

**Minutes for the regularly scheduled monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Gymnasium on Wednesday, May 19, 2021.**

- I. Call to Order:** Mrs. Fischer called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 p.m.  
The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District Board of Directors on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, is now called to order.
- II. Flag Salute-Please rise:** Mrs. Fischer asked all present to rise for the flag salute.
- III. Notice:** Mrs. Fischer 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.
- IV. Roll Call**

Mrs. Cathy Fischer, President  
Mr. Scott Angus, Vice President  
Mrs. Mary Jo Kehoe, Treasurer  
Mr. Chuck Campalong  
Mrs. Kathleen Curtis  
Mrs. Denise Manganello  
Mr. William Metz  
Ms. Valerie Pedigo

Others Present  
Dr. Joseph W. Pasquerilla, Superintendent  
Mr. Barry J. King, Assistant to the Superintendent  
Ms. Megan Turnbull, Solicitor  
Mrs. June Mueller, Board Secretary

**V. Sunshine Law**

The Board of School Directors held an Executive Session on Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)

**VI. Correspondence**

No Correspondence

**VII. Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of:** April 14<sup>th</sup> Meet and Discuss Voting Meeting, April 14<sup>th</sup> Non-Voting Meeting, April 21<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting

Mr. Angus moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Campalong. All in favor.

**VIII. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report dated: April 2021**

Mrs. Kehoe moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Mr. Campalong. All in favor.

**IX. Amendment/Addendum to Agenda/Approval of Agenda**

Added Item 1 under Public Relations

Added Item 2 under Public Relations

Mr. Metz moved to add item 1 under Public Relations, seconded by Mrs. Fischer. All in favor.

Mr. Angus moved to add item 2 under Public Relations, seconded by Mr. Campalong. All in favor.

**X. Recognition/Presentation****Dr. Pasquerilla** - would like to recognize the 2020-2021 Retirees

Joanne Gonzalez, a Teacher at the High School - 35 Years of Service

Erin Malatesta, a Teacher at Economy Elementary - 34 Years of Service

Grace DeBona, a Teacher at the High School - 34 Years of Service

Marianne Rupik, an Elementary School Librarian- 29 Years of Service

Randy Mercadante, a Teacher at the High School - 28 Years of Service

Nancy Boswell, a Teacher at Economy Elementary – 28 Years of Service

Lisabeth Peters, a Teacher at State Street Elementary – 28 Years of Service

Susan Somerville, a Teacher at Economy Elementary – 26 Years of Service

Terry George, a Teacher at the High School – 24 Years of Service

Jennifer Grabski, a Teacher at the High School – 22 Years of Service

Bonnie Jacquell, a Teacher at Economy Elementary – 22 Years of Service

Marie Dewar, a Teacher at the High School – 21 Years of Service

Kathy Meder, School Nurse at Economy Elementary – 24 Years of Service

**Mr. Campalong** – would like to recognize the Varsity Football Head Coach

Welcome Coach Sherman McBride!

**Dr. Pasquerilla** – Pandemic Coordinator Re-Opening Committee Presentation**XI. 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' comments/questions 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.

No Public Comments

**XII. Committee Reports****Education and Technology****Mrs. Manganello****1. Slippery Rock University Affiliation Agreement, Department of Nursing**

It is recommended to approve a five (5) year Affiliation Agreement, Department of Nursing between Slippery Rock University and the Ambridge Area School District.

**2. Student Discipline**

It is recommended to ratify discipline agreement 2020-2021-04 relevant to a Middle School student, effective April 30, 2021.

**3. Settlement Agreement**

It is recommended to approve the settlement agreement between the District and student 2021-1. It is further recommended to authorize the Administration to take all steps in accordance therewith.

**4. 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.

**5. Participation in the Ambridge Area School District Graduation Ceremony**

It is recommended that the following JROTC cadet, who participated in the District's JROTC Program, be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony. The Cadet will not be receiving a diploma from the District.

Justin Baker – Rochester School District

**6. Sunrise School – Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU)**

It is recommended to ratify an agreement with Sunrise School (AIU) for the 2020-2021 school year, pending final review of the Solicitor.

