



Kenneth Butz Elementary School

KBES PTA Meeting

Monday, March 1, 2020

1. **Call to Order at 7:00pm**

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **NASD Superintendent Dr. Riker and Dr. Resende**

Dr. Resende and Dr. Riker presented information about the addition of 4th grade into the KBES building.

- *What is the educational environment going to look like in 2021-2022?*
 - It is still unclear. Dr. Riker hopes that, at a minimum, students are in school for a 5-day week. There will be more discussion about whether a cyber option will be available.
 - To prepare for 2021-22, a few things have to happen:
 1. Staff: Staff will need to be realigned across the buildings to accommodate the 4th grade returning to the elementary schools. K-6 teachers (including special area and support staff) were surveyed last year about where they would like to teach once 4th grade is moved into the elementary schools. Almost every teacher's first request was accommodated for both grade level and building. A few got their second requests.
 2. Transportation: There will need to be minor changes to bus routes to accommodate the move. Two different aspects of bussing are considered when creating routes: geographic coverage area and the amount of time children spend on a bus.
 3. Supplies and Equipment: The 4th grade move significantly reduces funds to the intermediate school and transfers those funds to the elementary schools because all buildings are funded on a per-pupil allocation.
 4. Building project: The library is beautiful and filled with new books. Dr. Resende said that Mrs. Rizzolino did an amazing job working with Follett to conduct a needs assessment of the library and look at the current genres and readability of the collection to build on the library collection, making it more relevant to students. 12,000 hardcopy books are now available. Furniture, space, and the collection have been modernized for our students.

5. The biggest concern is the building project itself: It's very important to have the physical building complete by August in order to make a seamless transition for students. Right now, the project is on time and on budget. Membership got the opportunity to see pictures of the construction.
 6. Safety: Every contractor on site has a hard hat helmet with a numbered sticker that indicates he or she has acceptable clearances to work on site. They have the same clearances that volunteers have on file. Sticker numbers allow tracking of any unacceptable behavior.
 7. No KBES students will be moving to any other elementary school next year. New students to KBES will primarily be arriving from Shafer.
- *Preparing for the March 22 transition to 5 day in-school weeks.*
 - Drs from St. Lukes will be meeting with admin and staff to talk about questions that they have to feel more comfortable in the building (will occur on Thursday)
 - The district ordered plexiglass desk shields for any teacher that requested one.
 - Staff and students will continue to adhere to 6 feet of distancing
 - Mrs. Apruzzi is working on safe lunches. All the students cannot fit into the lunch room, so an alternative room will be used. This has been occurring all year long at the high school and intermediate school with no issues, but is a bit more difficult at KBES because of the gym demolition.
 - Transportation will follow the safety plan.
 - If your child isn't feeling well, please don't send them to school.
 - Mrs. Apruzzi and KBES custodians have measured all the rooms to determine how many students can fit in each.
 - Returning to 5 day school was the ultimate plan at the start of the school year. The goal was to ensure that students keep the same teacher. The design put in place permits them to keep children with their teacher unless they are switching from one model to another.
 - Survey response: Based on the family survey, there has been minor movement of students from hybrid to cyber and cyber to 5 day. Survey responses are due March 2 and the final plan can be made at that point.

Building/Grade Level	Hybrid to 5-days In-person instruction <i>My student is currently enrolled in hybrid in-person learning and will attend 5-day a week in-person instruction.</i>	Hybrid to BECA <i>My student is currently enrolled in hybrid in-person learning. I would like my student to attend the Blue Eagle Cyber Academy starting March 22, 2021.</i>	BECA to stay in BECA <i>My student is currently enrolled in the Blue Eagle Cyber Academy and I wish for my student to remain enrolled in the Blue Eagle Cyber Academy.</i>	BECA into lottery for 5-days in-person instruction <i>My student is currently enrolled in the Blue Eagle Cyber Academy. I would like my student to attend 5-day a week in-person instruction starting March 22, 2021. I understand that, due to physical space mitigation efforts, this determination will be made based upon a lottery process.</i>	Total	Student Population As of 2/26/2021	Response Rate
Kenneth Butz Elementary School							
Kindergarten	41		2	4	47	101	46.5%
Grade 1	35		4	3	42	90	46.7%
Grade 2	28		9	3	40	102	39.2%
Grade 3	38	1	17	3	59	96	61.5%
Building Total	142	1	32	13	188	389	48.3%

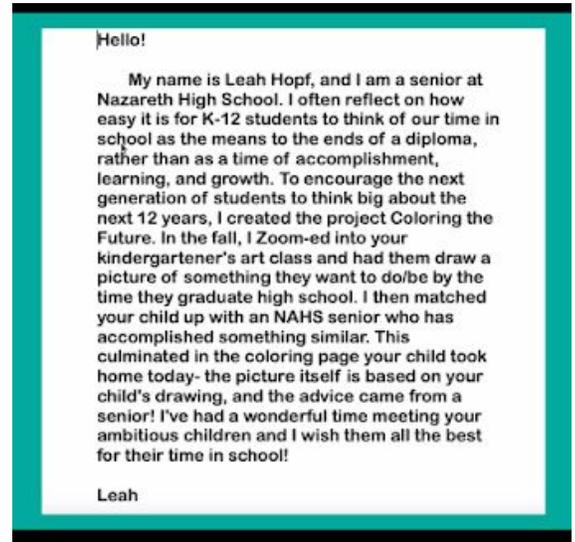
- Questions from Membership:

- Amy Sutphen asks: Do you know yet if BeSafe is prepared for this transition? Mrs. Rossi responded: BeSafe can still maintain the 6 feet of distancing. The makeup of the classrooms and rooms will be a little different than prior years. They will reach out to families who attended last year and are in cyber this year to see if they will be returning next year. BeSafe will be in the new classroom area next year, so enrollment numbers are still up in the air. Right now there is a waiting list because it is unclear how many students will be returning. There will definitely be room for students who are currently in the hybrid program this year will have a spot next year.

