

School Board Agenda
Kutztown Area School District
Monday, December 2, 2019 - 7:30 p.m.
District Administration Building

1. Call to Order by President
2. Roll Call by Secretary
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. November 18, 2019 School Board Meeting
4. Communications and Reports
 - a. Superintendent's Report
5. New Business
 - a. Personnel
 - b. Policy- Second Reading
 - c. Van Purchase
 - d. Introduction of New Business by Board Members
 - e. Public Comment
6. Informational Items
 - a. Concussion Report - November
 - b. BCIU What Happened
 - c. BCIU Legislative Report
 - d. BCIU NewsLink
7. Upcoming Public Meetings/Informative Dates

December 9	Policy and Curriculum Committee Meeting	6:00 PM HS Library
December 9	Facilities and ECC Committee	7:00 PM HS Library
December 11	Town Hall Budget Meeting	6:00 PM MS Commons
December 16	School Board Meeting	7:30 PM HS Library
8. Adjournment

ITEM 5 NEW BUSINESS

A. PERSONNEL

It is the recommendation of the administration that the Board of School Directors approve the following personnel items:

1. The acceptance of the resignation of Valerie A. Smeltz, RTII Aide at Kutztown Elementary School effective December 6, 2019.
2. The approval of Melissa M. Kopicz as an Eshelman bus/van driver for the 2019-2020 school year, effective November 21, 2019.
3. The approval of Kimberly S. Moyer-Bercaw as a Long Term Substitute (LTS) Elementary teacher at Greenwich Elementary School effective on December 10, 2019 at a rate of \$100 per day for days 1-20, \$110 per day for days 21-45, and the balance at Bachelor's, Step 1, of the KATA/KASD contract.
4. The Approval of Shelby L. Schroyer as a Library Aide at Kutztown Area High School, effective, January 16, at a rate of \$11.10 per hour.
5. The approval of Anthony Schappell III as a part time maintenance worker for 5.5 hours per day at a rate of \$14.86 per hour, effective December 3, 2019.
6. The approval of Kim L. Cowell, Elementary Library Aide, as a substitute teacher for the 2019-2020 school year at a rate of \$100 per day for days 1-20 and \$110 per day for days 21 and thereafter.
7. **Approval of salary increase for employee #1880 of \$2.00 per hour effective December 3, 2019.**
8. The approval of the following coaches, advisors, and stipends for the 2019-2020 school year:

Megan Laudenslager	Choreography for Show Choir	\$1,020.00
Corrine Calderbank	Senior High Stage Manager	\$1,279.00
Angelo Sebazco	Volunteer Athletic Department Intern	
Aidan Murrell	Spring Track and Field Volunteer KU Intern MS and HS (Volunteer)	
Brianna Junious	Winter Indoor Track and field KU Intern for both MS and HS (Volunteer)	

Personnel is Approved Pending Receipt of All Mandated Credentials

B. POLICIES- FIRST READING - It is the recommendation of the Policy and Curriculum Committee that the Board of School Directors approve the second reading and adoption of the following policies:

- a. Policy 246- Wellness

C. VAN PURCHASE - It is the recommendation of the Facilities Committee that the Board of School Directors approve the purchase of a 2020 Savana Passenger Van for our Transportation Department at a cost of \$41,542.80.

D. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BUSINESS BY BOARD MEMBERS

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Randy T. Burch
Dennis S. Ritter
Alan J. Darion
Michael Hess

Caecilia M. Holt
Eric Johnson
Karl Nolte
James L. Shrawder

Charles Shurr
Christian T. Temchatin, Superintendent (non-voting)
David J. Miller, Treasurer (non-member)
Rikki L. DeVough, Secretary (non-member)

Minutes of the
KUTZTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, November 18, 2019 - 7:30 p.m.

The Board of Directors of Kutztown Area School District met for a regular monthly board meeting on Monday, November 18, 2019, at 7:30 p.m., in the High School Library, pursuant to due notice to board members and the public.

Present Randy Burch, Michael Hess, Eric Johnson, Karl Nolte, James Shrawder, Carl Ziegler, Charles Shurr

Absent Alan Darion, Dennis Ritter

Also Present Christian Temchatin, Rikki DeVough, David Miller, Steven Leever, Scott Hand, Barry Flicker, Diane Quinn, Deborah Barnes, Erin Anderson, Ed Yapsuga, Leon Smith, Michelle Mosher, Johnathan Mosher, Jeff Huffert, Kaylee Lindenmuth, Darid Ritzman, Jean Ziegler, Kristin Haring, Shannon Sunday, Nathan Lewis, Carol Schulley

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by President Ziegler.

Welcome President Ziegler opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. He asked everyone to sign the attendance book and mark the topic of comment next to his/her name. He requested that anyone wishing to speak on an agenda item please raise his/her hand to be recognized. He noted there was an Executive Session held prior to the meeting to discuss matters of personnel and legal. He indicated that this meeting was being tape recorded.

Meeting Minutes Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Karl Nolte, to approve the Minutes of the November 4, 2019 School Board Meeting.
Roll call vote: Yes 7 No 0 Absent 2 (Darion, Ritter)
Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Jim Shrawder, to approve the Treasurer's Report of the General Fund.
Roll call vote: Yes 7 No 0 Absent 2 (Darion, Ritter)
Motion carried.

