

**Minutes of the
KUTZTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
January 18, 2022 - 7:30 p.m.**

The Board of Directors of Kutztown Area School District met for a regular monthly board meeting on Tuesday, January 18, 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 (remote), Erin Engel (remote), Michael Hess, Caecilia Holt, Jason Koch, Jeremiah Light, Dennis Ritter

Absent

Also Present Christian Temchatin, Rikki DeVough, David Miller, Steven Leever, Deborah Barnes, Barry Flicker, Richard Laubenstein, Steve Wilson, Chloe Blum, Curt Treptow, Jeri Sievert, Cathleen Brown, Carrie Wessner, Lisa Diffenbaugh, Robyn Underwood, Jill Wismer, Don Wismer, Christopher Smith, Jennifer Kaufinger, Mike Erdman, Edward Myers, Amy Howard, Jennifer Hatch, Melissa Blatt, Ezra Kane-Salafia, Ashley Koch, Chris Grivas, Jeff Huffert, Leslee Saylor, Josh DeVough, Carol Schullley, Erin Fenstermacher, Vanessa Moore, Charyn Ayoub, Allison Scheidt, Kristin Neary, Jenni Elliker, Angie Furlong, Nate Diffenbaugh, Erin Kraal

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 7:31 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.

Addition of Book Discussion Motion Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Jason Koch, to add a motion item to the agenda regarding the book discussion on the book *Gender Queer*.

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

Meeting Minutes Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve the Minutes of the December 20, 2021 School Board Meeting.

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

Treasurer's Report Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Caecilia Holt, 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 Caecilia Holt, seconded by Michael Hess, to ratify for payment the general account bills in the amounts of \$2,737,940.06.

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

Approval of General Account Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve for payment the general account bills in the amount of \$1,085,305.34.

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

Approval of Construction Account Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Michelle Batz, to approve for payment the construction account bills in the amount of \$334,094.91.

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

Superintendent's Report National Recognition Program
School Board Member Recognition Month
Proposed 2022-2023 School Calendar

Board Committee Reports

- PSBA** The free All School Director Monthly Exchange is the third Tuesday of the month; however registration is required. Submission to the grade 7-12 competition "What does Financial Literacy Mean to Me?" is due February 15, 2022.
- BCIU** No report.
- BCTC** No report.
- P & C** The 2022-2023 High School Course Catalog was presented. Policy 918 was reviewed, and Policies 916 and 236.1 were reviewed and considered for adoption.
- ECC & Facilities** The HALO system, detectors for smoke and vape were discussed. They would require a significant amount of resources to respond to alarms, and cost is \$77,000. Currently the system is not recommended to move forward.
- TCC** No report.

Public Comment

The following community members expressed their disagreement with the book, *Gender Queer*, being accessible to students in the high school library and requested it's exclusion due to inappropriate photographs and absentiities:

- Steve Wilson Jackie Bridges
- Jeri Sievert Jennifer Kaufinger
- Dan Wismer

The following community members expressed their concern with the book banning movement of the book, *Gender Queer* and believe it should be accessible to high school students in the library:

- Lisa Diffenbaugh Robyn Underwood

Carrie Wessner requested clarification on the proposed 2022-2023 School Calendar.

Book Discussion - Gender Queer

Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Jason Koch, to approve a provision allowing the book *Gender Queer* to be accessed in the high school library through parental consent.

Roll call vote: Yes 2 (Batz, Burch) No 7 Absent 0
Motion not carried.

Motion made by Jason Koch, seconded by Jeremiah Light, to remove the book *Gender Queer* from the high school library.

Roll call vote: Yes 3 (Engle, Koch, Light) No 6 Absent 0
Motion not carried.

Motion made by Jason Koch, seconded by Jeremiah Light, to censor obscene/vulgar images and sexual acts in the book *Gender Queer* on pages 124, 135, 138, and 166-167.

Roll call vote: Yes 4 (Batz, Engle, Koch, Light) No 5 Absent 0
Motion not carried.

Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Al Darion, to affirm the report findings of the book committee regarding the book *Gender Queer* and have the book remain accessible to students in the high school library.

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

Personnel

Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Michelle Batz, to approve the following personnel items:

1. The approval of Christina Ilustre as a substitute nurse for the 2021-2022 school year, retroactive to September 1, 2021 at a rate of \$22.00 per hour.
2. The approval of Marilyn Barlip as part time general cafeteria employee at Kutztown Elementary School at a rate of \$10.00/hr, effective on or after January 19, 2022.
3. The approval of Laura Giannantonio as a substitute virtual teacher for the 2021-2022 school year, retroactive to September 1, 2021 at a rate of \$27.00 per hour.

