

Minutes of the
KUTZTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
May 17, 2021 - 7:30 p.m.

The Board of Directors of Kutztown Area School District met for a regular monthly board meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021, 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, Michael Hess, Caecilia Holt, Dennis Ritter, Charles Shurr, Eric Johnson, Karl Nolte, Alan Darion (remotely)

Absent

Also Present Christian Temchatin, Rikki DeVough, David Miller, Steven Leever, Jennifer Elliker, Diane Quinn, Ed Myers, Barry Flicker, Erin Anderson, James Brown, Richard Laubenstein, Ellen Overcast, Barbara Johnson, Jeremiah Light, Chloe Blum, Curtis Treptow, Rich D'Agusto, Sherie Kugler, Jackie Bridges, Kathy Geist, Jeremy Geist, Frank Donchez, Suzy Donchez, Erin Engel, Otis Engel, Donna Feiertag, Greta Feiertag, Jeremy Bridges, Heidi Heffelfinger, Steve Leiby, Mary Laub, Ralph Fegely, Carl Ziegler, Chilton Shaffer, Heidi Wessner, Linda Wessner, Nick Dengler, Dave Lesniak, Robert Reinhard, Jenny Rakus, Kevin K., Ted La Mastra, Arabel Elliot, Karen Reiss, Steven Reiss, Amy Pfeifer-Wunder, Jason Greenwood, Vicente Ilustre, Lisa Bailey, Joan Baldwin, Ken Levengood, Peter Hoffman, Dan Wismer, Riley Edwards, Jeri Sievert, Dave Sobatka, Kelly Scheetz, Nate Diffenbaugh, Greg Setliff, Rebecca Lance, Kristen Bealer, Bradley Gammons, Rachel Masre, Elaine Kilgamon, Beth Gdowick, Don Myers, Lauren Bohning, Dan and Andrea Scarola, Amber Bungo, Jeremy Riem, Dan Batz, Elizabeth McKenna, William Kelly, Dawn Vasko, Paul Vasko, Carrie Wessner, Michele Neiman, Amanda Warner, Jason Koch, Ashley Koch, Tricia Leiby, Ryan Kistler, Angela Bittner, Rich Bittner, Tamara Mathias, Laura Miller, Mason Miller, Steve Morris, Cheryl-Ann Reynold, David Reynold, Andrea Hilliard, Steven F., Marie Sackett, Connor O'Neil, Jonathan Warke, John Julian, Paula Julian, Jeremy W., Jill Wisner, Allison Scheidt, Angie Furlong, Angie Kistler, Annie Schnore, Denise Bosler, Danelle Koch, Kathy Meath, Lisa Ladd-Kidder, Melissa Keller, Charlene Sheetz, Joleen Greenwood, Jeff Huffert, Jennifer Ziegler, Julie Palkendo, Rob Weidman, Beth Weber, B. Hilliard, Lindsey Dietrich, Mrs. Mace, Josh DeVough, Christina Stillo, Kayla Rohrbach, Raci Webb, Angela Romich-McCarthy

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 7:35 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 Michael Hess, seconded by Dennis Ritter, to approve the Minutes of the May 3, 2021 School Board Meeting.

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

Treasurer's Report Motion made by Eric Johnson, seconded by Michelle Batz, 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 Charles Shurr, to ratify for payment the general account bills in the amounts of \$2,576,260.90.

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

Approval of General Account Motion made by Michael Hess, seconded by Charles Shurr, to approve for payment the general account bills in the amount of \$930,041.37.

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

**Approval of
Construction Account**

Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve for payment the construction account bills in the amount of \$793,037.40.

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

**Superintendent's
Report**

Secondary Arts Exhibition
Bagel Bar Mural
Tri-M Induction

**Board Committee
Reports**

PSBA No report.

BCIU No report.

BCTC The committee approved Michael Stauffer as Executive Director. The committee also approved new equipment purchases and reviewed quarterly student awards.

P & C The committee received a Flex Instruction presentation by Dr. Quinn. The committee also reviewed policies.

**ECC &
Facilities** The committee held discussions on sidewalk proposals for walkway maintenance, making high school sidewalk ADA compliant, and a sidewalk extension at Kutztown Elementary School. The committee also received a post-season sports update.

TCC No report.

