

Minutes for the Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held virtually on Wednesday, July 15, 2020.

I. Call to Order Mrs. Fischer called the meeting to order at approximately 7:10 p.m.

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District Board of Directors on Wednesday, July 15, 2020, is now called to order.

II. Flag Salute-Please rise Mrs. Fischer asked all 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.

IV. Roll Call

Mrs. Cathy Fischer, President
Mr. Scott Angus, Vice President
Mrs. Mary Jo Kehoe, Treasurer
Mr. Chuck Campalong
Mrs. Terry Mylan
Ms. Valerie Pedigo
Ms. Meagan Trimbur
Ms. Valerie Young

Others President
Dr. Joseph W. Pasquerilla, Substitute Superintendent
Mr. Barry J. King, Director of Academics
Mr. Keith Bielby, Director of Business and Operations
Ms. Megan Turnbull, Solicitor
Mrs. June Mueller, Board Secretary

V. Sunshine Law Mrs. Mueller read the following

The Board of School Directors held Executive Sessions on Wednesday, July 15th to discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)
- Salary Schedule and Labor Relations
- Legal Advice

VI. Correspondence

VII. Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of: June 10th Meet and Discuss Meeting and June 17th Board Meeting

Mr. Angus moved to accept the Minutes, seconded by Mrs. Young. Vote in favor was unanimous.

VIII. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report dated: June, 2020

Mrs. Kehoe moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Mrs. Mylan. Vote in favor was unanimous.

IX. Amendment/Addendum to Agenda/Approval of Agenda

Added Item 20 under Personnel

Mr. Angus moved to approve the addendum to the agenda, seconded by Mr. Campalong. Vote in favor was unanimous.

X. Recognition/Presentation

Mr. Barry King – presentation of the School Reopening Plan

XI. Public Comment (Regarding Agenda Items Only)

In light of the state declared disaster emergency, the Board has adopted modified public meeting and public comment processes, consistent with the Sunshine Law. These modified rules have been published in a newspaper of general circulation and on the District's website. Public comments received in advance of this virtual meeting by the Board Secretary will now be read.

Attachment

XII. Committee Reports**Education and Technology**

Ms. Trimbur

1. Pennsylvania Department of Education School Reopening Health and Safety Plan

It is recommended to approve the District's School Reopening Health and Safety Plan for the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

2. Resolution Declaring Covid-19 Pandemic Emergency

It is recommended to approve the Resolution 2020-2021-1 declaring the Covid-19 pandemic an emergency and authorizing the Superintendent to develop alternate instructional plans to employ in-person, virtual and distance learning as the Superintendent deems appropriate in accordance with 24 P.S. 520.1 of the Pennsylvania School Code.

3. Flexible Instructional Days (FID)

It is recommended to approve Flexible Instructional Days as an alternate form of instruction in place of a day otherwise cancelled due to an emergency. PDE will count these days as a full day of school.

4. Student Handbooks

- a. It is recommended to adopt the High School Student Handbook for the 2020-2021 school year.
- b. It is recommended to adopt the Middle School Student Handbook for the 2020-2021 school year.
- c. It is recommended to adopt the Elementary Student Handbooks for the 2020-2021 school year.

5. Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Outreach Program

It is recommended to approve the service agreement with Western Pennsylvania School for the Blind Outreach Program for the 2020-2021 school year.

6. Prevention Network

It is recommended to approve the agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and the Prevention Network for the 2020-2021 school year. This will include two Prevention Network Specialists, five (5) days per week, split between Highland Elementary School, Middle School and Ambridge Area High School at an annual contracted amount of \$87,000.00.

7. Alternative Education Agreement

It is recommended to approve the purchase of (18) eighteen seats for the Alternative Education Services through the CLASS Academy Program for the 2020-2021 school year at an approximate cost of \$191,000.00.

8. The Watson Institute

It is recommended to approve The Watson Institute Service Agreement for the 2020-2021 school year.

9. Remote Learning with Seesaw

It is recommended to approve the purchase of application Seesaw for students in grades K-3 to provide learning management system for the primary levels. Not to exceed \$4,500.00.

Ms. Trimbur moved to accept items 1-9, seconded by Mrs. Mylan. Vote in favor was unanimous with Ms. Trimbur abstaining from item 8.

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 \$1,692,137.10 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,498,521.67 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$9,835.02 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$34,896.63 paid.

3. Account Fund 81 – Student Activity

It is recommended \$13,904.55 be paid from the account fund 81 – Student Activity.

