

KELLOGGSVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting – February 27, 2023
Report No. 22-105

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES OF MEETING

Regular Meeting – February 13, 2023

ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Groters, Ms. Rocha, Ms. Sellers, Mrs. Reidzans, Mrs. Tanis, Ms. Townsend and Mrs. Ward
Also present: Jim Alston, Superintendent
Jeff Owen, Director of Instruction
Eric Alcorn, Assistant Superintendent
Ngoc Dinh, Student Board Representative
DeMarreon Rodriguez, Student Board Representative

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

President Tanis called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board and Visitors recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

The next regularly scheduled board meetings will be held:

February 27, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. Board of Education Center
March 13, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. Board of Education Center
March 27, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. Board of Education Center
April 24, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. Board of Education Center

COMMUNICATIONS - None

VISITORS

President Tanis welcomed visitors.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Mrs. Ward, seconded by Ms. Sellers, to approve Consent Agenda items 22-91, 22-92, 22-93, and 22-94.

22-91 Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from 01/23/23

22-92 Approval of Personnel Report

22-93 Approval of Sports Complex Grand Opening

22-94 Approval of Schools of Choice Resolution

Yeas: 7 Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

ACTION

A. Approval: NEOLA Policy Update #7510 – 1st Reading

It was moved by Mrs. Ward, seconded by Mrs. Groters, to approve the first reading of NEOLA Policy #7510 – Use of School Facilities, as amended and presented.

Yeas: 7 Nays: 0 MOTION CARRIED

B. Approval: 54th Street Academy – Gym Flooring Bid

It was moved by Mrs. Groters, seconded by Ms. Townsend, to approve the 54th Street Academy gym floor replacement bid by Commercial Interiors for \$18,360, as presented.

Yeas: 7 Nays: 0 MOTION CARRIED

C. Approval: Middle School Locker Replacement Bid

It was moved by Mrs. Reidzans, seconded by Ms. Sellers, to approve the Middle School locker replacement bid of Brainard Enterprise, Corp. for \$131,800, as presented.

Yeas: 7 Nays: 0 MOTION CARRIED

PROPOSAL

A. Proposal: Facilities Rental Agreement

KPS Athletic Director, Mr. Roscoe, shared a proposal and a plan that he and Mr. Mallett have drafted to rent out Kelloggsville facilities to outside vendors, companies, and individuals. He reviewed the rental guidelines, which outlines who may use the facilities, the process to obtain a facility reservation, liability & insurance, prohibited use, and on-site rules. He shared a copy of the Facilities Use Agreement and the process in which decisions for approving all requests will be made. He also reviewed the schedule of fees for each facility, based on amount of time requested, location, and other possible needs that may be required. This proposal will be placed on the 02/27/23 agenda as a consent item.

B. Proposal: Synergy Student Data Management System

Mr. Alston reviewed a proposal to switch the district's school information system from PowerSchool to Synergy. Evaluating the effectiveness of PowerSchool has been a Board goal for several years but comparisons to other systems' capabilities, limitations, and costs were never fully investigated. He shared that while researching this platform, it has become evident that long-term, Synergy is going to allow us to streamline many of our current practices, have the ability to change with us as a district, and continue some of the things that we currently do well. He shared that a possible downside of switching to a different system would be the impact it would have on all staff. With that in mind, a rollout would be implemented in phases, with the first being very basic functions, followed by more in depth components, which will require training and professional development for all staff. He then shared the cost of the Synergy package vs PowerSchool, with an anticipated cost savings of \$17,000 per year, starting in year three (3). This proposal will be placed on the 02/27/23 agenda as a consent item.

Information & Reports

A. Report: BOE Goals Committee – Section D

The BOE Goals Committee – Section D (J. Owen – Chair, Schilthuis (Co-Chair), M. Groters, Rocha, Lanser, Patin, Taylor), shared an update on their goal progress:

Board Goal #4

Review data associated with curriculum, demographics, attendance, behavior, grades and test scores to help identify areas of need that will increase student achievement in school courses and grades, local assessments, and state testing for all students.

Desired Results: Raise student achievement in the classroom, on local assessments (NWEA) and state testing (PSAT, SAT, M-STEP) with a focus on raising our scores district-wide.

Instruction Goal #1

Provide all students with equitable access to grade level content, with a specific focus on reading skills.

Desired Results: All students will have opportunities to work with grade level content regardless of current achievement level, resulting in higher achievement scores.

Instruction Goal #8

Update curriculum maps for all subjects and classes taught in the district.

Desired Results: 1.) Make sure that relevant information is easily accessible to building administrators. 2.) Ensure that new teachers have all the resources they need to effectively teach the subject or class.