Ratification of General Account Motion made by Michael Hess, seconded by Charles Shurr, to ratify for payment the general account bills (including manual checks) in the amount of \$739,058.64.
Roll call vote: Yes 7 No 0 Absent 2 (Darion, Ritter)
Motion carried.

Approval of General Account Motion made by Michael Hess, seconded by Karl Nolte to approve for payment the general account bills in the amount of \$810,561.16.
Roll call vote: Yes 7 No 0 Absent 2 (Darion, Ritter)
Motion carried.

Approval of Construction Account Motion made by Jim Shrawder, seconded by Randy Burch to approve for payment the construction account bills in the amount of \$21,301.50.
Roll call vote: Yes 7 No 0 Absent 2 (Darion, Ritter)
Motion carried.

Superintendent's Report 2018-19 Sportsmanship Award
Donuts & Grown-ups/Grandparents & Goodies
Matilda
Board Member Recognition - President Carl Ziegler
Cross Country Team Recognition

**Board Committee
Reports**

T.C.C.	No report.
PSBA	No report.
BCIU	The Assistant Director/CFO position is open.
BCTC	The committee toured the Dental Assistant program, reviewed student awards, and district reports.
P & C	No report.
ECC and Facilities	No report.
Secondary Programming and Scheduling	No report.

Personnel

Motion made by Jim Shrawder, seconded by Karl Nolte, to approve the following personnel items:

1. The acceptance of the resignation of Athina Yadush, LTS Mathematics Kutztown Area High School, effective December 22, 2019.
2. The approval of employee #134 to take an unpaid child rearing leave of absence beginning on the first day of the 3rd quarter through the end of the school year.
3. The approval of Jennifer Elliker as a .55 Supervisor of Special Education effective December 2, 2019 at a salary of \$49,500.00. Employee shall be compensated per the Act 93 agreement under the definition of a 12-month administrator and prorated for part-time status at a rate of 55%.
4. Approval of salary increase for employee #1075 of \$2.00 per hour effective November 19, 2019.
5. The approval of the following coaches, advisors, and stipends for the 2019-2020 school year:
Virginia Grim Boys Tennis Volunteer

All Personnel are Approved Pending Receipt of All Mandated Credentials

Roll call vote: Yes 7 No 0 Absent 2 (Darion, Ritter)
Motion carried.

Fund Balance

Motion made by Jim Shrawder, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve the following year end June 30, 2019 fund balance breakdown:

Nonspendable for Prepaids	\$58.655
Committed for:	
• Future Capital Projects	\$2,564.817
• PSERS	\$ 500.00
Unassigned	<u>\$2,659.698</u>
Total Fund Balance	\$5,751.332

Roll call vote: Yes 7 No 0 Absent 2 (Darion, Ritter)
Motion carried.

**Water Service
Agreement**

Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Karl Nolte, to approve the annual agreement with The Water Guy.

Roll call vote: Yes 7 No 0 Absent 2 (Darion, Ritter)
Motion carried.

**Safety/Security
Coordinator**

Motion made by Jim Shrawder, seconded by Randy Burch, to appoint Dr. Steven A. Leever as the School Safety and Security Coordinator for the Kutztown Area School District, effective immediately.

Roll call vote: Yes 7 No 0 Absent 2 (Darion, Ritter)
Motion carried.

Sale of Used Equipment

Motion made by Michael Hess, seconded by Jim Shrawder, to approve the agreement to sell back and recycle computing and electronic assets to Sycamore International for an estimated maximum return value to the District of \$21,130.

Roll call vote: Yes 7 No 0

Absent 2 (Darion, Ritter)

Motion carried.

Prof. Staff Calendar Update

Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Jim Shrawder, to approve the update to the 2019-2020 Kutztown Area School District professional staff calendar.

Roll call vote: Yes 7 No 0

Absent 2 (Darion, Ritter)

Motion carried.

Conference Request

Motion made by Randy Burch seconded by Michael Hess, to approve the request for Employee #1958 to attend the Coaching of Reading Institute at The Teachers College in NYC, NY on January 26-29, 2020, at a cost of \$1,512.52.

Roll call vote: Yes 6 No 0

N/A 1 (Shrawder)

Absent 2 (Darion, Ritter)

Motion carried.

Donation

Motion made by Eric Johnson, seconded by Karl Nolte, to accept, with gratitude, the donation of \$508.00 to Greenwich-Lenhartsville Elementary School from Lifetouch National School Studios to be used for special functions.

Roll call vote: Yes 7 No 0

Absent 2 (Darion, Ritter)

Motion carried.

Public Comment

Leon Smith thanked the Honor Society and carwash personnel for hosting free car washes for veterans.

Michelle Mosher asked for clarification on the process of investigating concerns regarding the football team.

Adjournment

Motion made by Karl Nolte, seconded by Randy Burch, to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Rikki L. DeVough
School Board Secretary

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	School Wellness
Code	246 Vol IV 2018
Status	First Reading

Purpose

Kutztown Area School District recognizes that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to students' physical well-being, growth, development and readiness to learn. The Board is committed to providing a school environment that promotes student wellness, proper nutrition, nutrition education **and promotion**, and regular physical activity as part of the total learning experience. In a healthy school environment, students will learn about and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices that can improve student achievement.

