

**Minutes of the
KUTZTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
August 16, 2021 - 7:30 p.m.**

The Board of Directors of Kutztown Area School District met for a regular monthly board meeting on Monday, August 16, 2021, at 7:30 p.m., in the Middle School Commons, pursuant to due notice to board members and the public.

Present Michelle Batz (remotely), Randy Burch, Michael Hess, Caecilia Holt, Dennis Ritter, Charles Shurr, Eric Johnson, Karl Nolte, Alan Darion

Absent

Also Present Christian Temchatin, Rikki DeVough, David Miller, Steven Leever, Ed Myers, James Brown, Diane Quinn, Deb Barnes, Rich Bittner, Kathy Dietrich, Perry Dietrich, Vinny Ilustre, Nicole Boyer, Jonathan Boyer, Michael Boyer, Ralph Fegely, Stacey Mitchell, Sherie Kugler, Renee Perella, Julia Perella, Carl Ziegler, Rebecca Lance, James Bealer, Karen Reiss, Tina Gammons, Jed Wood, Lori Arndt, Mary Laub, Diana Kelly, Cheryl-Ann Reynolds, David Reynolds, Jason Koch, Steve Wilson, Tricia Leiby, Kim Moyer, Donald Bercaw, Angie Furlong, Erin Light, Scott Hugo, Donna Feiertag, Angela Troutman, Jeri Sievert, Ellen Overcast, Barbara Johnson, Sheryl Shiffel, Alan Shiffel, Dennis Wilde, Lorie Zimmerman, Stacy Pilgert, Tom Hennigan, Erin Fenstermacher, Kati Newberry, Leon Smith, Ron Zimmerman, Chilton Shaffer, Robyn Underwood, Ed Clancy, Jim Shrawder, Jackie Bridges, Curt Treptow, Laura Miller, Philip Sherrer, Dan Wismer, Jill Wismer, Carrie Wessner, Diana Rydzewski, Christopher Smith, Jeremiah Light, Kevin Moyer, Kraig Piper, Don Meyers, Erin Engel, Greg Kaufinger, Jenn Kaufinger, Angie Bittner

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 7:50 p.m. by President Nolte.

Welcome President Nolte 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 Eric Johnson, to approve the Minutes of the August 2, 2021 School Board Meeting.

Roll call vote: Yes 8 No 0 N/A 1 (Darion) Absent 0
Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report Motion made by Randy Burch, 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 Randy Burch, seconded by Charles Shurr, to ratify for payment the general account bills in the amounts of \$1,202,023.73.

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

Approval of General Account Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve for payment the general account bills in the amount of \$1,002,480.85.

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

Ratification of Construction Account Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Michael Hess, to ratify for payment the construction account bills in the amount of \$607.50.

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

Approval of Construction Account	Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Michelle Batz, to approve for payment the construction account bills in the amount of \$2,163,016.15.	
	Roll call vote:	Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
	Motion carried.	
Superintendent's Report	KASD Proposed Health and Safety Plan Resiliency Plan	
Student Representative Report	Cooper Dunn reported after a great summer, students are looking forward to a great year.	
Board Committee Reports	PSBA	Allwein Society nominations are open recognizing school directors who are outstanding leaders.
	BCIU	No report.
	BCTC	No report.
	P & C	The committee received a presentation on the Induction Plan for new teachers. Policy 218.3 and Policy 809 were discussed. A Community Conversation was scheduled for August 30, 2021.
	ECC & Facilities	The committee discussed the Anime Club. A report was provided on the preliminary poll of fall athletic participation numbers. The committee discussed band room cabinets, HS stadium gate panic bar, tennis courts, and purchase of a new truck and snow plow.
	TCC	No report.
Public Comment	<p>Kraig Piper expressed his discord of the teaching of CRT and that it is against Christianity.</p> <p>Jackie Bridges asked for clarification on the number of cases for masks.</p> <p>Rebecca Lance requested clarification on behavioral coaching, truck and plow cost, and mask wearing.</p> <p>Tina Gammons expressed her opposition to CRT and mask wearing.</p> <p>Jed Wood requested public meetings be live-streamed again.</p> <p>Jeri Sievert expressed her dissent with the health and behavioral coaching through UPenn.</p> <p>Erin Fenstermacher expressed her belief that universal masking for all individuals is important.</p> <p>Leon Smith stated his opinion that the mental and behavioral health coaching is a backdoor to pushing CRT.</p> <p>Robyn Underwood requested clarification on if/when schools would close due to COVID and proving vaccination status of students.</p> <p>Jim Shrawder asked if we need a consulting service that promotes CRT on their homepage.</p> <p>Curt Treptow disputed behavioral coaching and the teaching of CRT.</p> <p>Jeremiah Light spoke against the UPenn partnership and CRT.</p> <p>Larry Shrawder concurred proposed mask wearing options are considering all parties. He encourages a re-draft of Policy 832 and remove the offensive language - drop groups and treat students as individuals.</p> <p>Beth Sica expressed her support of the UPenn initiative.</p> <p>Abby Shaffer asked to keep resiliency coaching within Berks, not UPenn. Believes technology should not be allowed with board members during the meetings.</p> <p>Julia Perella pushes for a mental health advocate.</p> <p>Carrie Wessner asked for clarification on cafeteria, specials, and mask breaks. She is against mandatory masks and discrimination between vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. She also expressed her disagreement with coaching taught by a CRT group.</p> <p>Lori Zimmerman stated Kutztown is among the top in the Niche Ratings, including #1 in safety. She questioned why change policy, and why go to UPenn when we have such great ratings here in the community.</p> <p>Stacy Mitchell expressed her opinion that CRT should not be taught in school, and mask wearing should no be mandatory.</p> <p>Christopher Smith expressed his concern against UPenn having roots in CRT.</p> <p>Carl Ziegler asked for clarification on the August 30 Community Conversation.</p>	