4. Resolution 2020-2021-2 eGrants Electronic Signature

It is recommended to approve Resolution 2020-2021-2 to consent to the use of electronic signature by the Superintendent to electronically sign all contracts, agreements, grants and/or licenses with the Pennsylvania Department of Education. It is further recommended to authorize the Board Secretary to execute the resolution.

5. Storage Area Network (SAN)

It is recommended to approve the purchase of a Storage Area Network (SAN), which is an integral required part of the network. The total cost of the new SAN is \$45,815.61, with a 3 year warranty.

Ms. Pedigo moved to accept items 1-5, seconded by Mr. Campalong. Vote in favor was unanimous.

Buildings and Grounds**Mr. Angus**1. Change Order for Economy Repaving Project

It is recommended to approve deduct change order GC-1 from HHSDR Architects, for the Economy Paving Project in the savings amount of (\$101,291.05).

Mr. Angus moved to accept item 1, seconded by Mr. Campalong. Vote in favor was unanimous.

Athletics**Mr. Campalong**

Public Relations**Open**1. Library Contributions

It is recommended to approve the distribution of budgeted allotments for 2020-2021 school year as follows:

Baden Memorial Library \$4,250.00
Laughlin Memorial Library \$5,250.00

Mrs. Mylan moved to accept item 1, seconded by Mr. Campalong. Vote in favor was unanimous.

Steering and Rules**Mrs. Kehoe**1. Policy 249 – Anti-Bullying/Cyberbullying – First Reading

It is recommended, to waive the second and third readings of School Board Policy 249 – *Anti-Bullying/Cyberbullying*, and update on the first reading. Policy 249 is to provide all students and employees with the right to a safe and civil educational environment, free from harassment or bullying.

2. Policy 815 – Responsible Computer, Telecommunications, and Information Technology Use – First and Final Reading

It is recommended, to waive the second and third readings of School Board Policy 815 – *Responsible Computer, Telecommunications, and Information Technology Use*, and revise on the first reading. Policy 815 is to provide access to information, to aid in research and collaborations, to foster the educational mission of the District, and to carry out the legitimate business and operations of the District.

Mrs. Kehoe moved to accept items 1-2, seconded by Ms. Young. Vote in favor was unanimous.

Legislative**Ms. Young****Salary, Schedule and Labor Relations****Mrs. Mylan**1. Memorandum of Understanding

It is recommended to hereby approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ambridge Area School District and the Local 248 Ambridge Area School Employees AFSCME-AFL-CIO relating to vacation hour increments.

2. Memorandum of Understanding

It is recommended to hereby approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ambridge Area School District and the Ambridge Area Education Association relating to limiting Pre-K teachers' movement between buildings and staying in their current building assignment when possible due to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

Mrs. Mylan moved to accept items 1-2, seconded by Mrs. Kehoe. Vote in favor was unanimous.

Personnel

Mr. Angus

1. Posted Positions: Clubs / Activities

It is recommended the following individuals who have applied for the specified posted positions for the 2020-2021 school year be approved at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement, provided the school year allows and Sponsors are able to hold Club Activity as normal.

<u>ACTIVITY/CLUB (High School)</u>		<u>SALARY</u>
Band Director	Marie Dewar	\$8,000.00
Band 1st Assistant	Devin Householder	4,200.00
Band 2 nd Assistant	Gregory Becker	3,450.00
Majorette/Drill Team	Melissa Jones	3,200.00
Steel Drum Director	Todd Hartman	3,000.00
Finance Director	Mary Marasco	3,100.00
Silhouette	Veronica Simunick	2,100.00
Junior Class	Casey Neel	1,075.00
	Jennifer Phillips	1,075.00
Senior Class	Jennifer Phillips	1,550.00
Yearbook	Mathew Hladio	1,245.00
	Kent Withrow	1,245.00
Interact Club	Christina Briola	1,150.00
Sophomore Class	Joanne Gonzalez	1,150.00
Mock Trial Team	Christina Briola	675.00
	Kim Racioppo	675.00
Technology Student Association – TSA	Ben Holmes	450.00
	Jason Roos	450.00
	Pam Wiegand-Green	450.00
Documentary Film Club	Ben Holmes	450.00
	Randy Mercadante	450.00
National Honor Society	Noel Santini	950.00
Ecology Club	Pam Wiegand-Green	235.00
	Jason Roos	235.00
Student Council	Chelsea Benedict	470.00
Language Clubs		
Italian Club	Davide Sciulli	470.00
AATV AM Announcements Club	Ben Holmes	235.00

	Jason Roos	235.00
PA Math League	Shad Greco	470.00
Robotics Club	Ben Holmes	235.00
	Jason Roos	235.00
Stage Crew	Todd Hartman	470.00
Forensics Club	Todd Hartman	470.00
Video Production Club	Ben Holmes	470.00
Teen Leadership Club	Kim Bogati	470.00
TRI-M Music Honor Society	Marie Dewar	470.00
Thespian Club	Marie Dewar	470.00
Bible Club	Marie Dewar	470.00

