



Kenowa Hills Public Schools

VALUE. SUPPORT. EMPOWER.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Preliminary Minutes
6:30 p.m., Monday, October 23, 2023
Kenowa Hills Pathways High School
3950 Hendershot NW, Grand Rapids MI 49544

I. Routine Business

- A. A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:31 pm. at the Kenowa Hills Middle School LGI, 3950 Hendershot NW, Grand Rapids MI.
- B. President Hart opened the meeting with a moment of silence.
- C. Members Present: Courtade, Gustinis, Hart, LaBotz, Roberts, and Robinson are present. Student Representatives Jacob (Jake) Jonker and Ronan Jameyson, Superintendent Hopkins, Assistant Superintendent Dinkelmann, and Director Gilchrist are also present. Trustee Turner joined the meeting during the Board Communication at 6:39 PM.

- D. Motion by Member Courtaide supported by Member LeBotz to approve the agenda.
Motion passes 6-0.

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|-------|--------|-------|----------|-------|--------|--------|
| Courtade | Y ___ | Hart | Y ___ | Roberts | Y ___ | Turner | Absent |
| Gustinis | Y ___ | LaBotz | Y ___ | Robinson | Y ___ | | |

II. Recognition and Correspondence

- A. Recognition
- B. Correspondence
- C. Board Communication - Members reported on various district events in which they participated during the past couple of weeks.

III. Discussion/Information Item

- A. Pathways High School Spotlight, Director Jared Herron
 1. Principal Herron shared some input from students and their families about their experiences with Pathways High School. They highlighted the flexibility of Pathways compared to traditional high school, and how Pathways can help someone with social anxiety too. Pathways helped some whose grades suffered due to COVID or from other traumas. Some noted they will graduate earlier than they would have if they stayed in traditional high school.
 2. The Pathways High School core values are family atmosphere, modeling a workplace environment, and embracing a hard-working attitude.
 3. Demographics of students and staff, and graduation rates were presented.
 4. There is a focus on the high quality of the virtual instruction and the team that support Pathways High School students.
- B. Student Representative Reports, Jake Jonker and Ronan Jameyson
 1. Jake noted concerns from high school students that the newly proposed bond did not include needs that exist with the infrastructure of the high school.
 2. He also highlighted a concern with building cleanliness.

CALL TO ORDER

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL

APPROVE AGENDA

CORRESPONDENCE

BOE COMMUNICATION

PATHWAYS SPOTLIGHT

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

3. Jake inquired about the sequencing of Advanced Placement (AP) courses. In particular, he suggested it might be better introduction to the rigors associated with AP classes if students could take AP Government prior to AP US History.
4. Club offerings are growing and participation increasing. Winter Sports are about to start.

C. Petition to Withdraw from O.K. Conference Update

1. Our withdrawal from the O.K. Conference was voted upon, under Article II - Membership 2.C. The vote did not pass. 13 voted in support, 35 voted against.
2. Superintendent Hopkins recommends withdrawal from the O.K. Conference effective at the end of the Spring '24 season anyway, as long as at least 6 districts can do so to form a new Conference.
3. The O.K. Conference has asked for districts' decisions regarding withdrawal or not by the end of this week.
4. The steps to form a new conference have been mapped out and several resources have offered support in procuring Assigners, Officials, and a Commissioner. Extra attention is being focused on how to support growing and emerging sports that are not offered by many districts.
5. Some of the costs of forming a new Conference are likely to be higher than what is paid to be a part of the O.K. Conference. Budgeting details will be available prior to FY2024 budeting preparations.
6. Ways to support other districts in starting a LaCrosse team (or growing from a club sport to a competitive team), a dive team, gymnastics, etc. were lifted up.

