Agenda of Board Information Meeting

The Board of Directors
Kiski Area School District

A Board Information Meeting of the Board of Directors of Kiski Area School District will be held Wednesday, October 14, 2026, beginning at 7:00 PM Kiski Area Central Administration Building, 250 Hyde Park Road, Leechburg, PA 15656.

1. **OPENING**

1.1 **Call Meeting to Order**
1.2 **Pledge of Allegiance**
1.3 **Roll Call**

2. **SUPERINTENDENT PRESENTATION/REPORT - Dr. Jason Lohr**

2.1 **Student Representative Report**
2.2 **Construction Report**

3. **CITIZENS' COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

3.1 During this portion of the meeting, you may make comments about agenda items. As written in district policy, all citizen comments are limited to three (3) minutes. We request that your public comments focus on issues or policies, not on people. Please state your name, community in which you reside, and the agenda item number you are addressing.

4. **SOLICITOR REPORT - Mr. Ron Repak**

5. **BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

5.1 **Northern Westmoreland Career and Technology Center**
Ms. Nicole Kamer
Mrs. Dawn Mellinger

5.2 **Pennsylvania School Boards Legislative Council**
Mrs. Melissa Kowalkowski

5.3 **Westmoreland County Intermediate Unit #7**

Mrs. Jenna Rowe

5.4 **Kiski Area Education Foundation**
Mrs Dawn Mellinger

5.5 **Committee Reports**
Mrs. Jenna Rowe

6. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

6.1 **Financial Reports 2026**

Description:

Click the Link Below to View Kiski Area School District Financial Reports and Documents. Any Additional Documents are Located in the Public Files.
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS TO THE BOARD

6.2 **Cash Summary and Investments**

6.3 **School Reports**

6.4 **Change Order Summary**

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

7.1 **Minutes**

Recommended Motion(s):

Approve the minutes of the September 21, 2026, board meeting.

8. COMMUNICATION

8.1 **School Board Members' Posts**

9. OLD BUSINESS

10. PERSONNEL

10.1 **Hire - Teachers**

Recommended Motion(s):

Approve employment as a temporary professional employee per the collective bargaining agreement, effective with the 2026-2027 school year, pending receipt of all necessary clearances and paperwork.

Description:

a. High School Biology/General Science. Elect _____ on Step 1

Masters, $60,003. Certification(s): Biology, General Science.
b. Elementary Special Education/Autistic Support. Elect _____ on Step 1 Bachelors, $58,223. Certification(s): Early Childhood Education PK-4, Special Education PK-12.

10.2 **Hire - Food Service**

Recommended Motion(s):

Approve employment as food service general workers at an hourly rate of $17.79, per all other terms and conditions of the current bargaining agreement, pending satisfactory receipt of all clearances and required paperwork.

Description:

a. Robin Mazanek, Intermediate School, effective October 5, 2026.
b. Brittany Medhurst, East Primary, effective October 8, 2026.
c. Christina Peters, Upper Elementary, effective September 29, 2026.

10.3 **Hire - Sweepers**

Recommended Motion(s):

Approve employment as sweepers at an hourly rate of $15.88, per all other terms and conditions of the current collective bargaining agreement, pending satisfactory receipt of all clearances and required paperwork.

Description:

a. Cindy Corder, High School, effective October 22, 2026.
b. Savannah Reidell, High School, effective October 22, 2026.
c. Sarah Reidell, High School, effective October 22, 2026.
d. Louis Corder, Intermediate School, effective October 22, 2026.

10.4 **Hire - Substitute Support Staff**

Recommended Motion(s):

Approve employment as a substitute at an hourly rate of $14.50, per all other terms and conditions of the current collective bargaining agreement, pending satisfactory receipt of all clearances and required paperwork.

Description:

a. Christine Frock, administrative assistant, effective October 2, 2026.
b. Sierra Morris, food service, effective September 28, 2026.
c. Jennifer Sager, sweeper, effective October 22, 2026.
d. Cassandra Shaw, food service, effective October 14, 2026.

10.5 **2026-2027 Bus Driver List**

Recommended Motion(s):

Approve additional Myers Bussing Company bus drivers for the 2026-2027 school year. This approval is contingent upon the understanding that all clearances are current and on file with the district's Transportation Department.

Description:

a. Jessica Sipes, van driver.

10.6 **Resignations**

Recommended Motion(s):

Accept the resignations of the listed employees.

