

November 21, 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. in the District Office Board Room on Tuesday, Tuesday 21, 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 (via phone), Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr. and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller.

ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Dr. Andrew Netznik, Superintendent
Dr. Dennis Quirk, Assistant to the Superintendent
Mr. Matthew Shirk, Chief Operating Officer
Dr. Timothy Matlack, Director of Teaching & Learning
Mr. Christopher Hamrick, HS Principal
Mr. Nev Lynch, JH Principal
Ms. Kristen Parsons, Assistant High School Principal
Mr. Andrew Guers, Bethel Elementary Principal
Ms. Lindsey Tinney, Penn-Bernville Elementary Principal
Ms. Jillian Bergman, Director of Food Services
Mr. Trevor Brown, Dir. of Athletics, Student Actv., & Comm. Relations
Mr. Brian Boland, Solicitor
Ms. Mimi Shade, Recording Secretary

And the following interested citizens and staff: Mr. Brian Foreman, Ms. Jessica Moyer, Ms. Leah Harpel, Mr. Joseph Ricapito, Mr. Scot Snyder, Mr. Dan Bost, Senator Gebhards Office, Mr. Fred Martin, Ms. Betty Martin, Ms. Robbi Lane, Ms. Bobbi-Jo Peiffer, Mr. Brad Peiffer, Mr. Scott Wertz, Ms. Tammy Wertz, Ms. Alexis Wertz, Mr. Cole Fajna, Mr. Cole Strause, Ms. Hilary Strause, Ms. Kayla Hamaker, Ms. Amy Garber, Ms. Erin Mahoney, Mr. Rob Stepenaskie, Ms. Lisa Hassler, Mr. Tom Moorhead, Ms. Diane Moorhead, Ms. Amber Caddle, Mr. Denzel Caddle, Ms. Jennifer Kester, Ms. Barbara Davis, Mr. Landon Davis, Ms. Dawn Meyers, Ms. Kelly Meyers, Ms. Kate Crampton, Mr. Zach Crampton, Ms. Tamara Ritter, Mr. Daniel Meyer, M.D., Ms. Stephanie Jefferson, Ms. Nicole Henne-Brown, Ms. Jennifer Gardula, Ms. Jennifer Manbeck, Ms. Jennifer Becker, Ms. Becky Pfennig, Mr. Erik Pfennig, The Patricola Family, Ms. Megan Bux, Ms. Heather Nenin, The Hartranft Family.

Students & Staff Recognition

Bethel Elementary – Mr. Andrew Guers, Principal

- *Grades K-2 Recognition*
 - Avyana Degarmo
- *Grades 3-4 Recognition*
 - Denzel Caddle

- *Grades 5-6 Recognition*
 - Pierce Ritter
- *Staff Recognition*
 - Amber Caddle, Paraeducator

Penn – Bernville Elementary – Mrs. Lindsey Tinney, Principal

- *Grades K-2 Recognition*
 - Jayce Luna
- *Grades 3-4 Recognition*
 - Joseph Opalenick
- *Grades 5-6 Recognition*
 - Avalynn Brown
- *Staff Recognition*
 - Rob Stepenaskie, Learning Support Teacher

Middle School – Mr. Nev Lynch, Principal

- *Grade 7 Recognition*
 - Eli Patricola
- *Grade 8 Recognition*
 - Claire Zadeh
- *Staff Recognition*
 - Leah Harpel, Business Education Teacher

High School – Mr. Christopher Hamrick, Principal

- *Grade 9 Recognition*
 - Cole Fajna
- *Grade 10 Recognition*
 - Gabe Mazza
- *Grade 11 Recognition*
 - Madison Hewitt
- *Grade 12 Recognition*
 - Mason Wessner
- *Staff Recognition*
 - Sean Young, Senior Systems Administrator
 - Zachary Eckel, IT Support Specialist

Berk County Technology Center – Mr. Christopher Hamrick, Principal

- Kade McLaughlin – Culinary Arts – West Campus
- Kristen Hartranft – Health Occupations I – West Campus
- Ethan Fox – IT Programming – West Campus
- Hannah Wojciechowsky – Video & Media Content Production – West Campus
- Kelby Meyers – Welding Technology – West Campus
- Samuel Fidler – Welding Technology – West Campus
- Aaron Baransky – Plumbing & Heating – East Campus

- Alexis Wertz – Dental Occupations – East Campus

District/District Office – Dr. Denis Quirk, Assistant Superintendent/Thomas Kowalonek, CFO

- *Staff Recognition*
 - Jennifer Gardula, Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent/CFO

The above students and staff were recognized as student and staff of the month for October. They were congratulated for all their hard work and dedication.

