

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Office of the Superintendent  
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June 3, 2020

**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, June 18, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.** Kalamazoo Public Schools will be live-streaming the June 18 board meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Public Media Network on the Discover Channel:

<https://www.publicmedianet.org/live-streams>

Additional details will be posted on the Kalamazoo Public Schools website.

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.

**KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Board of Education Meeting**  
**1220 Howard Street**  
**June 18, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.**

**A G E N D A**

- 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**  
May 28, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
  - B. Business and Financial Reports**  
Purchase Recommendation 2020-47, 2020-48, 2020-49, and 2020-50
  - C. Personnel Items**  
Personnel Changes
  - D. Other**
- VIII. Persons Requesting to Address the Board (3 minutes individual limit)**
- IX. Reports and Recommendations**
  - A.** Resolution Regarding the 2019-20 Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency (KRESA) Budget
  - B.** Kalamazoo Public Schools 2020 Budget Presentation
- X. Other Business**
- XI. Comments by Trustees/Superintendent**
- XII. Closed Session (if needed)**
- XIII. Next Regular Board of Education Meeting: Thursday, June 25, 2020**

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Board of Education  
1220 Howard Street  
May 28, 2020 – Remote Meeting

**I. Call to Order**

President Sholler-Barber called the May 28, 2020 regular Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**II. Attendance**

Board members present: Ken Greschak, TiAnna Harrison, Jennie Hill, Jermaine Jackson, Tandy Moore, Jason Morris and Patti Sholler-Barber. Interim Superintendent Gary Start was also present.

**III. Announcements and Recognitions**

None.

**IV. School Reports/Committee Reports**

Operations Committee, *Trustee Greschak, chair*, stated that the committee had met on May 19. He shared the following email sent to all board members:

*In an effort to keep you informed during this highly fluid moment, I wanted to touch base with some key highlights from today's Operations Committee Meeting. This is intended as information only; not to engage in deliberation. Do not reply to this email. If you have questions, respond to me individually.*

*The macro is that we're looking at some difficult budget decisions over the next three to five weeks. As you know, we will approve a budget for next school year at the June 25 meeting. We'll get a proposed budget by June 9. This gives us very little time to solicit public input, assess our options, create a budget and approve it.*

*Here's what we know:*

- *We could be as much as \$9M short of funding THIS year. We are hoping—even reasonably so—that the State and/or the Feds will help offset this loss. But assuming they can't or don't, there is next to nothing we can do to mitigate the loss other than to dip into the Fund Balance. Not a good choice, but realistically our only one. Doing this will create challenges for next year.*
- *And speaking of next year, Gary reported today that we could be looking at something between \$5M and \$25M revenue loss for next year. Let that bigger number sink in for a minute. Our challenge is that we don't really have a strong idea of what to prepare for at this point. Hopefully, we will as we move through the next few weeks. Otherwise, we're likely to pass a budget in June and immediately set an August (?) meeting for amending it.*

*So what is the plan moving forward?*

- *We are going to hold many meetings over the next three weeks.*
  - *Public Forums (we're thinking three held on different days at different times). Our goal going in is to ensure inclusion, particularly among underrepresented*

*and marginalized folks. I will facilitate the forums as Operations Chair. We're planning a brief overview of how the KPS budget is structured (most people will have no idea, probably), and then open it up to comment. These are virtual meetings, so going in we know we'll have a challenge with many not having easy access to the budget overview visually, but we plan to make a download available for those who can't do Zoom and then just try to do a good job verbally explaining things. Per our usual protocols, we'll allow three minutes per person and folks will need to pre-register to speak. I'm thinking that at the end, we could try to allow others to participate, or have second bites at the apple, but I'm unsure yet how to do that easily in a virtual forum. The overall goal is to encourage the public to help us set the priorities as we're choosing our cuts.*

- *A whole myriad of internal audience meetings: UAW, KEA, Administrators, Teachers and Parent-Teacher Groups (this last one we know is important, but we also know it does not always represent the diversity of our student body and thus the vital need for the public forums). These meetings will be coordinated and run by the Administration, with some Operation Committee members listening in.*

*Stay tuned. As information comes in, we'll work to get it out. Please, please, please use me as your sounding board and for questions. The Administration is under extreme duress getting ready for all this and it could prove counter-productive if EACH Board Trustee is ringing in with things. I will do my very best to get answers and to address your concerns in a timely manner.*

*Thanks, everyone. Get ready for the ride. We will get through this. KPS is, and will emerge, strong. We are up for this test.*

Evaluation Committee, Trustee Hill, chair, stated that the committee had met on May 19. She noted that the committee discussed the KPS information sheet that they had started to develop in January. Trustee Hill explained that the information sheet would include a list of current board members, board responsibilities, correspondence procedures, a list of the 2021 board meetings, public participation during the meeting, extended access to the board meetings, and noted that the brochure would be available outside the board room in the administration building.

Trustee Hill stated that the committee had also discussed the evaluation of Interim Superintendent Gary Start. She noted that the State of Michigan Department of Education had sent a memorandum on May 13 stating that it was waiving any requirement of performance evaluation of district administrators for the 2019-2020 school year.

