

Minutes for the Meet and Discuss Voting Board Meeting of 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 7:02 p.m.

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. and to take action that has come before the Board. All meetings have been advertised to permit legislative action as necessary.

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

III. Notice: Mrs. Fischer read the following: 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
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. Sunshine Law

Mrs. Muller read the following:

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 an Executive Session on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 to discuss:

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

VI. Amendments to the Agenda/Approval of the Agenda

VII. Presentations

School Board Candidate Presentations and Question and Answer

Charles Campalong
 John Carpenter
 Kathleen Curtis
 Matt Green
 Elizabeth Hawkins
 Denise Manganello
 William Metz
 Kelly Romasco
 Mitch Yanyanin

VIII. Public Comment (Regarding Agenda Items Only)

At this time, DISTRICT RESIDENTS may come forward to comment on agenda items only. Each person must state their first and last name and address prior to speaking. Each resident will be allowed three minutes and can speak only once. This period for public comment prior to the standing committee reports will be limited to one-half hour. Although not required, board members desiring to address questions or concerns may do so after the residents' comment/question or at the conclusion of the committee reports. There will still be an opportunity for residents to comment on any business relevant to the Ambridge Area School District under Old and New Business at the end of the meeting.

Comments:

Grace DeBona, Harmony Twp.

- Why is the Board interviewing for one open seat at this meeting, since there are now two open seats
 - The Board has 30 days to fill a seat once the current Board Member has resigned, being that the second opening came later, the Board was able to re-advertise for the second seat and give any interested candidates enough time to apply and come in to the next meeting for the interviewing process.
 - Each open seat was advertised in the Beaver County Times and the District Website

Adrienne Cephas, Ambridge

- Spoke on behalf of Bill Metz, Matt, Green, Elizabeth Hawkins and Kathleen Curtis
- Thanks all candidates for coming out and having an interest in becoming a School Board Member

IX. LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR THIS MEETING**Personnel****Mr. Angus**1. Resignation

It is recommended to ratify the resignation of James Wear, an Ambridge Area School District School Director, effective December 11, 2019, with regret.

2. Resignation

It is recommended to ratify the resignation of Roger Kowal, an Ambridge Area School District School Director, effective January 5, 2019, with regret.

Mr. Angus moved to accept items 1-2, seconded by Ms. Gill. Vote in favor was unanimous.

3. School Board Director

It is recommended to appoint Charles Campalong, a qualified elector of the District, to fill the present School Board Director vacancy.

Ms. Gill nominated Mr. Campalong, seconded by Ms. Trimbur. Vote in favor was unanimous

Mr. Angus nominated Mr. Yanyanin, no second

Ms. Pedigo nominated Mrs. Manganello, no second

X. Superintendent's Report**XI. Solicitor's Report**

Ms. Turnbull swore in Mr. Charles Campalong

XII. Old and New Business

It is now time for old and new business. Any DISTRICT RESIDENT who desires to comment on any business relevant to the Ambridge Area School District should now come forward. 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.

Darci Kokoski, Economy

- Ms. Kokoski is a former Bridger Bell and Musical Choreographer
- Ms. Kokoski read a timeline of events leading up to her resignation in proxy being accepted and the hiring of a new Musical Choreographer
- Ms. Kokoski asked the Board to reconsider her for the Musical Choreographer as she did not have knowledge to or was in agreement with Ms. Menjivar resigning her from this position

- Ms. Trimbur made comments and questioned the process of which lead to the resignation in proxy of Ms. Kokoski and apologized to Ms. Kokoski. Ms. Trimbur was not yet on the Board when this action was taken
- Ms. Gill also apologized to Ms. Kokoski. Ms. Gill was also not on the Board at the time this action was taken
- Mrs. Mylan commented that the statements made by Ms. Kokoski were not accurate.

XII. Motion to Adjourn the Voting Meeting

At 8:04 p.m. Mr. Angus made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Mylan. Vote in favor was unanimous

XIV. RECONVENE THE MEET AND DISCUSS

Respectfully submitted,

June Mueller
Board Secretary