The Board of Directors of Kutztown Area School District met for a regular board meeting on Monday, April 18, 2011 at 7:30 p.m., in the High School Auditorium, pursuant to due notice to board members and the public.

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

Absent  Craig Schroeder, Austin Fritz (student representative)


Call to Order  The meeting was called to order at 7:53 p.m. by President Bealer.

Welcome  President Bealer welcomed guests and opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. She asked everyone to sign the attendance book and mark the topic of comment next to his/her name. She requested that anyone wishing to speak on an agenda item please raise his/her hand to be recognized. She announced there was an executive session conducted prior to the meeting to discuss personnel matters. She indicated that this meeting was being tape recorded.

Approval of Minutes  Motion made by Leon Smith, seconded by Amy Faust, to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2011 School Board Meeting, the March 28, 2011 Policy and Curriculum Committee and Facilities Committee Meetings, the April 4, 2011 School Board Meeting, and the April 11, 2011 Budget and Finance Committee Meeting.

Roll call vote:  Yes  8  No  0  Absent 1 (Schroeder)
Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report  Motion made by Jo Stevens, seconded by Leon Smith, to accept the treasurer’s report of the General Fund.

Roll call vote:  Yes  8  No  0  Absent 1 (Schroeder)
Motion carried.

Ratification of General Account Bills  Motion made by Amy Faust, seconded by Jo Stevens, to ratify for payment the general account bills in the amount of $4,347,322.51.

Roll call vote:  Yes  8  No  0  Absent 1 (Schroeder)
Motion carried.

Approval of General Account Bills  Motion made by Jo Stevens, seconded by Leon Smith, to approve for payment the general account bills in the amount of $422,891.55.

Roll call vote:  Yes  8  No  0  Absent 1 (Schroeder)
Motion carried.
Supt's Report

Mr. Lazo and Ms. McAteer presented the following students 2011 swimming awards:

Gillian Ryan
- Two State Competition Gold medals – 200 Free and 500 Free
- 1st Place in District 3 Competition – 200 Free (broke District 3 record)
- 1st Place in District 3 Competition – 500 Free (broke Berks County record)
- All Berks – Girls Swimming
- Athlete of the Year – Girls Swimming

Adam Block
- 9th Place in State Competition – 200 Free
- 2nd Place in District 3 Competition – 200 Free
- 6th Place in District 3 Competition – 500 Free

Trevor Kanaskie
- 15th Place in District 3 Competition – 50 Free
- 10th Place in District 3 Competition – 100 Fly

Rachel Stump
- 15th Place in District 3 Competition – 100 Back
- 16th Place in District 3 Competition – 200 Free

Committee Reports

EIT
Pat Bealer
Mrs. Stevens reported the bureau is switching its accounting year cycle to January 1 to December 31. They were presented a proposal for a six month budget to jump start the switch. She also reported commencing in May, school districts will begin receiving their distributions.

BCTC
Craig Schroeder
No report.

ECC
Jo Stevens
Mrs. Stevens reported the committee was presented a comparison on GPA’s of athletes versus non-athletes. The committee also reviewed feedback from Wilson and Governor Mifflin, who initiated pay for play.

BCIU
Carl Ziegler
Mr. Ziegler reported the current facilities are now under renovation.

PSBA
Pat Bealer
Mrs. Bealer reported Senate Bill 911 was passed in the Senate, and is now going to the House for approval.

Student Achievement
Al Darion
No report.

Personnel

Motion made by Amy Faust, seconded by Jo Stevens, to approve the following personnel items:

1. The approval to rescind the resignation of Peter D. Miller.
2. The acceptance, with regret, of the resignation due to retirement of Louis C. Cottone as a geography teacher at the middle school, effective August 15, 2011.
3. The acceptance, with regret, of the resignation due to retirement of Lucille R. Adam as a part-time cafeteria employee at the middle school, effective the end of the 2010-2011 school year.
4. The acceptance of the resignation of Melanie A. McDermott as a special education paraeducator at the high school, effective April 19, 2011.
5. The acceptance of the resignation of Brad D. Losito as head wrestling coach, effective April 19, 2011.
6. The approval of Katharine E. Lubinski as a physics teacher at the high school, effective August 22, 2011, at a salary of $46,302, per Master’s, Step 1, non-tenured, of the KATA/KASD contract.
7. The approval of Trent D. Mertz for 2011 summer employment in the maintenance/custodial department for 5 days/week, 8 hours/day for 7 weeks, at a rate of $9.00 per hour.
8. The approval of Thomas H. Capparell as facilities coordinator, effective January 25, 2011, at a rate of $22.00 per hour.
9. The approval of Christopher Torres as a second shift custodian at Greenwich-Lenhartsville Elementary School, effective July 2, 2011, at a rate of $10.25 per hour for 8 hours/day, 260 days/year.

