July 3, 2019

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE
KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Kalamazoo Public Schools will be held on Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 1220 Howard Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49008.

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Jennie Hill, Secretary
Board of Education

- Please contact the Superintendent’s Office in advance of the meeting if auxiliary aids or services for individuals with disabilities are needed.

- Official minutes of Kalamazoo Public Schools Board of Education open meetings are available for inspection within eight working days of the meeting at the Superintendent’s Office, 1220 Howard Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49008.
I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Attendance

IV. Announcements and Recognitions

V. Committee Reports/School Reports

VI. Correspondence

VII. Consent Calendar Items
   A. Minutes
      June 27, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes
   B. Business and Financial Reports
      Purchase Requests 2020-01 and 2020-02
   C. Personnel Items
      Personnel Changes
   D. Other

VIII. Persons Requesting to Address the Board (3 minutes individual limit)

IX. Reports and Recommendations

X. Other Business

XI. Comments by Trustees/Superintendent

XII. Closed Session (if needed)

XIII. Next Regular Board of Education Meeting: Thursday, July 25, 2019
I. Call to Order
Trustee Harrison called the June 27, 2019 regular Board of Education meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 1220 Howard Street.

II. Pledge of Allegiance
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Attendance
Board members present: TiAnna Harrison, Jennie Hill, Jermaine Jackson, and Tandy Moore. Absent: Ken Greschak, Jason Morris, and Patti Sholler-Barber. Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice was also present.

IV. Announcements and Recognitions
Executive Director of Communications Alex Lee presented Kalamazoo Central High School Turnaround students: Shantasia McNairy, ninth grade; Virginia Trejo, tenth grade; Lucas Hall, eleventh grade; and Shannon McConkey (unable to attend), twelfth grade.

Also in attendance and introduced by Mr. Lee was Kalamazoo Central High School Assistant Principal Ajamian Gardner. The students’ parents and family members in the audience were also recognized.

Dr. Rice introduced the new Arcadia Elementary School principal, Ms. Meaghan Timmons, and the new Parkwood Upjohn Elementary School principal, Mr. Matthew Murray.

V. School Reports/Committee Reports
Committee Reports
None.

VI. Correspondence
Secretary Hill reviewed the correspondence received for the period of June 14 through June 27, 2019. (File #23.)

VII. Consent Calendar

Deputy Superintendent for Business, Communications and Operations Gary Start reviewed the purchase recommendations:
- 2019-32 in the amount of $47,250.00 from the Facilities Management budget for the purchase of certified playground mulch to be installed at 17 elementary schools plus the South Westnedge School.
- 2019-33 in the amount of $58,800.00 from the 2018 bond for the purchase of security equipment for secure vestibules at eight buildings.
• 2019-34 in the amount of $349,200.00, $244,440.00 from the MDEQ Volkswagen State Mitigation Trust and $104,760.00 from the 2018 bond, for the purchase of one 2020 71-passenger electric school bus.
• 2019-35 in the amount of $171,391.55 from the Teaching and Learning Services budget for the purchase of K-5 *Eureka Math* consumable materials.
• 2019-36 in the amount of $62,987.45 from the Teaching and Learning Services budget for the purchase of K-5 *Handwriting Without Tears* consumable materials.

Trustee Hill stated that electric buses were very exciting. She asked Mr. Start how many school districts were piloting this electric school bus program.

Gary Start noted that there were six or seven school districts piloting this program. He shared that these buses were very quiet and would save a lot of money on gas and maintenance.

Trustee Harrison asked where the charging station would be.

Gary Start noted that they would use portable charging stations initially. He noted that once the new transportation center on Ravine Road was complete, a permanent charging station would be located there.

Trustee Jackson stated that if this was a successful pilot we would see more of these buses in the future.