Mrs. Manganello moved to accept items 1-6, seconded by Mr. Metz. Vote in favor was unanimous.

**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 \$1,357,185.70 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,276,063.93 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$63,855.93 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$46,450.85 be paid.

3. Resolution 2020-2021-8

It is recommended to approve Resolution 2020-2021-8, to authorize signers on the District PNC Bank account.

4. Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA)

It is recommended to approve the renewal dues for the Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) All-Access Package for a total cost of \$2,480.00, at no additional cost to the District.

5. Rescind

It is recommended to rescind Board action taken at the October 21, 2020 Board Meeting, Item 5c under Finance and Budget, approving sale of repository property.

6. Student/Athletic Insurance

a) It is recommended that United States Fire Insurance Company (PSBA endorsed) be approved for **voluntary** student insurance coverage for the 2021-2022 school term beginning August 1, 2021. Goodwin & Gruber Agency will act as the insurance broker. The medical limits are \$250,000.00 with a one-year period. The rate for school-time coverage is \$22.50 and \$90.00 for 24-hour coverage.

b) It is recommended that United States Fire Insurance Company be approved for student **athletic** coverage at a cost of \$10,915.00 to insure interscholastic athletes, band, and cheerleaders. The medical limit for sports is \$1,000,000.00 with a two-year benefit period. Plan 1 which pays all medical expenses "Usual & Customary" will be used. The premium includes a field trip endorsement for all one-day field trips (in Pennsylvania) for coverage up to \$2,500.00 per student.

\*At the same cost as last year.

7. Technology Support Agreement

It is recommended to approve a three-year agreement with Communications Consulting, Inc., as presented. The performance period will run from July 2021 through June 2024 for the total cost of \$292,500.00, which is the same three-year cost as the previous three-year contract, pending final review of the Solicitor.

8. Ambulance Service

It is recommended to approve an agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and the Non-Profit Emergency Services of Beaver County, Medic Rescue, for a period of one year commencing on July 1, 2021, at an annual fee of \$3,400.00, at the same cost to the District as last year.

9. Proposed Final Budget for the 2021-2022 School Year

It is recommended to approve the Proposed Final General Operating Fund Budget for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year with Expenditures of \$50,671,927.00. The Proposed Final Budget is on display for public inspection at the Administration Office and online on our website.

10. Services Agreement Reinstatement

It is recommended to approve the Third Party Administrative Services Agreement Reinstatement for continuation of 403(b)/457(b) administration services by the Omni Group for the 2021-2022 school year as per the Fee Schedule for 2021-202, as the same cost to the District as last year.

11. Grant Acceptance

It is recommended a grant awarded in the amount of \$25,000.00 be accepted from The Project Lead Way Grant. This grant is to be used to provide professional development and equipment to our Technology Education and STEAM Programs. The Middle School was allotted \$10,000.00 and the elementary schools were allotted \$5,000.00 each. Thank you to Scott Setzenfand, Kristin Holmes and Nicole Darroch for being instrumental in securing this grant.

Ms. Pedigo moved to accept items 1-11, seconded by Mr. Metz. Vote in favor was unanimous.

**Buildings and Grounds**

**Mr. Angus**

**Athletics**

**Mr. Campalong**

**Public Relations**

**Mr. Metz**

1. Meeting Date Changes

It is recommended to change the June 2021 Meet and Discuss meeting to Thursday, June 3, 2021, and the June Board Meeting to Tuesday, June 15, 2021. The meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Gymnasium.

## 2. 2021 Graduation Ceremony

It is recommended that the graduation ceremony for the Class of 2021 be held in the high school gymnasium. All participants will be required to wear a mask, with the exception of individuals removing their masks to give speeches and during pictures. It was furthermore approved to grant each graduate six tickets.

## **Steering and Rules**

**Mrs. Kehoe**

### 1. Policy 137.1 – Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students – Final Reading

It is recommended, as a final reading, to adopt School Board Policy 137.1 – *Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students*, to approve participation in the district's extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletic programs by a student enrolled in a home education program who meets all the conditions stated in Board Policies 122, 123 and 137.

