

Minutes for the Meet and Discuss Non-Voting Meeting for the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Media Center on Wednesday, January 8, 2020.

I. Call to Order: Mrs. Fischer called the meeting to order at 8:04PM

The Meet and Discuss Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District is held on Wednesday, January 8, 2020. This meeting is being held to go over the agenda for the regular monthly Board Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Media Center.

II. Flag Salute-Please rise: Mrs. Fischer asked all present to rise for the flag salute

III. Notice: Mr. Angus read the following statement: This meeting is being recorded for District purposes. It is or may be published in part or in its entirety on the District's website without the express permission of meeting participants. The opinions expressed by any member of the public do not necessarily reflect the view or opinion of the Ambridge Area School District Board of School Directors or the Ambridge Area School District, and are solely that of the speaker. The Ambridge Area School District Board of School Directors hereby expressly disclaims any and all responsibility or liability for any false, defamatory or slanderous statements expressed by the speaker.

IV. Roll Call

Cathy Fischer, President
Scott Angus, Vice President
Mary Jo Kehoe, Treasurer
Chuck Campalong
Jodi Gill
Terry Mylan
Valerio Pedigo
Meagan Trimbur

Others Present:

Dr. Jo Welter, Superintendent
Megan Turnbull, Solicitor
Douglas McCausland, Director of District Operations
June Mueller, Board Secretary

V. Correspondence

VI. Student/Teacher Recognition

VII. Presentations

VIII. Public Comment (Regarding Agenda Items Only).

The Meet and Discuss Meetings are open to the public. At this time, DISTRICT RESIDENTS may come forward to comment or ask questions on agenda items only. Each person must state their first and last name and address prior to speaking. Each person will be allowed three minutes and can speak only once during this half-hour period. There will be no discussion during this time, but any board member or administrator desiring to address questions or concerns may do so at the conclusion of the committee reports.

IX. Committee Reports**Education and Technology****Ms. Trimbur**1. High School Course of Studies

It is recommended to ratify the approval of the 2019-2020 Ambridge Area High School Course of Studies Book.

2. JROTC Field Trip

It is recommended to approve MSgt. Thomas G. Short, III, Marine Corps JROTC Instructor, be authorized to take the JROTC unit to Parris Island, South Carolina for their annual Citizenship Development trip from February 24th through February 28th, 2020. The purpose of this trip is to build teamwork, enhance the camaraderie amongst the cadets, to develop leadership skills and to increase unit cohesion. The aforementioned training is educational and in compliance with the required curriculum. The JROTC unit will incur the expense related to this trip. All expenses will be obtained through fundraising. Parents and/or guardians will be required to sign permission and release forms. Chaperones will be required to have current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

3. Student Discipline

It is recommended to ratify discipline agreement 2019-2020-09 relevant to a Middle School student, effective December 12, 2019.

4. Grand Canyon University Affiliation Agreement

It is recommended the Ambridge Area School District enter into an affiliation agreement with Grand Canyon University, at no cost to the District.

5. Grand Canyon University Student Teacher

It is recommended to approve, Nicoletta Elogo, a student from Grand Canyon University, for student teaching at Economy Elementary School for the 2019-2020 spring semester, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening. Nicoletta will be placed with Lisa Kovach.

6. Club Formation

It is recommended to approve the formation of the Black Student Union Club at the High School. The club is an organization to promote the African American, Caribbean, and African culture and awareness at the High School and the surrounding community.

The purpose is to...

- Provide social and academic support and awareness for Students of the Associated Student Body
- Promote excellence in the classroom and the community
- Develop strong successful leaders of the future that go onto college and become successful
- Promote the equal rights of black students as well as all minorities

7. Reinstatement of Forensics Club

It is recommended to approve the reinstatement of the Ambridge Area High School Forensics Club. Forensics is a cross between a mock trial and a speech and debate club where students prepare and perform formal presentations to compete against students from other school districts. Currently, the minimum students required (15) are signed up and interested in participating.

