KARNS CITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD ACTION

April 13, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

--The regular meeting was called to order by Mr. Price at 8:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

--Approved minutes of the March 9, 2026, regular meeting, as submitted.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

--No Report.

PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

--Mr. Joshua Smith addressed the Board regarding a baseball field on District property. He shared that from the presentation from the architectural firm, that it likely could not be built at the high school property, but questioned about plans for the former Sugarcreek Elementary School site. Mr. Smith reiterated that the program has been a recognized sport for thirty years, but the District is no closer to a field onsite than it was then. He posed questions to the Board about where the process stood now, and did not feel the Board should be waiting until outside donors fund the project. Speaking to Pullman Field, he asked why no Board members go to baseball games, suggesting it was a result of them being held in Butler, rather than closer. He questioned why it was not a Title IX violation. Mr. Smith shared that the current situation with the softball net in Diehl Stadium prohibits the baseball team from practicing to its full extent. He shared that the coaches are passionate about the program and want to help, specifically citing their efforts in preparing the Fairview field for use, but it can be challenging when the support is not felt in return. He shared that it should be considered an educational concern as the student athletes are away from their home all evening as a result of the commute for home contests. He concluded by reiterating that after thirty years, the need should be addressed.

--Ms. Melissa Conklin addressed the Board on three topics. First, Ms. Conklin shared concerns regarding IEPs being appropriately followed by the School District. She shared that she has sat in on IEP meetings with parents who have asked, and has identified deficiencies such as students who should go to a small class setting not always being given that opportunity. She shared that the District cannot rely on the students to ask for this to happen, especially when it is in the students' IEP. She shared that she is working with Mrs. Jamison on the matter, but wanted the Board to be aware. Ms. Conklin's second topic surrounded the Information Technology (IT) department regarding a situation that she was working with Mr. Wagner on. She shared that her elementary aged daughter had dropped a device on the school bus, and upon investigation of what was going on at the time she dropped it, she discovered her daughter was engaging in games that had sexual content. She questioned why the IT department did not catch this, or why it was not flagged. She shared that it was blocked immediately, however, felt that there was room for improvement on the security of site access for students. Ms. Conklin's final topic was regarding a concern of the School Psychologist texting personal devices of students during class time. She shared that she felt this was inappropriate, and reiterated that these students are easily influenced. She felt this was out of line for the School Psychologist when the Guidance Department is available to assist in these matters, and concluded by stating the Board should ask more questions about this matter.

--Ms. Alison Perry addressed the Board regarding the intent to hire or not replace the elementary music instructor position for the upcoming school year. She shared her pride in Karns City's ability to make good decisions, but cautioned the District if it were appropriate to emulate neighboring school districts, when the District has such high standards compared to others. Ms. Perry stated she understands that it would be a

financial benefit to not hire an elementary music instructor, but warned at what cost, specifically sharing a cost of missed opportunity for students, which could not be measured. Regarding cost, she shared that there was not a blink of an eye at the recently approved lighting project, regardless of whether grant funds were received or not. She shared that the proposed schedule prepared by the Administration would be challenging and would not permit interested youth to start band participation at a younger age, specifically fourth grade. She cited that the students of the District are highly interested in the fine arts, and students do in fact pursue this during post-secondary education. She shared the last six out of seven teachers to not be replaced were teachers of specials. She shared her students are excited to go to music class, and based on recent survey results 65/88 incoming 5th grade students are interested in participating in music or band. Ms. Perry concluded by stating the Board should consider replacing the retiring elementary music teacher, and review the teacher plan prepared by the remaining music department staff members.
--Mr. Brian Hobaugh addressed the Board regarding the Jr. High Baseball and Jr. High Softball programs, sharing that he has been in conversation with Dr. Stimac and Mr. Bellis on the matter recently. He wanted the opportunity to share program benefits, citing reasons such as the distance to the pitcher's mound and surrounding bases being more appropriate than the Pony League, the ability to weight train during the winter, and the student athletes' ability to seamlessly transition to practice at the varsity level. Mr. Hobaugh shared he could not speak to softball, but did share that there were twenty-two student athletes on the Jr. High Baseball roster, compared to only twelve on the Pony League. Mr. Hobaugh shared he understood the concern and complexity around the need for improved facilities, and stated it is emotional. He shared concerns regarding the ability to safely practice, and properly field fly balls due to the current facility set up. He stated there would be financial support if a new venue were to be established by means of rentals from outside entities during the spring and fall. Mr. Hobaugh said that in order to approach potential donors the District needs to have a plan in place that can be shared with potential donors.

CAFETERIA

--Approved Cafeteria Financial Statement, as submitted.
--Approved Cafeteria Bills, as submitted.

ATHLETICS

--Recommended approving the revised pay scale for the Quad County Chapter of Softball Umpires effective the 2025-2026 school year, as submitted. (an increase of $10 per game from the 2024-2025 school year)
- Varsity Fee: $85/official
- Jr. Varsity Fee: $75/official
- Jr. High Fee: $65/official (no change)

TRANSPORTATION

--Approved the list of addition(s)/deletion(s) to the buses/equipment list submitted by Shriver Bus Company for the 2025-2026 school year, as submitted.
--Approved the addition(s)/deletion(s) to the bus driver list submitted by Shriver Bus Contracting Services for the 2025-2026 school year, pending successful completion and receipt of all required clearances and forms.
- Add: Douglas Flick – Bus Driver

BUILDING & GROUNDS

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

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

--Approved field trip(s), as submitted.
--Approved Scholarship Recipients to be recognized at graduation, as submitted.