Description:

a. Janet King, High School food service general worker, effective October 5, 2026.

b. Cassandra Shaw, High School food service general worker, effective September 18, 2026.

c. Della Utberg, Upper Elementary food service general worker, effective September 16, 2026.

10.7 **Work Release**

Recommended Motion(s):

Approve the participation of Charles Knerien, a High School senior, in the District's Work Release Program. Charles will be assigned to the IT Department at an hourly rate of $12.50, up to 15 hours per week.

10.8 **Hire - Food Service Director**

Recommended Motion(s):

Approve hiring _____ as the Food Service Director at an annual salary of $_____ prorated for the 2026-2027 school year, and all other terms and conditions per the ACT 93 Agreement. Effective November 9, 2026.

11. **FINANCE**

11.1 **Tax Assessment Appeal**

Recommended Motion(s):

Approve tax appeal no. 5873 of 2025, Gabor v. Westmoreland County Board of Assessment Appeals by stipulation at a FMV of $296,243.

12. **LEGISLATION**

13. **BILLS**

13.1 **Capital Project Payments**

Recommended Motion(s):

Approve and ratify the attached list of capital project fund payments for September 12, 2026, through October 13, 2026, for $379,891.51

13.2 **Food Service Payments**

Recommended Motion(s):

Approve and ratify the attached list of food service fund payments for September 12, 2026, through October 13, 2026, for $66,821.83

13.3 **General Fund Payments**

Recommended Motion(s):

Approve and ratify the attached list of general fund payments for September 12, 2026, through October 13, 2026, for $1,918,143.77.

14. **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

14.1 **Hire - Athletic Supplemental Position**

Recommended Motion(s):

Approve employment as a coach for the 2026-2027 school year at the annual salary determined by the collective bargaining agreement. This approval is contingent upon the understanding that all necessary clearances are current and on file with the Athletic Department.

Description:

a. Joel Miller, Volleyball, MS Head Coach, $2,557.
b. Shasta Meixelsberger, Volleyball, MS Assistant Coach, $2,273.
c. Joe Steeves, Volleyball, MS Assistant Coach, $2,273.

15. CURRICULUM AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

16. CONSTRUCTION

17. CITIZENS' COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

17.1 The Board welcomes comments of a general nature relating to school board business from residents, taxpayers, employees, and students of the District. We request that you limit your comments to three (3) minutes. All other rules for engaging the Board, as detailed in the earlier public comment period, apply equally to this session.

18. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

19. ADJOURNMENT

Kiski Area East Primary

October Board Report

PTO Meeting

Our September PTO meeting was held on September 16th and included a discussion about our many upcoming events this year. We also discussed field trips for the 2026-27 school year. Approximately 15 parents attended the meeting and contributed to the conversation. The October meeting is on 10/14 at 6 pm in the library. Everyone is invited to share in the efforts to make East Primary a special place to be a student.

Bike Bus

The first bike bus of the year occurred on Friday, September 25, 2026. It was our largest bike bus to date, with over 70 students registered to attend. The weather that morning was great, and we had an excellent experience for our first one of the year. We appreciate the continued support of local Law Enforcement and Fire Departments to help ensure a safe event. We look forward to holding another bike bus in the future.

October Events at East

Many events have been planned for our students during the upcoming month. These include:

Picture Day - Students and staff put their best smile in front of the camera on Friday, October 2, 2026. Pictures were completed by grade level and were completed by lunch for the day.

Donuts with Grownups - Kindergarten families are invited for breakfast on Friday, October 23, 2026. This event, run in conjunction with the PTO, allows parents to spend a little time with their child prior to the start of the school day. Parents register using a Google Form and select their drink preference to have an accurate count. Families also stop in to be run through Raptor prior to the event, so we can focus on breakfast that morning.

Fitness Friday - On Friday, October 16, 2026, East Primary will hold our first Fitness Friday of the year. The activity will be basketball, and will be run by our very own East Primary staff members, Mr. Kiebler, Mrs. McCartney, Mr. Clouser, and Mr. Garda. We are looking forward to getting Fitness Fridays started this year.

Trunk or Treat - On October 24, the PTO and East Primary are organizing a Trunk or Treat event. Interested families need to register as space is limited. This is the first time East Primary is organizing a Trunk or Treat event.