ACTIVITY/CLUB (Middle School)

SALARY

MathCounts	Ashley Simpson	\$ 550.00
	Glenn Freed	550.00
National Honor Society	Brenna Wandel	650.00
Art Club	Jennifer Ax	470.00
Science Explorers Club	Don Ayers	470.00
Newspaper	Amy Braund	470.00
Drama Club	Devin Householder	470.00
Forensics Club	Todd Hartman	470.00
Student Council	Gregory Mell	470.00
Yearbook	Devin Householder	470.00

2. Posted Positions: Department Heads and Building Heads

It is recommended the following individuals who have applied for the specified posted positions for the 2020-2021 school year be approved at the salary designated in the negotiated agreement, pending receipt of current clearances and drug screening:

DEPARTMENT HEADS

SALARY

Elementary:

Kindergarten	Tammy Kennedy	\$1,365.00
First Grade	Lisa Kovach	1,365.00
Second Grade	TBD	1,365.00
Third Grade	Brenda Antoline	1,365.00
Fourth Grade	Erin Malatesta	1,365.00
Fifth Grade	Stacey Brock	1,365.00
Sixth Grade	Amy Bruand	1,365.00

Secondary:

English	Greg Helsel	1,365.00
Math	Joanne Gonzalez	1,365.00
Social Studies	Grace Debona	1,365.00
Science	Karen DeMarco	1,365.00
Special Education	Teresa Brewer	1,365.00

K-12:

Physical Education	Jeffrey Modrovich	\$1,365.00
Library	Marianne Rupik	1,365.00
Reading	Greta Bible	1,365.00
Fine Arts	Todd Hartman	1,365.00
Guidance	Noel Santini	1,365.00
Applied Science and Technology	Ben Holmes	1,365.00
Business	Terry George	1,365.00
Foreign Language	Davide Sciulli	1,365.00

BUILDING HEADS

Middle School	Brad Olenic	1,450.00
Middle School	Christeen Ceratti	1,450.00
Economy Elementary	Sean Beighley	1,450.00
Highland Elementary	Lauren Metz	1,450.00
State Street Elementary	Kimberly Roppa	1,450.00

3. 2020-2021 Band Camp Positions

It is recommended to approve the following band camp positions for the 2020-2021 summer band camp at the designated stipend, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening:

Assistant Percussion Instructor	Matt Hladio	\$ 700.00
Auxiliary Percussion Instructor/Wind Instructor	Katrina Levendoski	\$2,000.00
Color Guard Choreographer	Emily Gregory	\$ 500.00
Wind Instructor/Staff Arranger	Kevin Newton	\$2,000.00
Wind Instructor	Emily Zbrzezny	\$ 300.00
Wind Instructor	Robert Jarsulic	\$ 300.00

4. 2020-2021 Musical Staffing

It is recommended to approve the following musical staffing positions for the 2020-2021 musical at the designated stipend, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening:

Play Director	Jessica Patterson	\$3,000.00
Music Director	Liz Ambrose	\$1,800.00
Choreographer	Elyse Perciavalle	\$1,200.00
Teacher Sponsor	TBD	\$2,050.00
Assistant Director	TBD	\$1,200.00

5. Slippery Rock University Student Teachers

It is recommended to approve the following Slippery Rock University students, for student teaching for the 2020 fall semester, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

- a) Blaise Fatter, to be placed with Grace DeBona, High School Teacher
- b) Miranda Lasher, to be placed with Ashley Simpson, Middle School Teacher
- c) Maria Kim, to be placed with Jackie Cosky, Economy Elementary
- d) Stephanie Tame, to be placed with Tammy Kennedy and LaRita Stewart, Economy Elementary

6. Geneva College Student Teachers

It is recommended to approve the following Geneva College students, for student teaching for the 2020 fall semester, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening. Julianna will be placed with Carrie Malinich and Juliana Ronto.

- a) Julianna Ronto, to be placed with Carrie Malinich, Economy Elementary
- b) Abbey Duco, to be placed with Chelsea Benedict, High School

7. School Resource Officer Agreement Renewal

It is recommended to renew an agreement between The Ambridge Police Department and the Ambridge Area School District to provide one uniformed School Resource Officer (SRO) at the High School at a rate of \$29.31 per hour toward the salary of the SRO, as the wages for the SRO increased by 3% per the Ambridge Police Collective Bargaining Agreement. This agreement shall expire on June 30, 2021, as presented.

8. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Mr. John Booher, Assistant Principal at the High School, effective August 15, 2020, with regret.

9. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Michelle Murray, a teacher at the Middle School, effective August 18, 2020, with regret.

10. Resignation

It is recommended to accept the resignation of Jodi Gill, an Ambridge Area School District School Director, with regret.

11. 2020-2021 Fall Coach

It is recommended the following individuals be approved to fill the designated fall coaching positions for the 2020-2021 school year at a salary as per the terms of the collective bargaining agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

1) <u>Girls Golf</u>	<u>Stipends</u>
a) Head Coach, Larry Knopsnyder	\$4,300.00
b) Assistant Coach, Terry George	\$1,050.00
2) <u>Girls Volleyball</u>	
a) Head Coach, Timothy Buresh	\$4,300.00

12. Director of Business and Operations

It is recommended to ratify Keith Bielby as the Director of Business and Operations at an annual salary of \$90,000.00, effective July 1, 2020. Further, it is recommended to approve the employee agreement.

13. Appointments

It is recommended to approve the following appointments for Keith Bielby:

- a) District’s Safety Officer
- b) Safe2Say Primary Contact
- c) Right-to-Know Open Records Officer
- d) Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF) Primary Contact

14. Recall of Temporary Professional Employee

It is recommended to recall Kara Blumling into the teaching position at the Middle School, as per the terms of the collective bargaining unit.

15. Mentor Teacher

It is recommended to ratify the following mentor teacher assignment for the 2019-2020 school year, be approved as per the negotiated agreement:

<u>Mentor Teacher</u>	<u>New Teacher</u>	
Paul Hrvatin	Christine Fishel	Learning Support

16. Extended School Year Services (ESY)

It is recommended to ratify Marie Buck as the speech therapist to provide Extended School Year virtual Services to students from Monday, July 13th through Thursday, July 23rd from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement.

17. Technology Integrators

It is recommended to approve the following individuals to serve as the Technology Integrators in their assigned buildings for the 2020-2021 school year, to be paid a stipend of \$1,200.00, as per the collective bargaining agreement.

Middle School

Glenn Freed
Ashley Simpson
Amy Braund

High School

Michelle Hapich
Christina Briola
Kent Withrow

Economy

Melissa Ramer
TBD

Highland

Nicole Darroch

State Street

Lauren Tierney
TBD

18. FMLA Leave

It is recommended to approve employee#2125 taking a leave of absence under Board Policy 435, Family and Medical Leave, not to exceed 12 weeks.

19. Recall of Temporary Professional Employee

It is recommended to recall Stacey Hawranko into a Long-Term Substitute position at State Street Elementary, as per the terms of the collective bargaining unit.

20. Resignation

It is recommended to accept the resignation of Meagan Trimbur, an Ambridge Area School District School Director, with regret.

Mr. Angus moved to accept items 1-20, seconded by Ms. Pedigo. Vote in favor was unanimous, with Mrs. Mylan abstaining from item 4.

XIII. Solicitor's Report

XIV. Superintendent's Report

XV. Motion to Adjourn

At 11:10 p.m., Mrs. Fischer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Campalong. All in favor.

April Redinger
205 Brookside Dr.
Baden Pa 15005

Before making a decision on returning in the fall I would like the board to take in account the parents that do not want to send their children back to school for either safety reasons or not forcing their children to wear masks. I hope in those cases that with electronic devices now available our children can work from home and still be part of the school. I do not want to have to withdrawal my children and have to register for home schooling or cyber school. I prefer to keep them in district and send them back to school when everything is back to normal. I'm sure it won't be till after November. Either way my children will be at home as long as face masks are required.

Joelene Maslanik
16 Clara Street
Ambridge, PA 15003

Will Ambridge Area School District be using their present Ambridge Cyber School program for the remote learning? Will teachers be available for more than 1-2 hours a day for remote learning? Will communication with teachers ONLY be by email/leaving a voice message? Were there any changes made to the Ambridge Cyber School program since 2020? Were all the glitches worked out with the Ambridge Cyber School program? Could the school possibly consider ZOOM meeting classes for the days that students are doing remote learning?

Answers: The Bridger Virtual Learning Academy will offer more opportunity for face-to-face synchronous learning with AASD teachers. The AASD Cyber Academy is asynchronous self-paced learning, with little teacher interaction.

Jackie Stranko
13 Lamplighter Lane
Baden, PA 15005

If online learning occurs, I would like to know what plan the school has for students who were supposed to attend BCC&TC?

Answer: BCCTC is meeting with all School District Administrators from all of the participating schools and will release their official reopening plan upon approval.

