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*Date | time* Monday – July 10, 2023 | 5:30 p.m.

*Location* Administration Boardroom

*Meeting called to order with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance by* President Folsom

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## In Attendance

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Board of Education: Tricia Anderson, Kelley Freridge, Barbara Helms, Jake Himmelspach, Jarrod Folsom, Christie Ramsey, Nick Reichenbach

Administration: Dr. Steve Matthews, Mike Ramm, Mike Cuneo, Korie Wilson-Crawford, Mindy Duba, Lisa Jacobs, Jodi Nester.

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## Adoption of Agenda

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Motion to approve agenda by Christie Ramsey with support by Kelley Freridge. Motion passed unanimously.

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## Training

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Deb Stair from the MASB conducted a training session for the Board of Education. The training was regarding Board Governance. The board of education discussed the progress they have made and where they are headed. There was a discussion about comparing the board norms with the declaration of commitment and possibly combining and removing section 10 from the board operating procedures and adding a reference to the Board Member norms to policy 0144.2. A decision to strike section 10 and add the reference. The policy committee will then review during normal procedures.

Process for development –

Board Policy - How often/when should it be reviewed – Jarrod suggested an annual review of the document. The board agreed that an annual review should take place. It should be sent out by the policy committee for summer review.

Board Meetings & Agenda Development – There was a discussion about getting the board agenda/packet earlier. There are some difficulties getting all the information gathered prior to Friday. There is a change being made so that board meeting agendas and packets will be available to the board on Thursday evenings. A concern was voiced regarding the current language on how to get something on the board agenda. There was also further discussion on policy committee discussions.

Board Committees – about amending the board meeting agenda at a board meeting. If something is added to the agenda it should only be for discussion and action should be moved to the next meeting. Committee notes are currently being sent to the full board.

If there is something on the notes the trustee wants additional information on, they can reach out to the chair. There were some templates presented to be considered for use by the committee chair to report.

Board Member Building/Department Liaison Visits – There was discussion regarding the number of times a board member visits a building during the school day as a board member, not including parent events. The board did express that they are pleased with Dr. Matthews being visible in all of the buildings often. No concerns or changes were recommended.

Hiring of Personnel Other than the Superintendent – No concerns with the content.

Evaluation of the Superintendent – A question was raised on whether there should be a formal process for mid-year evaluation. The discussion did not support this. Deb Stair brought up that the board being trained may want to be added. Since it's a state requirement, it feels like it should be added to the policy.

The board discussed what is considered board business. If you question if something is appropriate, you should err on the side of caution and use a personal email to communicate.

Media Contacts – No concerns on Section 9.

Board Development – Add superintendent evaluation to this section.

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## Consent Agenda

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Motion to approve by Kelley Freridge with support from Christie Ramsey. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Approval of Minutes. Minutes of June 12, 2023, Regular Meeting.
2. Presentation of Bill in the amount of \$16,820,260.73
3. Certified Staff Resignations.

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## Consent Grouping - Organization

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Motion to approve by Nick Reichenbach with support by Jake Himmelspach. Discussion clarifying that the Sex ed spots are co-chairs. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Banking Approvals—Depository for School Funds/Savings and Checking Accounts and Signatures Fund/Savings
2. Fidelity Bond

A fidelity bond is required by the General School Law (380.243) for the Treasurer of the Board of Education and the person serving as the Assistant Superintendent of Finance. The amounts are not specified but, in the past, you have placed the following amounts:

Treasurer	\$10,000
Assistant Superintendent of Finance	\$20,000

**3. Appointment of Sex Education Advisory Board Co-Chairs (§380.1507)**

Superintendent Matthews will recommend the appointment of two co-chairs to the district's Sex Education Advisory Board.

**4. Appointment of Legal Counsel for the 2023-24 School Year**

Superintendent Matthews will recommend the Board of Education continue to engage Thrun Law Firm, PC to serve as district legal counsel. When matters may occasionally dictate, the Administration is requesting the Board's permission to use an alternate appropriate local firm.

**5. Appointment of School Auditors for the 2022-23 Fiscal Year Audit**

Superintendent Matthews will recommend that the Board of Education appoint Hungerford Nichols as school auditors for the previous fiscal year.

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## Committee Reports

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Curriculum and Instruction Committee Meeting – Tricia Anderson gave a summary report on the meeting of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee. There will be a meeting in September or October once testing data is received.

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## New Business

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### SEL Curriculum

Mike Ramm, Larinda Fase and Mindy McGinn gave a report regarding SEL Curriculum. They covered benefits of the Trails curriculum. Larinda explained the 5 competencies that CASEL is based on. Mrs. McGinn talked about the importance of SEL for students. Attitudes improve when students have SEL and it also brings down anxiety and depression in students. They feel more confident and comfortable in their classrooms. Mrs. McGinn explained what "unsettled" looks like. She shared data from three different resources. Why trails? Larinda Fase talked about why Trails would be good for RPS. It is currently used in over 700 schools across the state. It is designed to be used by the teacher in the classroom. It's 5 units for 20 lessons taught by the teachers. There are options for adapting the lessons. Pilot program had 12 teachers 2 specials teachers and 3 special services providers. They met monthly to discuss where they were and how it was going. She shared teacher observations. KISD partnership took on 10 schools across Kent County. In May KISD called and said they would take the entire district K-5. They will provide all training for teachers and staff in the building. The materials will be free. Parents will have the option to opt-out. The

lessons will build on each other at each grade level. There were some concerns raised regarding the SEL Curriculum. This is recommended by the MDE and our county. Trustee Reichenbach expressed his time visiting buildings and he sees the need for this kind of curriculum and how we include parents in the decisions for their students. Motion to approve by Christie Ramsey with support by Jake Himmelpach. Motion passed with one Nay (B. Helms).

#### Summer Tax Resolution

Mike Cuneo presented the summer tax resolution. Motion to approve by Tricia Anderson with support from Nick Reichenbach. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote

#### Certified Staff Recommendations

Korie Wilson-Crawford presented 5 certified staff candidates for board approval. Motion to approve by Kelley Freridge with support by Barb Helms. The motion passed unanimously.

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#### Recognition of Visitors & Hearing of People Present

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The following individuals addressed the Board of Education.

Duane Gritter

Brenda Wodarski

Charles Curtis

Sarah Koon

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#### Superintendent Remarks

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Dr. Matthew's talked about the TRAILS curriculum and how it will help our students. They will benefit from the skills taught. Students need to learn the skills that TRAILS will be teaching. He also pointed out that he supports our Administrative Staff and how they care deeply for our students and work hard to support them.

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#### Adjournment

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President Folsom adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

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Recording Secretary

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Secretary, Board of Education