**MOTION:** Implied to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

**Disposition:** Roll call vote: motion carried, 4-yes, 0-no, 0-abstentions.

**VIII. Persons Requesting to Address the Board**

Trustee Harrison shared the public participation guidelines:

• According to Board Policy 1.2, speakers should each begin their comments by stating their name, address, and connection to/interest in the Kalamazoo Public Schools and, if applicable, the organization that they represent.
• Speakers should be courteous and professional. The chairperson of this meeting may terminate public comments that are profane, vulgar, or defamatory. Speakers should refrain from identifying individuals when offering criticism.
• Speakers have three minutes each and must stop speaking promptly when signaled.
• Speakers may not address confidential student or personnel matters, but may submit such concerns to the board in writing.
• Speakers are reminded that the board will not respond to public comments, but that the administration may or may not follow up with speakers at some point regarding speaker comments.

*Carol McGlinn, 2324 Crane Ave, Kalamazoo,* introduced herself as a former KPS board member. She thanked Dr. Rice for being an amazing leader who had worked harder than anyone she knows. Ms. McGlinn noted that you can tell a lot about someone’s character by how kids react to them and that if you had ever been in a KPS building with Dr. Rice, you know that kids love him. She stated that Dr. Rice would do great things at the state level and that KPS was fortunate to have him there. Ms. McGlinn noted that KPS has an amazing leadership team and that the district was in very good hands. She stated that she hoped the board would focus on selecting a superintendent who was as academically focused as Dr. Rice.
Polly Freer, 221 Edgemoor Avenue, Kalamazoo, introduced herself as part of the KPS Board of Education team that had hired Dr. Rice 12 years ago. She noted that he had stayed in KPS three times longer than the average superintendent in urban school districts. Ms. Freer stated that Dr. Rice had fought hard for the 12,000 KPS students and would fight just as hard for the 1.5 million students in Michigan.

Craig Herschleb, 922 Lane Boulevard, Kalamazoo, introduced himself as a former KPS board member. He stated how much he had appreciated Dr. Rice for all that he had done for the district and its children for the past 12 years. He noted that Dr. Rice always took the time to answer any of his questions. Mr. Herschleb stated that he was confident that Dr. Rice would continue to take the time to listen to all Michigan school districts. He wished Dr. Rice good luck in Lansing.

Rahnyi Kelley, 529 Trimble Avenue, Kalamazoo, introduced herself as a KPS student. She thanked Dr. Rice for always pushing her to be a better student. Ms. Kelley stated that she appreciated the last nine years of Dr. Rice being her superintendent.

Margy Belchak, 1210 Hillcrest, Kalamazoo, introduced herself as a parent of two KPS students who attend El Sol Elementary School. She thanked Dr. Rice for his service and all that he had done for KPS. Ms. Belchak noted that her children had had wonderful experiences at their school and that she felt she left them in safe hands every day. She thanked the board for their service to the community.

Sarah Davis, 501 S. 8th Street, Kalamazoo, introduced herself as the mother of four children at Northglade Montessori Magnet School. She thanked Dr. Rice and the board for listening to parents and their input on the leadership at Northglade. Ms. Davis stated that she was very happy with the selection of the new principal. She noted that Dr. Rice would be missed in the community.

Minister Karika Parker, Kalamazoo, thanked Dr. Rice for serving as superintendent with such dignity and respect. She thanked Dr. Rice on behalf of her Kalamazoo College Promise students, who were very prepared for college, and her own three KPS children. Ms. Parker noted that Dr. Rice visited all the elementary, middle, and high schools and that the students knew him by name. She wished him well in Lansing.

Sean McCann, 4041 E. Hillandale Drive, Kalamazoo, introduced himself as a parent of two KPS students and as the state senator for Kalamazoo County. He thanked Dr. Rice for advancing KPS schools. Senator McCann stated that he was very excited for Dr. Rice and hoped they would cross paths in Lansing. He noted that many districts were envious of KPS for the Promise, increased enrollment, and advancements in graduation rates.

IX. Reports and Recommendations
A. Approval of Employee Association Agreements
   Mr. Start read the recommendation to approve the Employee Association Agreements.

   MOTION: Moved by Trustee Hill, supported by Trustee Moore, to approve the recommendation as presented.