### 2. Policy 150 – Title I – Comparability of Services – Final Reading

It is recommended, as a final reading, to revise School Board Policy 150 – *Title I – Comparability of Services* to direct each district school building receiving Title I funds to use state and local funds to provide services that, taken as a whole, are at least comparable to services in those schools in the district that do not receive Title I funds.

### 3. Policy 340 – Responsibility for Student Welfare – Final Reading

It is recommended, as a final reading, to adopt School Board Policy 340 – *Responsibility for Student Welfare* to ensure appropriate oversight of and responsibility for student welfare by administrative, professional and support employees.

### 4. Policy 707 – Use of Facilities – Final Reading

It is recommended, as a final reading, to revise School Board Policy 707 - *Use of Facilities* to make school facilities available to individuals and community groups without discrimination and in accordance with this policy, provided the use does not interfere with the education program of the schools. This policy establishes conditions, restrictions and procedures for the use of school facilities for non-school sponsored purposes.

### 5. Policy 810.1 School Bus Drivers and School Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers – Final Reading

It is recommended, as a final reading, to revise School Board Policy 810.1 - *School Bus Drivers and School Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers* to recognize that an employee must be fit to operate a school bus and commercial motor vehicle to ensure the health and safety of students being transported.

6. Policy 810.3 – School Vehicle Drivers – Final Reading

It is recommended, as a final reading, to adopt School Board Policy 810.3 – *School Vehicle Drivers* to recognize that an employee must be fit to operate a school vehicle to ensure the health and safety of students being transported.

7. Policy 832 Educational Equity – Final Reading

It is recommended, as a final reading, to adopt School Board Policy 832 – *Educational Equity* to prioritize the principle of educational equity through the fair and just allocation of resources, opportunities and treatment of students based upon each individual student's needs.

8. Policy 246 School Wellness – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second reading, to revise School Board Policy 246 – *School Wellness* to recognize that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to students' physical well-being, growth, development and readiness to learn.

Mrs. Kehoe moved to accept items 1-8, seconded by Mr. Metz. Vote in favor was unanimous.

**Legislative**

**Ms. Young**

1. Board of School Directors of the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit (BVIU) Mail Ballot

It is recommended the 2021 mail ballot be cast for the 2021-2022 Board of School Directors of the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit. The term of the Board of School Directors of the BVIU elected by this ballot shall be for three (3) years beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024 as provided in the School Code.

Ms. Pedigo moved to accept item 1, seconded by Mr. Metz. Vote in favor was unanimous.

**Salary Schedule and Labor Relations**

**Mrs. Curtis**

Nothing to report.

**Personnel**

**Mr. Angus**

1. Resignation

It is recommended to ratify the resignation of Rachel Wetzel, a Food Service Worker at the Middle School, effective April 26, 2021, with regret.

2. Substitute Cafeteria/Food Service Assistant

It is recommended Rachel Wetzel be hired as a substitute cafeteria/food service assistant, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

3. Resignation

It is recommended to ratify the resignation of Rob Van Rheenen, the Varsity Boys' Soccer Head Coach, effective May 13, 2021, with regret.

4. Food Service Worker

It is recommended to approve Lisa Loskoch as a Food Service Assistant at Economy Elementary, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

5. Practicum Hours

It is recommended to approve Bethany Hokenbrough, a Slippery Rock University Student enrolled in the School Nurse Certification Program to complete 100 practicum hours virtually (in-person, if possible) at the Middle School for the fall 2021 semester, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

6. Extended School Year Services

- a. It is recommended the following teachers be approved to provide Extended School Year services to students from Monday July 12, 2021 through Thursday, July 15, 2021 and Monday July 19, 2021 through Thursday, July 22, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Highland Elementary School at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement:

Jamie Wellman  
Melissa Thomas  
Steve Hrvatin  
Rachel Shannon

- b. It is recommended the following speech teacher be approved to provide Extended School Year services to students from Monday July 12, 2021 through Thursday, July 15, 2021 and Monday July 19, 2021 through Thursday, July 22, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Highland Elementary School at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement:

