

Minutes
of the
KUTZTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Public Hearing for the Matter of Albany Elementary School
Monday, March 9, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors of Kutztown Area School District met for a Public Hearing for the Matter of Albany Elementary School on Monday, March 9, 2009, 7:00 p.m., in the High School Auditorium pursuant to due notice to board members and the public.

Present Dan Walter, Carl Ziegler, Dennis Ritter, Pat Bealer, Jasper Ho, Al Darion, Mike Ramos, Don Vymazal, and student representative Amelia Mengel

Absent Jo Stevens

Administration Present Robert Gross, Joseph Pugliese, Rikki Clark, Nick Lazo, Matt Link, Cindy Meyer, Rebecca Beidelman, Jennifer McAteer, James Brown, James Orwig, Peter Miller, Donald Kerchner, Barbara Richard, Leroy Merkel, David Miller, Mick O'Neil

Call to Order The public hearing was called to order at 7:13 p.m. by President Vymazal.

Welcome President Vymazal welcomed all attendees and stated that this is a public hearing for the possible closure of Albany Elementary School. President Vymazal stated that this hearing is not a public debate. It is an opportunity for the public to hear a presentation concerning the reorganization and for the Board to receive and record comments and observations. He asked that each person, when called upon, state his or her full name for the record and make his or her statement as concise as possible. All comments were tape-recorded.

Hearing Notice The following notice, which appeared in the *Reading Eagle* newspaper on Sunday, February 22, 2009 and Sunday, March 1, 2009 and the *Kutztown Patriot* newspaper on Thursday, February 26, 2009 and Thursday, March 5, 2009, was entered into the record.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of School Directors for the Kutztown Area School District will conduct a public hearing for the purpose of seeking public input with regard to the possible closure of the following schools: Albany Elementary School, 3656 Route 737, Kempton, Pennsylvania 19529, and Maxatawny Elementary School, 251 Long Lane, Kutztown, Pennsylvania 19530. The hearing will be held on March 9, 2009 in the library of the Kutztown Area Senior High School, 50 Trexler Avenue, Kutztown, PA in accordance with the following schedule: 7:00 PM regarding Albany Elementary School and 8:00 PM regarding Maxatawny Elementary School. Please note that the start time for the hearing with regard to Maxatawny Elementary School is approximate depending on the length of the hearing concerning Albany Elementary School. Interested members of the community are invited to attend and will be offered the opportunity to present information to the Board on these two possible school closures.

Reconfiguration Overview Mr. Gross provided an overview along with data showing a decline in student enrollment and how reconfiguration could impact the future use of Albany Elementary School.

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Public

Comment

The following community members provided testimony on the matter of Albany Elementary School: Arabel Elliot, Don Meyers, Lucy Muth, Elaine Rabenold, Karin Ashford, Melissa Ziegler, Derek Mace, Brandy Rapisarda, Tom Booth, Beth Sica, Larry Schrawder, Caecilia Holt, Kurt Kanaskie, Barry Hoffman, Donna Graff, LeAnne Zettlemyer, Sally Sunday, Craig Kardohely, Thos Powell, Laurel Powell, Eric DeAngelo, and Stacey Fegely.

Adjournment The hearing concluded at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rikki L. Clark
School Board Secretary