   Disposition: Voice vote: motion carried, 4-yes, 0-no, 0-abstentions.
B. Administrative Recommendation – Principal of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Westwood Elementary School
Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Sheila Dorsey-Smith read the recommendation to appoint Mr. Dwight Quinn Jr. principal of King-Westwood.

Disposition: Roll call vote: motion carried, 4-yes, 0-no, 0-abstentions.

C. Administrative Recommendation – Principal of Northglade Montessori Magnet School
Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Sheila Dorsey-Smith read the recommendation to appoint Ms. ReQwal Duckworth principal of Northglade.

Disposition: Roll Call: motion carried, 4-yes, 0-no, 0-abstentions.

X. Other Business
None.

XI. Comments by Trustees
Trustee Jackson thanked Mandy Clearwaters for organizing the Art Hop at the Alma Powell branch library. He noted that the art would stay up at the library through August. Trustee Jackson stated that they had celebrated the 113th birthday of Ms. Alma Powell on June 22.

Trustee Jackson stated that he had appreciated working with Dr. Rice on the board and all that he had done for KPS. He wished him well at the state level.

Trustee Hill stated that she had worked with Dr. Rice on the board for the last eight years. She noted his 12 years of service to community, students, parents, teachers, and staff. Trustee Hill shared that she had learned from him as a board member and as a person. She stated that Dr. Rice had led KPS to increase graduation rates and the number of promise users, engaged KPS staff and community members in mentoring students, and promoting cultural sensitivity training. Trustee Hill thanked Dr. Rice for heading to Lansing so that the entire state of Michigan can state “and still we rise.”

Trustee Moore stated that she was excited about the new principals in the elementary buildings. She noted that it was good to hear from a parent that they felt that they had been heard and were happy with the outcome.

Trustee Moore stated that she wished Dr. Rice a strong board and a vocal public at the state level. She wished him every success in improving education for our kids.

Trustee Harrison and Trustee Hill read a letter from President Sholler-Barber to Dr. Rice.

I am so sorry that I am not with you this evening; nonetheless, I send warm congratulations on your new adventure, soldiering on to bring the deserved quality of education our state’s children deserve.

Twelve years of watching you work has been incredible, not without its challenges to be sure, but so masterfully done. I applaud your unflappable dedication to KPS students.
To be recognized by the students of today’s classrooms, as well as those that have graduated, by name and with big toothy grins is amazing. What superintendent makes that a priority or another avenue to support and encourage kids’ success?

Thanks!

That “Hi Dr. Rice” resounded as I walked the halls of many schools with you.

You are leaving us in a strong financial state. Although the underfunding of our schools is regrettable, Mr. Start, you and your team have done a brilliant job managing our funds. Together with KEA, we have raised the bar on teachers’ base salary to the highest it’s ever been.

You supported and delivered all-day kindergarten to record enrollment knowing all of our children need to start on equal footing.

You started a mentoring program for our young men and women -- not to replace needed counseling. “Bigs” or the benefit of lots of home and community support -- but to help these students know weekly and, maybe, for just an hour that they are cared for by many.

You encouraged and helped to launch our KILP program that gives our high school kids “that life got in their way” the message they are able and always Promise-worthy.

You never forgot that no child can learn, feel ready to receive instruction, or care about homework on an empty belly. You worked with many to feed our kids, some even three meals a day. Partnering with Loaves and Fishes you helped to put needed food pantries in schools.

You helped us realize suspending or expelling children is not always a “go to acceptable” answer. You aided our staff in reducing these rates by developing and leading the implementation of programs like ALP, which keeps them in school near adults who care. Your budget recommendations to your boards always reflected these values. You and your team have helped construct a foundation upon which we can build.

You, “Mr. Metric,” have encouraged so many programs and efforts in our schools that have increased our outcomes, reached BoE goals, and set our KPS metrics on fire.

This gives us the momentum to march on to bigger and better numbers.

You have always faced the race question head on. Asking needed questions and encouraging sound professional development while keeping all of our kids’ wellbeing in focus. The nation is fraught with this challenge and your team’s leadership consistently kept its focus on the huge work to be done. “Miles to go before we sleep” resonated repeatedly from you, especially on this issue.