Curriculum Committee, President Sholler-Barber, chair, stated that this had been a meeting of the whole board with the exception of Trustee Greschak who had had a prior commitment. Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Services Cindy Green shared the following information:

- On April 13 Director of Secondary Education Johnny Edwards and she started training teachers and collecting input, noting that what they collected would probably change in the future as they learn ways to do things better;
- The biggest KPS goal is to get every child connected to the internet and every child participating in online learning;
- Chromebooks were distributed to students and KPS currently has about seventy percent participation from students in the online program. She noted the challenges for many students and families and understands that this is not an ideal learning environment for all children;

- Teachers are recording connecting with students whether it is online, through text messaging, phone messaging, or emails;
- KPS is using support staff to help reach its students;
- She understands the need for high school students to get their credits and are watching that closely;
- High school principals are monitoring seniors very carefully; and
- KPS intends to collect additional information in June, when online classes are done, so that they can plan and improve for the future.

**V. Correspondence**

Secretary Hill reviewed the correspondence received for the period of May 13 through May 26, 2020. (File #20.)

**VI. Consent Calendar**

President Sholler-Barber presented the Consent Calendar items: VII.A. May 14, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes; VII.B. Purchase Recommendations 2020-45 and 2020-46; and VII.C. Personnel Changes.

Interim Superintendent Gary Start reviewed the following purchase recommendations:

- 2020-45 in the amount of \$162,056.00 from the Federal Title 1 Funds (\$128,608) and At-Risk 31a Funds (\$33,448) for the purchase of “DreamBox Learning” Math Intervention Program.
- 2020-46 in the amount of \$46,702.39 from the Early Literacy Grant for the purchase of 7,791 Early Literacy Books for all rising kindergarten, first and second grade students to receive books during the summer 2020.

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

**Disposition:** Roll call vote: motion carried, 7-yes, 0-no, 0-abstentions.

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

President Sholler-Barber shared the public participation guidelines.

*Majyck Dee, Kalamazoo*, stated that she knew that KPS staff, administrators, and parents were working hard under these current conditions in the school district. She asked the board to consider how parents who are going back to work will manage childcare for their children that are not in school.

*Brian Cleveland, Kalamazoo*, stated that he had been an employee of the KPS transportation department for the past 26.5 years. He thanked Gary Start for his leadership this past year. Mr. Cleveland welcomed the new superintendent and acknowledged the enormous task ahead with proposed budget issues.

*Darrin Moore, Kalamazoo*, stated that he was the vice president of Kalamazoo Support Personnel (KSP). He thanked the board and Mr. Start for helping with the continuation of the school lunch program. Mr. Moore thanked Mr. Start for his commitment to all KPS and noted that he would be missed.

*Martha Warfield, Kalamazoo*, introduced herself as a former KPS board member and noted that she understood what the board was going through during this difficult time. She stated her

gratitude to Mr. Start for his contribution to KPS and explained that he had served in a number of positions since 1983. Ms. Warfield shared that he had led the development of eight bond issues that had passed, he was instrumental in the enhancement millage for Kalamazoo County, and in the last two years he had helped to restructure the Kalamazoo County special education funding. She noted that he was an experienced person and that she was thankful to have had him in our district and that he continued to provide leadership to the district. Dr. Warfield also shared that Mr. Start has served as a volunteer mentor at Phoenix High School, which was outside of his responsibilities but a clear indication of a person who is dedicated to students.

*Karen Jackson, Kalamazoo*, thanked Gary Start. She noted that tonight was his official last meeting as interim superintendent. Ms. Jackson explained that Mr. Start had stepped out of his comfort zone and had led this district through one of its most difficult times. Ms. Jackson stated that he listened, he learned, and he led. She noted that Mr. Start never asked anyone to do anything that he wouldn't have done himself. Ms. Jackson shared that every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday he shows up at Lincoln International Studies School and delivers meals to children and leads by example. She stated that she was forever grateful and was honored to work with and for Mr. Start.

*Kharen Shelton, Kalamazoo*, stated that she was a graduate of Kalamazoo Central High School. She noted that KPS had helped her to be successful and felt that was due to leadership of Mr. Start. Ms. Shelton thanked Mr. Start for all he had done during this difficult time with grace and dignity. She shared that Mr. Start cares about this community and its people.

*Meg Blinkiewicz, Kalamazoo*, introduced herself as a graduate of Kalamazoo Central High School and a parent of four children who had graduated from Loy Norrix High School. She thanked Mr. Start for his years of service to the district. Ms. Blinkiewicz noted that she had served on several committees with Mr. Start and that he had earned the nickname "go-to-Gary." She noted there wasn't a question that he wasn't able to answer and explain in an easy manner. Ms. Blinkiewicz thanked Mr. Start for decades of selfless service to thousands of families in the community.

*Shari Weber, Kalamazoo*, stated that she had sent the board and interim superintendent an article from Forbes magazine that talked about making sure as we plan for education after COVID 19 to ensure that we have a racial justice plan and that we keep in mind the most marginalized people. She asked that the board please keep this in their minds and hearts as they plan for our future. Ms. Weber thanked them for their hard work.

*Mark Hill, Kalamazoo*, introduced himself as the principal of Phoenix High School and the president of the United Auto Workers Local 21. He thanked Mr. Start for his service and leadership to KPS and the community. Mr. Hill shared that he had led with grace and humility.

