

May 16, 2023 – General Board Meeting Minutes

The General Board Meeting of the Tulpehocken Area School Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Penn-Bernville Elementary School Cafeteria on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 with Mr. Kyle Batz, Board President presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance and prayer followed.

2.0 ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mr. William T. Palmer Jr. (7:35 p.m.), and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller.

ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Dr. Andrew Netznik, Superintendent
Dr. Denis Quirk, Assistant to the Superintendent
Mr. Thomas Kowalonek, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Matthew Shirk, Chief Operating Officer
Ms. Brian Boland, Solicitor (7:34 p.m.)
Ms. Mimi Shade, Recording Secretary

And the following interested citizens and staff: Mr. Tom Moorhead, Ms. Lisa Hassler, Ms. Kristen Parsons, Ms. Amy Garber, Ms. Jennifer Kester, Mr. Chris Kraemer, Ms. Hollie Bobo, and Ms. Aiden Bobo

3.0 ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

3.1 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Rissmiller, seconded by Mr. Heck, to accept the minutes of the following meetings:

- 3.1 04/18/2023 Board Voting Session Meeting Minutes
- 3.2 05/02/2023 Board Work Session Meeting Minutes

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

4.0 FINANCIAL REPORTS

4.1- 4.12 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to accept the following financial reports:

- 4.1 Treasurer's Report
- 4.2 Investment Report
- 4.3 Tax Collection Report
- 4.4 Monthly Account Status
- 4.5 General Fund Bills Payable
- 4.6 Cafeteria Report
- 4.7 Cafeteria Fund Bills Payable
- 4.8 Capital Reserve Fund Bills Payable
- 4.9 Special Revenue Accounts Payable
- 4.10 Budgetary Transfers
- 4.11 Jr./Sr. High Activity Bills Payable
- 4.12 Arbiter Pay Payable

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

5.0 BOARD REPORTS

6.0 CITIZEN/STUDENT PARTICIPATION (PERTAINING TO AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

7.0 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. 2023 FFA Officer Retreat – Allyson Balmer/Amy Garber

Ms. Garber presented the 2023 FFA Officer Retreat Field Trip to the board. The purpose of the trip is to have team building and have a cohesive officer group. There will be seventeen students attending.

Dr. Netznik showed a short video of what the JSJS will look like. If all goes as planned, we will go out to bid on June 6, 2023 and seek board approval on July 18, 2023.

8.0 NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

9.0 ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

9.0.1 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the PA FFA State Convention Field Trip as presented at the May 2, 2023 board meeting.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.0.2 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the Wesley Edris Art Scholarship as presented at the May 2, 2023 board meeting.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.0.3 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve Dr. Andrew Netznik as the Tulpehocken Area School District's Trustee for the Berks County School District Health Trust and Mr. Thomas Kowalonek as the Alternate Trustee for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.0.4 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the 2023 FFA Officer Retreat as presented from June 6, 2023 – June 8, 2023.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.0.5 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve that the Board of School Directors of the Tulpehocken Area School District hereby approves the discipline described in the Admission of Fact, Waiver of Hearing, Acknowledgment of Compliance with Procedural Safeguards and Consent to Expulsion concerning #2023-06, and to ratify the execution of same by Dr. Netznik, Superintendent of Schools.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.0.6 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Tulpehocken Education Association and the Tulpehocken Area School District connected with summer flex days and time.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.0.7 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the submission of the TASD Flexible Instructional Day application to the Department of Education for the 2023-2024 through 2025-2026 school years.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.1 FINANCE

9.1.1 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mr. Fox, to adopt the preliminary budget for the 2023-2024 School Year with projected expenditures

of \$40,124,009 and projected revenues of \$39,946,316 including a real estate tax millage rate of 25.80 Act 511 per capita tax of \$5.00, School Code Section 679 per capita tax of \$5.00, .5% earned income tax and .5% real estate transfer tax.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

**This marks the 7th year the district has lowered property taxes, and the 11th year without raising taxes.*

9.1.2 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve the following institutions as depositories for the 2023-2024 school year:

Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF)
Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT)
Truist
Wells Fargo
PNC Bank
US Bank
Tompkins VIST Bank

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.1.3 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to appoint Christopher Heck as board treasurer for a term beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 for a stipend of \$500.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.2 BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/TECHNOLOGY

9.2.1 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve the purchase of student laptops from Dell Technologies in the amount of \$110,200.80 in accordance with the yearly Technology Plan for all incoming fifth and ninth grade students.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.2.2 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve the Bethel Elementary School Gymnasium improvements as stated below:

- J & J Gym Floors for Gym Floor Resurfacing at a cost of \$19,400.00
- Degler Whiting for Telescopic Bleachers by Interkal at a cost of \$37,445.94 (per Co-STARS pricing)
- Degler Whiting for a scoreboard by Fair-Play at a cost of \$4,657.56 (per Co-STARS pricing)

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.2.3 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to Award the elementary libraries project carpeting bid to Randy's Carpet, LLC. at a cost of \$30,341.82