Personnel

Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Eric Johnson, to approve the following personnel items:

1. The acceptance of the resignation of Christopher Torres as Head Custodian at Greenwich Elementary School, effective May 6, 2021.
2. The approval of the following student workers for the 2021 Summer Work Program at a rate of \$7.25 per hour:
Brionna Henke Nathalia Mohammed Benjamin Charsky
Tristan Cox Hannah DeVall Matthew O'Neil
3. The approval of the following summer maintenance help for summer 2021 at a rate of \$11.00 per hour, effective May 17, 2021:
Austin Lubak Ty Kline Aiden Koch
4. The approval of the following students for summer Technology Department help for summer 2021 at a rate of \$11.00 per hour:
Tiberius Shaub
5. The approval of the following summer custodial help for summer 2021 at a rate of \$11.00 per hour:
Theresa O'Mara Susan Stauffer Alison VanDuren
Janice Mickey Karen Waidelich Joanne Waidelich
Dean Fisher

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 Michael Hess, seconded by Michelle Batz, to approve a Proposed Final Budget for the 2021-2022 school year with revenues of \$34,242,389 and expenditures of \$34,671,991 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 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.

CIS Support

Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve the Integrated Student Supports Contract with Communities In Schools of Eastern Pennsylvania effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

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

- ACCESS Case Reviews** Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve, under the direction of the school physician, Lois Hall, CRNP, to perform Medical ACCESS case reviews at a cost of \$10.00 per review, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.
- Conference Request** Motion made by Al Darion, seconded by Eric Johnson, to approve the request for employee #1595 to attend the Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence National Convention on November 29 - December 3, 2021 in Lake Buena Vista, FL, at an approximate cost of \$2,365
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.
- Appointment of Board Treasurer** Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Michael Hess, to appoint David J. Miller as treasurer to the Kutztown Area Board of School Directors for the 2021-2022 school year at a stipend of \$1,050.00.
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.
- Appointment of Board Secretary** Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Charles Shurr, to appoint Rikki L. DeVough as secretary to the Kutztown Area Board of School Directors for a 4-year term commencing on July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025 at a stipend of \$2,500 for the 2021-2022 school year.
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.
- Flexible Instruction** Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Dennis Ritter, to approve the application to the Pennsylvania Department of Education to participate in the Flexible Instructional Days Program starting in school year 2021-2022.
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.
- Renaissance Data Integration** Motion made by Charles Shurr, seconded by Randy Burch, to approve the quote with Renaissance for Custom Data Integration for the period of August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022 at a cost of \$5,000.
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.
- High School Sidewalk** Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve Clayton's Concrete Service to install a handicap ramp on the sidewalk at Kutztown High School at a cost of \$5,500.
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.
- KES Sidewalk** Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Eric Johnson, to approve Sanders Masonry to install a sidewalk at Kutztown Elementary School at a cost of \$4,000.
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.
- Policy 832** Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Michelle Batz, to rescind Policy 832-Educational Equity until further discussion, greater community involvement, and clarity how "educational equity" is defined.
- Executive Session** Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Eric Johnson to convene into Executive Session at 8:26 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously.
Board reconvened at 8:48 p.m.
- Policy 832** Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Charles Shurr, to suspend the operation of Policy 832-Educational Equity based on Board Policy 003.

Motion made by Charles Shurr, seconded by Dennis Ritter, to amend the motion to include the suspension of operations of the Anti-Racist Resolution and Equity Team pending review.
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.

Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Charles Shurr, to suspend the operations of Policy 832-Educational Equity, the Anti-Racist Resolution, and the Equity Team pending review.

Roll call vote: Yes 7 No 2 (Hess, Holt) Absent 0

Motion carried.

Public Comment

The following members of the public expressed their concern and disagreement with Policy 832 and Critical Race Theory and racial equality being taught in KASD buildings especially at the elementary level, and how it is creating racism:

1. Joan Baldwin
2. Curtis Treptow
3. Dan Wismer
4. Jackie Bridges
5. Dave Sobatka
6. Otis Engel
7. Chilton Shaffer
8. Rebecca Lance
9. Bradley Gammons
10. Amber Bungo
11. Dawn Vasco
12. Tricia Leiby
13. Steve Morris
14. Mark Sackett
15. Jonathan Warke
16. Carl Ziegler
17. Michael Blatt

The following members of the public expressed their support for the Equity Team and Policy 832:

1. Connor O'Neil
2. Greg Setliff
3. Nate Diffenbaugh

Warren Shaub expressed his concerns on methods of inefficient teaching, soft-deadlines, partial credits, and passing grade cut-off.

Adjournment

Motion made by Eric Johnson, seconded by Michelle Batz, to adjourn the meeting at 10:52 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Rikki L DeVough
School Board Secretary