

KIMBERLY SCHOOL DISTRICT 414
KIMBERLY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
January 15, 2026
Board Dinner: 5:30 p.m.
Regular: 6:00 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of Trustees of School District No. 414, Twin Falls County, State of Idaho, convened its regularly scheduled meeting on January 15, 2026, in the district board room at 141 Center Street West, Kimberly, Idaho. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Board Vice Chair Leah Meeks (LM) via zoom. Trustees also present included Sandra Gladish (SG), Chad Allen (CA), Zach Kelsey (ZK). Also present were Superintendent Mr. Schroeder, Laurie Wirtz, Business Manager, Matt Schvaneveldt, Director of Programs, district administrators, and interested patrons, both in person and via Zoom.

AGENDA: ZK motioned to approve the agenda as presented. SG seconded the motion. The motion passed.

FLAG SALUTE: Everyone stood and participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

REPORTS:

- **Anxious Generation:** With the support of the Board, Kimberly School District recently completed its first book study focused on The Anxious Generation. A total of 20 parents participated in the study.

Three participants, Heather Young, Trevor Satterfield, and Amber Patton, addressed the Board to share their experiences. All speakers indicated the book study was beneficial, thought-provoking, and eye-opening. They noted the value of connecting with other parents, accessing resources, gaining education on risks and outcomes, and better understanding the potential negative effects discussed in the book.

The speakers expressed appreciation to the Board for funding the opportunity and encouraged the District to view the book study as a call to action to continue expanding the conversation and sharing the information with additional parents in the Kimberly community.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

- **Tiffany Unger, a Kimberly High School teacher**, addressed the Board regarding the proposed cell phone policy. She shared that she has had meaningful conversations with her classes and reported that students, particularly freshmen and sophomores, expressed a preference for allowing cell phone use during lunch. Ms. Unger commended the Board's efforts and noted that, based on her experience and having read The Anxious Generation, she observes the negative impacts of phone use on students, including connections to anxiety, depression, and social interaction challenges. She also expressed concern regarding the connection between iPads and cell phones if unrestricted access is allowed.
- **Kaylee Allen, a Kimberly High School senior**, addressed the Board and commented that cell phones can be a useful tool when students are taught how to use them responsibly and

provided with appropriate resources. She drew a comparison to calculators, noting that they were once viewed negatively but are now considered a valuable educational tool.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Thank you cards from Staff regarding Staff gift certificates

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Good Stories to Share
 - **Mrs. Heimdal's 2nd Grade WOW Celebration:** Mrs. Heimdal's 2nd grade class completed their WOW poster and celebrated with a STEM marble roller coaster challenge.
 - **KMS Cheer Competition Success:** KMS Cheer earned 1st Place in Show, 2nd Place in Sideline, Pom, and Overall, and received the Best Show Choreography Award. Outstanding work by our cheer team.
 - **Student Spotlight – Kyler Pickup:** We are excited to share a student success story. Fifth grader Kyler Pickup has written and illustrated several books in his Duper Man series, now available in the library. With support from Sarah and Mrs. Lint, Kyler even created AR quizzes for each book, now available through RenPlace. Great work, Kyler. We are so proud of you.
- Important Dates: Day on the Hill – Boise – February 16-17, 2026
- ISBA Leg Rep: Trustee Meeks will be able to handle at half capacity. No other Board Members are available to participate at this time.
- Bulldog Hope: Cassandra Searby, Board Clerk discussed Bulldog Hope – It's Purpose was highlighted by the recent book study. Now, committee members need to follow through with the mission. Possibly get students involved.
- Deep Fake Education: Working with the schools and local Law Enforcement to provide education.
- Resolution for Plant Facility Levy and Bond Levy: Draft Resolution will be brought to the board in February.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Motion to approve the financial report as presented was made by ZK, seconded by SG, and the motion passed.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT:

- Interim Assessments: Reported on by Director of Programs, Matt Schvaneveldt.

OLD BUSINESS

2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Per direction from the December Board meeting, discussion of the 2026–2027 school calendar was tabled, and administration was directed to develop a calendar consistent with prior years, ending on the Friday preceding Memorial Day. Administration has done so and presented the revised calendar for Board consideration.

Administration noted that because both Labor Day and Memorial Day fall later in the 2026–2027 calendar year, the start and end dates are shifted approximately one week later than in some previous years.

ZK moved to approve the 2026–2027 school calendar as presented. SG seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CELL PHONE POLICIES

Per discussion at the previous meeting, consideration of student cell phone use at Kimberly High School (KHS) had been tabled. Based on that discussion, the Board expressed interest in moving toward a stricter cell phone policy at KHS, consistent with the approach currently in place at Kimberly Middle School (KMS).