Nicole Kurash
Harmony Township

If the plan is for children to do remote learning several days a week, when can we expect to know our individual child's schedule so that we can make child care arrangements?

Answers: The Bridger Virtual Learning Academy will follow the regular scheduled school day.

Kristen Farrell
Ambridge, PA

1. Will the online school be live?
2. Will students education transition from school to online uninterrupted, how does the online to brick and mortar work?
3. Please advise when and how long will students have to wear masks in the school building?
4. Where will they eat breakfast/lunch?
5. Will the students transfer from one class to the other? Please explain the process.
6. Will science classes be interactive still? If online will materials be provided?
7. What is the procedure if someone test positive for Covid-19 in the school?
8. What is the procedure if the state shuts down the school again?
- 9 How will laptops, books and learning material be handed out and when?
10. How will the buses be prepared for this situation, will students be delayed to school and how many students on a bus.
11. Will the teachers follow the same mask requirements as the students?
12. With online what will the hours that the teachers will be available for the students questions and concerns?
13. What will be the hours for online classes?
14. Will students be able to carry a backpack, purse or sporting equipment to school?
15. Will the school still be offering electives?

Answers: Our reopening plan is available on the website but it is subject to change depending on additional information from the state and the reconvening of the Reopening Committee. This will answer the above questions.

Unless a student is eating lunch it is recommended they wear a mask

Meals will be served according to the phase we are in – see Reopening Plan

The online hours will be a typical school day

We suggest students limit materials, there will be one student to a cubby

There will be one student to a bus seat

Briana O'Malley
Economy Boro

I also had a question I would like to ask about if my child starts out as full time remote learning in the fall is she going to have to be remote learning for the entire semester/year or if the school figures out a good safe process to bring kids back into the building are we going to be able to transition them back into in person and remote learning?

Answer: Yes

Jimmy Fabrizio
799 15th St
Ambridge, PA

While I understand that there is much at stake here, I think we can all agree that the safety of our children and teachers and our community at large is the most important issue. There is nothing happening with the Covid 19 pandemic in this country, or more specifically this county, that indicates it is a good idea to have our children be in close proximity to each other for 7 hours a day. Also, it is rather telling that we are holding this meeting to discuss this issue via zoom... the audacity it would take to meet virtually to discuss whether or not to reopen and then put our children at risk would be unsettling to say the least. While I understand the strain this can put on parents and families, it seems that the continued risk and spreading of Covid is far more pressing.

Answers: We are airing on the side of safety, opening under a hybrid model and following the CDC guidelines. It is the parents' choice, students have the option of full hybrid

mary lou parrish
913 harmony rd
baden pa 15005

what are their plans to help the kids transition to the middle school this year from elementary schools?
what are they going to do if your child has in his IEP plan to have in person IEP team meetings before school starts?

If your child has an IEP plan, is there a chance they could go back to school but stay in the autistic classroom all day with the teacher with cdc guidelines to learn instead of doing continue education only or doing the combination of both going to school and continue education ?

when will they be getting someone for special education?

what are your choices if you are a parent of a child with an IEP plan for the school year coming up?

Thank you for taking the time to answer my questions. mary lou Parrish

Answers: Reach out to the social worker to help with the transitioning

The IEP meeting will be set up virtually or in person following the CDC regulations

The IEP team will decide what would be best for the student and if they need to attend school 5 days a week

The District is in the process of interviewing for the position of Director of Special Education

Stef Huff

I am not sure if this will be touched on as well but I was hoping to find out if kindergarteners will still have a chance to do the week (or couple days) of a practice run before school begins.

Answer: Reach out to your building Principal

Rob A.
Harmony Twp. PA.

We the taxpayers require TOTAL REOPEN FOR ALL STUDENTS & STAFF!!

Any students and staff living in fear are welcome to stay home for cyber school. Everyone else can sign a waiver to return to school.

2 days a week locked down in a classroom plus more screen-time for my kid is not an education! I will homeschool if there is no total reopening.

Lastly, your Health and Safety Plan is a long-winded piece of fine-print lawyer speak.

Answer: The Bridger Virtual Learning Academy will offer more opportunity for face-to-face synchronous learning with AASD teachers. The AASD Cyber Academy is asynchronous self-paced learning, with little teacher interaction.

Kelly Romasco of Economy Boro

As a parent, cyber teacher, and cyber administrator I have several questions as to the implementation of the current reopening plan. It is not easy for a brick and mortar district to quickly implement a cyber or hybrid program. I appreciate the time and effort made by the committee. As a parent of four kids in the district, I obviously do not want to see tax dollars leaving the district. However, we all have to make a very difficult decision about what is best for our individual students' needs. This decision must be made with as many facts as possible. I would greatly appreciate an answer to each question below.