- John A. Beck-Isabel Beck Johnson Memorial Scholarship: This selection is made by vote of High School Faculty* (*Selection made public at graduation)

CURRICULUM AND TEXTBOOKS

--Approved the Inter-Governmental Agreement between Karns City Area School District and the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV for the Continuum of Instructional Programs/Services for the 2026-2027 school year, as submitted.
--Approved summer school for the Acceleration and Credit Recovery at a cost of a half credit course at $150, and a full credit course at $300, as submitted.
--Approved the first read of the Karns City Area School District Elementary Curriculum Guide for the 2026-2027 school year, as submitted.

POLICY

--Approved the second and final read of the revised draft Cell Phone/Personal Device Policy, as submitted.
--Approved the first read of Policy 140 – Charter Schools, as submitted.
--Approved the first read of Policy 221 – Dress and Grooming, as submitted.
--Approved the first read of Policy 236.1 – Threat Assessment, as submitted.
--Approved the first read of Policy 332 – Working Periods, as submitted.
--Approved the first read of Policy 619 – District Audit, as submitted.
--Approved the first read of Policy 810 – Transportation, as submitted.
--Approved the first read of Policy 325 – Dress and Grooming, as submitted.

FINANCE

--Approved General Fund Bills, as submitted.
--Approved Treasurer's Report, as submitted.
--Approved Student Activity Fund Report, as submitted.

PERSONNEL

--Approved Confidential Secretaries Compensation Plan, as submitted.
--Approved addition(s)/deletion(s) to supplemental position(s) for the 2025-2026 school year pending successful completion and receipt of all required clearances under Act 24, Act 34, Act 114, Act 151, & Act 168, as submitted.

- Resignation: Ms. Kellie Johnston – Second Assistant Boys Basketball
- Resignation: Mr. Hunter Karenbauer – Second Assistant Band Director

--Authorized the administration to post/advertise for the Supplemental positions listed below, until the position is filled.

- Fine Arts Department Head
- Junior Class Advisor
- Marching Band Director
- Marching Band Second Assistant
- Jazz Band
- Second Assistant Boys Basketball Coach (Junior High)
- Third Assistant Boys Basketball Coach (Junior High)

--Approved addition(s)/deletion(s) to the Karns City Area School District's Driver List, as submitted.

- Add: April McMillen

- Add: Josh Smith
- April Christy

--Approved the addition(s)/deletion(s) to the volunteer list, as submitted for the 2025-2026 school year, pending successful completion of all required clearances under Act 24, Act 34, Act 114, Act 151, Act 168, as submitted.

- Add: Tyler Callihan – Basketball
- Add: Joseph Olkowski – NJHS

--Approved the unpaid leave request for Mrs. Cindy Matunis, effective March 12-13, 2026, as submitted.
--Approved travel request(s), as submitted.
--Approved the unpaid leave request for Mrs. Dana Brewer, effective April 21, 2026, as submitted.

CAPITAL RESERVE

--Approved Capital Projects Bill(s), as submitted.
--Approved Capital Fund Bill(s), as submitted.
--Approved the AIA Agreement between the Karns City Area School District and Hayes Design Group for the High School Renovation Project, pending Solicitor approval.
--Approved Keystone Sports Construction as the Karns City Area School District Stadium Fencing vendor in the amount of $85,851.27. This work has been quoted using state cooperative pricing, and final terms of the proposal are subject to Solicitor's final review and approval, as submitted.
--Approved the proposals for professional services from Colliers Engineering & Design for site survey services of the Karns City Jr./Sr. High School, at a cost not to exceed $20,250.00, as submitted.

BCAVTS REPORT

--No Report.

MISCELLANEOUS

--Approved the assessment change from Parker Township to Washington Township for the residential property located at 465 Fairview Road, Petrolia, PA 16050 (Butler County), tax map number 260-1F114-21-0000, owned by Brittany McCord and Braden Alworth, as submitted.
--Approved a five-year renewal term with Finalsite for the District's website hosting, effective July 1, 2026, as submitted.
--Approved the five-year Affiliation Agreement between Karns City Area School District and Slippery Rock University for field placement of student teaching and internships, as submitted.
--Approved the second and final read of the Special Education Plan, as submitted.
--Declared the list of items submitted by Mr. Greg King of no value to the District and authorized the Administration to donate or dispose of items, as submitted.
--Approved the agreement between Karns City Area School District and Pennsylvania Department of Human Services to participate in the Pennsylvania School-Based ACCESS, School Age, Program (SBAP) for the 2026-2027 school year, as submitted.
--Declared the list of items submitted by Dr. Michael Stimac of no value to the District and authorized the Administration to donate or dispose of items, as submitted.
--Approved the Karns City Area School District's Flexible Instruction Days plan and its submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for approval, as submitted.
--Approved the Federal Programs Consortium Agreement between Karns City Area School District and Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV, as submitted.

ADJOURNMENT

--The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:43 p.m. Executive Session adjourned at 9:46 p.m.