Red Ribbon Week- October 26-30. The following events have been planned for students:

Monday, October 26 - PJ Day

Tuesday, October 27 - Blue and Gold Day
Wednesday, October 28 - Wear Red Day
Thursday, October 29 - Hat Day
Friday, October 30- Fall Parade/Party

CAVS LEAD- Our flyer regarding the monthly trait, Respect, was sent out by Dr. Antonucci, and that trait will be the emphasis for student lessons and interactions this month.

🌟 Growing, Learning & Shining at North Primary! 🌟

There's always something exciting happening at North Primary! Each day brings new opportunities to learn, grow, explore, and make special memories. We are so proud of our wonderful students and grateful for our amazing teachers, staff, and families who make our school community so special.

Together, we are creating the beginning of the 26/27 school year filled with kindness, laughter, learning, and lots of reasons to celebrate! We love watching our North Primary students learn, shine, and grow each and every day!

Thank a Police Officer Day

In collaboration with The National Thank a Police Officer Day organization (founded by a past North Primary parent!), students, staff, and families donated items, created cards, and colored pictures for not only area police departments but our very own Officer Steve Hoculock.



National Aviary Rainforest Assembly

Our students had the exciting opportunity to welcome the National Aviary for a special schoolwide assembly focused on the rainforest. The presentation gave students a fun and educational way to learn about the rainforest habitats, wildlife and the importance of protecting these environments.





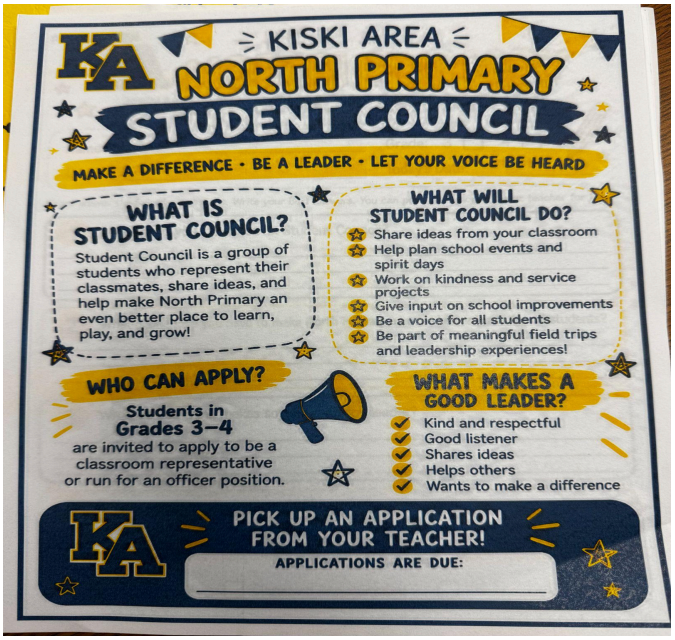


On Thursday, October 2, students and staff came together to show appreciation and celebrate National Custodians Day. Students created cards, colored pictures, and shouted thank you to our very own Mr. Matt and Mr. Ross.



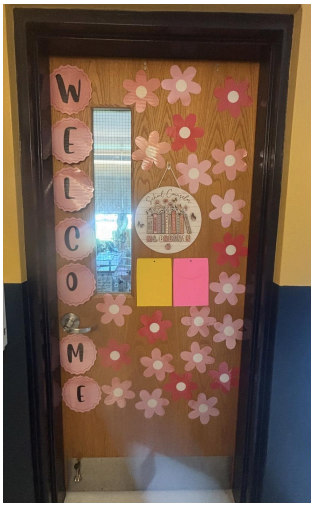
Student Council

After a 4th-grade student delivered a handwritten letter to Dr. Roland requesting a meeting to discuss establishing a Student Council, the wheels were set in motion. Positions are offered to 3rd- and 4th-grade students; applicants were asked to complete a brief questionnaire to be considered. The response was amazing, as we received 46 applications! Dr. Roland, Ms. Brennan, and Mrs. Perriello are heading the organization with the help of Mrs. Hepenstall and Mrs. Fisher.



School Counselor's Corner

Ms. Brennan has hit the ground running and kick-started the 26/27 school year with new groups, programs, and ideas. New grade level groups include: Monster Feelings (K), Building Friendships (3rd-grade boys), Growing Your Friendships (3rd-grade girls). 26 days in, 20 CAVS LEAD awards have been submitted by KNP teachers and staff. Last, but certainly not least, the 4th-grade Multimedia Squad.