How are you going to implement teachers teaching students in the physical classroom while at the same time teaching students online? It is very difficult to master one of those at a time let alone both. Do you plan to have two teachers per classroom, one teaching live and the other monitoring the interaction of students online?

Do you have plans to increase your tech department to handle the large influx of tech issues that will occur with a hybrid program?

What are your expectations that this will all be ready to go by the first day of school? When are the devices expected to be delivered to the district and then to the students?

What professional development are you offering to teachers who have had little to no training in online teaching?

What are the guidelines for shutting down the school if a teacher or student becomes infected with the coronavirus? Will you be going fully online for a period of time immediately following every positive result of a student or teacher? If so would you be attempting to then bring everyone back to the hybrid model after 2 weeks?

On a different topic, what is the plan for hiring a middle school cheer coach and assistant high school soccer coach?

As always, I am more than willing to help be a part of the solution to make our cyber and hybrid programs the best in the area. Please let me know how I can assist.

Thank you for your time.

Answers: There will not be two teachers in a classroom, however the teacher will balance the in-class group while interacting with those that are attending online.

The district will continue to review and monitor the amount of support necessary throughout the process. (in addition to the AASD technology staff, we currently have a third party contract with Communications Consulting Incorporated (CCI) for additional technology support).
We are currently developing a formal process to safely distribute devices.

Amanda Stettler
555 Ridge Road

I have a few questions I would like to submit regarding the re-opening plan for the upcoming school year.

- >
- > My name is Amanda Stettler, I have a child entering fifth grade at Highland Elementary. My address is 555 Ridge Road.
- >
- > 1. Will parents be required to send tissues, hand sanitizer and disinfectant at the beginning of the year, like previous years? If yes, how soon will parents be notified? Due to the national shortage and availability of these products in general, what is the process if not enough can be supplied to each classroom?
- >
- > 2. What is the policy for students that refuse to wear a mask when required as outlined in the plan?
- >
- > 3. If families do not feel comfortable sending their child back to school, is there an option for a completely remote school year?
- >
- > 4. What is the timeframe for notifying parents when their child comes in contact with a person that tests positive for COVID-19? How many days prior to the positive test will you investigate how many students/teachers/district staff this person came in contact with? How will this be communicated to parents?
- >
- > 5. If a parent drives their child to school are parents expected to wait until the child completes their temperature check in case the child is to be sent home?
- >
- > 6. With the reduction in the amount of classes the students will have each day and the addition to hand washing and cleaning, will the school hours change for the year?
- >
- > 7. If students are exposed to a person that tests positive for COVID-19 and are required to quarantine for 14 days, are these students expected to continue with remote learning, so long as their health permits?
- >
- > 8. What number of positive COVID-19 cases within each school would cause the school to close or move to complete remote learning?
- >
- > 9. How will laptops/iPads be distributed to students?
- >
- > 10. Will students and parents complete any training on the proper use of the laptop/iPad?
- >
- > 11. In the event the laptop/iPad breaks or malfunctions, will the parents be responsible for covering the cost of repair?
- >
- > 12. Has the school adopted a new at home learning platform? Or will students still use Sharepoint?
- >

> 13. If the school district qualifies for free/reduced breakfast and lunch for the 2020-21 school year, can families expect to be reimbursed for the days the student is not physically in the building similar to the process at the end of the last school year?

>

> 14. Should school supplies be purchased in bulk at the beginning of the year or will this now be handled quarterly to allow for less shared space in the class room?

>

> 15. Will schools be contacted by local daycare centers when a daycare employee tests positive and Ambridge students are possibly exposed?

16. > I understand and appreciate all of the time and effort that goes into planning a school year let alone a school year during a pandemic.

>

> Thank you for taking the time to review my questions and concerns.

>

Answers: The district is ordering sanitizer, tissue, etc. in bulk from the BVIU, and the district would appreciate donations of these supplies if they have the means

The goal is to have students wear their masks, will look at health issues on an individual basis and we will district will continue follow the CDC guidelines.

There is an option for full remote learning.

If there is a COVID case the District will notify the PA Health Department to do contact tracing, disinfect the areas.

If a parent drives there child to school, the District would appreciate if the parent would wait a few minutes to make sure the child does not have a temperature.

The school hours will not change, the students will follow the regular scheduled school day.

If a student test positive for COVID, they should quarantine for 14 days and work fully remote during that period.