Roll call vote: Yes 8  No 0  Absent 1 (Schroeder)

Motion carried.

All Personnel were Approved Pending the District's Receipt of All Mandated Credentials
KASD Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2011
Page 3 of 5

Conference Request

Motion made by Carl Ziegler, seconded by Leon Smith, to approve the conference request for Barbara L. Richard to attend the Grant Writing USA Conference on May 16-17, 2011 in Philadelphia, PA, at a cost of $581.00.

Roll call vote: Yes 8 No 0 Absent 1 (Schroeder)
Motion carried.

2011 Summer Programs

Motion made by Al Darion, seconded by Jasper Ho, to approve the following summer programs, staffing, and attached brochures for 2011:

Pre-Kindergarten/Elementary Summer Reading Program

Staff: Heather L. Dewald
Karen H. Austin
Elizabeth I. Stump
Jane E. Venkauskas
Ann L. Dietrich
Donna A. Keglovits (coordinator at a salary of $500)

One teacher preparation day, week of June 13-17
June 20-July 28 (Monday through Thursday), 24 days total at the then current curriculum rate
No school on Monday, July 4

Students: June 20- July 28 (Monday through Thursday), 23 days
No School on Monday, July 4

Cost: $50

Summer Middle School Math

Staff: Placeholder

One teacher preparation day, week of June 13-17
June 20-July 28 (Monday through Thursday), 24 days total at the then current curriculum rate
No school on Monday, July 4

Students: June 20-July 28 (Monday through Thursday), 23 days
No school on Monday, July 4

Cost: $75

High School Summer School

Staff: Social Studies – Thomas A. Sally
Mathematics – Jesse W. Whitehouse
Language Arts – Joseph S. Chambers
Science – Placeholder

One teacher preparation day, week of June 13-17
June 20-July 28 (Monday through Thursday), 3 hours per day, 24 days total at the then current curriculum rate
No school on Monday, July 4

Students: June 20-July 28 (Monday through Thursday), 23 days
No school on Monday, July 4

Cost: $200 for District resident students, $225 for out-of-district students

Young Writers/Young Readers

Students: July 11-22, 2011, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Monday through Friday)
Location: Kutztown Elementary School
Cost: $250 before June 6, 2011

Roll call vote: Yes 8 No 0 Absent 1 (Schroeder)
Motion carried.

2011 Extended School Year

Motion made by Jo Stevens, seconded by Leon Smith, to approve the 2011 Extended School Year (ESY) and High School Summer Work Programs and staffing for eligible special education students. One teacher preparation day will be granted for both programs. ESY students will attend on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from June 20 through July 28, 2011. Summer Work Program students will attend Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from June 20 through July 28, 2011. Hours of instruction for both programs will be 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Neither ESY nor Summer Work Programs will be in session on Monday, July 4, 2011.

Elementary School Learning Support at Kutztown Elementary School

Instructor – Vickie L. Bastian at the then current curriculum rate
Paraeducator – Ambika S. Khanna at the employee’s then current hourly rate

Elementary School and Middle School Life Skills at Kutztown Elementary School

Instructor – Linda M. Schroeder at the then current curriculum rate
Paraeducator – Placeholder at the employee’s then current hourly rate

High School Summer Work Program at Kutztown Area Middle School and Kutztown Elementary School
Group 1: Instructor – Placeholder at the then current curriculum rate
Paraeducator – Placeholder at the employee’s then current hourly rate

Group 2: Instructor – Placeholder at the then current curriculum rate
Paraeducator – Cindy R. Conrad at the employee’s then current hourly rate

Braille Transcription – Kay L. Gernert (80 hours at the employee’s then current hourly rate)

Additional Personnel, effective June 20 through July 28, 2011, at their then current hourly/curriculum rate:
Carol J. Fairchild Nurse Aide
Lyndell M. Johnson Nurse Aide (Substitute)
Brenda K. Loeb School Nurse (Substitute)

Roll call vote: Yes 8  No 0  Absent 1 (Schroeder)
Motion carried.

Student Vacation Request

Motion made by Jo Stevens, seconded by Jeri Carroll, to approve the vacation for student #105136 for an eight day absence from May 28, 2011 through the end of the 2010-2011 school year (June 9, 2011).

Roll call vote: Yes 8  No 0  Absent 1 (Schroeder)
Motion carried.

