

Minutes
of the
KUTZTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, April 18, 2011, 7:30 p.m.

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)

Also Present Nicholas Lazo, Rikki Clark, Karl Olschesky, David Miller, Matthew Link, Cynthia Meyer, Jennifer McAteer, James Brown, Peter Miller, Barbara Richard, Joann Buffum, Rosemary Zettlemoyer, Allison Scheidt, Daniel Cuciti, James Carroll, Shannon Sunday, Sue Collier, Joe Hartman, Kelly Corman, Leah Corman, Collin Corman, Fay Rothenberger, Steve Rothenberger, Karen Austin, Marianne Hill-Strackbein, Ann McCoach, Sue Neumann, Dina Hayduk, Lauren Lynch, Joe Furst, Anna Furst, Jodi Kirstein, Jessica Czerny, Claire Kempes, Melissa Blatt, Melissa Leiby, Alexandra Moore, Amanda Williams, Jim Ryan, Rebecca Ziegler, Katharine Lubinski, Karl Nolte, Shelby Brett, Doris Schappell, Muriel Hauf, Kathleen Daneshyar, Michele Moyer, Steven Moyer, Josh Chambers, Denice Ruth, Sue Hartle, Joan Haring, Bonnie Yurvati, Michele Longacre, Jane Venkauskas, Cyndi Parker, Ann Dietrich, Jerry Hartle, Donna Keglovits, Mary Paterno, Danielle Berger, Amy Howard, Alison Kocis-Westgate, Enos Bleiler, Troy Berger, Brandi Faust, LeAnn Silberman, Wendy Ryan, Dr. David Drummer, Tessa Dorr, Taylor Faust, Jen Silberman, Michele Miller, Terry Guers, Alana Rydzewski, Trisha Berger, Kerry Berger, Mary Weber, Beth Sica, Erin Webb, Andrew Brett, Zach Rudy, Matt Lord, Angela Troutman, Renee Mantz, Karen Quillman, Joyce Sturtevant, Erin Kraal, Nikki Yergey, Kay Fritz, Kerri Schegan, Robyn Underwood, Kurt Friehauf, Stephen Fairchild, Sue Mixa, Eugene Sweeney, Melissa DeLong, Kathleen Koehler, David Kenney, Molly Sent, Carol Schulley, Steph Derstine, Lisa Swope, Abby McAteer, Leila Yob, Jane Rohrbach, Michelle Fister, Joanne Englehart, Carol LaMastra Weil, Laurel DeLong, NS Broohs, Ginger Sehyolt, Michael Adam, Scott Heiter, Janet Ebner, Randy Burch, Cindy Fisher, Brooke Roberts, Heather Oppmann, Kurt Kanaskie, Vickie Bastian, Phillip Donner, Lisa Schnell, Mara Rockliff, Lori Arndt, Joe Ruth, Steph Steigerwalt, Karise Mace, Caecilia Holt, Melissa Smith, Thomas Loch, Louise DeMatteo, Andrea Sanders, Aaron Ashman, Kristin Haring, Joe Keiser, Randy Wert, Pam Heid, Norm Adam, Betty Parks, Megan Parks, Donna Hill-Chaney, Michael Billman

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 Mrs. Stevens reported the bureau is switching its accounting year cycle to January 1 to December 31.
Pat Bealer 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 No report.
Craig Schroeder

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

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

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

Student Achievement No report.
Al Darion

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

- 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 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.

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