*Devin Parker, Kalamazoo*, thanked Mr. Start for all of the work that he has done and for his leadership during this difficult year.

*Sarah Willey, Kalamazoo*, introduced herself as the president of the Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) at Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts and the parent of three children in KPS. She thanked Mr. Start for his leadership over several decades and noted that it had been a challenging year.

*Liz Griff, Kalamazoo*, introduced herself as the parent of a KPS graduate and a current KPS senior. She thanked Mr. Start and the KPS board and staff and noted that it was a hard moment to be in public schools. Ms. Griff stated that our culture that we live in allows black and brown people to

be killed in the street by police officers. She noted that our children inhabit this racist environment now. Ms. Griff stated that KPS should be explicitly anti-racist so that we can live up to the KPS district tag line every child, every opportunity, every time.

*Von Washington, Kalamazoo*, introduced himself as the former principal of Kalamazoo Central High School and Phoenix High School, currently the Executive Director of Community Relations with the Kalamazoo Promise. He noted that the relationship of high school principals and the financial director of business is very important, one where trust abounds. Mr. Washington stated that Mr. Start was laser focused that children and families have the resources that they need to be successful. He thanked Mr. Start for his work and services.

## **VIII. Reports and Recommendations**

### **A. Michigan High School Athletic Association Membership Resolution**

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

**Disposition:** Voice vote: motion carried, 7-yes, 0-no, 0-abstentions.

### **B. Federal funding Resolution**

Trustee Greschak read the resolution:

***WHEREAS**, in March 2020, the coronavirus disease that causes COVID-19 first appeared in Michigan, causing the Governor to declare a state of emergency under her powers in the Michigan Constitution;*

***WHEREAS**, in response to this emergency, after Michigan school districts were required to cancel in-person learning, school districts have risen to the challenge by being innovative and focused on their unique needs, provided distance learning for all Michigan students;*

***WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has created tremendous uncertainty on how to provide quality education while maintaining safe conditions for both staff and students, causing districts to face new expenses and challenges for the upcoming school year, including providing personal protective equipment; creating new health screening procedures; increased cleaning costs; reorganization of learning spaces to accommodate social distancing; and expanded access to school-based mental health services;*

***WHEREAS**, both the state and national economies have suffered greatly as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has dramatically reduced state and local revenue placing enormous pressure on the state budget, including the School Aid Fund, which is predicted to be more than \$1 billion below previous estimates for the next two years; and*

***WHEREAS**, due to falling revenues, local school districts face severe budget shortfalls for the current fiscal year, including a potential proration cut of at least \$650 per student, and similar budget problems for the upcoming year, making it*

*difficult to provide high-quality education, access to technology, and safety for both students and staff; and*

***WHEREAS***, a \$650 proration would result in a decrease of revenue for this district of over \$8 million in a year that is almost completed;

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education for Kalamazoo Public Schools supports the passage of legislation by the U.S. Congress appropriating needed funds to be distributed to states and local districts with maximum flexibility to fill budget gaps during this state of emergency;

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, the Board of Education for Kalamazoo Public Schools urges congressional action to provide additional funding for the highly successful E-Rate Program, which helps schools ensure connectivity for online learning; and

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*** that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to our Governor, and to all members of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate representing the families in our District.

**MOTION:** Moved by Trustee Morris, supported by Trustee Harrison, to approve the recommendation as presented.

**Disposition:** Voice vote: motion carried, 7-yes, 0-no, 0-abstentions

**X. Other Business**  
None.

**XI. Comments by Trustees**

Trustee Hill thanked the staff, teachers, administration, and volunteers working at the food distribution sites. She thanked Mr. Start for his commitment to public schools and noted that he was there when KPS needed him with a level head and his strong trust in his staff.

Trustee Morris thanked Mr. Start for being so kind, thoughtful, and fearless. He noted that he really appreciates all that he does for KPS. Trustee Morris welcomed Dr. Raichoudhuri and stated that he was looking forward to working with her.

Trustee Greschak thanked Mr. Start for his ability to create relationships and trust. He was happy that Mr. Start would still be working with KPS. Trustee Greschak shared his concern about how KPS will face the challenges of the coming year if it is still doing online learning or if they will reopen schools. He noted that this was on the board's radar and that they understand this would leave young children without a lot of support in their homes.

Trustee Moore thanked Gary Start for stepping up for KPS this past year. She was grateful that he would be back to working in the business office for KPS. Trustee Moore echoed the concerns from Trustee Greschak about reopening schools. She noted that anti-racism was very important at this time and noted that we talk about protecting our students and that we need to look within the district. Trustee Moore wants students to be safe in our schools and for them to live long, safe,



happy lives outside of school. She suggested that fellow trustees look into online learning on anti-racism for the board.

Trustee Jackson thanked Mr. Start for doing a fabulous job during this crisis. He thanked him for what he had done for the district this past year. Trustee Jackson echoed the concerns from Shari Weber and appreciated the article that she had sent to the board.

Trustee Harrison stated that she was very happy that Mr. Start can help the new superintendent with her transition. She noted her strong relationship and friendship with Mr. Start and thanked him for all that he had done for the students and community. Trustee Harrison looks forward to working to heal this community and having conversations that are needed.

