

**Minutes of the
KUTZTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
May 16, 2022 - 7:30 p.m.**

The Board of Directors of Kutztown Area School District met for a regular monthly board meeting on Monday, May 16, 2022, at 7:30 p.m., in the Middle School Commons and remotely via Zoom and YouTube, pursuant to due notice to board members and the public.

Present Michelle Batz, Randy Burch, Alan Darion, Erin Engel, Michael Hess (remote), Caecilia Holt, Jason Koch, Dennis Ritter, Jeremiah Light, Cooper Dunn - Student Representative

Absent

Also Present Christian Temchatin, Rikki DeVough, David Miller, Steven Leever, Melissa Devlin, Ed Myers, Richard Laubenstein, Barry Flicker, Erin Anderson, James Brown, Ed Yapsuga, Lisa White, Erin Tenney, Shannon Sunday, Chloe Blum, Curt Treptow, Steve Morris, Chris Thompson, BethAnn Siteman, Steve Pizzuto, Kristin Haring, John Noll, Jennifer Kaufinger, Dan Wismer, Aaron and Pam Ashman, Robyn Underwood, Jenni Elliker, Allison Scheidt, Deb Barnes, Sallie Sandler, Tina Caulfield

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

Welcome President Burch opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. He requested that anyone wishing to speak on an agenda item please use the raise his/her hand feature to be recognized. He indicated that this meeting was being recorded and there was an Executive Session held prior to the meeting for the purpose of Personnel and Legal content.

Meeting Minutes Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Dennis Ritter, to approve the Minutes of the May 2, 2022 School Board Meeting.

Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report Motion made by Jason Koch, seconded by Jeremiah Light, to approve the Treasurer's Report of the General Fund.

Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.

Ratification of General Account Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Al Darion, to ratify for payment the general account bills in the amounts of \$1,418,167.66.

Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.

Approval of General Account Motion made by Erin Engel, seconded by Jason Koch, to approve for payment the general account bills in the amount of \$1,240,798.53.

Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.

Approval of Construction Account Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve for payment the construction account bills in the amount of \$12,462.53.

Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.

Superintendent's Report Last week we experienced the unfortunate impact of spreading misinformation. A few high school students created and posted allegations about other students. The posting included alleged quotations from teachers related to the situation and in one iteration included the name of a teacher with the named students. Every instance related to the teachers was admittedly fabricated.

We need a school environment where students can come forward in a safe manner. We also need a community where people are not passing on rumors and innuendo as fact. On both sides of every situation are a child, an adult, and a community. False allegations against anyone are damaging and threaten the ability of students to seek help.

Every instance of alleged misconduct is thoroughly investigated to the extent possible within the scope of a school district and we share information with local police when appropriate.

Sharing misinformation and discussing these topics in public forums is damaging to individual reputations and often based on untruths or missing contextual information that alters the meaning. We ask and hope that all members of the school community, students and adults, consider information sources, intentions, and the ramifications of sharing them in absence of complete knowledge.

KMS Encore Trip to Fightin Phils
History Day State Competition
Kutztown Indoor Association (KIA)
Prom
End-of-year Activities

Student Representative Report Cooper thanked the members of the board and students for allowing his service on the board and all the knowledge and expertise he gained throughout the year.

Board Committee

PSBA	No report.
BCIU	Celebrated IU's 50th anniversary. Finalized review for Dr. Hackman.
BCTC	Students of the Quarter were announced. Congratulations to all students!
P & C	Reviewed Policy 218 - Student Discipline and Policy 220 - Student Expression/Dissemination of Materials. Presentations on the MS Summer Learning Adventure and Truth Initiative Partnership.
ECC & Facilities	Discussed HS cafe floor, lawn mowing, tennis court light poles, MS and HS gym floor refinishing, HVAC preventative maintenance contract, basketball backstop winch, band cabinets, and HS door locks. Athletics postseason update for all activities.
TCC	No report.
Student Achievement	Meeting scheduled for May 23, 2022 at 6:00 PM.

Personnel

Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Jason Koch, to approve the following personnel items:

1. The acceptance of the resignation of Lydia Seip as cafeteria staff at Kutztown Middle School, effective May 27, 2022.
2. The approval of the following student workers for the 2022 Summer Work Program at a rate of \$7.25 per hour:

Andrew Homan	Naomi Kurtz	Bradlee Schaner
Jose Vizcarrondo	Benjamin Charsky	Hannah DeVall
Evan DeVall	Winston Lang	Nathalia Mohammed
Matthew O'Neil		
3. The approval of the following maintenance help for summer 2022 at a rate of \$14.00 per hour:

Austin Dengler	Pierson Lang	Isa Scherer
Will DeVall	Hayden Stump	
4. The approval of the following students for summer Technology Department help for summer 2022 at a rate of \$14.00 per hour:

Anna Wanamaker	Carson Sheetz	Christopher Lipovsky
Lukas Hamm (substitute)		
5. The approval of the following custodial help for summer 2022 at a rate of \$14.00 per hour:

Dean Fisher	Janice Mickey	Theresa O'Mara
Susan Stauffer	Alison VanDuren	Joanne Waidelich
Karen Waidelich	Ty Kline	
6. The approval of Courtney Zellner as an Eshelman bus/van driver for the 2021-2022 school year, effective May 5, 2022.