8. JROTC

It is recommended that the tuition share for Non-District Students enrolled in the JROTC Program for the 2020-2021 be reduced as follows:

- From \$474.00 per class to \$200.00
- From \$3,591.00 all day Leadership Academy to \$2,000.00
- From \$6,257.00 Special Education Leadership Academy to \$6,000.00
- Transportation to be paid by the student's home district

Finance and Budget

Ms. Pedigo

1. School District Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly school district bills in the amount of \$2,373,252.89 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,384,878.42 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$65,319.30 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$51,355.39 be paid.

3. Capital Project Expenditures

It is recommended \$4,754.50 be paid from the Capital Projects Fund 39.

4. Special Counsel

It is recommended that Special Counsel, Law Offices of Taylor & Alsko be paid \$1,675.00.

5. Repository

It is recommended the Board approve the Sale of Property from the Beaver County Repository of Unsold Property for the following properties:

- a) 649 Merchant Street, Ambridge, PA Tax Parcel 10-002-0531.000, for the bid amount of \$1,913.00 to Gist Catering Inc.
- b) 540 Merchant Street, Ambridge, PA Tax Parcel 10-002-0910.000, for the bid amount of \$1,623.00 to Gist Catering Inc.

6. BVIU 2019-2020 IDEA Allocation

It is recommended to accept the 2019-2020 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Allocation to the Ambridge Area School District, in the amount of \$377,479.00.

7. BVIU 2019-2020 Allocation of Federal 619-IDEA B Funds

It is recommended to accept the 2019-2020 Allocation of Federal 616-IDEA B Funds to the Ambridge Area School District, in the amount of \$4,490.00.

8. Precision Substitute Teacher Services

It is recommended to increase the salary for a Substitute Teacher from \$95.00 to \$120.00 per day.

Buildings and Grounds**Open**

Mr. McCausland – Energy Savings Project Update

The Request for Qualifications have been received, companies will begin to be interviewed, and a recommendation will be made in February.

Athletics**Ms. Trimbur**1. Boys' Volleyball Team Overnight Tournament Participation Request

It is recommended to approve the high school Boys' Varsity Volleyball Team to attend the following overnight tournaments:

Northeastern High School, Manchester, PA – March 28, 2020

Central York High School, York, PA – April 18, 2020

2. Boys' Wrestling Team Overnight Tournament Participation Request

It is recommended to approve the high school Boys' Wrestling Team to attend the following overnight tournament:

West Braunch High School, Morrisdale, PA – January 25, 2020

Public Relations**Ms. Gill****Steering and Rules****Mrs. Kehoe**1. Policy 137 – Home Education Programs – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second reading, to revise School Board Policy 137 – *Home Education Programs*, to comply with state law and regulations.

2. Policy 203-1 – HIV Infection – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second reading, to revise Policy 203.1 – *HIV Infection*, to provide a safe, healthy environment for students and employees.

3. Policy 251 – Homeless Students – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second reading, to revise Policy 251 – *Homeless Students*, to recognize the need to promptly identify homeless children and youths within the District, facilitate their immediate enrollment and eliminate existing barriers to their attendance and education, in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations.

4. Policy 255 – Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second reading, to adopt Policy 255 – *Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care*, to ensure the educational stability of children in foster care and to collaborate with the local children and youth agency and other school districts.

Legislative

Mrs. Kehoe

X. Sunshine Law

Section 708 of the Sunshine Law permits agencies to hold executive sessions to discuss employment and personnel matters, labor relations and arbitration matters, purchase or lease of real estate up to the time an option or agreement is obtained, litigation, or potential litigation, legal matters subject to Attorney Client Privilege and other agency business which if discussed in public would violate lawful privilege or would violate confidentiality laws.

The Board of School Directors held/will now hold an Executive Session to discuss:

- 1) Employment and personnel matters
- 2) Salary Schedule and Labor Relations
- 3) Matters subject to Attorney Client Privilege
- 4) Litigation Matters

The Board will not return to take any legislative action.

XI. Motion to Adjourn

At 8:26 p.m. Ms. Pedigo made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Mylan. Vote in favor was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

June Mueller
Board Secretary