In response to the Board's direction, Mr. Gonzales presented two draft policy options for consideration. The primary difference between the drafts was whether student cell phone use would be permitted during lunch. Extensive discussion followed, including questions from Board members and input from administration.

Mr. Gonzales noted that successful implementation of any revised policy would require strong teacher and parent buy-in and acknowledged the broader challenge of managing student phone use in an environment influenced by technology and social media companies. Additional discussion addressed potential impacts on student behavior, instructional time, and child nutrition participation, particularly if students were to leave campus during lunch.

Following discussion, ZK moved to approve Draft #1, which allows student cell phone use during lunch but not at any other time during the school day. SG seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Board expressed interest in revisiting the policy during the summer months and requested that administration bring back relevant data and feedback, including staff input, student survey results, child nutrition participation data, and comparisons between periods when different policies were in effect. The Board also requested consideration of whether future policy adjustments should extend to school bus transportation.

SCHOOL BOARD YEARLY GOALS

At the previous meeting, the Board directed administration to refine the Kimberly School District goals to include key performance indicators. During the holiday break, Trustee Leah Meeks completed this work. The Leadership Team subsequently reviewed and vetted the draft goals, which were presented to the Board for consideration.

The Board expressed appreciation for the work completed and indicated a desire to receive quarterly updates in order to revisit progress and outcomes. Additional feedback and direction from the Board were welcomed.

ZK moved to approve the revised district goals as presented. SG seconded the motion. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA

ZK motioned to approve the consent agenda. LM seconded the motion. The motion passed.

1. Approve District Invoices
2. Approve School Invoices
3. Approve Food Service Expenditures
4. Approve Meetings Minutes from December 18, 2025
5. Approve Fundraiser Requests
6. Approve Spring Sports Schedules:
7. Approve Maci Diehl, ISU, School Psychology Practicum Student with Alexandra Bates
8. Surplus: Pallets; Child Nutrition Milk Machine

DISCUSSION / AGENDA ITEMS

APPROVE ADDITIONAL INVOICES

Additional invoices were presented for the Trustees to review.

ZK motioned to approve, SG seconded. The motion passed.

ANNUAL REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

In accordance with Idaho Code, the regularly scheduled January Board meeting serves as the annual reorganizational meeting. Each item was considered and acted upon individually by the Board. This annual process ensures the Board is properly organized and prepared to effectively govern the District for the upcoming year.

- **SET REGULAR BOARD MEETING:** ZK moved to set the regular Board meetings for the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM during the 2026 calendar year, to be held at 141 Center Street West, Kimberly, Idaho 83341. SG seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- **ELECT OFFICE CHAIR/VICE CHAIR:** ZK moved to nominate Chad Allen (Zone 1) as Board Chair. SG seconded the motion. The motion carried; SG motioned to nominate Leah Meeks (Zone 5) as Vice Board Chair, ZK seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- **APPOINT SECRETARY AND TREASURER:** ZK motioned to nominate Cassandra Searby (Secretary) and Laurie Wirtz (Treasurer), SG seconded. The motion passed.
- **SET YEARLY BOARD GOALS –** See Old Business
- **CODE OF ETHICS:** Code of Ethics was presented for all Trustees to review and sign.
- **ADD SIGNER TO BANK ACCOUNT:** SG motioned to remove Curtis Giles from the bank account with DL Evans and add Leah Meeks as a signer to the DL Evans account. ZK seconded the motion. The motion passed.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR KIMBERLY BULLDOG WRESTLING

For the Board's consideration, an MOU with Kimberly Bulldog Wrestling was presented. The agreement is consistent with existing MOUs the District has with KYA and Legion Baseball. Kimberly Bulldog Wrestling is a 501(c)(3) organization that carries liability insurance comparable to the other organizations and promotes wrestling opportunities for local youth while utilizing District facilities for practices and tournaments. The organization has also supported the District's wrestling program through contributions toward new wrestling mats and other equipment.

ZK moved to approve the MOU as presented. SG seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SCHOOL BUS LEASE TO OWN FINANCING

Laurie Wirtz, Business Manager, presented financing estimates for a lease-to-own arrangement for the two buses previously approved by the Board for purchase. Estimates from First Federal and DL Evans were reviewed, along with her recommendation.