President Sholler-Barber thanked Susan Coney for the teacher appreciation video. She also thanked the food distribution staff. President Sholler-Barber agreed with the trustees and their concerns regarding the need for anti-racism training in KPS.

President Sholler-Barber read the following statement:

*Mr. Gary Start stepped into the role of superintendent to shepherd Kalamazoo Public Schools during a time of leadership transition. Little did he know, when he took on the additional duties, what was waiting for him a few months down the line. Not only did he effectively maintain continuity and stability in the district, he bravely dove in head first when the current unprecedented crisis hit, and continued to steer the great ship that is KPS through these uncertain waters. In a few days, on June 1, 2020, our incoming superintendent, Dr. Rita Raichoudhuri, will be officially joining us. Gary has been a mentor and advisor to her through the last few months and will continue to play that role as she learns and leads us through this crisis and beyond. Gary will resume his former role as deputy superintendent of KPS effective June 1, a role that will require a high level of expertise as we navigate through the multi-million dollar budget cuts that loom ahead of us. We feel confident, however, in Gary's hands to see us through this budget crisis as he has been successfully playing that role for over three decades. We are eternally thankful to him for his service leading KPS over the last several months and we feel safe and at ease that he will help us get through any financial crisis that we will face.*

*On that note, we wish to inform all stakeholder groups that input sessions are beginning next week with multiple groups on spending reduction possibilities and on "Back to School" during uncertain times. If you are part of an organization or an individual who would like to provide input, please reach out to KPS via email with your thoughts, your relationship to KPS, and your contact information. We will study all correspondence and may reach out to individuals or groups to schedule additional meetings to gather further input. E-mails may be sent to [communications@kalamazoopublicschools.net](mailto:communications@kalamazoopublicschools.net)*

*Input sessions have been scheduled with the following KPS groups: senior leadership, instructional leadership, business and support leadership, UAW leadership, MEA leadership, parent advisory council, and teacher advisory council. If you identify as a member of one of these groups, I encourage you to reach out to that group's leadership with your questions, concerns, or feedback, so that your input may be brought to the scheduled discussion.*

*In addition, we will be holding three public forums. They will be June 1 at 7 p.m., June 2 at 7 p.m. and June 8 at 3:30 p.m. These meetings will be streamed live on Public Media Network's Discover Channel. A direct link to the meeting and a sign-up sheet for public comments are*

*posted on our website at [www.kalamazoopublicschools.com](http://www.kalamazoopublicschools.com) and on the district's Facebook page.*

**Comments by the Interim Superintendent**

Mr. Start stated that the events of this week had been depressing and clearly the nation had a long way to go. He thanked the board members and community for their kind comments and noted that we were fortunate to have this board who was so dedicated to our students.

Mr. Start read the following statement:

*It's been quite a year. There were definitely more challenges than I anticipated when I accepted the interim position last June. However; in spite of an unusually difficult year, I am proud of quite a few of our accomplishments.*

*I thought the district's response to EEE last fall was very good. It took the coordination and creative thinking by many of our staff members to make sure that all activities were completed by sundown. It also took the cooperation of our students and their families to adjust their schedules.*

*Threats of violence shut us down at some of our schools for a short time period. However, through the work of law enforcement, our campus safety personnel, and other district personnel, those threats were controlled, and our students were protected.*

*Our voters overwhelmingly supported two millages. The CTE millage will provide outstanding opportunities for our students in the future. The enhancement millage prevented \$4.6 million of additional cuts to our general fund budget.*

*The Coronavirus hit hard and suddenly. I was really proud of our efforts to ensure that the kids that depend on us for food, had food. The governor closed us late on a Thursday night. By the following Monday, we were providing food at 24 sites. To date, we have served almost 660,000 meals. One of my most meaningful activities is to help distribute food at Lincoln International Studies School three days a week.*

*I thought the response to the pandemic by our instructional leaders and technology personnel was amazing. They quickly developed distance learning opportunities and an outstanding continuity of learning plan.*

*I greatly benefited by the support and wisdom of many individuals. Our senior leadership is very, very good. As interim superintendent, I often called upon them for advice. Their advice was been consistently excellent. And, I found the same support from the leaders in the business, communications and operations division.*

*Our instructional leadership group is always outstanding, as are our many other employee groups such as teachers, behavioral positions, campus safety positions, bus drivers, office workers, paraprofessionals, food service personnel, custodians, maintenance, and various hourly positions.*

*Betse and Lee in the superintendent's office kept me on track each day, including walking me through a pretty complicated filing system.*

*Finally, I really appreciated the support of the board. We had some very complicated issues to deal with, but, working together and with our school community, we got through them.*

*I have to admit, I am looking forward to returning to the role of deputy superintendent. I moved back into my old office this past weekend. It felt good. It felt like I was back at home. After all, I have been going to that same office for over three decades. The people in the business office are like family.*

*Speaking of family, I would like to thank my actual family. I have appreciated their support in this challenging year.*

*I am also looking forward to working for Dr. Raichoudhuri. I have had many opportunities to communicate with her since her appointment and am convinced that the board made an excellent choice. She is extremely intelligent, kind, and totally dedicated to meeting the needs of our students. She will be an outstanding superintendent.*

*Due to the coronavirus, we have many challenges ahead of us, both educationally and financially. However, I can't imagine a school district, and school community, that is better positioned to address these challenges.*

**XII. Closed Session (if needed)**

President Sholler-Barber did not call for a closed session and adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

**XIII. President Sholler-Barber announced the next regular Board of Education meeting date: Thursday, June 18, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Betse Klepper, Recording Secretary  
on behalf of Jennie Hill, Secretary  
Board of Education

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Office of the Superintendent

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Rita Raichoudhuri, Superintendent

DATE: June 18, 2020

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 repairs are brought before the board for approval.