Authority

The Board adopts this policy based on the recommendations of the Wellness Committee and in accordance with federal and state laws **and regulations**.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

To ensure the health and well-being of all students, the Board establishes that the district shall provide to students:

1. A comprehensive nutrition program consistent with federal and state requirements.
2. Access at reasonable cost to foods and beverages that meet established nutrition guidelines.
3. Physical education courses and opportunities for developmentally appropriate physical activity during the school day.
4. Curriculum and programs for grades K-12 that are designed to educate students about proper nutrition and lifelong physical activity, in accordance with State Board of Education curriculum regulations and academic standards.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible **for the implementation and oversight of this policy** to **ensure** each of the district's schools, programs and curriculum is compliant with this policy, related policies and established guidelines or administrative regulations.[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

Each building principal or designee shall **annually** report to the Superintendent or designee regarding compliance in his/her school.[\[3\]](#)

Staff members responsible for programs related to **school** wellness shall report to the Superintendent or designee regarding the status of such programs.

The Superintendent or designee and the **established** Wellness Committee shall conduct an assessment **at least once every three (3) years** on the contents and implementation of this policy as part of a continuous improvement process to strengthen the policy and ensure implementation. **This triennial assessment shall be made available to the public in an accessible and easily understood manner and include:**[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

1. The extent to which **each** district school is in compliance with law and policies related to school wellness.
2. **The extent to which this policy compares to model wellness policies.**
3. **A description of the progress made by the district in attaining the goals of this policy.**

At least once every three (3) years, the district shall update or modify this policy as needed, based on the results of the most recent triennial assessment and/or as district and community needs and priorities change; wellness goals are met; new health science, information and technologies emerge; and new federal or state guidance or standards are issued.[\[3\]](#)

The district shall **annually** inform and update the public, including parents/guardians, students, and others in the community, about the contents, **updates** and implementation of this policy **via the district website, student handbooks, newsletters, posted notices and/or other efficient communication methods. This annual notification shall include information on how to access the School Wellness policy; information about the most recent triennial assessment; information on how to participate in the development, implementation and periodic review and update of the School Wellness policy; and a means of contacting Wellness Committee leadership.**[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

Guidelines

Recordkeeping

The district shall retain records documenting compliance with the requirements of the School Wellness policy, which shall include:[\[3\]](#)[\[4\]](#)

1. **The written School Wellness policy.**
2. **Documentation demonstrating that the district has informed the public, on an annual basis, about the contents of the School Wellness policy and any updates to the policy.**
3. **Documentation of efforts to review and update the School Wellness policy, including who is involved in the review and methods used by the district to inform the public of their ability to participate in the review.**
4. **Documentation demonstrating the most recent assessment on the implementation of the School Wellness policy and notification of the assessment results to the public.**

Wellness Committee

The **district** shall **establish** a Wellness Committee comprised of, **but not necessarily limited to**, at least one (1) of each of the following: School Board member, district administrator, district food service representative, student, parent/guardian, **school health professional, physical education teacher** and member of the public. **It shall be the goal that committee membership will include representatives from each school building and reflect the diversity of the community.**[\[2\]](#)

The Wellness Committee shall serve as an advisory committee regarding student health issues and shall be responsible for developing, implementing and periodically reviewing and updating a **School Wellness policy** that complies with law to recommend to the Board for adoption.

The Wellness Committee shall review and consider evidence-based strategies and techniques in establishing goals for nutrition education and promotion, physical activity and other school based activities that promote student wellness as part of the policy development and revision process.[\[3\]](#)

Nutrition Education

Nutrition education will be provided within the sequential, comprehensive health education program in accordance with curriculum regulations and the academic standards for Health, Safety and Physical Education, and Family and Consumer Sciences.[\[6\]](#)[\[7\]](#)[\[8\]](#)

Nutrition Promotion

Nutrition promotion and education positively influence lifelong eating behaviors by using evidence-based techniques and nutrition messages, and by creating food environments that encourage healthy nutrition choices and encourage participation in school meal programs.

Physical Activity

District schools shall strive to provide opportunities for developmentally appropriate physical activity during the school day for all students.

Physical Education

A sequential physical education program consistent with curriculum regulations and Health, Safety and Physical Education academic standards shall be developed and implemented. All district students must participate in physical education.[\[7\]](#)[\[8\]](#)[\[10\]](#)

Quality physical education instruction that promotes lifelong physical activity and provides instruction in the skills and knowledge necessary for lifelong participation shall be provided.

Physical education classes shall be the means through which all students learn, practice and are assessed on developmentally appropriate skills and knowledge necessary for lifelong, health-enhancing physical activity.

A comprehensive physical education course of study that focuses on providing students the skills, knowledge and confidence to participate in lifelong, health-enhancing physical activity shall be implemented.

A varied and comprehensive curriculum that promotes both team and individual activities and leads to students becoming and remaining physically active for a lifetime shall be provided in the physical education program.

Physical education shall be taught by certified health and physical education teachers.

Physical activity shall not be used or withheld solely as a form of punishment.