ZK recused himself from discussion and action due to a conflict of interest. SG moved to approve financing through DL Evans. LM seconded the motion. The motion carried.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ZONE 4 RESIGNATION

After serving the Kimberly School District for more than 10 years, Board Chair Curtis Giles submitted his resignation from the Board of Trustees due to moving out of Zone 4. The Board expressed appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Giles for his dedicated service and leadership, and for his many contributions to the students, staff, and community of Kimberly.

Administration requested guidance from the Board regarding the process and timeline to fill the resulting vacancy. **ZK moved to accept the resignation and to open the appointment process for the Zone 4 vacancy. Letters of interest will be due by January 30, and a special Board meeting will be held on February 5 at 6:00 PM to conduct interviews. SG seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

BOND ELECTION COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Administration presented the establishment of a Bond Committee to provide information to the community regarding the upcoming bond election scheduled for May 2026. Administration recommended Curtis Giles to serve as Chair of the Bond Committee, and Mr. Giles indicated his willingness to serve if approved by the Board.

ZK moved to approve Curtis Giles as Bond Committee Chair. SG seconded the motion. The motion carried.

PLANT FACILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Matthew Searby met with the Board to discuss district facilities in need of improvement. He outlined specific areas requiring attention and sought guidance from the Board on how to proceed. Areas discussed included:

- KMS gym floor refinishing
- KMS gym bleachers
- KHS gym roof
- District office roof
- Stadium lights
- Other potential facility improvements

During discussion, administration noted that the KHS gym bleachers are currently on hold. The KHS gym roof and district office roof were identified as priority projects, and administration reported that three estimates had been received for the roofing work.

The KMS gym bleachers were also discussed and will remain on hold pending additional bids. The Board expressed interest in completing the KMS gym bleachers at the same time as the gym floor refinishing and indicated a preference to revisit this project following the bond election to determine available funding.

The stadium lights were discussed, with administration noting that the existing system is approximately 41 years old. The Board indicated this would be an item to address if the bond passes.

Regarding HVAC systems, administration recommended moving forward with necessary improvements to the Stricker Elementary HVAC system, utilizing available modernization funds. Administration also presented a recommendation for the SES HVAC system.

ZK moved to approve SSC Mechanical for the SES HVAC work. SG seconded the motion. The motion carried.

For the KHS gym roof, ZK moved to approve Thomas D. Robison Roofing. SG seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ROUTE 3 – OUT OF DISTRICT AND PRIVATE PROPERTY TURN AROUND

Administration presented a request regarding student transportation for a newly constructed residence on Route 3, located on a dead-end road. To safely pick up students and complete a turnaround, the bus will need to travel approximately one-quarter mile outside of district boundaries and utilize a turnaround on private property. The property owner has granted permission for this use. Administration noted that similar arrangements exist elsewhere in the District; however, School Board approval is required for this request.

Matthew Searby was present to provide additional information and respond to questions.

ZK moved to approve the transportation arrangement as presented. SG seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SELECT ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN TEAM

In accordance with the approved RFQ for Architectural Design Services, a committee consisting of Jason Derricott, Matthew Searby, Matt Schvaneveldt, Cassandra Searby, Zach Kelsey, and Luke Schroeder reviewed presentations from the firms of LKV, HSA, and Cushing Terrell. Based on the evaluation of the presentations, the committee recommended LKV to provide architectural design services in support of the anticipated May bond election.

ZK moved to approve LKV as the architectural design firm. SG seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SELECT CONTRACTOR FOR KMS WINDOWS VIA KEEP GRANT

Administration reported that the District was awarded an Idaho OEMR KEEP grant in the amount of \$177,839 for the replacement of 39 exterior windows and two storefront doors. Bids were solicited from Twin Falls Glass, Nu Vu Glass, and D and A Glass. Twin Falls Glass submitted a bid of \$173,339, Nu Vu Glass submitted a bid of \$176,128, and D and A Glass did not submit a bid.

Administration recommended awarding the project to Twin Falls Glass.

ZK moved to approve Twin Falls Glass as recommended. SG seconded the motion. The motion carried

PERSONNEL REPORT

ZK moved to approve the amended personnel report as presented; LM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

HIRE:

- Conan Heimdal Paraprofessional

Resignation/Retirement/Terminations:

- Keili Archila Rodas Paraprofessional
- Peyton Larsen KES Counselor (FY27 School Year)
- Daren Garey KHS Teacher
- Theodore Wasko Maintenance Director
- Darin Gonzales KHS Principal (FY27 School Year)

ADJOURNMENT: ZK moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m.; SG seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chad Allen, Board Chair

Cassandra Searby, District Clerk