

**Minutes of the
KUTZTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, April 6, 2021
7:30 p.m.**

The Board of Directors of Kutztown Area School District met for a workshop board meeting on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, at 7:30 p.m., at the Middle School and via Zoom/YouTube, pursuant to due notice to board members and the public.

Present Randy Burch, Caecilia Holt, Karl Nolte, Dennis Ritter, Michelle Batz, Alan Darion, Michael Hess, Eric Johnson

Absent Charles Shurr

Also Present Christian Temchatin, Steven Leever, Rikki DeVough, Dave Miller, Ed Myers, James Brown, Jeff Huffert, Janet Yost

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Nolte.

Welcome President Nolte opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. He requested that anyone wishing to speak on an agenda item please use the raise his/her hand feature to be recognized. He indicated that this meeting was being recorded and there was an Executive Session held prior to the meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters.

Approval of Minutes Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Dennis Ritter, to approve the Minutes of the March 15, 2021 School Board Meeting.

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

Superintendent's Report Berks Agricultural Resource Network Video Contest
SuitUp Challenge
Students Learn about Business and Capital Resources
Health and Safety Plan Update

Personnel Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve the following personnel items:

1. The acceptance, with regret, of the resignation of Katie Gosselin, Reading Specialist at Kutztown Elementary School, effective the last teacher day of the 2020-2021 school year.
2. The approval of classroom aide/paraeducator Katelyn Martin as a substitute teacher for the 2020-2021 school year at a rate of \$100 per day for days 1-20 and \$110 per day for days 21 and thereafter, effective March 15, 2021.
3. The approval of a medical leave for employee #161 effective April 6, 2021 and continuing to the last day of the school year.
4. The approval of Jared Diehl as Head Boys Soccer Coach for the 2021-2022 school year at a stipend of \$5,100.

All Personnel are Approved Pending the District's Receipt of All Mandated Credentials

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

Construction Financing Motion made by Dennis Ritter, seconded by Michael Hess, to RESOLVE, that the Board of School Directors of the Kutztown Area School District hereby approves the adoption of the attached Resolution authorizing (a) the issuance of one or more series of General Obligation Notes in the maximum aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$30,000,000, to finance various projects of the School District; and (b) the execution and delivery of (i) a Note Purchase Proposal from RBC Capital Markets, LLC for the purchase of the Notes on the terms and conditions established in the Resolution, (ii) an Addendum to such Note Purchase Proposal which will be delivered by RBC Capital Markets, LLC upon the final pricing of each series of Notes and (iii) such other agreements, certificates, instruments and documents necessary in connection with the issuance of the Notes subject to the review and approval of such agreements, certificates, instruments and documents by bond counsel to the School District.

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

- Graduation Date** Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Michelle Batz, to approve June 3, 2021 as the graduation date of the Class of 2021 (rate date June 4, 2021).
Roll call vote: **Yes 8** **No 0** **Absent 1 (Shurr)**
Motion carried.
- Health & Safety Plan Update** Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve the Phased School Opening Health & Safety Plan Update.
Roll call vote: **Yes 7** **No 1 (Burch)** **Absent 1 (Shurr)**
Motion carried.
- Austill's Rehab** Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Dennis Ritter, to approve the Letter of Agreement with Austill's Rehabilitation Services, Inc. effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024.
Roll call vote: **Yes 8** **No 0** **Absent 1 (Shurr)**
Motion carried.
- Conference Requests** Motion made by Michael Hess, seconded by Caecilia Holt, to approve employee #1831 to attend the Western Kentucky University Online AP Summer Institute AP Physics 1 virtually, on June 21-25, 2021, at a cost of \$1,015.
Roll call vote: **Yes 8** **No 0** **Absent 1 (Shurr)**
Motion carried.
- Donation to Fire Company** Motion made by Eric Johnson, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve a donation of \$150 to the Kutztown Fire Company in appreciation of their donation of time and equipment to the Kutztown Area School District.
Roll call vote: **Yes 8** **No 0** **Absent 1 (Shurr)**
Motion carried.
- Food Truck** Motion made by Caecilia Holt, seconded by Michelle Batz, to approve the purchase of a 2021 Ford E-350 truck from Fred Beans Ford. Cost of the Truck is \$43,935.26. This will be paid using Food Service Fund dollars.
Roll call vote: **Yes 8** **No 0** **Absent 1 (Shurr)**
Motion carried.
- MacBook Air Lease** Motion made by Al Darion, seconded by Randy Burch, to approve the Apple MacBook Air lease agreement for the 2021-2022 school year.
Roll call vote: **Yes 8** **No 0** **Absent 1 (Shurr)**
Motion carried.
- IPAD & HP Chromebook** Motion made by Michelle Batz, seconded by Michael Hess, to approve Apple iPad and HP Chromebook purchases for the 2021-2022 school year.
Roll call vote: **Yes 8** **No 0** **Absent 1 (Shurr)**
Motion carried.
- Statement for Record** Dr. Al Darion requested a statement regarding his position on Policy 123 be added as an addition to the Minutes.
- Adjournment** Motion made by Randy Burch, seconded by Michael Hess, to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Rikki L. DeVough
School Board Secretary

**Statement by
Dr. Al Darion:**

I have been considering my position on Policy 123 for a few weeks now, and I've reached some conclusions.

Let us first consider the example that Dr. Lever mentioned. If the carjacking occurred on the way to or from school, or a school event, the school already has control of the behavior of ALL students under the School Code. I can find NOTHING in the existing or policy or its proposed revision that would apply to an illegal act committed off school property. (I guess if it could be documented that a crime was planned while the students were in school a "nexus" could be determined, but that would be quite a stretch.)

Second, it has always been my philosophy that you punish a child's misbehavior IN ORDER TO CHANGE THAT BEHAVIOR. And while the provisions of Policy 123 can be applied in a way that fits that philosophy, it is too often applied in the manner mentioned by Dr. Lever, that students' behavior makes them, "Unworthy of representing the school." I think it is that application that has me most concerned about this policy. "I'm doing this for your own good," is not just a platitude; it is the only justification for punishing a child. Telling any youngster, especially an impulsive teenager, that they are somehow "Unworthy," that their behavior has made them of lesser worth, is something I can never support.

I have been trying to imagine a situation in which removing the eligibility of an athlete to participate in a sport, as punishment for out of school behavior, would be appropriate. And I have come up with one. Should members of a team gather somewhere, in or out of school, to engage in the ritual hazing of the usually younger members of team, exclusion from the team for some period of time would be justified. And while this is the only example I can imagine, it has been a long time since I have had the imagination of a teenager, and so some general provision for this sort of scenario should be built into policy. I would suggest the following

Item 1, below, is unnecessary and can be removed. The school can regulate the behavior of ALL students traveling to and from school.

1. The conduct occurs during the time the student is traveling to and from school or traveling to and from school-sponsored activities, whether or not via school district furnished transportation.

Item 2, below, remain unchanged. I see it relating to training rules.

2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.

Item 3, below, should be removed from this policy and put into one applied to ALL students. (Cyber bullying comes to mind.)

3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.

Item 4 be changed as indicated by the bold faced type below

*4. The conduct has a direct **connection to the student's membership on an interscholastic team, for example, engaging in ritualistic hazing, whether on or off school property.*** (I really have a problem with the word, "nexus.")

Item 5, below, should be removed as this is best handled by judicial authorities

5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.

Item 6 below, should be revised to reflect the idea suggested below

*6. **There is a causal link between the student's participation in an interscholastic sport and the unacceptable behavior.***