Other School Based Activities

Safe drinking water shall be available and accessible to students, without restriction and at no cost to the student, at all meal periods and throughout the school day.[\[11\]](#)[\[12\]](#)[\[13\]](#)[\[14\]](#)

Nutrition professionals who meet hiring criteria established by the district and in compliance with federal regulations shall administer the school meals program. Professional development and

continuing education shall be provided for district nutrition staff, as required by federal regulations. [9][15][16][17].

District schools shall provide adequate space, as defined by the district, for eating and serving school meals.

Students shall be provided a clean and safe meal environment.

Nutrition content of school foods shall be available to students and parents/guardians.

Nutrition Guidelines for **All Foods/Beverages at School**

All foods **and beverages** available in district schools during the school day shall be offered to students with consideration for promoting student health and reducing obesity.

Foods **and beverages** provided through the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs shall comply with established federal nutrition standards. [11][12][15][16]

Foods and beverages offered or sold at school-sponsored events outside the school day, such as athletic events and dances, shall offer healthy alternatives in addition to more traditional fare.

Competitive Foods -

Competitive foods available for sale shall meet or exceed the established federal nutrition standards (USDA Smart Snacks in School). These standards shall apply in all locations and through all services where foods and beverages are sold to students, which may include, but are not limited to: a la carte options in cafeterias, vending machines, school stores, snack carts and fundraisers. [3][18][19].

Competitive foods are defined as foods and beverages offered or sold to students on school campus during the school day, which are not part of the reimbursable school breakfast or lunch.

For purposes of this policy, school campus means any area of property under the jurisdiction of the school that students may access during the school day. [3][18]

For purposes of this policy, school day means the period from midnight before school begins until thirty (30) minutes after the end of the official school day. [3][18]

The district may impose additional restrictions on competitive foods, provided that the restrictions are not inconsistent with federal requirements. [18]

Fundraiser Exemptions -

Fundraising activities held during the school day involving the sale of competitive foods shall be limited to foods that meet the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, unless an exemption is approved in accordance with applicable Board policy and administrative regulations. [20]

The district may allow a limited number of exempt fundraisers as permitted by the Pennsylvania Department of Education each school year: up to five (5) exempt fundraisers in elementary and middle school buildings, and up to ten (10) exempt fundraisers in high school buildings. Exempt fundraisers are fundraisers in which competitive foods are available for sale to students that do not meet the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. [18]

The district shall establish administrative regulations to implement fundraising activities in district schools, including procedures for requesting a fundraiser exemption.

Non-Sold Competitive Foods -

Non-sold competitive foods available to students, which may include but are not limited to foods and beverages offered as rewards and incentives, at classroom parties and celebrations, or as shared classroom snacks, shall meet or exceed the standards established by the district.

If the offered competitive foods do not meet or exceed the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, the following standards shall apply:

1. Rewards and Incentives:
 - a. Foods and beverages shall not be used as a reward for classroom or school activities unless the reward is an activity that promotes a positive nutrition message (e.g., guest chef, field trip to a farm or farmers market, etc.).
2. Classroom Parties and Celebrations:
 - a. Classroom parties/celebrations with food/beverages shall be limited to no more than one (1) per month in each classroom.
 - b. Parents/Guardians shall be informed through newsletters or other efficient communication methods that foods/beverages should only be brought in when requested for scheduled parties.
 - c. When possible, foods/beverages for parties and celebrations shall be provided by the food service department to help prevent food safety and allergy concerns.

The district shall provide a list of suggested nonfood ideas and healthy food and beverage alternatives to parents/guardians and staff, which may be posted via the district website, student handbooks, newsletters, posted notices and/or other efficient communication methods.

Marketing/Contracting -

Any foods and beverages marketed or promoted to students on the school campus during the school day shall meet or exceed the established federal nutrition standards (USDA Smart Snacks in School) and comply with established Board policy and administrative regulations.[\[3\]](#)[\[18\]](#)

Exclusive competitive food and/or beverage contracts shall be approved by the Board, in accordance with provisions of law. **Existing contracts shall be reviewed and modified to the extent feasible to ensure compliance with established federal nutrition standards, including applicable marketing restrictions.[\[21\]](#)**

Management of Food Allergies in District Schools

The district shall establish Board policy and administrative regulations to address food allergy management in district schools in order to:[\[22\]](#)

1. Reduce and/or eliminate the likelihood of severe or potentially life-threatening allergic reactions.
2. Ensure a rapid and effective response in case of a severe or potentially life-threatening allergic reaction.

3. Protect the rights of students by providing them, through necessary accommodations when required, the opportunity to participate fully in all school programs and activities.

Safe Routes to School

The district shall assess and, to the extent possible, implement improvements to make walking and biking to school safer and easier for students.

The district shall cooperate with local municipalities, public safety agency, police departments and community organizations to develop and maintain safe routes to school.

District administrators shall seek and utilize available federal and state funding for safe routes to school, when appropriate.