The attached purchase recommendation data sheets included 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:** June 18, 2020  
**Request Number:** 2020-47  
**Amount:** \$50,000.00

**Item:** Hotspot Devices for Internet Access Service

**Cost Center:** Title IV

**Cost Center Representative(s) Attending Board Meeting:** Cindy Green

**Description of Need:**

In collaboration with community agencies, the district is helping to fund hotspot devices with Internet access for 1,000 students. The devices will be housed and distributed only to KPS students through the Kalamazoo Public Library (KPL). KPL currently loans hotspot devices for Internet access with a limited supply. This project will allow KPS students to borrow a hotspot device from KPL with their OneCard.

**Vendor(s):** Mobile Beacon  
 Johnston, RI

**Number of Proposals Requested:** 4

**Received:** 3

**Low Bid Accepted?** Yes

**Additional Information:**

With students being under the governor's Stay-At-Home orders, online learning is important. The district loaned Chromebooks to students in need; however, some students do not have Internet access. Leaders from The Kalamazoo Promise, City of Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo Public Library, Kalamazoo Community Foundation, Communities In Schools, Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency, Western Michigan University, and KydNet have been working to obtain advice and funding to support this project. KPS is utilizing federal funds to contribute \$50,000 toward the project. The Kalamazoo Promise and the City of Kalamazoo through the Foundation for Excellence project will also provide the additional startup costs to have 1,000 hotspot devices with service for one year.

**KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS****PURCHASE RECOMMENDATION DATA SHEET****Board Meeting Date:** June 18, 2020**Request Number:** 2020-48**Amount:** \$29,488.00

**Item:** Books for Breaks - Washington Writers' Academy and The Woodward School for Technology and Research

**Cost Center:** 21(h) Partnership Grant Funds

**Cost Center Representative(s) Attending Board Meeting:** Cindy Green

**Description of Need:**

This request is to provide books for break periods for students at Washington Writers' Academy and The Woodward School for Technology and Research. These books will be utilized to support learning at home during breaks in the balanced calendar and will be purchased with Partnership Grant funds. The grant funds are used to assist students with literacy and support reading.

**Vendor(s):** BookBug  
Kalamazoo, MI

and

Scholastic, Inc.  
Jefferson City, MO

**Number of Proposals Requested:** 3

**Received:** 2

**Low Bid Accepted?** Yes

**Additional Information:**

A total of 3,206 titles, six books for every student at Washington Writers' Academy and The Woodward School for Technology and Research will be ordered. Students are being encouraged to read throughout the school year and most importantly while on summer break. There are 1,741 titles (\$19,754.94) from Book Bug and 1,465 titles (\$9,733.06) from Scholastic.

**KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**PURCHASE RECOMMENDATION DATA SHEET**

**Board Meeting Date:** June 18, 2020  
**Request Number:** 2020-49  
**Amount:** \$3,178,455.00

**Item:** Administration Building Remodel

**Cost Center:** 2013 & 2018 Bonds

**Cost Center Representative(s) Attending Board Meeting:** Karen Jackson

**Description of Need:**

This purchase recommendation is for the replacement of the entire mechanical system at the Administration Building. It also includes replacement of windows, soffits and panels, ceilings, lighting, and flooring throughout the building. Technology updates include server room equipment replacement, a new exterior digital marquee, and audiovisual infrastructure upgrades throughout the building.