Facelifts and Glowups

1.Kiski Care Closet: The Kiski Care Closet is moving! Due to the generosity of parents, community members, and local organizations, the closet is growing, giving us the opportunity to assist more students. Nurse Janey and PTO members have been hard at work relocating and reorganizing the new space.

2. Court Yard: With the generous turf donation and Astro Turf volunteering their time, our courtyard will soon be multifunctional! More updates to come!





Events and celebrations coming soon at North Primary

The Second Grade Team's Field Trip to Crooked Creek: October 7th & 8th

Bike Bus: 10/9/26

Bites, Giggles, and Good Mornings: Breakfast Club TBD

Red Ribbon Week Festivities, Competitions, Shout Outs, and more! Week of October 26

Halloween Projects, Parades, and Parties: October 30

Unified Trick or Treat: October 28

Children's Grief Awareness Day: November 19

October Board Report
South Primary

STAR

This past month, we completed our first round of STAR benchmark testing in ELA and math. We have analyzed the data and identified which students require additional support in reading and math. Once we make adjustments to help remediate students, we will monitor their progress.

PLCs

For the past month, all grade levels have been meeting once a week in their district-wide professional learning communities to analyze data, unpack standards, and create common formative assessments. Third and fourth grade meet by discipline, and K-2 meet as a grade level. On other days, teachers meet with their building grade-level PLCs to address student extension and remediation, as well as all MTSS procedures.

CAVS LEAD

In September, we have been practicing our CAVS LEAD procedures with students. This is our building-wide PBIS program. On October 2nd, we held our CAVS LEAD kick-off assembly for all students, featuring videos and teacher demonstrations. We also had a PTA fall fundraiser assembly that featured 4 teachers, our resource officer, and our principal getting pies thrown in their faces. Pictures of these events were posted to the district's Facebook page.

Upcoming Events:

October 5-9 Coffee with Cavs

October 25-31 - Red Ribbon Week

October 31 - Fall Party

KAUE Board Report - October 2026

October continues to be an exciting and productive month at Kiski Area Upper Elementary. Our students are engaged in wonderful learning experiences throughout the building, and our teachers continue to provide meaningful opportunities for students to grow academically and socially. Our E/I periods are also being intentionally utilized to provide additional systems of support for students, including targeted intervention, enrichment, and opportunities to address individual learning needs. We are proud of the work taking place in our classrooms and the commitment of our staff to meeting the needs of all learners.

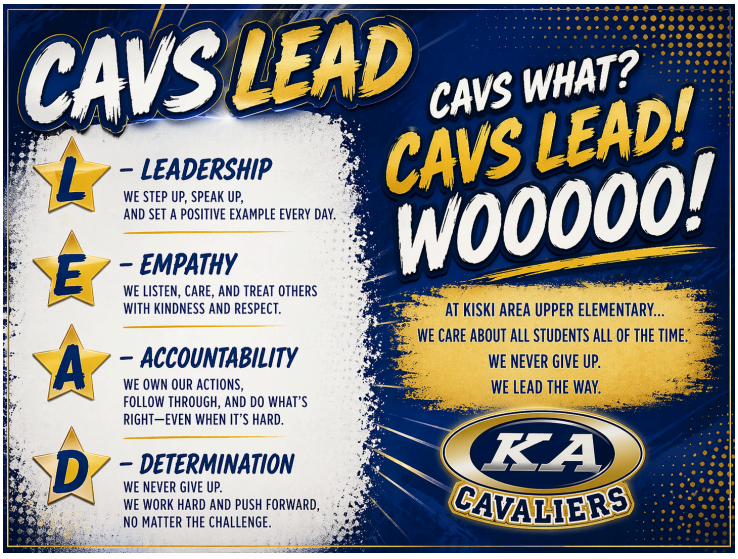
We are excited to officially launch our Club Recess Program this month. Club Recess provides students with opportunities to explore their interests, build positive relationships with peers and staff, and strengthen their connection to the KAUE community. On designated Club Recess Fridays, we will also continue our schoolwide Cavs LEAD Lessons, reinforcing Leadership, Empathy, Accountability, and Determination and helping students apply these expectations throughout their school day.