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Legal

1. 24 P.S. 1422.1
2. 42 U.S.C. 1758b
3. 7 CFR 210.31
4. 7 CFR 210.15
5. 24 P.S. 1422
6. 24 P.S. 1513
7. Pol. 102
8. Pol. 105
9. Pol. 808
10. 24 P.S. 1512.1
11. 7 CFR 210.10
12. 7 CFR 220.8
13. 24 P.S. 701
14. 24 P.S. 742
15. 42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq
16. 42 U.S.C. 1773
17. 7 CFR 210.30
18. 7 CFR 210.11
19. 7 CFR 220.12
20. Pol. 229
21. 24 P.S. 504.1
22. Pol. 209.1
- 24 P.S. 1337.1
- 24 P.S. 1422.3
- P.L. 111-296
- 7 CFR Part 210
- 7 CFR Part 220
- Pol. 103
- Pol. 103.1

Gr.	Cause of concussion	Date of this concussion	# of previous concussions
3	At home play	09/22/19 but not dx until 9/24; doc said no restrictions	0
7	Soccer- PIAA	10/15/19	0
7	Dance- Car door	10/31/19	0
8	Matball-Gym	9/30/19	2
9	PE class - Frisbee game	10/8/19	0
9	PIAA- football	9/4/19 but not dx until 9/9/19	0
10	PIAA Volleyball	10/4/19	0
10	Hit her head on a sign while walking home from school	11/14/19	0
11	MVA	10/15/19	0
11	Hit by a car	10/26/19	0
11	PIAA - Football	10/18/19	0
11	Powder Puff game	10/15/19	0
12	PIAA - Field Hockey	10/9/19	2



WHAT HAPPENED

AT THE BCIU BOARD MEETING?

October 17, 2019 Board Actions

- Approved the minutes of the September 19, 2019 BCIU Board meeting.
- Approved PA Key position descriptions for Manager of Higher Education Initiatives and Technical Support Specialist.
- Ratified the unpaid internships of Nicole Hardy, Marywood University undergraduate student majoring in Social Work; Julie Poulos, Alvernia University undergraduate student majoring in Social Work; Katie Riddle, Wyomissing High School student interested in Speech Pathology; and Lauren McCormick, Kutztown University undergraduate student majoring in Early Ed PreK-4 and Visual Impairments Birth-21.
- Approved the unpaid externship placement of Nicole Shuman, Penn State University undergraduate student majoring in Speech Language Pathology.
- Ratified the unpaid Level 1 field experience of Amy Medina, Berks Technical Institute student majoring in Early Childhood Education.
- Ratified an agreement with the Reading School District, for the Reading School District to provide services to the ELECT students.
- Ratified the following PA Key agreements/ amendment to current agreement:
 - Amendment to the current agreement with Research for Action, Inc. (RFA), for RFA to support the PA Department of Human Services – Office of Child Development and Early Learning, for research services for Raising the Bar, Raising the Floor: Systems Building for the Future of Pennsylvania’s Early Care and Education System project in support of the Preschool Development Grant.
 - Agreement with Trying Together, for Trying Together to deliver Child Development Associate courses to early childhood education professionals within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
 - Agreement with the Northampton Community College (NCC), for NCC to deliver Child Development Associate courses to early childhood education professionals within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- Approved a lease schedule with HP, Inc. for a three-year lease for 110 laptop computers.
- Ratified a purchase agreement with PowerSchool Group, LLC, for PowerSchool Group, LLC to provide the professional services required to upgrade to Cognos 11 for eFinancePLUS clients including project management, technical services, and training.

- Ratified a service agreement with the Boyertown Area School District, for the BCIU to provide Infinite Campus Standard Support Services.
- Ratified a service agreement with the Downingtown Area School District, for the BCIU to provide Infinite Campus Technical Support Services.
- Ratified a service agreement with the Brandywine Heights Area School District, for the BCIU to provide PIMS Administration and Support Services.
- Ratified service agreements with the Fleetwood Area; Hamburg Area, Oley Valley, Daniel Boone Area, and Brandywine Heights Area school districts and the Abraxas Academy, for the BCIU to provide Software Support Services for eSchoolPLUS/IEPPLUS.
- Ratified an agreement with Atlas Transportation, for Atlas Transportation to provide transportation services to transport Early Intervention students to/from Lower Alsace.

The following individual was honored prior to the BCIU Board meeting:

Retirement

Judy Keller, Payroll Coordinator,
Office of Business Services

Next BCIU Board Meeting: Thursday, November 21, 2019

TO: BCIU Board of Directors
FROM: Dr. Jill M. Hackman
DATE: October 17, 2019
RE: Legislative Update

STATE NEWS

1. **Act 1 Index** – The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) calculated the Act 1 base index for the 2020-21 fiscal year at 2.6%. The index is the average of the percentage increase in the Statewide average weekly wage and the Employment Cost Index. It is used to determine the maximum tax increases for each tax the school district levies without PDE exception or voter approval. PDE recently posted the 2020-21 adjusted index for school districts with a market value/income aid ration greater than 0.4000.
2. **Upcoming Public Hearings** – The following public hearings are scheduled through the end of October:
 - a. **October 18: 10 a.m. – House Democratic Policy Committee**
Lionville, YMCA, 100 Devon Drive, Exton
Public Hearing with Representative Danielle Friel (D-Chester) on Youth Mental Health
 - b. **October 28: 11 a.m. – House Education Committee**
Room G-50, Irvis Office Building
Public Hearing on Education Evaluation Reform: SB 751 – primary sponsor Senator Ryan Aument (R-Lancaster) and HB 1607 – primary sponsor Representative Jesse Topper (R-Bedford) PASA will testify at this hearing.

