



Kenneth Butz Elementary School
General Meeting
Monday, September 9, 2024

General Membership: Brianna Villani, Christina Rosario, Shevelle Schaffer, Laurie Nelson, Yan TSiitkin, Zyla Tsiitkin, Bernadette Massie, Samantha Valtos, Marissa Morris, Jessica Lasko, Lisa Farley, Sarah Herstich, Kate Hopkins, Katie Smith, Dena Tomsic, Audrey Kemmerer, Keri Velopolcak, Tom Ehrich

KBES Representatives: Kelly Apruzzi, Margherita Gallina, Susan Klotz

KBES Board Members: Jamie Iorio, Susy Whitney, Karen Janis, Melissa Curtis, Jennifer Franke, Julie Kaniper

1. Call to Order at 7:02

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Welcome and Introduction of PTA Board Members, Representatives, and General Membership

4. Principal – Kelly Apruzzi

- Welcome back. Thank the pta and the chalking committee. Very artistic and the kids love it.
- The Back to School Night was a great success! Such a great event at the start of the year. Welcome back and opportunity to get to know families if you are new. Used to be in May but moving it to the start of the year has been very positive!
- Fall bus drill was a success. There will be another drill in the spring.
- Please be sure to be on Schoology. It is her primary way to communicate. If doing one grade it will be school messenger. But most communications will come from Schoology.
- OK and I heard about the ALICE safety drill today. A book is used "I am Not Scared I am Prepared because I know Alice". It is done every year. Alice is K-12. First drill is in October. You will be notified after the drill. Everyone is told it is a drill so no one is nervous. There are kids that are upset but it's few and far between. It becomes less scary as they do more drills. Talk about how to identify the exits.
- Upcoming Events:
 - Wednesday is Patriot Day. There will be a moment of silence. There will be a flag activity during the day. Each grade level will go out and place a flag out in front of the school. Kids should wear red white and blue.

- Open Houses Sept 11th - 1st grade at 6 2nd grade at 7:15. Spet 12th 3rd grade at 6 4th grade at 7:15. Try to say no children. But if you have no childcare we would rather that you come and bring them than miss it.
- 9/23 whole school photo. Can purchase it from Christmas city studio.
- Fitness walk is Sept 26th. Rain date 27th
- School wide positive behavior is blue train tickets. In 3rd grade and 4th grade they change to collecting tickets and exchanging them for larger prizes like lunch with Mrs. Apruzzi or or Officer Don, clothing, sports games of teachers versus kids. The 1st game is a kickball game at the end of this month.

5. Teacher Update: Mrs. Klotz

- Teachers are excited to see parents at Open House and about telling you what they will do for the year.
- STAR testing starts next week. STAR Math and STAR reading in all grades but kindergarten. Kindergarten gets STAR Literacy. The tests get harder as your child does better. It is used to differentiate instruction. Scores are not sent home. Please ask the teacher if you would like your child's score.

6. Be Safe: Margherita Gallina

- Year 35 for the Be Safe Program (pre-school and after school program)
- Be safe was at the BTSN, They are a branch of the PTA. We have separate funds, but they are non-profit. Any funds raised would go back into the community.
- 12 staff members and 91 students between after school and preschool. Looking forward to a great year!

7. Secretary Update

- Requested approval for May meeting minutes. Dena Tomsic approved and Margherita Gallina seconded.

8. Treasurer update: Julie Kaniper

- Treasurer report July 1 to current. Request to approve budget. Susan Klotz approved, Karen Janis seconded.
- Two new accounts. The Alton Mann Memorial Fund. Holding the donations and will do something special. Honorary memorial fund has been added. So new line items on budget. Any questions let her know.

9. Vice President of Volunteers Update: Jennifer Franke

- There is a list of chairs and co-chairs that are still needed.
- There will be an opportunity to sign up to receive volunteer opportunities and donation opportunities. If you signed up in previous years, you are moved into the next grade, no need to sign up again.

- We still need a co-chair for STEAM Night on October 17th. We will need volunteers.
- Will do our best to make it as fair as possible and send out links at various times of the day and days of the week.
- Clearances are good for 5 years. If you have questions, reach out.

10. Fundraising Update: Melissa Curtis

- Our first fundraiser was Pampered Chef and we are waiting to hear what we made.
- Next is our Fitness Walk which is the biggest fundraiser in the fall. After that is Coin Wars where the grade levels compete. The grade with the most wins a prize.
- We are always open for fundraising ideas and feedback!

11. Vice President: Karen Janis

- Membership drive will run through October 15th. Class with the most participation will win an ice cream party!

12. President Update: Jamie Iorio

- We will have a new format for meetings. The general meeting will be 7-7:30 then we will break out into committees at 7:30.
- Committee representatives:
 - Lisa Farley for Fitness Walk - starting off with a bang! Have DJ Manny set up. He will do fun things with the kids...group dance at the end and chicken dance/electric slide. There will be pom poms for spectators to use.
 - Brianna Villani for Bingo/Tricky Tray/Community outreach - Looking to streamline fundraising. This will prevent us from asking the same businesses again and again. If you know people who own businesses or if you work for a place that may donate, please let Brianna know. It will be a non-aggressive ask!

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

- None

14. **Adjourn**—7: 50 pm, Jamie Iorio motioned to adjourn. Audrey Kemmerer approved and Brianna Villani seconded. Our next meeting is Monday, October 7, 2024 in the LGI Conference Room.

Next General PTA Meeting, Monday, October 7 2024

THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART IN YOUR PTA!