trail High School and Academy – Communications Academy submitted by Mrs. Housaman and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“Indian Trail High School and Academy and the Office of Teaching and Learning are proposing, for Board of Education approval, the addition of three courses as detailed below. The attached appendices include the Course/Program Change Proposal forms.

Introduction to Broadcasting will give students an understanding of basic journalism skills including, but not limited to reporting, interviewing, editing, and writing. It will provide students with an understanding of how to produce news and feature segments and podcasts.

Podcasting will give students an understanding of multiple facets in the journalism field. Students will conduct research, plan, script, and produce a podcast segment.

Photojournalism will give students an understanding of how to tell the story of a news event through images and words. Students will use photographs to document the history of an event, interview subjects, and write captions to give further information surrounding the story contained in the photo.

Administration recommends that the School Board approve the following three new course proposals: Introduction to Broadcasting, Photojournalism and Podcasting at Indian Trail High School and Academy – Communications Academy.”

Ms. Stevens moved to approve the three new course proposals for Introduction to Broadcasting, Photojournalism and Podcasting at Indian Trail High School and Academy – Communications Academy. Mr. Wade seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Savaglio-

Mr. Keckler presented the Four Year Graduation Rate – Cohort Analysis submitted by Mrs. Laura Sawyer, Data Analyst; Mr. Keckler; and Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“The “Four Year Graduation Rate – Cohort Analysis” report is a comprehensive examination of the graduation rates of the Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD) for the Graduation Class of 2020. This is the annual graduation report to the Kenosha Unified School Board as it examines each graduation class in terms of a “static” graduation rate, referred to as “Base Cohort”. All KUSD students who enter grade nine are tracked until the end of their class’s designated graduation cycle (four years later). No allowance is made for any students who enter that class as it progresses from the ninth grade until the twelfth grade and its eventual graduation. For example, first-time ninth graders who are in attendance on the Official Third Friday Count Day during School Year 2016-17 are tracked with respect to their educational progress until the end of summer school in August 2020. Therefore, the ninth graders of School Year 2016-17 become the Graduation Class of 2020 (School Year 2019-20). Additionally, this report also examines the graduation rates in terms of progress made during the two years beyond a designated graduation year, that is, the five-year rate of the Graduation Class of 2019 and six-year rate of the Graduation Class of 2018. This process aligns to both the Wisconsin state statute for allowing for a free education until a student reaches age 20 as well as the current state developed school report cards which incorporate both four-year and six-year graduation data.

The cohort graduation rate presented in this report is slightly different than the rate published by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). Beginning in 2009-10, DPI reported a 4-year cohort graduation rate which includes all students who have been assigned to a Wisconsin public school cohort and were last enrolled in KUSD during the four-year period whether or not the student began in KUSD in their ninth grade year. In addition, DPI does not count the completion credentials such as a HSED or a certificate of completion unless their Board of Education deems it as a regular high school diploma. DPI’s graduation rate has been a reported factor in two priority areas of the annual Accountability School and District Report Card: the four-year and six-year cohort graduation rate is used in the Closing Graduation Gaps calculation as well as in the graduation score of the On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness calculation. However, DPI’s WISEdash (online data reporting) portal reports four-year, five-year, six-year and seven-year graduation rates. This KUSD cohort report will continue to present data respective to the four-year, five-year and six-year graduation rates.

Over the past ten years, the number of students in each graduating class has ranged from approximately 1,600 to 1,800. However, the Class of 2020, based on 9th grade enrollment of 1,567 students represented a noticeable decrease in the cohort year. This was mainly due to an expected declining cohort class.

The number of students who began the cohort group in SY 2016-17 was 1,567, including 154 students who transferred out during the four-year period. When including “IOWA” graduates, 1,317 students graduated, resulting in a graduation rate of 93.5% for the Class of 2020. When excluding “IOWA” graduates 1,168 students graduated (82.9%), a slight increase from that reported in the past four graduating classes. The Class of 2020 reported the greatest percentage of graduates using the High School Competency Diploma Option (11.8%), which is a slight increase from last year’s figures.

The global COVID-19 pandemic impacted all educational settings in March 2020, including the graduating cohort group. Like most Wisconsin school districts, Kenosha Unified approved and applied a local waiver, which was also endorsed at the state level for allowance of students and their ability to meet their respective graduation requirements. Based on recent data, 279 KUSD students utilized this option for coursework, which totaled 813 half-credit courses being waived. The approved waiver option terminated at the end of the 2020 calendar year, and any students who have yet to graduate do not have the waiver option moving forward as they work to earn their diploma.

This report is an informational item.

WHEREAS, local, state and federal lawmakers should prioritize support for strengthening public schools and empower local education leaders to implement, manage, and lead school districts in partnership with educators, parents and other local education stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, local, state and federal lawmakers should support counseling, extracurricular activities, and mental health supports that are critical for student engagement and learning; and

WHEREAS, high-quality public schools that are inclusive and safe are where children learn to think critically, problem solve, build relationships, and succeed; and

WHEREAS, stable, predictable, and adequate funding for public schools is necessary to ensure students have the resources needed to succeed and high-quality educators before them.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Kenosha Unified School District's Board of Education does hereby adopt this resolution to proclaim February 22-26, 2021, as Public Schools Week.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a true copy of this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Education.”

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Kenosha Unified School District's Board of Education does hereby adopt this

(1) Provide for the continuation of a self-