Personnel is Approved Pending Receipt of All Mandated Credentials.

Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.

- Proposed Final Budget** Motion made by Jason Koch, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve a Proposed Final Budget for the 2022-2023 school year with revenues of \$35,031,361 and expenditures of \$35,691,112 supported by Real Estate Tax of 29.9543 mils; Per Capita Tax, Sec. 679 (\$5.00); Per Capita Tax, Act 511 (\$5.00); Local Services Tax (\$5.00); Earned Income Tax (0.5%); Real Estate Transfer Tax (0.5%); and Amusement Tax (5%).
- Motion made by Al Darion, seconded by Michael Hess, to amend the motion to include a 0.6 mil increase in property Taxes for the 2022-2023 budget.
Roll call vote: Yes 3 (Darion, Hess, Ritter) No 6 Absent 0
Motion not carried
- Motion made by Jason Koch, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve a Proposed Final Budget for the 2022-2023 school year with revenues of \$35,031,361 and expenditures of \$35,691,112 supported by Real Estate Tax of 29.9543 mils; Per Capita Tax, Sec. 679 (\$5.00); Per Capita Tax, Act 511 (\$5.00); Local Services Tax (\$5.00); Earned Income Tax (0.5%); Real Estate Transfer Tax (0.5%); and Amusement Tax (5%).
Roll call vote: Yes 8 No 1 (Hess) Absent 0
Motion carried.
- KHS Cafeteria Floor Repair** Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Dennis Ritter, to approve the agreement with Division 9 Contract Flooring to repair flooring in the Kutztown Area High School cafeteria at a cost of \$5,605. *
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.
- * Administration has been directed to perform an investigation prior to the floor replacement.
- Kohler Landscaping/ Lawn Mowing** Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Erin Engel, to approve the agreement with Kohler Landscapes to mow and trim district properties as needed.
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.
- KHS Basketball Backboard Winches** Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Dennis Ritter, to approve the agreement with C.M. Eichenlaub Co. to install wireless operation backboard winches at a cost of \$23,808.
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.
- KHS Tennis Court Light Post Padding** Motion made by Al Darion, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve the purchase of padding for the tennis court light posts at a cost of \$2,455 from C.M.Eichenlaub
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.
- Motion made by Jeremiah Light, seconded by Jason Koch to table the motion to purchase padding for the tennis court light posts.
Roll call vote: Yes 6 No 3 (Darion, Hess, Ritter) Absent 0
Motion tabled.
- KHS Door Locks** Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Al Darion, to approve the agreement with The A.G. Mauro Company to replace locks on doors at Kutztown Area High School at a cost of \$64,460.
Roll call vote: Yes 6 No 3 (Engel, Koch, Light) Absent 0
Motion carried.
- 2022 Summer Programs** Motion made by Al Darion, seconded by Michelle Batz, to approve the staffing for the 2022 summer programs per the attached.
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.
- SRI Summer Scholarships** Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve scholarships for eight middle school students to the Science Research Institute Summer Program at a cost of up to \$600 per student from ESSER Funding for extended learning.
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.

Parental Consent

Motion made by Jason Koch, seconded by Jeremiah Light, to approve a provision requiring parental consent for students to access the book *Gender Queer* in the high school library.

Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to amend the motion to instead, create an AR regarding library resource availability and create a form for parents to identify resources children under the age of 18 shall not access.

Roll call vote: Yes 4 (Darion, Hess, Holt, Ritter) No 5 Absent 0
Motion not carried.

Motion made by Jason Koch, seconded by Jeremiah Light, to approve a provision requiring parental consent for students to access the book *Gender Queer* in the high school library.

Roll call vote: Yes 5 No 4 (Darion, Hess, Holt, Ritter) Absent 0
Motion carried.

ACCESS Funds

Motion made by Jeremiah Light, seconded by Jason Koch, to add a voting motion to the agenda directing administration to apply for \$100,000 in ACCESS Funds and include in the 2022-2023 budget.

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

Motion made by Jeremiah Light, seconded by Jason Koch, to direct the administration to apply for \$100,000 in ACCESS Funds and include in the 2022-2023 budget.

Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.

Public Comment

Dan Wismer expressed his concern of equity, CRT, and DEI being included in a curriculum overhaul and ALA deciding the curriculum for schools, such as the inclusion of the book, *Gender Queer*.

Robyn Underwood expressed her concern over the book, *Gender Queer*, requiring parental consent to access.

Jennifer Kaufinger expressed her concern of a possible tax increase and detriment to community members.

Adjournment

Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Jason Koch, to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Rikki L DeVough
School Board Secretary