You helped us pass millages that built schools, gyms, libraries, sports complexes, auditoriums, furthered our security efforts, and increased our ability to deliver current technology to our students’ hands.
You drove and guided efforts to keep enrollment growing in KPS for all the right reasons, including more funds to help all kids, and it’s where so many children belong on their way to being Promise-ready.

You lead the fight with your board right behind you against closing two of our loved neighborhood schools providing stable equity for our kids, and we won handily. Yay Washington Writers’ Academy and The Woodward School for Technology and Research!

You worked 60-70 hour weeks on a list that included:

*Keeping your board politically aware;
*Maintaining a young aspiring administrators’ academy;
*Refugee children assimilation into our district;
*DACA inclusion and vocal assurance to these kids we will keep you safe;
*Listening to Parent Advisory Council and Student Advisory Council input;
*County superintendent meetings;
*One Pass efforts;
*Universal Library card launches;
*Stuffing busses;
*Toting water for Flint;
* Sitting in dunk tanks;
*Dribbling balls;
*Reading Langston Hughes to kids;
*Creating diverse classroom libraries;
And...
That list goes on!

Now to be sure you are very human! Everybody has warts.
*You tell corny jokes.
*You sing a bit off-key. Ouch!
*You talk an awful lot! Who said it takes you 15 minutes to clear your throat!?
*You munch peppermints and tic tacs like some crazed hungry squirrel.
*You offer Ricolas to folk as if they are life-changing gifts.
*You can be wrong and have admitted it...sometimes with flushed cheeks.

Yup, you did all that and more!

In conclusion, you left us so much better for having you as our superintendent.

You leave us ready to do more, be more, and hold our students dearer preparing them for a good life. We are strong, able, and ready to move your bars even higher.

It was my honor to learn from you, argue at length with you, laugh at your silly puns, and watch you love all KPS kids for 12 years.

Thank you for caring for this KPS village better than we can really know.
With a bittersweet voice I wish you great health, sweet family times, and huge success that all Michigan public education kids deserve in your new position!

Utmost admiration and respect,
Patti Sholler-Barber

Trustee Harrison stated that ten years ago she became the treasurer at the Northglade PTO, which began her involvement in the education of children. She noted that Dr. Rice had always had the time and patience to listen to her which had motivated her to get involved with KPS. Trustee Harrison stated that she was excited for the children of Michigan who would have someone to advocate for them. She looked forward to seeing the great things Dr. Rice would do in Lansing.

Comments by the Superintendent
Dr. Rice thanked his wife, Laufet Morrison, who was at the meeting this evening. He noted that it was not easy being married to a school superintendent and that it helped to have deeply shared values around children.

Dr. Rice thanked Alex Lee for emceeing twelve years of board meetings and for his 23 years of work coordinating KPS communications.

Dr. Rice thanked Lee Miller, Betse Klepper, Bea Cunningham, Pat VerMeulen, and Carol Ann Zomer for working with him every day. He shared that they handle an enormous amount of work and do it with expertise and dignity.

Dr. Rice thanked Gary Start, soon to be the interim superintendent, the right person for the moment. He shared that Mr. Start had tremendous experience and that he appreciated his expertise and friendship.

Dr. Rice thanked Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Services Cindy Green, who was a fierce advocate for children. He noted that she had taken on jobs and positions that she never thought she wanted but did it because it was the right thing to do for kids.

Dr. Rice thanked Sheila Dorsey-Smith, who was a fierce member of the senior leadership team. He noted she was very much about children and the work of the district in support of all kids.

Dr. Rice thanked Director of Special Education Reuquiyah Saunders for being such a fierce protector of special needs children in a district with a lot of children with special needs.

Dr. Rice thanked Director of Student Services Nkenge Bergan, who like the rest of the senior leadership team, was also a fierce advocate for all children and leads on behalf of children daily.

Dr. Rice thanked Director of Secondary Education Johnny Edwards and Director of Elementary Education Judy D’Arcangelis for their leadership.