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.2.4 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve a Technology Internship Agreement between Kutztown University and the Tulpehocken Area School District as presented.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.3 TRANSPORTATION

9.4. POLICY

9.4.1 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to give first reading with the intent to give second reading and final approval on June 20, 2023 to the following policies:

#251 Homeless Students

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.5. CURRICULUM

9.5.1 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the 3-year agreement with Renaissance for the implementation of the Star 360 and Freckle platforms as presented at the May 2, 2023 board meeting.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.6 LEGISLATIVE

9.7 EXTRA-CURRICULAR

9.8 PERSONNEL

- 9.8.1 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Rissmiller seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following Resignations:
- Patrick Slater Junior Senior High School Health & Physical Education/Driver Education Teacher, for the purpose of retirement, effective with the last day of the 2022-2023 school year.
 - Kay (Pun) Hartranft Penn-Bernville Elementary Instructional Paraprofessional, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 2, 2023.
 - Amy Sauder Title 1 Paraprofessional at Bethel Elementary effective June 2, 2023.
 - Susan Schwartz, Junior Senior High School Special Education Pride Program Teacher, effective June 30, 2023.
 - Nicole Lefever, Bethel Elementary School Autistic Support Teacher, effective May 10, 2023.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

- 9.8.2 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Rissmiller seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve to terminate the employment of Logan Livingood as a district custodian. This termination falls within the terms of the 60-day probationary period as outlined in the support staff handbook.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.8.3 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Rissmiller seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following employment:

- Alan Coderre as a Grounds/Maintenance employee at an hourly rate of \$20.00, effective May 17, 2023.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.8.4 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Rissmiller seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the appointment of Kristen Parsons as the Assistant High School Principal at a salary of \$85,000, effective July 1, 2023 with the option to work during the month of June 2023 on a per diem rate as needed.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.8.5 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Rissmiller seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following internal transfers:

- Tamara Ritter from 3rd Grade Math Teacher to Elementary Math Coach at Bethel Elementary School, effective with the beginning of the 2023/2024 school year.
- Nicole Carley from 8th Grade Math Teacher to Elementary Math Coach at Penn-Bernville Elementary School, effective with the beginning of the 2023/2024 school year.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.8.6 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Rissmiller seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve a supplemental contract for the Spring Coach position for the 2022-2023 sports season.

- Jason Manbeck Assistant Junior High Track Coach \$1,599.00

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

Mr. Batz apologized to Mr. Manbeck for not getting approved sooner as there was some confusion internally.

9.8.7 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Rissmiller seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following substitute classified staff/event staff for remainder of the 2022-2023 school year:

- Taryn Stothart Event Staff

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.8.8 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Rissmiller seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following summer student workers at an hourly rate of \$14.00, effective June 6, 2023 through approximately August 22, 2023, not to exceed 29.5 hours per week:

- Elicier Aguirre-Gallo, JSHS
- Gael Velazquez-Reyes, Penn-Bernville Elementary School
- John Reese, Bethel Elementary School

- Tyler Cornelius, Grounds & Maintenance
- Tyler Frederick, Technology Department

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.8.9 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Rissmiller seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve supplemental contracts for the following Winter Season coaching positions for the 2023-2024 sports seasons:

•	Nathan Miller	Head High School Boys' Basketball	\$4,894
•	Trent Johnson	Assistant High School Boys' Basketball	\$3,476
•	Michael Proitte	Assistant Junior High Boys' Basketball	\$1,397
•	Timothy Kline	Head High School Girls' Basketball	\$5,397
•	Chelsea Erkes	Asst. High School Girls' Basketball	\$3,476
•	Michael Glass	Head Junior High Girls' Basketball	\$1,876
•	Madison Winchester	Head High School Wrestling	\$4,490
•	Luke Ruffner	Assistant High School Wrestling	\$3,348
•	Melvin Fansler	Head Junior High Wrestling	\$1,917
•	Katelyn Hollinger	JH Basketball/Competition Cheerleading	\$2,078

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.8.10 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Rissmiller seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve volunteers for the remainder of the 2022-2023 School Year.

•	Lauren Jones	Field Trips/School Events
•	Cynthia Charite	Field Trips/Classroom/School Events
•	Christopher Holding	Field Trips/Classroom/School Events
•	Tony Shalters	Field Trips/Classroom/School Events
•	Riley Kiebach	Athletics/Coaching/Field Trips/Classroom/School Events

- Samantha Ruhl Field trips/Classroom/School Events
- Autumn Lawrence Softball Athletics
- Stacey Oberhauser Field Trips/School Events

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

9.9 TECHNOLOGY

DISCUSSION ITEMS: OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

10.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

11.0 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

12.0 CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Ms. Kester informed the board that the Beach Bash was a huge success and lots of fun.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Rissmiller made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Heck. The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m. Executive session followed for personnel and legal matters.

Mrs. April Klopp, Board Secretary