



Kenneth Butz Elementary School
General Meeting
Monday, March 6, 2023

General Membership: Britany Christman, Audrey Kemmerer, Yana Kalmatsky, Jamie Iorio, Sarah Strubhar

KBES Representatives: Kelly Apruzzi, Susan Klotz

KBES Board Members: Renee Solderitch, Susy Whitney, Julie Kaniper, Melissa Curtis, Courtney Fitch

1. **Call to Order at 7:03 pm**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Welcome/PTA Board Members, Representatives, and General Membership**
4. **Principal Update** – Mrs. Apruzzi
 - a. Thanks to the PTA for RIF distribution.
 - b. Purse Bingo was fantastic. We had a great turnout, and everything was very smooth.
 - c. Thank you to anyone involved in upcoming reading night, that will be this Thursday 6-8 pm. Thank you to the PTA members who have helped prepare. The Scholastic book fair opens that evening and then the next day it will be open for students. Will also be open during conferences.
 - d. Last week, we had an author visit from Mr. Bensing. He is the library media specialist from the middle school, and he is an author. He brought his childhood friend who is his illustrator. His books are based on his rescue dogs and a cat. He is going to go to the other elementary schools and then will sell his books. We will start collecting donations for an animal shelter to go with the theme. Kindness squad will go to Peaceable Kingdom to drop off donations and help for some time.
 - e. Today, we had a visit from Nazareth HS Start with Hello Club. It starts in middle school and started in response to elementary school tragedies. Students can join and teach kids that simple hellos/kind words go a long way. 4th graders had a visit from the club and did a lesson on empathy, compassion, and kindness. They ran through scenarios and what to do in certain situations.
 - f. 2nd grade has wax museum is this week, 8th and 9th. Thank you to the PTA volunteers for signing people in.
 - g. Bus evacuation drill will be on 3/16/23. The school-wide movie reward is 3/17/23.
 - h. Spring chorus began with about 90 kids.
 - i. STEAM 3rd grade group is still going.
 - j. Working on getting Friends of Nature Club going.
 - k. Sign up genius is open for parent teacher conferences until Friday 2pm.

- l. Next week, there is early dismissal Tues-Fri, March 14-17.
 - m. PSSA testing is scheduled end of April for 3rd and 4th graders. ELA starts the week of the 24th. Math is 2 days and Science for 4th grade only is 2 days. K-2 classes will adopt a class to make signs to support them. 3rd and 4th graders get breakfast or a snack depending on when they take the test.
 - n. Kindergarten registration is open. As of now, 77 students are registered for kindergarten. Kindergarten Orientation is planned for April 13th at 6:30pm.
5. **Teacher Update** – Mrs. Klotz
- a. Kindness squad worked hard for a week in February to have things every day. 3rd/4th graders read to K/1st graders. For March, going to have table set up during conferences to direct parents and give out treats. Will help 3rd/4th graders during PSSA. Progress monitoring has been done. Parent teacher conferences next week.
6. **Be Safe Director Update** – Margherita Gallina not present, Melissa Curtis read update.
- a. This month focus on registering students for 3-day program.
 - b. Notices went out for half-day events planned.
 - c. Still registering 2-day class
7. **Secretary Update** – Courtney Fitch
- a. Asked for approval for the February meeting minutes. Yana Kalamatsky approved, and Audrey Kemmerer seconded.
 - b. We submitted an ad to the Bushkill Newsletter highlighting the PTA and our upcoming Spring Fest.
8. **Treasurer update** – Julie Kaniper
- a. Disbursement/Reimbursement Review
 - i. Bingo was the big event. As of now, over \$14,000 has come in and \$4410 from Givebutter. Income will be around \$18,000 and we paid out about \$3000 in expenses with a few more things coming in. Licenses, last minute necessities, and ad for the key still outstanding. Probably will profit \$12-14,000. Should have final numbers next meeting.
 - ii. Coin wars final deposit was a little over \$1600.
 - iii. Holiday Shop expenses still trickling in and some for reading night.
 - iv. Deposit for first grade to go to Lehigh Valley Zoo was made.
 - v. March and April will be cutting checks for balances of all the field trips.
9. **Vice President of Volunteers Update** – Susy Whitney
- a. Upcoming Volunteer Needs-Sign Up Genius coming up for
 - i. Book fair in end of this week and next week. Still have slots available so can sign up for more than one.
 - ii. Spring Festival is March 31st and is in the evening from 5-8pm. Samantha and Jen who are running that need some volunteers. If anyone needs volunteer hours, let them know to contact us.
 - iii. Spring Celebration is April 21st and is a classroom celebration. Kids will get small vanilla/choc ice cream and water ice for those who can't have ice cream.

10. General Vice President Update – see Fundraising update below.

11. Fundraising Update – Melissa Curtis

- a. Shoe drive is ongoing and is due end of the week. Total as of now is almost 15 bags with 25 pairs of shoes per bag. Hoping to get to 25.
- b. Syrup sale coming hopefully in the next week or so. They have put some videos together about the process that we will get approval for and share.
- c. Coin wars brought in \$1600, and first grade won again. Their prize is to choose from either extra recess, pajama day, or grade wide bingo.
- d. Chocolates on Broadway due in March
- e. Still looking into a Hershey Park fundraiser. Will send out when we have more information.
- f. Rita's cards should be coming.

12. President Update – Renee Solderitch

a. **Bylaw approval**

- i. Every 5 years bylaws must be reviewed and submitted for approval. A summary of proposed changes was reviewed to include:
 1. Article VIII-Voting board position for VP of fundraising added to the Executive Board. This is currently a non-voting position. However, the PTA cannot function without successful fundraising.
 2. Article IX- This section delineates the duties of the new Executive Board Position, Vice President of Fundraising.
 3. Article XI-Changed so that the Executive Board has the ability to remove committees that are no longer necessary.
 4. Article XII-Reviews times for general membership meetings. The word evening was removed in case we would ever want to change time.
 5. Renee Solderitch made a motion to approve the bylaws and this was seconded by all attending members. The motion to approve the bylaws was unanimously approved. See list of all attendees at the top of the document.

13. Staff luncheons—Sara Strubhar

- a. Staff luncheons are provided during the week of conferences. There will be one day provided by first grade and will include soft pretzels and salad.
- b. The day of evening conferences will include salads, soups and sandwich trays. Morning/lunch time will have certain soups and then and additional different soups are planned for evening. Will also use any leftovers from the lunch time for evening.
- c. Thursday is taco day—they will use donations to cook the meats and fixings. Some donations have come in and still some pending.

14. Teacher appreciation week-Sara requests help with this. Susy will send out an email to see if there is interest. Otherwise, Margherita will help.

15. Board nominations-every board position is up for reelection. If anyone is interested, submit nominations to kbesnominations@gmail.com. Can nominate yourself or others.

16. General membership comments/concerns/questions from the floor

17. **Adjourn** – Adjourn 7:31pm, Brittany Christman motioned to adjourn. Sara Strubhar seconded. Our next meeting is Monday April 3rd in LGI Conference Room.

Next General PTA Meeting, Monday, April 3, 2023

THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART IN YOUR PTA!