Board Committee Meeting
of the
KUTZTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Budget and Finance Committee Meeting
Monday, May 9, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors of Kutztown Area School District met for a Budget and Finance Committee meeting on Monday, May 9, 2011, 7:30 p.m., in the Kutztown Area High School Auditorium pursuant to due notice to board members and the public.

Present
Amy Faust, Pat Bealer, Leon Smith, Jeri Carroll, Carl Ziegler, Craig Schroeder, Al Darion, Jasper Ho, Jo Stevens

Absent

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 7:24 p.m.

Presentation
Detailed Budget Draft V and Alternatives by Mr. Olschesky

Discussion Items
Homestead/Farmstead Allocation for Property Tax Reduction

Per Capita Bill Printing
Motion made by Carl Ziegler, seconded by Jo Stevens, to authorize the administration to have the Berks County Intermediate Unit (BCIU) proceed with printing of the Per Capita tax bills.
Roll call vote: Yes 9 No 0 Absent 0
Motion carried.

General Fund Budget Draft V and Alternates
Motion made by Amy Faust, seconded by Craig Schroeder, to accept a zero percent millage tax increase for the 2011-2012 budget, and direct the administration to review options and cuts to balance the budget.

Roll call vote: Yes 4 (Ho, Schroeder, Smith, Bealer) No 5 Absent 0
Motion not carried.

Motion made by Jo Stevens, seconded by Al Darion, to table the motion to accept a zero percent millage tax increase for the 2011-2012 budget.
Roll call vote: Yes 2 (Darion, Stevens) No 7 Absent 0
Motion not carried.

Motion made by Amy Faust, seconded by Craig Schroeder, to accept a zero percent millage tax increase for the 2011-2012 budget, and direct the administration to review options and cuts to balance the budget.
Roll call vote: Yes 5 No 4 (Darion, Stevens, Ziegler, Bealer) Absent 0
Motion carried.
Melissa Leiby requested information on how the position cuts would affect programs and the rationale on how the decision for the recommended position cuts was achieved.

Randy Burch expressed the election on May 17th is very important to our children, and everyone should get out and vote.

Erin Kraal stated her concern that the implementation of furloughs is trivial, and the furloughs will be detrimental to our students’ education.

Melissa Ziegler stated her disgust with putting her children through the Kutztown Area School District and its poor curriculum. She expressed her desire to pay more taxes in order to give her children the best education they deserve.

Hannah Schumacher expressed she was offended she will spend $100,000 on her college education, but the Board is not willing to spend approximately an extra $100 per year for all the students’ education.

Jim Shrawder expressed decreasing enrollment by 20% equates to a decrease in staff, which should look like 30 teachers being furloughed.

Maria DiMaggio commented she invests everything they have into this district. She hopes the Board will reconsider cutting teachers and programs to give the children in this district the education they deserve.

Kerri Schegan asked for clarification on which zero percent increase version of the budget the Board is voting on. She expressed her concern that as a teacher, the cuts proposed in staff will not allow her to give students the extra time and help they need and deserve.

Lisa Schnell asked the Board to table the motion to accept a zero percent budget increase in order to hear further public comment and discussion.

Britta Schumacher invited the Board to the band and choral concert this weekend. She expressed her disappointment that it appears many of the Board members’ minds were made up the day they were elected to the Board. She expressed cutting educational programs do not have the students in mind and is not possible to prepare students for their future.

Harold Sheaffer stated the public and the Board’s main obligation is the students. He expressed the District needs a strong tech-ed program at the middle school and high school in order to prepare students for the future needs of the work force. He stated the best investment in life is for the young people to run our country.

Motion made by Leon Smith, seconded by Craig Schroeder, to adjourn the meeting at 9:54 p.m. and convene into Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rikki L. Clark
School Board Secretary