For BOE Goal #4, Mr. Owen shared NWEA Benchmark assessment data. At the beginning of this school year, goals were established in math and reading. The data he shared for K-8th grade showed some impressive gains in many areas as compared to last year's scores, with some reaching the set goals. Further testing results will be available later; WIDA, which opened on 02/06/23 and M-STEP, SAT, PSAT, ACT, WorkKeys will all begin after spring break. He then shared Resident vs. Schools of Choice data that was broken down, based on perceptions that students from outside the district were affecting the district in a negative way, which is not the case. He also shared attendance and discipline data and how that influences the testing culture of our students. For Instruction Goal #1, he shared that a focus has been placed on professional development for teachers to specifically focus on providing students with skills resulting in higher achievement scores. On 08/17/22, secondary teachers received training on Equitably Supporting Students for Academic Success and on 01/16/23, scaffolding strategies were shared with secondary staff for ELL students, as well as students below grade level and elementary teachers received training on how to best help ELL students with the new Bookworms curriculum. Lastly, for Instruction Goal #8, the district, working in collaboration with Kent ISD, is starting the process of developing curriculum maps. A committee consisting of staff and administrators, of all levels, will begin the process with a goal to be completed by the end of the 2023-24 school year. In addition, should the district move to the Synergy platform, specific options may be available to assist with this goal. The committee will present their next update on 04/24/23.

B. Information: Benchmark Assessment Progress

As mentioned in his previous report, Mr. Owen shared the progress reports for students based on goals established in September for the middle of this year compared to February 2022. The goals listed are; 50% of all students will meet the expected growth target measure by comparing Fall and Winter NWEA test scores in Reading and Math.

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He shared achievement/growth data on benchmark assessments by student demographics; grade level (K-8th grade), and by mode of instruction (face-to-face vs. virtual). As indicated in his previous report, growth was identified in many of the areas, which is attributed to the hard work and efforts of the staff and students.

C. Report: HR Goals Committee

The HR Goals Committee (E. Acorn – Chair, Sellers, Rocha, Tanis, Palmitier, Ricketson, Gentile, Pate, Lakatos), share an update on their goal progress:

HR Goal #3

Research and evaluate strategies, including improving substitute fill rates, that will help the district retain employees.

Desired Results: Develop and implement policies that will assist the district in retaining employees.

HR Goal #4

Review, monitor and develop safety training for staff and students.

Desired Results: Ensure the district is a safe place to work and learn.

HR Goal #5

Review all labor, discrimination, and health department posters.

Desired Results: Ensure that all district buildings will be compliant with current law.

HR Goal #6

Review and update employee handbooks from all labor groups.

Desired Results: Create employee handbooks that are current and up to date.

Mr. Alcorn shared that some of the HR Goals cross over to other committee goals, including the Diversity Committee. One of which, HR Goal #1, is to monitor current initiatives and expand on opportunities within the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion incentives. He shared that the committee has met on two occasions to review completed tasks, make new tasks, create a priority list for each group, and create work groups (District Culture, Marketing, Professional Development, and HR) to complete identified tasks. For HR Goal #3, the district has hired permanent daily substitute teachers; five building substitute teachers and two floating subs to help with sub-fill rate issues, including coverage of long-term leaves. For HR Goal #4, a district safety team has been created and meets three times a year to review district and building safety plans to ensure compliance with current laws. The buildings are in the process of reviewing safety plans with staff to ensure all staff have an understanding of procedures and expectations. To accomplish HR Goal #5, current state and federal poster/postings are under review throughout the district to comply with guidelines and updates will be made as necessary. Once completed, a document will be drafted that will help keep the district up to date. Lastly, for HR Goal #6, the committee is having each employee group review their current handbooks and have asked other local districts to share copies of their as a comparison.

In addition, the committee will identify and develop handbooks for employee groups that do not currently have one. The committee will present their next report on 03/27/23.

D. Report: Board Goals Committee – Section E

The BOE Goals Committee – Section E (E. Acorn – Tanis, M. Groters, Muhammad, Linker, Patin, Gentile, Morrow, Sherman), shared an update on their goal progress:

BOE Goal #5

Create educational opportunities for K-12 students with a focus on STEM activities to help grow the STEM curriculum district-wide to match or enhance the curriculum at the high school.

Desired Results: Provide Kelloggsville students enhanced educational opportunities with a focus on STEM curriculum and activities K-12 in order to have organic growth district-wide that will raise awareness of our new STEM addition at the high school.

Instruction Goal #7

Enhance STEM programming at the elementary level.

Desired Results: Increase the number of students in our middle and high school programs.

HR Goal #2

The academic Dean of Students and Human Resources Committee will investigate different trades and enhance requirements for student participation (including 54th Street Academy students).

Desired Results: Create a catalog of apprenticeship requirements and contact information.

Community Goal #5

Build and expand partnerships with local businesses to provide more options to our students in the school-to-work program.

Desired Results: Continue to build and expand the school-to-work program.

Operations Goal #3

Develop and identify a plan for construction projects; KHS STEM, Southeast Media Center, and other identified facility upgrades within the district.

Desired Results: Ensure that projects within the scope of the construction plan are on schedule and successfully progressing towards completion.