Background:
Under current law (Act 82 of 2012), student performance components, based in part on standardized test results, account for 50 percent of an educator's evaluation, while classroom observation and practice account for the other 50 percent.

SB 751 and HB 1607 would realign those weights, basing 70 percent of an educator's evaluation on classroom observation and practice and 30 percent on student performance components.

By reducing the impact of standardized tests and student performance components, increasing the focus on classroom observation and practice, and taking the first step to recognize poverty's impact on achievement, PA can improve the evaluation system.
3. **Charter School Reform** – During the week of September 23, Representative Curt Sonney (R-Erie), Chair of the House Education Committee, issued a co-sponsorship memo to his colleagues regarding a long-awaited bill aimed at cyber charter school reform. The memo proposed to require all school districts to provide full-time cyber programs by 2021-22. The memo also seemed to indicate that cyber charter schools would become potential third-party vendors for school districts to accomplish the requirement. There will be more to come as this issue develops.
4. **New PA Charter Change Website** – The Pennsylvania School Boards Association launched a new website resource called PA Charter Change. The website was created to address issues and concerns surrounding charter school funding and performance.

The format of the site is question-and-answer and includes an in-depth look at the issues with numerous data charts and graphs to support the facts. The intended audience is both school officials

as well as the public and the media. The website also has a “Take Action” letter calling for charter school funding reform. This letter can be sent to legislators directly from the site. To view the PA Charter Change website, visit <https://www.pacharterchange.org>.

5. **Senate Bill 473: Tobacco/e-cigarettes/vaping** – Senate Bill 473 (Senator Scavello, R-Monroe) raises the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products from 18 to 21 years of age. The definition of “tobacco product” is expanded to include any electronic device that delivers nicotine or other substance by inhaling. This bill also makes changes concerning the use of tobacco products in schools. Under the bill, a student or any other person who uses a tobacco product in school buildings, on school grounds, or school vehicles would be guilty of a summary offense.

School boards may designate areas on school property where tobacco product use by persons other than students is permitted, provided it is no less than 50 feet from school buildings, stadiums, or bleachers. School boards must establish policy to enforce the prohibition regarding tobacco use and notify parents, students, and employees. The legislation preempts any municipal ordinance or school board regulation to the contrary.

6. **School Lunch Debt** – Some school districts in Pennsylvania are enacting a policy that would send any student’s unpaid meal debt to a collection agency when the balance exceeds \$1,000. According to Education Week, taxpayers paid off nearly \$30,000 in meal debt at the end of last school year that Quakertown students racked up. The bad debt was covered with money in the district’s general fund budget. For the Quakertown School District, students could be prevented from participating in events like school dances and graduation ceremonies under the new proposal. District officials believe there is a strong correlation between the increase in school lunch debt and a Pennsylvania law that banned lunch shaming.
7. **Omnibus CTE package** – House Bill 265 (Representative Staats, R-Bucks), amended and passed the week of September 23 in the Senate, amends the School Code to address numerous career and technical education (CTE) issues. Some of the changes to the bill include:
 - a. Replaces references to “vocational-technical” with “career and technical”.
 - b. Requires schools to offer representatives of career and technical education schools (CTCs), skilled trades and high-priority occupations, community colleges and institutions of higher education with at least one opportunity during the school year to provide career information and recruitment information to students.
 - c. Requires an occupational advisory committee to be established for each CTE program or cluster of programs offered by a CTC or school district.
 - d. Requires the establishment of a PAsmart online career resource center with information on postsecondary pathways and options and conduct other duties related to expansion of programs.
 - e. Requires the workforce development board to survey programs at secondary and postsecondary institutions and compile a clearinghouse of model programs.
 - f. Establishes a Schools-to-Work program to award grants for partnerships between schools, employers, and organizations.
 - g. Allows a school entity to apply for the establishment or renewal of a Classification of Instruction Program (CIP) code.
8. **Senate Bill 723: Personal Finance Course** – Senate Bill 723 (Senator Laughlin, R-Erie) requires public schools to allow students in grades 9-12 to apply up to one credit earned for successfully completing a course in personal finance to satisfy a graduation credit requirement in social studies, family and consumer science, business education or math. The bill was amended to state that a student is not permitted to apply more than one credit to satisfy a math credit requirement for graduation. This requirement would begin with students graduating at the end of the 2020-21 school year. The bill is in the House Education Committee for further consideration.

9. **Report Recommends Mental Health Funding Priority** – In a report compiled by the Pennsylvania Attorney General’s office that summarizes a series of sessions held last school year with teens across the Commonwealth, students say schools need to hire more mental health providers, fund more bullying prevention programs, and solve data reporting gaps. The report also recommends that districts consider applying for the state’s School Safety grants to fund bullying prevention, mental health programs, and other positive school climate initiatives.

Of the \$40 million issued in safety grants last year, 75 percent of the grantees requested the funds for school security planning and purchasing security-related technology. The second most popular request was for trauma-informed approaches to education. Schools also requested to use the money for more counseling services for students, licensed professional counselors, and licensed social workers.

This year’s grant application deadline is November 4, 2019.