3.0 ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

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

- 3.1 10/17/2023 Board Voting Session Meeting Minutes
- 3.2 11/07/2023 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, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

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, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

5.0 BOARD REPORTS

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

7.0 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

- A. 2023 Golf Team Recognition and Presentation – Mr. Brown

The 2023 Golf Team was recognized for winning the 2023 PIAA District 3 Class A Championship. Mr. Dan Bost was present from Senator Chris Gebhards office and presented the team with a Senate Citation.

- B. Sophomore Class Trip – Washington D.C. – Mr. Christopher Stoy

Mr. Stoy presented the 2023 Sophomore Class trip to Washington D.C. to the board. The trip is being planned for April 26, 2023. They are planning on seeing the Arlington Cemetery, Capital Building, the Lincoln Memorial, and then other sites on their own in groups. This will be voted on at the December 7, 2023 board meeting.

- C. ACES Conference – Mrs. Amy Garber

Mrs. Amy Garber presented ACES conference. The conference is being held from February 17, 2024 – February 18, 2024, at the Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel. This will be voted on at the December 7, 2023 board meeting.

- D. Keystone Degrees – Mr. Landon Davis

Mr. Landon Davis, one of our students, presented the Keystone Degree information to the board. It is the state level award for FFA. The award night will be held on January 8th, 2024, at the New Holland Arena in Mechanicsburg.

Dr. Netznik thanked Mrs. April Klopp for her 12 years of service to the board.

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 contract between Tulpehocken Area School District and Tulpehocken Township Police Department for Police Services, effective January 1, 2024.

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

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.1 FINANCE

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 Viewsonic LED-LCD Touchscreens with Display from GovConnection, Inc., in the amount of \$123,823.00, for the MS/HS construction project per CO-STARS pricing to be paid from soft costs budget.

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

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.2.2 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve the purchase of Verkada cameras from GovConnection, Inc., in the amount of \$116,601.59, for the Phase 1 of MS/HS construction project per CO-STARS pricing to be paid from soft costs budget.

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

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.2.3 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve the purchase of a Big Joe CB-22 forklift from Royal Forklift Service, Inc., in the amount of \$16,959.00.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller
NAYS: Mr. Carl Kauffman
ABSENT:
ABSTAINED:
This motion was carried 8-1.

9.2.4 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve the purchase of a Ventrac 4520 Tractor with attachments in the amount of \$69,879.05 as presented at the November 7, 2023 board meeting.

9.2.5 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve the purchase of a Ventrac SSV in the amount of \$20,090.00 as presented at the November 7, 2023 board meeting.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller
NAYS: Mr. Carl Kauffman, and Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.,
ABSENT:
ABSTAINED:
This motion was carried 7-2.

9.2.6 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve the authorization for Attorney Brian Boland to present an Agreement of Sale to the Kissling Estate for the purchase of the Kissling ballfield and farm property consisting of approximately 25 acres.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller
NAYS: Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Carl Kauffman, and Mrs. April Klopp
ABSENT:
ABSTAINED:
This motion was carried 6-3.

9.3 TRANSPORTATION

9.4. POLICY

9.4.1 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to give second reading and final approval to the following policies:

#701	Facilities Planning
#702	Gifts, Grants, Donations

#702.1	Crowdfunding
#703	Sanitary Management
#704	Maintenance
#705	Facilities & Workplace Safety
#706	Property Records
#707	Use of School Facilities
#708	Lending of Equipment & Books
#709	Building Security
#710	Use of Facilities by Staff
#711	Naming Rights
#716	Integrated Pest Management
#717	Cellular Phones – <i>New Policy</i>
#718	Service Animals in Schools – <i>New Policy</i>

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

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.4.2 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 December 5, 2023 to the following policies:

#800	Records Management
#801	Public Records
#802	School Organization
#803	School Calendar
#804	School Day
#805	Emergency Preparedness & Response – <i>New Policy</i>
#805.1	Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies – <i>New Policy</i>
#806	Child Abuse
#807	Opening Exercises/Flag Displays
#808	Food Services
#810	Transportation
#810.1	School Bus Drivers & School Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers – <i>New Policy</i>
#810.2	Transportation – Video/Audio Recording
#810.3	School Vehicle Drivers – <i>New Policy</i>
#811	Bonding
#812	Property Insurance
#813	Other Insurance
#814	Copyright Material
#815	Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers & Network Resources

#816	District Social Media – <i>New Policy</i>
#818	Contracted Services Personnel
#819	Suicide Awareness, Prevention & Response
#822	Automated External Defibrillator (AED)/Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
#823	Naloxone
#824	Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries
#827	Conflict of Interest
#830	Breach of Computerized Personal Information

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

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.4.3 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve the retiring of the following Polices:

#801.1	Disposal of Financial Records
#810.2	Use of Vehicles by Employees or Volunteers
#816	Staff Laptops
#826	Privacy of Health Information – (HIPPA)
#828.1	Provider Screening

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

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.5. CURRICULUM

9.5.1 A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the partnership arrangement with Kutztown University and Tulpehocken Area School District for Literacy Professional Services as presented at the November 7, 2023 Board Work Session.

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: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-1.

9.6 LEGISLATIVE

9.7 EXTRA-CURRICULAR

9.8 PERSONNEL

9.8.1 A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer seconded by Mr. Heck, to Be it Resolved, by the Board of School Directors of the Tulpehocken Area School District that Denis P. Quirk be hired as the Assistant Superintendent effective November 22, 2023. His employment shall be governed strictly and solely in accordance with the employment agreement dated November 21, 2023 as attached, presented and executed by him. Be it further resolved that the appropriate officers of the Board are hereby authorized to execute this agreement as presented.

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

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.8.2 A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following Resignation:

- Angela Thomas as a part-time instructional paraeducator at Bethel Elementary effective November 10, 2023.

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

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.8.3 A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following childbearing/childrearing leave of absences:

- Olivia Kercher, Grade 5 teacher at Penn Bernville Elementary from November 7, 2023 through approximately February 19, 2024.
- Katelyn Kupp, Grade 4 teacher at Penn Bernville Elementary from approximately February 21, 2024 through approximately May 8, 2024.

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

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.8.4 A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer seconded by Mr. Heck, to extend the approval of Sandra Guinther as a Long-Term Elementary Substitute at Penn-Bernville Elementary through the end 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, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.8.5 A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the transfer of Emily Beavens from a part-time lunch recess aide to a part-time instructional paraeducator at Penn-Bernville Elementary at an hourly rate of \$16.00 effective November 28, 2023.

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

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.8.6 A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following Employment:

- Staci Ahrensfield as a part-time emotional support paraeducator at Penn-Bernville Elementary at an hourly rate of \$16.00 (plus a \$2.00 per hour differential), effective November 28, 2023.
- Shyanne McQuillin as a part-time Cafeteria Worker at the Middle School/High School at an hourly rate of \$15.00, effective November 28, 2023. Pending Completion of employment paperwork.
- Megan Bux as an Art Teacher at the Middle School, at a salary of \$68,769, Step 9M, effective November 22, 2023.

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

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.8.7 A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve a supplemental contract for the following Coach position for the 2023-2024 sports season:

- Brynn Schaffer Assistant Middle School Wrestling Coach 1,350.00

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

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.8.8 A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following Volunteers for the remainder of the 2023-2024 School Year.

- Doug Woll Swimming
- Angela Mahoney Field Trips

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

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

9.9 TECHNOLOGY

DISCUSSION ITEMS: OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Brown thanked Mr. Paul Zerbe for all his years of service as a Girls' Soccer Coach. He served in this capacity for 22 years. Thank you, Coach Zerbe.

10.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

11.0 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

12.0 CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Rissmiller made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Heck. The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m. Executive Session was held from 7:42 p.m. to 7:55 p.m. for legal and personnel and followed for legal and personnel.

Mrs. April Klopp, Board Secretary