Personnel

Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Dennis Ritter, to approve the following personnel items:

1. The acceptance of the resignation of Livia Brenner, part-time instructional aide at Kutztown Elementary School, effective August 3, 2021.
2. The acceptance of the resignation of Kristin Fricke, Learning Support Teacher at Kutztown Area Middle School, effective August 5, 2021.
3. The acceptance of the resignation of Dishna Samarajiva, part-time Instructional Aide at Kutztown Elementary School, effective August 10, 2021.
4. The approval of an adjustment to the stipend for the 2020-2021 Summer Reading Coordinator position to \$1,250.00.
5. The approval of Courtney Kellum as a part time Instructional Aide at Kutztown Elementary School, effective on August 24, 2021, at a rate of \$15.00 per hour.
6. The approval of Shannon Pape as a part time Instructional Aide at Kutztown Elementary School, effective on August 24, 2021, at a rate of \$16.11 per hour.
7. The approval of Diane Wagner as part-time Kutztown Area Middle School aide, effective August 24, 2021 at a rate of \$11.17 per hour.
8. The approval of Kati Newberry as part-time Instructional Aide at Greenwich-Lenhartsville Elementary School, effective August 24, 2021 at a rate of \$15.27 per hour.
9. The approval of Tiberius Shaub as part-time Technology Repair Technician effective August 17, 2021 at a rate of \$11.00 per hour.
10. The approval of Matthew Brown as Secondary Social Studies Teacher at Kutztown Area Middle School effective August 17, 2021, at a salary of \$68,622 per Master's Degree +12, Step 2, of the KATA/KASD collective bargaining agreement.
11. The approval to increase MaryBeth Sterner, part-time Speech Pathologist, from .2 to .3 per Master's Degree +12, Step 2, of the KATA/KASD collective bargaining agreement.
12. The approval of Amanda Maurer as a substitute nurse for the 2021-2022 school year at a rate of \$120 per day.
13. The approval of Dana M Moyer as a substitute nurse for the 2021-2022 school year at a rate of \$120 per day.
14. The approval of the following resource persons/mentors and stipends for the 2021-2022 school year:

Kris Tuerk	for Sara Fidler (Mentor/elementary teacher)	\$300.00
Kevin Fretz	for Sara Fidler (Mentor/elementary teacher)	\$300.00
Luke Bricker	for Ashley Pastor (Resource/secondary teacher)	\$300.00
Kristin Haring	for Kathryn Engwall (Mentor/secondary teacher)	\$600.00
Kerri Schegan	for Angela-Bucci Herb (Resource/elementary teacher)	\$300.00
Jenna Ziegler	for Hilary Heffner (Resource/elementary teacher)	\$300.00
Andrea Orwig	for Leanne Seidel (Mentor/elementary teacher)	\$600.00
Allison Scheidt	for Alia Emery (Resource/elementary teacher)	\$300.00
Andrea Stern	for James Hirsch (Resource/secondary teacher)	\$300.00
Mary Gruber	for Ashley Mease (Mentor/elementary teacher)	\$600.00
Tiffany Kinsey	for Janelle Moser (Resource/K-12 teacher) Prorated	\$150.00
Brenda Boyer	for Mary Gruber (Resource/Library)	\$300.00
Chris Simmons	for Janelle Loeb (Resource/secondary teacher) prorated	\$150.00
15. The approval of tenure for Margaret Mansell, effective August 17, 2021, due to completion of three years of satisfactory teaching in the Pennsylvania public school system and fulfillment of all requirements for tenure.
16. The approval of the following Eshelman bus and van drivers for the 2021-2022 school year, [per the attached](#).
17. The approval of the following classroom aides/paraeducators as substitute teachers for the 2021-2022 school year at a rate of \$110 per day for days 1-20 and \$120 per day for days 21 and thereafter:

Martha Bergman	Kimberly S. Moyer-Bercaw	Sherry Sexton	Nicole DeLong
Cathy Padasak	Julie Weaknecht	Alison VanDuren	Amy Petitt
Laura Giannantonio			
18. The approval of the following coaches and stipends for the 2021-2022 school year:

Antoinette Sprinkle	Anime Club	Volunteer
Doris Schappell	Kutztown Sew N' Sews (prev. 4-H Sewing Club)	\$700.00
Jean Ziegler	Kutztown Sew N' Sews (prev. 4-H Sewing Club)	Volunteer
Jennifer Starkey	Cheerleader	Volunteer
Nicole Andre	Cheerleader	Volunteer
Hilary Heffner	Fall Tennis - Girls	Volunteer

Personnel is Approved Pending Receipt of All Mandated Credentials.

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

Policy- First Reading Motion made by Charles Shurr, seconded by Dennis Ritter, to approve the first reading of Policy 218.3 Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault.

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

Health and Safety Plan Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve the Phased School Opening Health and Safety Plan Update for submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education as presented.

Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Eric Johnson, to amend the Health and Safety Plan to require universal masking for everyone indoors regardless of vaccination status.

Roll call vote: Yes 4 No 5 (Batz, Darion, Hess, Shurr, Nolte) Absent 0
Motion not carried.

Motion made by Al Darion, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to amend the Health and Safety Plan to require strategic masking beginning at 50 per 100,000 (substantial rating) and universal masking at high status.

Roll call vote: Yes 5 No 4 (Batz, Hess, Shurr, Nolte) Absent 0
Motion carried.

Motion made by Al Darion, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve the Phased School Opening Health and Safety Plan Update requiring strategic masking beginning at 50 per 100,000 (substantial rating) and universal masking at high status, for submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Roll call vote: Yes 5 No 4 (Batz, Hess, Shurr, Nolte) Absent 0
Motion carried.

Kelly Education Staffing Substitute Agreement Motion made by Al Darion, seconded by Dennis Ritter, to approve the pricing agreement with Kelly Educational Staffing to provide substitute services for teachers and paraprofessionals.

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

Mental Health and Optimal Development Partnership Motion made by Eric Johnson, seconded by Al Darion, to approve the 2-year partnership with the University of Pennsylvania GSE Project for Mental Health and Optimal Development at a cost not to exceed \$85,000 per year to develop the Student Resilience Coaching and Leadership Development program. The cost will be paid with ESSER III funds.

Roll call vote: Yes 4 No 5 (Batz, Hess, Ritter, Shurr, Nolte) Absent 0
Motion not carried.

Instructional Time Template Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Charles Shurr, to approve the Instructional Time Template for the 2021-2022 school year.

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

Breneman Tennis Courts Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve the two quotes from Beneman Company for work on the high school tennis courts in the amounts of \$21,000 and \$26,500.

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

Truck Purchase Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Dennis Ritter, to approve the purchase of a 2022 Ford F-350 from New Holland Auto Group at a cost of \$32,429.

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

Plow Purchase

Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve the purchase of a truck plow from Grims Trailers at a cost of \$7,695.

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

Anime Club

Motion made by Eric Johnson, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve the creation of the Anime and Japanese Media and Culture Club for Kutztown Area High School students effective the 2021-2022 school year.

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

Reading Writing Project

Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve the agreement with Reading Writing Project, LLC for professional development at a cost of \$31,400.

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

Bus/Van Routes

Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve the bus and van routes for the 2021-2022 school year, and to allow the transportation coordinator and/or designee to make any necessary changes to the existing routes as deemed appropriate throughout the 2021-2022 school year, with the exception of changes that involve additional costs or the deletion of a route.

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

Recording of Meetings

Motion made by Eric Johnson, seconded by Al Darion, to direct administration to resume live-streaming, Zoom, and recording of all future public meetings.

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

Adjournment

Motion made by Eric Johnson, seconded by Charles Shurr, to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Rikki L DeVough
School Board Secretary