10. **House Bill 1602: “In God We Trust” Motto** – House Bill 1602 (Representative Dush, R-Jefferson) allows a school entity to display the motto “In God We Trust” in each school building. The display may take the form of mounted plaques or artwork from a student content that may be prominently presented in each school building. This bill was approved by the House State Government Committee.
11. **Limits on State Spending** – House Bill 1316 (Representative Warner, R-Fayette), approved by the House Appropriations Committee, proposes to amend the state Constitution to create limitations on state spending over the prior fiscal year. The rate of change used to determine the spending limit may be increased in any given year by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members elected to the Senate and House. In order to amend the Constitution, legislation proposing the amendment must be passed by the General Assembly in two consecutive legislative sessions.
12. **House Bill 472 Pulled** – House Bill 472 (Representative Everett, R-Lycoming) was pulled from the agenda by the House State Government Committee the week of September 23 prior to its consideration. This bill would have required a voter referendum prior to a school district constructing, renovating, or entering into a contract to construct, renovate, or a lease a school building if the school district plans to borrow more than 50% of the district’s annual revenue of the prior school year.

LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

Both the Senate and the House of Representatives are in recess until Monday, October 21.

Senate Scheduled Session Days

October 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30

November 18, 19, 20

December 16, 17, 18

House Scheduled Session Days

October 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30

November 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20

December 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18

Sources: Education Week (edweek.org), PASA, PASBO, PSBA, www.pasenate.gov, www.house.state.pa.us, wesa.fm (Capitolwire)



Organizers and speakers from the ECYEH Lunch and Learn are from left to right: Dr. Jill Hackman, BCIU Executive Director; Jennifer Barney, BCIU Site Coordinator for Alternative Education; Elise Chesson, Executive Director of Family Promise of Berks County; Kristen Hoffa, ECYEH Region 2 Coordinator; Senator Judy Schwank; Christine Folk, Executive Director of Mary's Shelter; Tabitha Kramer, Program Specialist for the ECYEH Program; Michelle Reichard-Huff, Director of the Office of Early Childhood and Student Services; and Elizabeth Fortuner, ECYEH Specialist.

ECYEH HOSTS LUNCH & LEARN FOR COMMUNITY LEADERS

On Thursday, October 10, the Pennsylvania Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (ECYEH) Program hosted a lunch and learn focused on the issue of youth homelessness in Berks County.

The event, held at the Berks County Intermediate Unit, was attended by more than 80 local legislators, businesspeople, school administrators, and non-profit leaders from Berks County.

Kristen Hoffa, ECYEH Region 2 Coordinator, provided the audience with the latest statistics from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, which shows that homelessness affects students across all 18 school districts in Berks County.

For the 2017-2018 school year, the most recent year for which data is available, Berks County school districts served more than 2,200 students who were considered homeless. That number is up from 1,155 students in the 2013-2014 school year.

Also speaking at the event were **Christine Folk**, Executive Director of Mary's Shelter; **Elise Chesson**, Executive Director of Family Promise of Berks County; and **Tabitha Kramer**, Program Specialist for the ECYEH Program. All three shared personal stories that highlighted the work being done on behalf of homeless youth and families.

The event concluded with calls to action for the attendees to advocate for legislation that supports homeless youth and families and to share what they learned with others.



State Representative Mark Gillen, left, and County Commissioner Christian Leinbach, center, engage with the presenters following the ECYEH Lunch and Learn.

BCIU HOSTS ANNUAL COMMON INSERVICE DAY

Nearly 600 educators attended Common Inservice Day for Berks County's related arts educators on Monday, October 14. The event, coordinated annually on Columbus Day by the BCIU Office of Professional Development and Curriculum (OPDC), featured presentations and workshops at eight locations throughout Berks County.

Attendees to the Health and Physical Education session heard a presentation from **Teresa Tieman Detweiler**, Prevention Specialist from the Council on Chemical Abuse, titled "Juuling: What Schools Need to Know." The presentation was covered on PBS39 News Tonight.

The following professional development sessions were offered:

Agricultural, Family Consumer Sciences and Technology
Reading Area Community College
105 Participants

Art
Yocum Institute
78 Participants

English as a Second Language (ESL)
Albright College
30 Participants

Gifted
Conrad Weiser West Elementary School
40 Participants

Health and Physical Education
Governor Mifflin Intermediate School
196 Participants

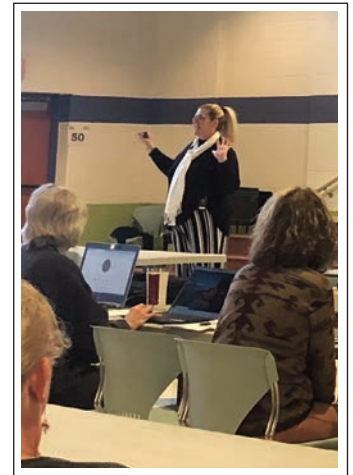
Library
BCIU Main Office
51 Participants

Music
Yocum Institute
48 Participants

World Language
Albright College
19 Participants



Above: Teresa Tieman Detweiler (standing), Prevention Specialist from the Council on Chemical Abuse, presented a session on Juuling at the Common Inservice Day. Her presentation was featured on PBS39 News Tonight. Below: Author and speaker Christine Fonseca was the guest presenter for the Gifted sessions held at Conrad Weiser West.



2019 Holiday Project

November 11
through
December 20

BCIU
Berks County
Intermediate Unit
an educational service agency



Let's Help Humane Pennsylvania!