4. The acceptance, with regret, of the resignation of Tiffani Stine, Cafeteria at Kutztown Elementary School , effective January 14, 2022.
5. The acceptance, with regret, of the resignation of Tiffani Devos Little, special education paraeducator at Kutztown Elementary School, effective January 3, 2022.
6. The acceptance, with regret, of the resignation of Brian J. Antonio, Help Desk Technician, effective January 14, 2022.
7. The acceptance, with regret, of the resignation of Richard Erikson, Custodian at Kutztown Area Middle School , effective January 4, 2022.
8. The approval of an unpaid leave for employee #2028 commencing on February 8, 2022 through approximately March 8, 2022.
9. The approval of the following coaches, advisors, and stipends for the 2021-2022 school year:

Daniel Stemko	Head Coach Volleyball	\$2,930.00
Isaac Mengel	Volleyball HS Assistant	\$2,930.00
Sadie Doss	Volleyball (KU Intern)	VOLUNTEER
Shawna Oswald	Greenwich Elem Patrol Advisor	\$773.00
Kevin Fretz	Kutztown Elem Patrol Advisor	\$788.00
Jenna Ziegler	Kutztown Elem Patrol Advisor	\$788.00
Katie Hess	Kutztown Elementary Technology Liaison	\$1,000.00
Aaron Ashman	Middle School Technology Liaison	\$1,000.00
Christopher Simmons	High School Technology Liaison	\$1,000.00
Pam Ashman	Greenwich Elementary Technology Liaison	\$1,000.00

Personnel is Approved Pending Receipt of All Mandated Credentials.

Roll call vote: Yes 8 No 0 NA 1 (Hess) Absent 0
Motion carried.

Policy Maintenance

Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve the second reading and adoption of the following policies:

- Policy 103.1 Nondiscrimination - Qualified Students With Disabilities
- Policy 113.4 Confidentiality of Special Education Students

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

Motion made by Michael Hess, seconded by Dennis Ritter, to approve the first reading of the following policies:

- Policy 916 Volunteers
- Policy 236.1 Threat Assessment

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

Budget Opt-Out

Motion made by Jeremiah Light, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve the Accelerated Budget Opt-Out Resolution 2022-2023.

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

Borough Police MOU

Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Kutztown Borough Police to enforce civil violations under 75 Pa. C.S. § 3345.1 regarding bus stop arm violations.

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

Support Staff Comp.

Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Michelle Batz, to approve targeted support staff salary increases effective January 19, 2022:

Custodian - 2nd Shift	7.00%
Van Drivers	3.00%
Administrative Assistant of Activities, Athletics, and Facilities	PT to FT
Cafeteria - General	4.50%
Cafeteria - Head Cook	3.50%
Maintenance - General	4.00%
Transportation Supervisor	10.00%

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

PA K12 Covid Testing

Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve the participation in the Pennsylvania Department of Health/Concentric Test to Stay Program to provide free optional COVID-19 antigen tests for Kutztown Area School District families. When a student or staff member is determined to be a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case or is demonstrating COVID-19 symptoms, families will have the option to access testing.

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

HS Course of Study

Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Al Darion, to approve the Kutztown Area High School Course of Study for the 2022-2023 school year.

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

Job Descriptions

Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Michelle Batz, to approve updated job descriptions for the following positions:

- Administrative Assistant to the Elementary Principal
- Administrative Assistant to the Middle School Principal
- Administrative Assistant to the High School Principal
- Administrative Assistant to the Assistant High School Principal/Attendance
- Administrative Assistant for Activities, Athletics, and Facilities

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

Job Descriptions

Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve the updated job descriptions for the following positions:

- Cafeteria - Part-time
- Cafeteria - Head Cook
- Head Custodian
- Custodian - Second Shift

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

Donations

Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Jeremiah Light, to accept, with gratitude, the following donations:

1. The donations from Lifetouch National School Studios in the amounts of \$150 and \$506.67 to the Greenwich-Lenhartsville Elementary School to be used for student activities, programs, and field trips.
2. The donation of \$2,000 from Gary Smith, KAHS Alumni-Class of 1974 to the Kutztown Area High School for use towards travel for educational purposes for junior or senior students. Mr. Smith will continue to donate \$1,000 on a yearly basis.

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

Adjournment

Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Michael Hess, to adjourn the meeting at 10:13 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Rikki L DeVough
School Board Secretary