Dr. Rice thanked the 800 teachers who work hard every day under very challenging circumstances. He thanked the support staff for working with a lot of heart on a regular basis. Dr. Rice also thanked all KPS administrators who do a terrific job in an understaffed district.

Dr. Rice stated his appreciation of Board President Sholler-Barber and noted that she was courageous, hardworking, and unfailingly upbeat in the face of tremendous personal challenges. He noted that former board president Ms. Polly Freer was in the audience and that he had
appreciated her work on the superintendent search twelve years ago. Dr. Rice shared that Ms. Carol McGlinn was also at tonight’s meeting and that she had served 10½ years on the board with courage and diplomacy. He appreciated everyone being here tonight. Dr. Rice shared that former board member Mr. Craig Herschleb represented the community very genuinely. He stated that Trustee Hill was very wise and that he appreciated her leadership and her good cheer. Dr. Rice shared that Trustee Harrison was a woman of the community and that Trustee Greschak was a man of communication. He noted that Trustee Jackson, Trustee Morris, and Trustee Moore were new board members and that he appreciated the new energy and voices on the board.

Dr. Rice shared that Dr. Tim Bartik had been on the board for one year while Dr. Rice was the superintendent. He stated that Dr. Bartik remained close to the district with his work at Upjohn Institute and he appreciated his wise counsel.

Dr. Rice stated that there were 13,200 children in the district now. He noted that in 2005, KPS had 10,200 students and had lost enrollment for 33 consecutive years. Dr. Rice stated that the Kalamazoo Promise arrived in November 2005, and that enrollment jumped by 1,000 children the first year. He noted that simply accommodating growth was not educating children, you have to do something with children.

Dr. Rice explained that KPS went from 176 to 962 children in full-day kindergarten in one year. He noted that KPS started the Middle School Alternative Learning Program and El Sol Elementary School in 2008. Dr. Rice stated that KPS started Lift Up Through Literacy, which has trained thousands of parents and grandparents in literacy strategies. He noted that the board started long-term goals and had made progress in all five major goal areas.

Dr. Rice shared that there were 454 graduates in 2005 and 692 graduates in 2018, a 52% increase, a function of the stronger education that KPS provided its students. He noted that when President Obama came to Kalamazoo in 2010 the graduation rate was 63%, eight years later, 2018, four-year graduation rate was 75%, and five-year graduation rate was 80%. Dr. Rice stated that KPS had started a mentoring program because KPS felt the graduation rates for African American males should be higher. He noted that in 2013 KPS had a 46.7% African American male graduation rate, in 2018 the African American male graduation rate was 61.5% and the five-year African American male graduation rate was 66.5%, a 15% increase. We have improved.

Dr. Rice thanked Director of Facilities Management Karen Jackson and Campus Security Chief Don Webster, formerly the assistant chief for the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety, for their tremendous contributions to this district. He also thanked Marshall Grate, KPS Attorney Counsel.

Dr. Rice stated that twelve years was a really long time to go by so quickly. Thank you.

XII. Closed Session (if needed)
Trustee Harrison did not call for a closed session, and adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

XIII. Trustee Harrison announced the next regular Board of Education meeting date: Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betse Klepper, Recording Secretary
on behalf of Jennie Hill, Secretary
Board of Education
TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Gary L. Start
DATE: July 11, 2019
SUBJECT: Approval of the Attached Purchase Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the board approve the purchases reflected on the attached Purchase Recommendation Data Sheets.

RATIONALE: In general, purchases greater than $24,459 for materials, supplies, equipment, building construction, renovation, or repair are brought before the board for approval.

The attached purchase recommendation data sheets include all purchases that require approval at this time. Aspects of the purchases that are considered significant to the decision-making process are outlined on the data sheets.
KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
PURCHASE RECOMMENDATION DATA SHEET

Board Meeting Date: July 11, 2019
Request Number: 2019-01
Amount: $37,378.00

Item: 22 iMac computers @ $1,699.00 each

Cost Center: 2018 Bond

Cost Center Representative(s) attending Board meeting: Nathan McLaughlin

Description of Need:
The purchase is for 22 iMac computers for the Milwood Magnet School: A Center for Math, Science and Technology digital video classroom. These computer replacements are consistent with the district’s six-year replacement cycle.