**Vendor:** See attached spreadsheet

**Number of Proposals Requested:** 71      **Received:** 18

**Low Bid Accepted:** Yes

**Additional Information:**

**Budget:** \$ 3,117,161.00

**Bid Amount:** \$ 2,978,199.00

**Contingency:** \$ 200,256.00  
\$ 3,178,455.00

**Under/(Over):** (\$ 61,294.00)

**CONTRACTOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

Project: ADMINISTRATION BUILDING REMODEL

Owner: Kalamazoo Public Schools

Architect: TowerPinkster

Construction Manager: The Skillman Corporation

Bid Date: May 28, 2020

| <b><u>BID CATEGORY</u></b>           | <b><u>RECOMMENDED CONTRACTOR</u></b>                | <b><u>BID AMOUNT</u></b> | <b><u>ALTERNATES</u></b> | <b><u>TOTAL AMOUNT</u></b>       |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| GENERAL TRADES                       | FREDERICK CONSTRUCTION, INC.<br>Vicksburg, MI       | \$297,800                | \$84,091                 | \$381,891                        |
| METAL STUDS, DRYWALL &<br>ACOUSTICAL | RITSEMA ASSOCIATES<br>Kalamazoo, MI                 | \$169,978                |                          | \$169,978                        |
| ALUMINUM GLASS & GLAZING             | BATTLE CREEK GLASS WORKS INC.<br>Battle Creek, MI   | \$202,740                |                          | \$202,740                        |
| FLOORING                             | JOHNSON COMMERICAL INTERIORS<br>Grandville, MI      | \$0                      | \$112,685                | \$112,685                        |
| MECHANICAL                           | KALAMAZOO MECHANICAL, INC.<br>Kalamazoo, MI         | \$1,337,492              | \$89,182                 | \$1,426,674                      |
| ELECTRICAL                           | HI-TECH ELECTRIC COMPANY<br>Portage, MI             | \$296,000                | \$219,000                | \$515,000                        |
| METAL WALL PANELS & LOUVERS          | ARCHITECTURAL GLASS & METALS, INC.<br>Kalamazoo, MI | \$169,231                |                          | \$169,231                        |
| <b>TOTAL AMOUNT OF AWARD:</b>        |   |                          |                          | <b><u><u>\$2,978,199</u></u></b> |



**KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS****PURCHASE RECOMMENDATION DATA SHEET**

**Board Meeting Date:** June 18, 2020  
**Request Number:** 2020-50  
**Amount:** \$243,600.00

**Item:** Asbestos Abatement at Loy Norrix High School and the Administration Building

**Cost Center:** 2018 Bonds

**Cost Center Representative(s) Attending Board Meeting:** Karen Jackson

**Description of Need:**

Asbestos needs to be removed from Loy Norrix High School and the Administration Building prior to remodeling. At Loy Norrix this includes flooring removal in C & D wings this summer and A & B wings next summer. It also includes transite soffits and transite panels at Loy Norrix. The Administration Building work includes windows/caulk removal, floor removal, transite panel and soffit removal as well as mudded fittings with the mechanical system.

**Vendor:** Taplin Group LLC  
Kalamazoo, MI

**Number of Proposals Requested:** 7      **Received:** 3

**Low Bid Accepted:** Yes

**Additional Information:**

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Bid Amount:</b>  | \$ 232,000.00       |
| <b>Contingency:</b> | <u>\$ 11,600.00</u> |
| <b>Total:</b>       | \$243,600.00        |

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOL  
Office of the Superintendent

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Rita Raichoudhuri Superintendent

DATE: June 18, 2020

SUBJECT: Personnel Changes

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

- I. Employment
  - A. Professional/Management
    - Grace F. Smith**, Science Teacher, Kalamazoo Central High School, 8/25/2020
    - Jennifer Steinmetz**, Special Education Teacher, Kalamazoo Central High School, 8/25/2020
  - B. Classified
- II. Promotions/Key Transfers
  - A. Professional/Management
  - B. Classified
- III. Leaves of Absence
  - A. Professional/Management
  - B. Classified
- IV. Terminations
  - A. Professional Management
    - Kathleen R. McIntyre**, Second Grade Teacher, Winchell Elementary School, 12/18/2020, Retirement
  - B. Classified
- V. Termination from Leave of Absence
  - A. Professional/Management
  - B. Classified
- VI. Return from Leave of Absence
  - A. Professional/Management
  - B. Classified

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Office of the Superintendent

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Rita Raichoudhuri, Superintendent

DATE: June 18, 2020

SUBJECT: Resolution Regarding the 2020-21 Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency (KRESA) Budget

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the board approve the attached Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency General Education Fund Budget Resolution.

RATIONALE: In accordance with Section 380.624 of the Revised School Code, the Board must adopt a resolution expressing its support or disapproval of the proposed Intermediate School District (ISD) budget, and must submit to the ISD board any specific objections and proposed changes that the board may have to the budget prior to June 1, 2020.

The KRESA budget materials are attached.

To: Local District Boards of Education

From: Scott Thomas, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services

Date: April 24, 2020

Subject: Kalamazoo RESA 2020-2021 Original General Education Fund Budget Narrative and Resolution

The Kalamazoo RESA (KRESA) 2020-2021 Original General Fund budget shows an overall increase in revenues of approximately 1.7% and an overall increase in expenditures of approximately 1.0%, which is primarily due to the impact of an increase in taxable values, grant funding and shared service agreements on the various departments discussed in more detail below. The budget anticipates an overall surplus of \$339,721. This will leave the General Fund with an estimated unassigned fund balance at June 30, 2021 of \$7,297,213 or 14.1% of annual expenditures. KRESA's overall fund equity is approximately 7.7% of total program expenditures when combined with the Special Education Fund (which is estimated to have a 2.0% fund balance).

KRESA's sources of General Fund revenues include an operating tax levy of 0.1444 mills on all property in the KRESA area. We are anticipating that property taxable values will increase by 3.50% and that property tax revenue will increase by \$40,426. State aid is received through Section 81 of the State Aid Act and this budget assumes Section 81 State Aid will remain flat. Grants make up a large portion of the revenue received by KRESA, as well as departments that provide services on a fee for service basis or shared service agreements.