4. **KBES Principal Presentation**

- Returning to school for 5 days has been a stressful but celebratory time. Most of the staff are ready to move forward and are excited to bring students back safely. They are working hard to accommodate the space for students.
- 2021-22 Kindergarten:
 - Registration for incoming kindergarteners opened today. Registration was advertised in the paper and on schoology. Registration is full online on the district website. Please spread the word to families you know with incoming kindergarteners.
 - Preschool directors' meeting was today, when area preschool teachers meet with Mrs. Apruzzi to discuss the incoming students and expectations for kindergarten.
 - Kindergarten orientation will be virtual this year, and is scheduled for April 6 at 6:30.
 - There will be no Kindergarten screenings this year because there are no visitors in the building. Hopefully in August, new families can visit the building
- Early dismissals on March 16-19 for conferences. All hybrid students will be going home with box lunches. Cyber students can order and pick up curbside on those days.
- Parent/teacher conference sign ups opened today, and they close on the 11th at 3pm. There are 2 additional afternoons for cyber conferences to accommodate the large class sizes.
- Scholastic Book fair on March 16-18 for both hybrid and cyber students. Hybrid students will visit while in school. A signup will go out for cyber students who wish to visit in person. 5 students can attend per 15 minute time slot. When students arrive, they will go in with an associate staff member who will guide them through the shop - no parents will be able to enter. Cyber students can also shop online instead and arrange pick up for their books..
- Christmas City Spring Photos will be April 6 and 7. Families must preorder (hybrid) and make an appointment (cyber) for their student's picture to be taken.

- Library Book Checkout: Starting tomorrow, March 2, hybrid students can begin checking out one book at the library. The goal is for cyber students to eventually also check out books.
- Coloring the Future Project: NAHS senior Leah Hopf created this project in which incoming kindergarteners at KBES were asked about their dreams and goals and then matched with high school seniors who shared or accomplished similar goals and dreams. Her project letter is included in the minutes. Mrs. Apruzzi shared a few of the letters with membership.



5. **Teacher Representative Update**

- Leukemia and Lymphoma society fundraiser: To date, the school has raised \$935, with a goal of raising more than \$1500. This fundraiser ends on March 26.
- The pediatric unit toy drive was going to take place around Valentine's day, but was pushed back due to snow days. Look for information about that soon.
- Star data is being analyzed.
- Conferences are coming up.

6. **Be Safe Program Director Update**

- Reached out to officers of PTA about signing an insurance form from Huth. Paul Soporowski said officers should email them directly back to Linda at Huth.
- Preschool and Kindergarten spaces are already filled for next year and there is a wait list.

7. **Secretary Update**

- The February minutes were posted on the KBES PTA website. Julie Kaniper approved the minutes and Meghan Jordan seconded.
- Asked for submissions for inclusion in and informational blurb in the Bushkill Township newsletter.

8. **Treasurer Update**

- There was 1 disbursement for an April assembly.
- Chocolates on Broadway fundraiser: Orders can be sent online or in paper form. Paper forms went home with hybrid students on February 16, and cyber families can download the same forms from the KBES PTA website at www.kbespta.org. Payment is due with

the paper form if you are ordering by paper, or at pickup if you ordered online. Pick up will be the week of March 22 at KBES. All orders are due on the 8th.

9. **Vice President of Volunteers Update**

- No updates

10. **General Vice President Update**

- We are all set for an April virtual assembly. Mrs. Apruzzi is working with the teachers on a random lottery for student participation.

11. **President Update**

- We plan to rewrite the volunteer committee positions and chairs to be more inline with the programs and fundraisers we currently hold.
- Sarah Strubar will be working on teacher luncheons.
- A Virtual Variety show is being discussed. We are going to hold off until the 5 day weeks begin so everyone can get used to the new schedule.
 - Mrs. Klotz mentioned that Lower Nazareth hosted a virtual variety show, and we can talk to them to figure out how they pulled it off.
- We hope to provide whatever needs the school has for the 5 day transition.

12. **Nominations**

- Kari Oswald and Jess Dieck are the nominating committee. Beginning tonight, March 1, the nominating committee is accepting nominations for the five board positions: President, Vice President, Vice President of Volunteers, Secretary and Treasurer. Nominations will be accepted through April 5, giving enough time to prepare for a vote on April 12. Kari asked the secretary to communicate the request for nominations through the regular communication channels, as well as on Schoology through Mrs. Apruzzi. All nominations should be emailed to kbesptanominations@gmail.com

13. **General membership comments/concerns/suggestions from the floor**

14. **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Paul Soporowski at 8:08.

Next meeting is Monday April 12 at 7:00pm via Zoom