Marie Buck



- c. It is recommended the following nurse be approved to provide Extended School Year and Summer School services to students from Monday July 12, 2021 through Thursday, July 15, 2021 and Monday July 19, 2021 through Thursday, July 22, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Highland Elementary School at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement. The school nurse will be responsible for billing ACCESS:

Sharon Kilmer

- d. It is recommended the following para-educators be approved to provide Extended School Year services to students from Monday July 12, 2021 through Thursday, July 15, 2021 and Monday July 19, 2021 through Thursday, July 22, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Highland Elementary School at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement:

Molly Bell  
Kim Bichey  
Marcie Shaffer  
Lisa Patton

7. Slippery Rock University Student Teachers

It is recommended to approve the following Slippery Rock University students, for student teaching for the 2021 fall semester, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

- a) Sarah Wells, High School – to be placed with Kent Withrow
- b) Victoria Hartman, High School – to be placed with Georgia Barlamas

8. Geneva College Student Teacher

It is recommended to approve Peyton Schell, a Geneva College student, for student teaching for the 2021 fall semester, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening Peyton will be placed with Jodi Musser.

9. Employee Agreement

It is recommended to approve the employee agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and Nicholas Snyder. The agreement will commence on July 1, 2021 and expire on June 30, 2024.

10. Credit Recovery

It is recommended to ratify the following individuals as instructors for monitoring the Credit Recovery course work asynchronously. The Credit Recovery Program will be for grades 9-12 and will operate from Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup> through Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. The fees paid by the student will cover all costs affiliated with the program.

Karen DeMarco, Biology  
 Terri Moon Kutzavich, Chemistry  
 Greg Helsel, English  
 Jennifer Phillips, English  
 Shad Greco, Math  
 Jodi Musser, Math  
 Paul Hladio, Science  
 Christina Briola, Social Studies

11. Termination

It is recommended to authorize the separation of Employee #2895, subject to due process rights arising under the School Code.

12. FMLA

It is recommended to approve employee #1726 taking an intermittent leave of absence under Board Policy 435, Family and Medical Leave beginning May 19, 2021, not to exceed 12 weeks.

13. Rescind

It is recommended to rescind the approval of Edward Thornton as an Assistant Football Coach to be paid a stipend of \$5,000.00, approved at the April 14, 2021 Meet and Discuss Voting Meeting.

14. 2021-2022 Fall Coaches

It is recommended to ratify the following individuals to fill the designated fall coaching positions for 2021-2022 school years 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, provided the school year allows and coaches are able to hold fall sports as normal.

1. <u>Football</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Ernest Genes, Assistant Coach	\$5,000.00
b) Edward Thornton, Assistant Coach	\$4,200.00
c) Lynwood Alford, Assistant Coach	\$4,200.00
d) Dan Hilton, Assistant Coach	\$4,200.00
e) Xiyraill Banet, Weightlifting Coach	\$3,500.00
f) Keith Odem, Volunteer	No Remuneration

Mr. Angus moved to accept items 1-14, seconded by Mr. Metz. Vote in favor was unanimous.

**XIII. Solicitor's Report**

Ms. Turnbull reported that the Ridge Road property RFP response were due by May 3, 2021 and we have received no responses. The property remains ours and it is back to the drawing board on how the property shall be used and how the Board sees fit.

**XIV. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Pasquerilla wanted to congratulate all of the retirees for their hard work and stated that it has been a pleasure to be able to work with them throughout his years in the Ambridge Area School District and wished them nothing but the best.

**XV. 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.

Mrs. Fischer has had several people inquire about the use of the District tracks. The Board has agreed to open the tracks for use to the community, closed during school hours. The hours of use will be posted on the District website.

The Board thanked the retirees for their years of services and without them our children would not gain the success that they do.

**XVI. Motion to Adjourn**

At approximately 7:55 p.m. Mrs. Fischer moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Campalong. All in favor.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Mrs. June Mueller**  
**Board Secretary**