Our PBIS mission also continues to grow. In October, we are implementing our Golden Garbage Can Award, which will recognize students and classrooms for demonstrating responsibility and pride in our school environment. We have also established schoolwide monthly and fall PBIS point goals, giving our entire student body something positive to work toward together. Students will have additional opportunities to celebrate their positive choices through monthly schoolwide PBIS raffles and our weekly LEAD Lounge raffles. These initiatives allow us to continually recognize students who demonstrate what it means to be a Cavs LEADer while building a positive and supportive school culture.

We are looking forward to finishing October with several exciting events. Red Ribbon Week will take place October 26 - 30, providing opportunities throughout the week to encourage students to make healthy, safe, and positive choices. On October 30, our PTO will host the Haunted Hustle, which has become an exciting event for our students and school community. We are grateful for the continued support of our families, staff, and PTO as we work together to provide memorable experiences for our students.

Upcoming Events:

- **Friday October 9 |** Club Recess and Cavs LEAD Lesson
- **Monday October 12 |** No School, Staff Professional Development Day
- **Wednesday October 21 |** PTO Meeting at 6:30PM
- **Friday October 23 |** Club Recess and Cavs LEAD Lesson
- **October 26 - 30 |** Red Ribbon Week
- **October 30 |** PTO Sponsored Haunted Hustle



Kiski Area Intermediate School

October 2026

CAVS LEAD

Students reviewed the four CAVS LEAD values and created a puzzle piece that explains each value in their own words. They used their ideas, experiences, and creativity to show what CAVS LEAD means to them, emphasizing that every student is an important piece of KAIS.





Art Department

We couldn't be more excited about our new space and sharing student work. Ms. Poleski worked on a project that explored the colorful world of graffiti art and the work of street artist Banksy. Students built a fence from popsicle sticks and used paint pens to add expressive lettering and designs, showcasing their unique artistic style.





Student Store- Logos

Mr. Nicholas and Mr. Curcio used their expertise to bring the student store to "life." We appreciate their efforts and the area looks great! The student store will be run by our student council and we look forward to opening up over the next few weeks.







Upcoming Events

October 12th- No School (Professional Development)

October 26th-30th- Red Ribbon Week

Kiski Area High School
October 2026 Board Report

Presenter: Matt Smith

Math AP 5 Recognition Luncheon

On Monday, October 5, the Kiski Area High School Math Department celebrated outstanding academic achievement at our AP 5 Luncheon, hosted by Mrs. Schaeffer, Mr. Jankowski, and Mrs. Calisti. The luncheon recognized students who earned the highest possible score—a 5—on last year's AP Statistics, AP Precalculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Computer Science A, and AP Computer Science Principles exams. Altogether, Kiski Area students earned an impressive 28 scores of 5 across these six AP courses. Congratulations to these students on their hard work, dedication, and exceptional achievement!



Kiski Area Marching Band Report

The Kiski Area Marching Band has had an exciting start to the 2026 season with its production, “The Pale Blue Dot.” Throughout September, the band performed for audiences at several local events, including the Kiski Area Marching Band Festival and the Alle-Kiski Band Festival at Plum High School.

The band’s first major national-level competition came on September 26th at the Bands of America Central Ohio Regional Championship in Obetz, Ohio. Competing against outstanding programs from several states, Kiski Area had an exceptional showing. The band won its 2A class championship, earning the highest scores in its class in Music, Visual, and General Effect. This marked the 47th Bands of America regional class championship in Kiski Area Marching Band history, an incredible milestone for our program. Kiski Area then advanced to the evening finals competition, where the band finished second overall with a score of 79.400. The band also earned Outstanding General Effect in finals, competing against some of the strongest programs in the region.

October brings an especially busy and exciting schedule for the band. Students will continue competing in the PIMBA circuit, including performing at Deer Lakes High on October 10th before traveling to Newark, Delaware, on October 17th for the Bands of America Mid-Atlantic Regional at the University of Delaware Stadium. The band will compete against programs from throughout the eastern United States at this major regional event. The regular PIMBA season will conclude on October 24th at the PIMBA Championships at Gateway High School.



AHN Building Bridges

On Friday, October 9th, KAHS hosted the AHN Building Bridges program. From their press release:

Allegheny Health Network's (AHN) Emergency Medicine Department is launching a new community outreach initiative designed to empower young people with the knowledge and confidence to respond during medical emergencies.