Act 93 Agreement

Motion made by Amy Faust, seconded by Jo Stevens, to approve the Act 93 Agreement for the period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014, per the attached.

Roll call vote: Yes 8  No 0  Absent 1 (Schroeder)
Motion carried.

Mr. Lazo announced the superintendent, business administrator, and all the Act 93 administrators unanimously agreed to a pay freeze for the 2011-2012 school year.

GASB 45 Valuation

Motion made by Leon Smith, seconded by Jo Stevens, to approve an agreement with Markley Actuarial Services, Inc. to perform a GASB 45 (other postemployment benefits) valuation as of July 1, 2010, at a fee of $2,900. This agreement will also cover a valuation for July 2, 2011.

Roll call vote: Yes 8  No 0  Absent 1 (Schroeder)
Motion carried.

Purchase of Vans

Motion made by Carl Ziegler, seconded by Jo Stevens, to approve the purchase of a ten passenger GMC Savana van from Faulkner Fleet utilizing the COSTARS state contract to replace Van #8, for a price of $26,193.04, and an eight passenger GMC Savana minivan from Faulkner utilizing the COSTARS state contract, at a price of $20,647.80. Minivan will be purchased with School Based ACCESS funds.

Roll call vote: Yes 8  No 0  Absent 1 (Schroeder)
Motion carried.

AEM HS Roof Proposal

Motion made by Carl Ziegler, seconded by Jo Stevens, to approve the proposal from AEM Architects for design, bidding, administration, and other listed services pertaining to the high school roof project.

Motion made by Jasper Ho, seconded by Amy Faust, to amend the original proposal and direct the architect to open the general term roof material specifications to include the Duralast system and PVC.

Roll call vote: Yes 3 (Carroll, Faust, Ho)  No 5  Absent 1 (Schroeder)
Motion not carried.

Motion made by Carl Ziegler, seconded by Al Darion, to accept, pending solicitor review, the proposal from AEM Architects for design, bidding, administration, and other listed services pertaining to the high school roof project.

Roll call vote: Yes 8  No 1 (Ho)  Absent 1 (Schroeder)  Abstain 1 (Carroll)
Motion carried.

Discussion Items

2011-2012 Budget

Public Comment

Josh Chambers, on behalf of the Kutztown Area Teachers’ Association, made the following statement: For 292 days, Kutztown Area School District’s teachers have worked without a contract. While the Association is disappointed with the Board’s token efforts to secure a fair contract for its teachers, the teachers have continued to serve as the backbone to the District, performing professional duties, and focusing on academic, social, and emotional needs of the students. It has been brought to the Association’s attention that at least one board member is engaging in widespread public conversations regarding specifics within the negotiations process, massaging facts to suit a
personal agenda, and painting the teachers in a negative light. These behaviors are not in the best interest of our students. It is imperative that all stakeholders, teachers, administrators, the Board, parents, and the community collaborate to devise solutions that preserve the academic integrity of worthwhile programs. This necessitates an open dialogue that the Board has refused to facilitate. The lack of transparency and unwillingness to genuinely explore a variety of options is not only disconcerting to teachers who are at risk of losing their jobs, but also should be tremendously disconcerting to the community at large.

Melissa Blatt and Rebecca Ziegler, co-chairs of the United Way Committee, presented to the Board the Carl E. Levan Award which is awarded to a non-profit organization showing outstanding dedication to the United Way. This award was presented to KASD due to their staff increasing giving by 26% over the last year, and finding fun and creative ways to raise money.

Erin Kraal expressed her concern of possibly losing a full-time librarian at the elementary school level, on larger elementary class sizes, and the lack of communication of the administration and School Board with the community, ie: website.

Maura Rockliff asked for clarification on why personnel matters are not discussed in public.

Beth Sica requested more transparency in budget discussions, and stated her support for small class sizes, a full-time librarian at the elementary school, and a .75 gym teacher at the middle school.

Joan Baldwin stated her concern with the Board and their lack of dedication to education and students. She stated her support for raising taxes, knowing the students are receiving a good education, and her support for settling a contract with the teachers’ union.

Taylor Faust, a tenth grade student at the high school, expressed the importance to middle school aged girls of having a female gym teacher.

James Carroll requested clarification on the drop in PSSA scores, and stated he does not want taxes to go up, and wants PSSA scores to increase.

Denice Ruth stated students are not numbers, they are children, and please treat them that way.

Brita Schumacher stressed her PSSA score does not show anything about her. Life is not about multiple ABCD answer questions. She also agreed with Ms. Ruth that she is not a number – she is a human being.

Adjournment

Motion made by Amy Faust, seconded by Leon Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rikki L. Clark
School Board Secretary