KRESA's expenditures include the following assumptions: 3.0% increase in health insurance costs, retirement cost to increase based on published rates effective 10-1-2021 and a compensation adjustment for staff that includes a 2% increase on pay schedules and no step advancements. KRESA has mitigated rising expenditures by implementing the hard cap (instead of 80/20 premium share) for health insurance, charging employees contributions and modifying the level of benefits, so that the actual cost paid by KRESA is lower than what is allowed under the hard cap. KRESA also implemented single subscriber coverage for new full-time employees in grades 12 or below at the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year, which continues to generate savings each year as seasoned employees retire.

**COVID-19 Update:** KRESA's budget preparation began January 2020 and is finalized early April 2020 to meet State budget requirements for ISDs. KRESA is continuing to monitor the economic climate and State revenues to determine the impact on the 20/21 State Aid budget. KRESA's budget assumptions will be adjusted as necessary once we have a clearer picture on the State Aid budget. 2020 property tax revenues will be less impacted by COVID-19 for the 20/21 budget year compared to other revenue sources.

KRESA's revenues and expenditures are categorized as follows:

General Administration and Maintenance: These expenses include the General Fund portion of the Board of Education, Superintendent's Office, Communications, Human Resources Department, Business Office, Truancy Office, and Maintenance and Operations departments. These departments are primarily funded through property tax revenue and Section 81 State Aid revenue.



Technology Services: The Technology Services department supports the technology needs of KRESA programs, state reporting compliance, on-site technology support staff to schools, internet bandwidth and phone service to local schools, network engineering and customer service support personnel. Many of the services provided are on a fee for service model and direct support is charged back to the various KRESA departments. KRESA's General Fund budget is projected to contribute an additional \$374,441 to support this department.

Seeds for Success and Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP): This budget includes the birth to five year old programs county-wide. Funding includes state and local grants, local district contributions and \$136,144 in direct support from KRESA's General Fund budget. The budget assumes funding for 2,094 GSRP preschool slots with 1,784 of these slots being provided to local districts and private providers.

REMC and Print Center: REMC is funded with local district membership fees and both receive fee for service in the areas of our full print shop, graphic arts services, county-wide delivery services, shredding services, video and media library, and other various services. The departments operate much like a business and schools who participate in the program pay a fee for the services they purchase. It is projected that REMC will operate with a slight surplus of \$639 and the Print Center with a slight surplus of \$4,884.

Instructional Services: The Instructional Services department is funded with state and federal grants along with local district professional development consortium contributions, fee for service coaching billings and a direct contribution from the KRESA General Fund budget of \$487,981. The expenditures include the following grants: Title I Regional Assistance, Early Literacy, MiSTEM Network Regions, Sec 31n Mental Health, United Way Early Reading and MiBLSi grants. Instructional Services leads workshops through the professional development consortium and provides instructional coaching services to local school districts.

Education for the Arts (EFA) and Education for Employment (EFE): These programs provide arts education and career and technical education opportunities to all students within the Kalamazoo RESA area. They are funded with a combination of state, federal and local grants, and local district and KRESA funding. Both programs have advisory boards that include local district superintendents that complete annual reviews of the programs including program budgets. Local school districts contribute to the high school programs for both EFA and EFE, as well as support for administrative costs for EFA. The KRESA General Fund budget directly contributes \$97,344 to the administration of the EFA program. The CTE millage was passed in 2019 with the collection of property tax revenue beginning the summer of 2020. Career Awareness & Exploration and administration costs that were paid for by local district contributions and KRESA's general fund will be paid from the Career Technical Education fund beginning with the 20/21 budget.

Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU): YOU operates programs that serve youth and adults in Kalamazoo, Calhoun, St. Joseph and Branch counties. YOU provides job training and education assistance and oversees operations of the Michigan Works! Service Centers in Kalamazoo, Three Rivers, Battle Creek and Coldwater. YOU is funded with a combination of federal and local grants, and this budget includes \$4,800,324 in revenues and expenses to operate the program.

Regional Transportation Safety Institute (RTSI): RTSI provides training of transportation staff for a nine-county consortium. This includes required training for beginning school bus drivers, continuing education for all bus drivers, and training for transportation supervisor staff. RTSI is a provider for CDL/GDL and

motorcycle testing for the State of Michigan, handles the mandatory drug testing program and runs the Eaton Proving Grounds program to teach defensive driving classes to school bus drivers. This program is funded through a fee for service model and Section 74 State Aid funding.

Head Start Grant: The budget includes \$6,378,338 in grant revenues and expenses to operate KRESA's Head Start program, which serves 596 three and four year olds within in the County with preschool, family and health support services.

Enhancement Millage: This budget includes \$12,841,618 in revenue for the enhancement millage approved by voters in 2017 and on the May 5, 2020 ballot for renewal. Enhancement millage revenue is distributed back to the local districts and public school academies to support their operations.

Attached to this budget narrative please find the Resolution for Local District Vote on ISD Budget and KRESA's proposed 2020-2021 General Fund budget resolution. Local district Boards of Education are required to adopt a resolution expressing its support or disapproval of KRESA's proposed budget and submit to KRESA's Board of Education any specific objections and/or proposed changes prior to June 1, 2020.

Please contact me at 269.250.9363 for any questions related to KRESA's 2020-2021 Original General Fund budget. Thank you.



**RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF  
KALAMAZOO REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY  
2020-2021 ORIGINAL GENERAL EDUCATION FUND BUDGET**

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the appropriations of Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency for the 2020-2021 fiscal year; a resolution to make appropriations; to provide for the expenditure of the appropriations; and to provide for the disposition of all revenues received by Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the total revenues and unappropriated fund balance estimated to be available for appropriation in the GENERAL EDUCATION FUND of the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency for fiscal year 2020-2021 is as follows:

|                      | ACTUAL<br>2018-19 | ORIGINAL<br>2019-20 | REVISED<br>2019-20 | ORIGINAL<br>2020-21 |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>REVENUES:</b>     |                   |                     |                    |                     |
| Local                | 16,884,034        | 17,371,601          | 17,664,353         | 18,032,367          |
| State                | 15,007,559        | 15,156,639          | 16,449,937         | 16,487,764          |
| Federal              | 9,246,752         | 9,515,196           | 10,550,993         | 10,476,760          |
| Other Sources        | 7,004,148         | 7,130,349           | 6,608,598          | 7,153,527           |
| <b>Total Revenue</b> | <b>48,142,493</b> | <b>49,173,785</b>   | <b>51,273,881</b>  | <b>52,150,418</b>   |

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that \$51,810,697 of the total available to appropriate in the GENERAL EDUCATION FUND is hereby appropriated in the amounts and for the purpose set forth below:

|                               |                   |                   |                   |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Instruction:</b>           |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Basic Programs                | 4,682,075         | 4,533,268         | 4,705,489         | 4,806,863         |
| Added Needs                   | 12,461            | 1,500             | 77,185            | 50,500            |
| <b>Support Services:</b>      |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Pupil                         | 1,294,664         | 1,321,935         | 1,794,505         | 2,104,132         |
| Instructional staff           | 5,669,058         | 5,454,580         | 5,064,962         | 4,739,470         |
| General Administration        | 501,318           | 547,486           | 539,374           | 482,356           |
| School Administration         | 428,849           | 460,485           | 421,585           | 402,177           |
| Business                      | 1,031,371         | 1,027,483         | 1,082,339         | 1,102,869         |
| Operations and Maintenance    | 1,170,458         | 1,333,186         | 1,319,924         | 1,143,829         |
| Transportation                | 705,025           | 841,027           | 953,101           | 913,236           |
| Central                       | 9,071,515         | 9,738,741         | 9,064,674         | 9,685,465         |
| Community Services            | 4,760,927         | 4,577,160         | 6,009,763         | 6,055,241         |
| Other Financing Uses          | 18,693,081        | 19,533,486        | 20,281,985        | 20,324,559        |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>     | <b>48,020,802</b> | <b>49,370,337</b> | <b>51,314,886</b> | <b>51,810,697</b> |
| <b>Revenues over Expenses</b> | <b>121,691</b>    | <b>(196,552)</b>  | <b>(41,005)</b>   | <b>339,721</b>    |
| <b>FUND BALANCE - July 1</b>  | <b>6,876,806</b>  | <b>6,838,386</b>  | <b>6,998,497</b>  | <b>6,957,492</b>  |
| <b>FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30</b> | <b>6,998,497</b>  | <b>6,641,834</b>  | <b>6,957,492</b>  | <b>7,297,213</b>  |

FURTHER RESOLVED, that no board of education member or employee of the school district shall expend any funds or obligate the expenditure of any funds, except pursuant to appropriations made by the board of education and in keeping with the budgetary policy statement hitherto adopted by the board. Changes in the amount appropriated by the board shall require approval by the board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is hereby charged with general supervision on the execution of the budgets adopted by the board and shall hold the department heads responsible for performance of their responsibilities within the amounts appropriated by the board of education and in keeping with the budgetary policy statement hitherto adopted by the board. (Resolution effective 6/11/2020)

Note: The General Education tax levy for 2020 is proposed to be 0.1444 mills and the Regional Enhancement tax levy for 2020 is proposed to be 1.5000 mills. These millages will be levied on all properties to be used for operating purposes as described above.

RESOLUTION FOR LOCAL DISTRICT VOTE ON ISD BUDGET

Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency  
("ISD")  
GENERAL EDUCATION FUND BUDGET  
RESOLUTION

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Kalamazoo Public Schools school District was held at the Administration Building on June 18, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

Members present were: \_\_\_\_\_

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by Member \_\_\_\_\_.

WHEREAS:

This Board received the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency General Education Fund Budget on or before May 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS:

In accordance with Section 380.624 of the Revised School Code, this Board must now adopt a resolution expressing its support or disapproval of the proposed ISD budget, and must submit to the ISD Board any specific objections and/or proposed changes the Board may have to the budget.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The ISD General Education Fund Budget for the 2020-2021 school year be ("supported" or "disapproved for the reasons attached hereto"), and that the Secretary of the Board is hereby directed to submit a copy of this Resolution to the Secretary of the ISD Board of Education, along with any specific objections or proposed changes to the budget.

Ayes: Members \_\_\_\_\_

Nays: Members \_\_\_\_\_

Motion declared \_\_\_\_\_.



The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of \_\_\_\_\_, Michigan hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at a \_\_\_\_\_ meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2020, the original of which resolution is a part of the Board's minutes, and further certifies that notice of the meeting was given to the public under the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended.

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Board of Education