Cherie Paugh (daughter is Alexis Paugh – to attend Economy Elementary)

1830 Simpson Ct

Ambridge, PA 15003

- Questions related to remote learning (whether by choice, by district decision, or state mandate):
 - I understand each student in the district will be provided with a tablet or computer for remote learning. Since some students may be in child care or may be in homes with other family members in virtual environments, please respond to the following questions:
 - Will students be provided with a headset with a microphone compatible with the learning device they receive from the district?
 - What type/brand of devices will be supplied to the students? Will they have a USB port for headphones/microphones and keyboards? Will they only have Bluetooth capability for external peripherals?
 - Since some families will have to assist their children in the evenings after the workday, will the virtual classes be recorded and made immediately accessible to these families?

- If a student is not able to participate in the virtual class meeting and watches the recording, what avenues will be available for communicating with the teachers? How will attendance be taken if a recording is watched and attendance cannot be done by presence in live meeting?
- For kindergarteners and children that cannot read well yet, how will remote learning be tailored for them? How much assistance from an adult is going to be required for these children? How can we assure children do not fall behind the students that have dedicated individuals to help them during the school day (how do we not punish the working families)?

When it says students will be allowed a clear water bottle, does that mean it has to be completely clear or can the bottle be tinted a color (pink, blue, etc) that is still see-through?

Answers: K-5 Students will receive iPads and 6-12 will receive laptops

We will have teacher's record key notes and will have teachers help students with missing assignments and give extra time to make up the work, if missed.

The teachers will make it as engaging as possible for the Kindergarten classes and they will have access to their teachers.

Jeena Jodikinos
900 Beaver Road, Apt B
Ambridge PA 15003

I like the blended learning idea, however if we are to still do some work online, my son needs alot more help than what was offered this past spring. It is extremely hard to try and teach a child something new when we dont have any teaching experience. Especially for the children with learning disabilities. Some of the other schools in other districts had a teacher online in video calls or zoom. We did not have that option therefore making my son's learning experience much harder because of his needs. At least if there was a person he could actually see he would want to be more engaged and would focus much better. Please take this into consideration for children that dont learn at a fast pace or who have learning disabilities.

Erica Caprini parent of Nico Caprini 8th grade
762 Valley Rd, Ambridge, PA 15003

If we return to Red or students cannot attend school again what is the plan for electronic or remote instruction? The end of the year plan was not acceptable considering there was no live, recorded, or face to face instruction or interaction at all. Is there a plan to utilize platforms for e-learning such as Zoom, Google Classroom, or Microsoft Teams? What happens if family members in the same home are possibly ill or test positive for covid-19? Are students supposed to quarantine at home rather than attend? Is there an all online option available if students have high risk family members or if they are unavailable to return to school for an extended period of time? Can you please clarify the transportation plan portion where it indicated separate seats "if possible." Are there routes where the plan accounts for a capacity that would not allow separate seats? Will my son's busing route still require changing buses? Can we clarify these plans with the bus company directly?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Answer: The district is offering a variety of platforms including Office 365, Schoology, and Seesaw. Remote learning will be with live instruction via Microsoft Teams. There will be multiple platforms used, all facilitated by a teacher.

John Chickos
1510 Duss Avenue
Ambridge Pa 15003

Are the teachers going to be available the whole school day online or by text on the days of online instruction? The reason I ask this is, in my opinion the very limited time that the teachers were available at the end of the school year was not sufficient enough for instruction for those students that struggle with learning. Also three of my kids are my step children coming from schools in West Virginia, where as their teachers were available Monday thru Friday during regular school hours as if the kids were in school by text or by email. Those teachers responded via video or phone call within 5 minutes and made sure that the kids understood their lesson.

Also, im going to have 5 kids in school this year in 3 different buildings are the days of in school instruction going to be the same days during the week for all the kids, so that it helps with childcare purposes?

If fall sports are canceled are those sports going to be played in the spring?

Will this year seniors be taking the ACT test during the beginning of the year because they were canceled at the end of the year while they were juniors?

Answers: The students will follow a traditional schedule and there will be opportunities for real-time interaction using the Bridger Virtual Learning Academy, facilitated through Microsoft Teams, with other students in the classroom and the teacher.

A variety of factors will be utilized to determine Garnet and Gray groupings; however, primarily it will be decided by transportation runs and students residing in the same household. Garnet days will be Mondays and Wednesdays and gray days will be Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The district will continue to get updates from the PIAA that will help guide our local decisions on athletics.

Mark & Sarah Kwolek

) Pg 13, second cell down - the 25 student max seems arbitrary since some classrooms are smaller than others and with this many students, might not be able to accommodate the 6' distance called for below. I feel like this confuses the issue and that the 6' goal should be the standard, not the number of students in a space.

