

**KARNS CITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD ACTION**

*February 10, 2025*

**CALL TO ORDER**

--The regular meeting was called to order by Mr. Price at 8:40 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

--Approved minutes of the January 13, 2025, regular board meeting.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

--Riley Miller, STUCO President, informed the Board of the recent activities of the Student Council. Recently they sold carnations and will be hosting a blood drive on Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. The Student Council has formed three subcommittees this year consisting of the Appreciation Committee, Spirit Committee and the Government Committee. The Appreciation Committee is to do activities to appreciate the student body, administration or staff. They intend to provide appreciation gifts to the school nurse and food service staff for all that they do. The Spirit Committee intends to do some sort of recognition for the Girls Basketball team for their achievements. Finally, the Government Committee will be speaking with Dr. Ritzert on Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.

**PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

--Ryan Parasida addressed the Board regarding the development of the Sugarcreek Township Park. Currently, he informed the Board that the Snyder Group is interested in making a charitable donation towards the project, however, they are requiring a written business agreement be in place between the Karns City Area School District and Sugarcreek Township delineating a rental payment before scheduling a meeting with Mr. Parasida. He reiterated that it would be a charitable donation from the Snyder Group and they would not expect the rental payment from the District to the Township to cover any form of debt service payment. He noted that the amount proposed to be donated would cover the costs of turf, fencing and lights, but noted there would be other needs in the future. The rental payment would assist in covering the costs of the upkeep of the park. He felt that the field could be ready by next spring if the process continues forward. He noted that term has an approximate 15 year lifespan, and a lease could be structured around these terms. He also noted that the lights could be optional and are a significant part of the overall cost. He wanted to know the next steps from the District and stated he was planning to attend a Sugarcreek Township meeting in March.

--Stephen Conto addressed the Board regarding a potential wrestling program and was requesting to use a large classroom to begin hosting practice. He mentioned that if the Sugarcreek Elementary School is not being leased, that it could be a potential location they could use. He noted they have approximately 30 elementary students currently interested in the program. Along with Mr. Conto was a coach of a number of local wrestling programs that stated that the mats and insurance were already in place and they are just seeking a space for practice and development.

**BOARD LIAISONS**

--No Report.

**CAFETERIA**

--Approved Cafeteria Financial Statement, as submitted.

--Approved Cafeteria Bills, as submitted.

### **ATHLETICS**

--Approved the revised pay scale for Butler Chapter of PIAA Baseball Officials effective the 2024-2025 school year, as submitted. (An increase of \$10 per game from the 2023-2024 school year)

- Varsity Fee: \$85/official
- Jr. Varsity Fee: \$75/official
- Jr. High Fee: \$75/official

### **TRANSPORTATION**

--Approved the addition(s)/deletion(s) to the bus driver list submitted by Shriver Bus Contracting Services for the 2024-2025 school year, pending successful completion and receipt of all clearances and forms.

- Add: Tracy Cain – Bus Driver

### **BUILDING & GROUNDS**

--Approved request for Use of School Facilities, as submitted.

### **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

--Approved field trip(s), as submitted.

--Approved the overnight (3 days and 3 nights) Band trip, for Mrs. Amanda Walters, and students to travel to Boston, MA from March 31 – April 3, 2026, (2025-2026 school year) as a student funded trip and subject to any travel alerts and/or restrictions for the region at the time of travel, as submitted.

### **CURRICULUM AND TEXTBOOKS**

--Approved the agreement between the Karns City Area School District and MIU-IV for Itinerant Occupational Therapist Services, with a total cost of \$3,510.00. This service will begin approximately January 2025 and terminate May 2025, as submitted.

--Approved the Driver Education Behind the Wheel Program for the summer of 2025 with a lab fee of \$250, as submitted. (same fee as last year)

--Approved the first read of the Junior High and Senior High Curriculum Guides for the 2025-2026 school year, as submitted.

--Approved the addition of AP Biology to the Senior High curriculum beginning the 2025-2026 school year, as submitted.

-- Approved the first read of the Karns City Area School District Elementary Curriculum Guide for the 2025-2026 school year, as submitted.

--Approved the Cyber Services Agreement between Karns City Area School District and Seneca Valley School District from the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year through the end of the 2029-2030 school year, as submitted.

### **POLICY**

--No Report.

### **FINANCE**

--Approved General Fund Bills, as submitted.

--Approved Treasurer's Report, as submitted.