D. Box Truck and Lift Purchase Recommendation

1. The lift we have on our current box truck is not adequate for our needs, and a new lift makes no/little sense on the current truck. A truck is available at LaFontaine Ford. This quote and request is for the Box truck alone, the lift is not included or not prepared yet. The ask for the lift will come later. Lift gates are readily available, as opposed to the box trucks, of which there is presently a shortage.
2. Recommendation is to use Capital Project funds. Food services monies would no longer be the appropriate way to fund this purchase, as we have invested more in decentralizing our food production and the box truck will not be used as much for food services as has been the case in prior years.

IV. Public Comment; One individual spoke.

The purpose of this meeting is to conduct Board of Education business. There will typically be no attempt to comment or give answers at this meeting. Audience members who wish to make comments are invited to complete the appropriate form located at the entrance. Each speaker has a maximum of three (3) minutes to address the board. Inquiries requiring a response will be referred to the superintendent in the cases where contact information is provided. We ask all individuals making public comments to follow our board policy. Any person in violation of the policy for disruptive conduct will be asked to leave. Any threats or suggestions of violence will be turned over to law enforcement.

V. Action Items

- A. Motion by Member Courtade supported by Member Turner to approve the Consent Agenda. **Motion passes 7-0.**
 1. October 9, 2023 Committee of the Whole Workshop Meeting Minutes
 2. Professional Staff Personnel Report

O.K. CONFERENCE
WITHDRAWAL

BOX TRUCK PURCHASE
RECOMMENDATION

PUBLIC COMMENT

ACTION ITEMS

10/9/23 MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
PERSONNEL REPORT

- B. Motion by Member Robinson supported by Member Roberts to withdraw from the O.K. Conference following the 2023-2024 spring athletic season pending the creation of a newly formed conference that includes at least seven (7) member schools. Report #23-053. Motion by Member Gustinis seconded by Robinson to amend the wording of the motion to state "... at least (6) member schools." **Motion passes 7-0.**

Motion by Member Robinson supported by Member Roberts to withdraw from the O.K. Conference following the 2023-2024 spring athletic season pending the creation of a newly formed conference that includes at least six (6) member schools. Report #23-053. **Motion passes 7-0.**

- C. Motion by Member Courtade supported by Member LeBotz to appoint Members Roberts, Turner, and Gustinis to serve as the district's voting delegates and Member Hart to serve as alternative voting delegate at the MASB 2023 Leadership Conference on Thursday, November 9th at 7:00 PM at the Lansing Center. Report #23-054. **Motion passes 7-0.**
- D. Motion made by Member Hart seconded by Member Roberts to table this item. Report #23-055. **Motion to table passes 7-0.**
- E. Motion by Member Courtade supported by Member Roberts to purchase Bus Security Cameras using Section 97 Safety and Security funds deferred from FY23 in the amount \$107,561.80 from Pro Vision of Byron Center, MI through the TIPS purchasing cooperative, contract #210801. Report #23-056. **Motion passes 7-0.**
- F. Motion by Member LeBotz supported by Member Courtade to purchase a 2024 - E450 model box truck in the amount of \$43,340 using Capital Project Funds. Report #23-057. **Motion passes 7-0.**

VI. Future Items for Consideration

- A. Future Meetings
 1. 11/13/23 6:30 pm Committee of the Whole Meeting - Administration Building
 2. 11/27/23 6:30 pm Regular Board of Education Meeting - High School
 3. 12/11/23 6:00 pm Special Meeting, Superintendent Evaluation - Administration Building
 4. 12/18/23 6:30 pm Regular Board of Education Meeting - Middle School
 5. 01/08/24 6:00 pm Organizational Meeting - Administration Building

- B. Go-Around

VII. Adjournment

- A. Seeing no additional agenda items, President Hart adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle M. S. Roberts, Secretary

WITHDRAW FROM O.K.
CONFERENCE
REPORT #23-053

MASB DELEGATES
REPORT #23-054

BOARD OPERATING
NORMS REPORT #23-055

BUS SECURITY
CAMERAS PURCHASE
REPORT #23-056

BOX TRUCK AND LIFT
PURCHASE REPORT
#23-057

FUTURE ITEMS FOR
CONSIDERATION

ADJOURNMENT