Vendor: Apple Computer, Inc
Austin, Texas

Number of Proposals Requested: N/A

Low Bid Accepted? N/A

Additional Information:
iMac computers have been determined to be the appropriate computer for the curriculum for the digital video classroom. Apple is the sole source for iMac computers. We receive K-12 educational pricing.
KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PURCHASE RECOMMENDATION DATA SHEET

Board Meeting Date: July 11, 2019
Request Number: 2019-02
Amount: $24,730.00

Item: ExacqVision Security Camera Server

Cost Center: 2018 Bond

Cost Center Representative(s) attending Board meeting: Nathan McLaughlin

Description of Need:
This purchase is for an ExacqVision Z-Series security camera failover server to allow cameras to continue recording in case of a hardware failure on any of the other security camera servers.

Vendor: Engineered Protection Systems, INC.
Grand Rapids, MI

Number of Proposals Requested: 3

Number of Proposals Received: 2

Low Bid Accepted? Yes
TO:        Board of Trustees
FROM:    Gary L. Start, Interim Superintendent
DATE:     July 11, 2019
SUBJECT:  Personnel Changes

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the board approve the following employment changes:

I.  Employment
   A.  Professional/Management
       Kendra D. Brown, 2/3-Split Teacher, Arcadia Elementary School, August 2019
       Kristen H. Dinsmore, Math Teacher, Milwood Magnet School: A Center for Math, Science, and Technology, August 2019
       Kala L. Law, 3rd Grade Teacher, Northeastern Elementary School, August 2019
       Elizabeth A. Lenning, Science Teacher, Hillside Middle School, August 2019
       Christine S. Stefanic, Kindergarten Teacher, Northeastern Elementary School, August 2019
       William S. Wilkinson, Social Studies Teacher, Linden Grove Middle School, August 2019
   B.  Classified
       Ora L. Burns, Early Childhood Special Education Paraprofessional, Greenwood Elementary School, 8/29/2019

II. Promotions/Key Transfers
   A.  Professional/Management

   B.  Classified
       Lance P. Bentley, from Behavior Support Paraprofessional, Linden Grove Middle School, to Special Education Paraprofessional, Loy Norrix High School, 8/29/2019
       Nicole R. DeGraaf, transfer from Assistant School Secretary, Hillside Middle School, to School Secretary, Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts, 8/19/2019
       Kelly L. Reimink, transfer from Assistant School Secretary, Prairie Ridge Elementary School, to Assistant School Secretary, Linden Grove Middle School, 8/19/2019
       Joy A. VandePol, transfer from Assistant School Secretary, Washington Writers’ Academy, to School Secretary, Washington Writers’ Academy, 7/11/2019
       Kurtrina J. Weekley, transfer from Self-Contained Paraprofessional, Hillside Middle School, to School Secretary, Middle School Alternative Learning Program, 8/19/2019

III.  Leaves of Absence
IV. Terminations
A. Professional/Management
Emily O. Gibbons, ESL Teacher, Loy Norrix High School, 6/24/2019, Resigned
Christopher A. Harris, Kindergarten Teacher, Northeastern Elementary School, 6/25/2019, Resigned
Terina L. Harvey, Ed. D., Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Teaching and Learning Services, 7/31/2019, Retiring
Gary A. (Alex) Lee, Executive Director of Communications, Administration Building, 7/31/2019, Retiring
Sheryl A. Scott-Cleary, Counselor, Loy Norrix High School, 6/27/2019, Resigned
Alexandria L. Williams, Science Teacher, Loy Norrix High School, 7/1/2019, Resigned
B. Classified

V. Termination from Leave of Absence
A. Professional/Management
B. Classified

VI. Return from Leave of Absence
A. Professional/Management
B. Classified