Called Building Bridges, the program connects AHN clinicians and health care professionals with local high school students to provide hands-on training in critical bystander response skills that can save lives before emergency responders arrive. The inaugural Building Bridges training will take place at Kiski Area High School on Friday, Oct. 9, where approximately 500 students in grades 11 and 12 will participate in interactive training sessions led by experts from Emergency Medicine, Nursing, Prehospital Care Services and the AHN STAR Center.

Students will rotate through five learning stations focused on:

- CPR
- Recognizing and responding to seizures and diabetic emergencies
- Stroke awareness and response
- Stop the Bleed® training
- Proper use of Narcan and EpiPens

The event will be divided into morning and afternoon sessions, with students rotating through each training station in small groups to gain practical, hands-on experience. "Emergencies can happen anywhere, and often the first person on the scene is not a medical professional," said Rani Kumar, MD, medical director of Pediatric Emergency Medicine at AHN. "Through Building Bridges, we're giving students the skills and confidence to step in, stay calm and potentially save a life while help is on the way. Just as importantly, we're building stronger connections with the communities we serve and helping young people see the many opportunities available in health care."

In addition to emergency response training, representatives from the AHN Talent Attraction Program (TAP) and the AHN Schools of Nursing will be on site to share information about education and career pathways in health care. Students will have the opportunity to learn about nursing, emergency medicine and other clinical and non-clinical professions available across AHN.

"Kiski Area High School is committed to preparing students for success both inside and outside the classroom," said Matt Smith, principal of Kiski Area High School. "This

training with AHN provides our students with practical skills that could one day help them save a life while also exposing them to meaningful career opportunities in health care. We are excited to be the first school to participate in the Building Bridges Program.”





KISKI AREA HIGH SCHOOL

Key Club & STUDENT COUNCIL Newsletter

OCTOBER 2026

Homecoming 2026
A HUGE SUCCESS!

What an incredible Homecoming celebration! Students, staff, families, and community members came together to celebrate Kiski Area spirit and make this year's Homecoming one to remember.

Congratulations, Homecoming Queen!

Congratulations to **Ziporah Taylor**, who was crowned the 2026 Kiski Area Homecoming Queen during the Homecoming ceremony on Friday, October 2nd!

Homecoming Court

- Addison Buffone
- Chloe Graham
- Leah Kunkle
- Stella McKenzie
- Olivia Plowman
- Reagan Rowe
- Allie Smith
- **Ziporah Taylor** *(Homecoming Queen)*

Congratulations to all eight members of the Homecoming Court! We are proud of each of you and the way you represented Kiski Area.

Homecoming Parade & Ceremony

The Homecoming Parade and Ceremony took place on Friday, October 2nd, bringing students and the Kiski Area community together to celebrate our Homecoming tradition.

Thank you to everyone who helped organize, participate in, and support this special event!

Homecoming Dance

The annual Homecoming Dance was held on Saturday, October 3rd, at the Kiski Area High School Stadium.

645 TICKETS SOLD!

A huge thank-you goes to Student Council members, volunteers, staff, and everyone who helped make the dance a memorable night for our students. From preparation and decorations to ticket sales and the event itself, it took a tremendous team effort!

KEY CLUB UPDATE

3,133

VOLUNTEER HOURS...

and Counting!

Kiski Area Key Club members continue to make a difference in our school and community!

So far this school year, Key Club members have completed an incredible

3,133 VOLUNTEER HOURS!

This accomplishment reflects the dedication, compassion, and willingness of our members to give their time to help others.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

Key Club members have many opportunities to earn service hours throughout the fall. Current and upcoming opportunities include:

- ✔ Fall Sports Concession Stands
- ✔ Spaghetti Dinners
- ✔ Bingo Events
- ✔ PTA Meetings
- ✔ Additional school and community service opportunities

Thank you to all of our Key Club members who continue to show that when actions meet compassion, lives change!

STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE

Student Council has been busy helping make Homecoming a success! From planning and preparation to ticket sales, decorations, the parade, ceremony, and dance, our Student Council members worked hard behind the scenes and throughout Homecoming week.

We are incredibly proud of the teamwork, leadership, and school spirit demonstrated by our members.

A special thank-you goes to everyone who volunteered their time and helped create a memorable Homecoming experience for the Kiski Area student body.

- **Key Club Motto:** *"When Actions Meet Compassion, Lives Change!"*
- **Student Council:** *Leading. Serving. Representing Kiski Area with Pride.*