BCIU will collect donations at the Main Office, Education Centre, Lower Alsace, Reading Crest, St. Paul's, Transportation Center on Rt. 61, and Tulpehocken Transportation locations.

SAVE THE DATE

Next BCIU Board Meeting
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019

**Keeping Kids Safe Symposium:
Rachel's Challenge**
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2019
8:00 A.M. TO 12 NOON
PENN STATE BERKS

**Committee on Legislative Action
(COLA)**
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019
7:30 A.M. TO 9:00 A.M.
BCIU MAIN OFFICE

Snacks with Santa
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2019
9:00 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M.
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
9:30 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M.
VISITS WITH SANTA
BCIU MAIN OFFICE

PSBA School Director Training
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019
(SNOW DATE: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2020)
PLEASE NOTE THE UPDATE IN TIMES

New School Director Training
2:30 P.M. REGISTRATION OPENS
3:30 P.M. PROGRAM BEGINS
5:30 P.M. DINNER
6:00 - 9:00 P.M. REMAINING PROGRAM

Advanced School Director Training
4:30 - 5:30 P.M. REGISTRATION & DINNER
5:30 - 9:00 P.M. REMAINING PROGRAM

BCIU MAIN OFFICE

REGISTRATION INFORMATION
bit.ly/PSBAtraining2019

**2020 Start of the Year I
State of the Unit**
TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2020
MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL

WHITE CANE DAY OBSERVED AT WILSON



On Tuesday, October 15, Wilson School District observed White Cane Day, a day to foster empathy and understanding for the challenges of the visually impaired. Left: Whitfield Elementary School Kindergartener Paisley Conrad is seen with her support staff from Wilson. Paisley also receives support from BCIU Teacher of the Visually Impaired/Orientation & Mobility (O&M) Specialist Kristin Dibler. Right: Kristin Dibler demonstrates to Paisley's class how a white cane helps Paisley and other students throughout the day.



BCIU Leadership Testifies at Special Education Funding Hearing

On Monday, October 7, **Dr. Jill Hackman**, Executive Director, and **Mrs. Michelle Reichard-Huff**, Director of the Office of Early Childhood and Student Services testified at a public hearing on special education funding.

The hearing was held by the Special Education Funding Commission at the Manheim Township School District Office in Lancaster County. Dr. Hackman and Mrs. Reichard-Huff were among 17 education leaders from across the region who testified at the hearing.

The Special Education Funding Commission was initially established by Act 3 of 2013 to review and make recommendations regarding special education funding. As directed in Act 3, the Commission is required to meet every five years to reevaluate the state of special education funding in Pennsylvania. Earlier this year, the Pennsylvania General Assembly signed into law Act 16 of 2019 which directed the Commission to focus its review on the formula used for distributing special education funding to districts.



Leadership Series Day 2

Dr. Tyrone C. Howard returned on Tuesday, October 15, for the second day of the 2019-2020 Leadership Series. Dr. Howard led a continuation of the discussion on equity in the classroom titled, "Equitable and Excellent: Schools Where All Students Succeed."

That evening, Dr. Howard led a special presentation for board members and superintendents. We thank all those who were able to attend this engaging, informative session.

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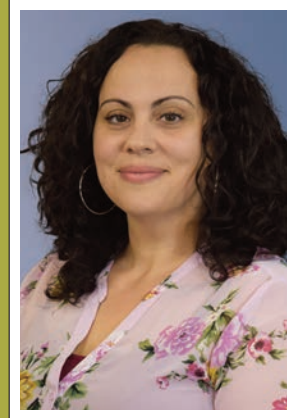


EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Lydia Lopez, Operations Specialist in the Office of Business Services, has been named Employee-of-the-Month for October 2019.

Eric Clemmer, Program Administrator for Operations, shares, "Lydia went from being a Muhlenberg Transportation Supervisor to Operations Specialist in June. Her assignment was going to be routing Special Needs, Early Intervention, and Head Start, but it quickly turned into assisting routing and redistricting of the Reading School District. Lydia has put in many conscientious hours creating routes and adjusting them as needed."

Lydia attend Reading Senior High School. She shares that she is living in



Reading and is blessed with five bundles of joy.

Outside of work, Lydia enjoys cooking and baking in her spare time, as well as spending weekends in Ocean City, New Jersey, with her children.

Lydia says, "The best part of my job is the great group of people I work with. They are always willing to jump in and assist whenever help is needed."

RIGHT TO EDUCATION LOCAL TASK FORCE BEGINS 2019-2020 WORK

On Tuesday, October 1, the Right to Education Local Task Force met for the first of five meetings to be held during the 2019-2020 school year.

The Local Task Force serves as an independent organization of parents and representatives from the Berks County Intermediate Unit, local school districts, Arc Advocacy Services, and local and regional special education service providers. The goal of the Task Force is to make recommendations for improving, strengthening, expanding, and monitoring programs and services for school-age children with special needs.

All Local Task Force meetings are held at the BCIU Main Office and are open to the public. Parents of special needs students are encouraged to attend.

The following is the list of upcoming Local Task Force meetings and topics:

December 3, 2019

Inclusive Practices

February 4, 2020

Trauma-Informed Practices

April 7, 2020

Social Skills

May 5, 2020

Reading Disabilities