Mr. Acorn shared that for BOE Goal #5, a MS robotics program meets several times a week and will run through mid-May, focusing on coding and robotics. Also at the MS level, a school news broadcast program, similar to that at the HS, is currently taking place. For the 2023-24 school year, a computer science class is being considered to help encourage the interest for students at KMS, as they move up to the high school level. For Instruction Goal #7, an after-school coding class is being held at Central that runs through the end of March, with 21 students enrolled. To accomplish HR Goal #2, the committee is creating two items; a document for School-to-Work requirements and a catalog for apprenticeship requirements that includes contact information.

For Community Goal #5, Mr. Alcorn shared that Mr. Linker attends the Community Coalition Meetings and other local and state meetings in an effort to build partnerships and to share information about our school-to work programs. Lastly, for Operations Goal #3, the scope of the projects for the HS STEM, SE Media Center/Office Renovation, and secured entrances at 54th Street/KECLC/Admin. Office are progressing as scheduled and updates will be shared as they become available. The committee will present their next report on 05/08/23.

E. Report: Community Goals Committee

The Community Goals Committee (C. Groters – Chair, Scott, Townsend, Reidzans, Linker, Roscoe, Muhammad, Hand, Lanser) shared an update on their goal progress:

Community Goal #1

Grow the Community Coalition and re-establish the Division Avenue Business Association during the 2022-23 school year.

Desired Results: Enhance and showcase community involvement with those organizations.

Community Goal #2

Partner with local health officials to provide a vaccine clinics for the Kelloggsville community.

Desired Results: Provide wellness opportunities to our community.

Community Goal #3

Research new platforms for the district and tools to analyze and share marketing data.

Desired Results: Continue to effectively engage community members through our current marketing platforms.

Community Goal #4

Share with the community information on the Non-Homestead election in Spring 2023 through various media platforms.

Desired Results: Help educate the community on the Non-Homestead election.

Community Goal #7

Evaluate after-school programming (intramurals, Credit Recovery, etc.) specifically club activities.

Desired Results: Determine if after-school programs are meeting the needs of students and community.

Community Goal #8

Develop a plan to revitalize and increase parent involvement.

Desired Results: Building engagement by increased participation and involvement by parents to support and improve the school community.

Community goal #9

Promote the new facilities at the sports plaza and surrounding athletic complex.

Desired Results: Share the new capabilities of the facilities and what they provide to the community.

Ms. Groters, shared that for Goal #1, the Community Coalition has met twice so far this year and are planning to meet once again before the end of school year. She shared that the meetings have built upon current relationships and has provided the opportunity to share our coalition partners' events through communications shared with the entire group. For Goal #2, our school nurse, Mrs. Hand, worked with Spectrum Health to put together a flu vaccine clinic that took place in October that approximately 30 staff members took part in. As part of Goal #3, Ms. Groters shared that the district is using Handshake, which is a new platform that connects upcoming and recent graduates with open positions that come up within the district. This platform posts our job openings on their digital job boards and hosts virtual job fairs. She noted that within the next 2 weeks, Facebook is no longer allowing us to post our job openings on their site so this this new platform will be helpful with all certified position postings. Different avenues to advertise our non-certified positions is still under review. She then summarized statistics from Google Analytics that included data from August – February that helps us know what our viewers are looking at on our social media sites. Lastly, for Goal #9, she shared that in the fall, the newly updated plaza entrance and concession stand were promoted during the fall sports season. In addition, the Athletic Department has put together events that will take place during the Grand Opening of the new turf softball and baseball fields, scheduled on 04/25/23, and will be promoted and communicated to our entire school community across all social media platforms.

OTHER MATTERS - None

STUDENT COMMENTS

- Ngoc Dinh – nothing;
- DeMarreon Rodriguez – shared that he is happy to be back;

INTRODUCTION OF MATTERS BY BOARD MEMBERS

- Mrs. Ward – nothing;
- Mrs. Groters – shared the concern of recent swatting events that are taking place across the state, nationwide and at our neighboring districts;
- Ms. Sellers – shared that it is great to see the growth in NWEA test scores and commended staff and students for all of their hard work;
- Ms. Rocha – also happy to see the increase of test scores, especially that of the 1st grade level;
- Mrs. Reidzans – also impressed with the bump up in NWEA achievement scores;
- Ms. Townsend – shared that she is very impressed with the big improvement on the test scores, based on where the students had to come from after COVID, thanking the staff for all of their hard work to get our students there. She also shared appreciation to the committees and all of the work that they do;
- Mrs. Tanis – referenced that the Senate has passed a bill amendment that would prevent third grade students from being held back because of low reading scores. She also shared appreciation to staff for their hard work in helping students' scores increase on the NWEA test and noted that the Board appreciates seeing the data;

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ADJOURNMENT

President Tanis adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Marie Groters, Secretary
Kelloggsville Board of Education

Beth A. Postma
Recorder

VISITORS: Cassie Groters, Terri Ricketson, and Carl Roscoe.