- Approved Student Activity Fund Report, as submitted.
- Approved the GASB 75 valuation and Related Service Agreement between the Karns City Area School District and Pennsylvania trust at a cost not to exceed \$7,975, for cycle range January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2026 and \$8,425 for cycle range January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2028, as submitted.
- Approved an adjustment to the elementary and high school building substitute from a per diem rate of \$140 per day to an annualized salary of \$30,500 (increase of approximately \$4,600.00, retroactive to the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, to be paid over the course of twelve months, with no other changes to benefits, as submitted.
- Approved a tax collector rate of \$9.50 per card processed beginning tax year 2025 (currently \$9.00 per card), as submitted.

## **PERSONNEL**

- Approved an unpaid leave request for Mrs. Kelly Olinger, Paraprofessional, from January 30 through January 31, 2025, as submitted.
- Approved leave request for Ms. Corrine Woodward, Secondary Instructor, from March 12 through March 17, 2025, utilizing available personal days in conjunction with the unpaid days, as submitted.
- Approved leave request for Mr. Jake Paterline, Secondary Instructor, from March 12 through March 17, 2025, utilizing available personal days in conjunction with the unpaid days, as submitted.
- Accepted the resignation of Ms. Lori Wagner, Secondary Instructor, for the purpose of retirement at the end of the 2024-2025 school year, as submitted.
- Accepted the resignation of Mr. John Damico, Secondary Instructor, for the purpose of retirement at the end of the 2024-2025 school year, as submitted.
- Approved leave request for Mrs. Susan Bzorek, Secondary Instructor, from March 10 through March 12, 2025, utilizing available personal days in conjunction with the unpaid day, as submitted.
- Approved addition(s)/deletion(s) to supplemental position(s) for the 2024-2025 school year pending successful completion and receipt of all required clearances under Act 24, Act 34, Act 114, Act 151, & Act 168, as submitted.
  - Hire: Christine Spencer – Head Teacher K-3
  - Hire: Mark Jones – Head Teacher 4 – 6
- Accepted the resignation of Mrs. Margaret Merryman as school tax collector for Petrolia Borough, as submitted.
- Accepted the resignation of Mrs. Sandra Potchak as school tax collector for Fairview Township, as submitted.
- Accepted the appointment of Mr. Robert Easley as school tax collector for Petrolia Borough, as submitted.
- Accepted the appointment of Mr. Darren Knox as school tax collector for Fairview Township, as submitted.
- Approved the addition(s)/deletion(s) to the substitute list for the 2024-2025 school year pending successful completion of all required clearances under Act 24, Act 34, Act 114, Act 151, Act 168, and results of a current tuberculosis test, as submitted.
  - Add: Jayna Palumbo – Substitute Teacher
  - Add: Chance Wesner – Substitute Teacher
- Approved the addition(s)/deletion(s) to the volunteer list, as submitted for the 2024-2025 school year pending successful completion of all required clearances under Act 24, Act 34, Act 114, Act 151, & Act 168, as submitted.
  - Add: Robert Carson – Track
  - Remove: Jeffrey Hogan – Gifted
  - Remove: Lori Martin – Gifted
  - Remove: William Rodgers - Gifted
- Approved addition(s)/deletion(s) to the Karns City Area School District’s Driver List, as submitted.
  - Add: Joseph Schumacher – Asst. Track Coach

- Approved travel request(s), as submitted.
- Rescinded hiring Mrs. Heather Smith to the position of Part-Time Cafeteria Worker.

### **CAPITAL RESERVE**

- Approved Capital Projects Bill(s), as submitted.
- Approved Capital Fund Bill(s), as submitted.
- Approved the General Contractor Change Order 68 for the Chicora Project, with an increase of \$2,729.00, as submitted.
- Approved the General Contractor Change Order 69 for the Chicora Project, with an increase of \$3,710.00, as submitted.
- Approved the Plumbing Contractor Change Order 19 for the Chicora Project, with an increase of \$2,759.00, as submitted.
- Approved a \$1,000,000 transfer from the General Fund to Capital Reserve, retroactive to the 2023-2024 school year.

### **BCAVTS REPORT**

- Approved the Butler County Vocational-Technical School's General Operating Budget for the 2025-2026 school year. The Karns City Area School District's share is \$653,884 which represents an increase of \$84,804 as compared to the 2024-2025 school year, as submitted.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Approved the second and final read of the 2025-2026 School Calendar, as submitted.
- Approved the donation \$2,000.00 from United Way of Pennsylvania, as submitted.
- Authorized the voluntary participation of students in grades 7-12 in a survey on the impacts of mobile technology on high school students, as no cost to the District, subject to the administration's final approval. (The voluntary survey is part of former KCHS student Hope Pletcher's Presidential Scholars Program work at Butler County Community College.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

- The meeting adjourned to executive session at 9:11 p.m. Executive session adjourned at 10:06 p.m.