2) Pg 16, first cell - will students be allowed to wear their own masks to school or are they required to use school issued masks (from pg. 34 it sounds like the school issued masks are really just for students who forget their own or have one that is no longer wearble)? If the former, are there restrictions on the type/style/make of the mask that need to be followed by parents? Secondly, will students be allowed to bring their own hand sanitizer for personal use?

3) The mask wearing protocol is a bit confusing. On pg. 34 it states ALL Students will face wear coverings in the hallways, on buses and in other areas at all times (for yellow and green). On pg. 16 under green phase there

is an additional bullet that states, "When seated at their desk, or in the cafeteria, students may remove their masks." Pg 47 reiterates green phase on p. 16 so I am assuming that is what will be expected. Also, there is no mention of masks under the sports section at all. Will students be asked to wear masks while playing sports? Will people in attendance be asked to wear masks when observing sport events? Does this apply indoors and outdoors?

4) Particularly for elementary students, how will they get the brain/play breaks needed for their development and ability to stay focused with playgrounds closed even in green. It feels like this needs a plan and needs to be clearly stated.

5) In regard to exposure, will we continue to get broadcast reports of every exposure (this could become really cumbersome and also anxiety provoking if the numbers rise with school starting back)? What is the protocol if someone is exposed vs. someone tests positive (asymptomatic or with symptoms) and has interacted with one group or multiple groups of students/staff? Does everyone quarantine? If so, for how long?

6) While this document helpfully outlines the health and safety procedures, it does not give any clues to how online education will be conducted. As a parent of 3 children in the district, I would like to know the instructional plan. Will it be synchronous/asynchronous? Will students be in a classroom setting (lectures with video/audio realtime interaction) with a set schedule for at home days (PLEASE LET THIS BE SO!!!), specific expectations, work to be completed, deadlines, etc. Can we expect normal grading periods and practices in this new school year?

Respectfully submitted,

Answers: Yes, as long as they have one that fits the CDC guidelines and is appropriate for school. If they do not have a mask or forget their mask, one will be provided to them.

Per the directive of the department of health students are recommended to wear masks. If guidance changes from the department of health, the district will reserve the right to reconsider. They will wear masks unless they are eating breakfast/lunch that has been updated in the Reopening Plan.

Teachers have traditionally provided age appropriate brain breaks for students and will continue to do so in this setting, keeping in line with appropriate social distancing and safety protocols.

The district will continue to send correspondence regarding exposure to COVID-19 cases.

Paulette Schleiter
383 Prospect Street
Baden, Pennsylvania 15005

Dear Ambridge Area School District School Board Member:

After looking at the academic calendars for Options A and B Reopening Plan, I feel that Option A is the better of the two plans. One change to that plan needs to be made. Wednesday should absolutely be the off day in order to have the building properly sanitized to allowed the next group of students attend on Thursday and Friday safely.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion.

Answer: The janitorial department has been trained in cleaning by a third party company, they will clean during the school day and each nigh.

James Turko, Economy Boro

This is from James Turko a resident at 540 Moonridge Dr. Freedom, PA 15042 with one child at Economy Elementary and one child at the Middle School. I'd like to know how the teachers will monitor that the kids are logged on to the online classroom when they are scheduled to be online? For example, if my child has problems logging on to the online classroom while both parents are at work all day? How are the teachers going to monitor who is missing and how will they be able to assist them? It seems there would be a possibility that the child would miss out on class due to technical difficulties they could experience at home. Not every household has a parent at home during the day. Is this issue being addressed?

Answers: If you have technology issues, please call the AASD Helpdesk at 724-266-2833 x 4357. The district is exploring options to be able to record key components of a teacher's lessons that would be posted for a set amount of time. Attendance for remote learning is contingent upon the PA Department of Education guidance. The district will continue to monitor the guidance communicated from PDE around student attendance.

AUTUMN BENES
912 MELROSE AVE
AMBRIDGE, PA 15003

I THINK "OPTION B" WOULD BE THE BETTER CHOICE. IT WOULD ALLOW THE CHILDREN TO ATTEND CLASS EVERY OTHER DAY. THUS GIVING THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE IN PERSON INTERACTION WITH TEACHERS AND CLASSMATES. IT WOULD ALSO ELIMINATE THE LARGE GAPS OF TIME BETWEEN IN PERSON LEARNING ALLOWING FOR THE STUDENTS TO BETTER RETAIN INFORMATION.

HOWEVER, I WOULD ASK THAT NO MATTER WHICH OPTION THE DISTRICT CHOOSES, THAT THEY KEEP ALL CHILDREN IN THE SAME FAMILY ON THE SAME GARNET OR GRAY SCHEDULE.

THNAK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.