

Minutes for the Meet and Discuss Voting Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Auditorium on Wednesday, October 13, 2021.

I. Call to Order – Mrs. Fischer called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 p.m.

The Meet and Discuss Voting Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District is held on Wednesday, October 13, 2021. This meeting is being held 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 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
Mrs. Kathleen Curtis
Dr. Denise Manganello
Mr. William Metz
Ms. Valerie Pedigo
Ms. Valerie Young

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

V. Sunshine Law

Mrs. DeMase read the following:

The Board of School Directors held Executive Session(s) on Wednesday, October 13th to discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)
- Matters subject to attorney client privilege and other confidentiality laws
- Litigation or threatened litigation matters

VI. Amendments to the Agenda/Approval of the Agenda

VII. Recognition/Presentation

School Board Service

Dr. Pasquerilla would like to present Mr. Scott Angus with the Pennsylvania School Board Association Certificate of Appreciation for his 12 years of service on the Ambridge Area School District Board of School Directors.

Congratulations Mr. Angus and thank you!

Congratulations to Coach Sherman McBride – Mrs. Fischer

Sherman McBride was selected by the Steelers as the Coach of the Week. The Bridgers defeated Hopewell 35-9 in Class 3A Northwestern 6 Conference battle. The victory ends a 28-game losing streak by the Bridgers, and is the first of Coach McBride's head coaching career after being named head coach earlier this year. He served as an assistant coach for 21 years under former two-time Steelers Coach of the year winner, Mike Zmijanac.

Congratulations Coach!!

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' 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 Comments

IX. LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR THIS MEETING

Education and Technology

Dr. Manganello

1. Student Discipline 2021-2022-07

It is recommended to ratify discipline agreement for student #3236637102 relevant to a High School student, effective September 16, 2021.

2. Student Discipline 2021-2022-08

It is recommended to ratify discipline agreement for student #3838563689 relevant to a High School student, effective October 5, 2021.

Dr. Manganello moved to accept items 1-2, seconded by Mr. Metz. Vote in favor was unanimous.

Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Angus

1. Building Repairs

It is recommended to accept the proposals received from Huckestein through State Contracting to replace a Trane Rooftop Unit at State Street Elementary. The unit will cost \$10,296.00.

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

Personnel

Mr. Angus

1. Professional Employee

It is recommended to approve Michelle Hooten as a Pre-K Teacher, at a salary of \$45,671.00 (Bachelor, Step 1), effective date to be determined, as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Association AAEEA/PSEA Agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

2. Professional Employee

It is recommended to approve Mary Lu Schluep as an Ambridge Area Middle School 6th Grade All Subject Teacher, at a salary of \$46,101.00 (Bachelor, Step 1 +24), effective date to be determined, as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Association AAEEA/PSEA Agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

3. Professional Employee

It is recommended to approve Mia Gantz as an Ambridge Area High School Guidance Counselor, at a salary of \$46,581.00 (Master Step 1), effective date to be determined, as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Association AAEEA/PSEA Agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

4. 2021-2022 Fall Coaches

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

a) Girls Middle School Basketball

Lethera Harrison, Coach	\$1,750.00
Craig Wiltrek, Coach	\$1,750.00

5. Department Head Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Noel Santini from her position as the K-12 Guidance Department Head, effective October 14, 2021, with regret.

6. Clubs / Activities

It is recommended to ratify the resignation of Noel Santini from her position of the National Honor Society Club Sponsor, effective August 24, 2021, with regret.

7. Department Head Resignation

It is recommended to ratify the resignation of Michelle Wilson from her position as Library Department Head, effective August 16, 2021, with regret.

8. Posted Position: Department Head

It is recommended to approve the following individual who has applied for the specified posted positions for the 2021-2022 school year be approved at the salary designated in the negotiated agreement:

<u>DEPARTMENT HEADS</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
<u>K-12</u>	
Guidance, Noel Santini	\$ 303.33
Guidance, Chelsea Benedict	\$1,061.67

9. Posted Positions: Clubs / Activities

It is recommended to ratify the following individuals who have applied for the specified posted positions for the 2021-2022 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 activities as normal.

<u>ACTIVITY/CLUB (High School)</u>		<u>SALARY</u>
Senior High Play Director	Todd Hartman	\$2,050.00
Bowling	Shana Dowlin	750.00
Student Council	Greg Mell	470.00
Black Student Union	Jennifer Cuspard	470.00

10. Substitute Social Worker

It is recommended to approve an Educational Institution Staffing Agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and Maxim Healthcare Staffing to provide personnel to supplement Educational Institution's staff, **pending solicitor review.**

Mr. Angus moved to accept items 1-10, seconded by Mrs. Kehoe. Vote in favor was unanimous.

X. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pasquerilla spoke on busing issues. He asked that if a bus is late, please let us know. We have shortages in many positions to including transportation. Rhodes Transit is looking for new drivers. Buses are making double runs. Dr. Pasquerilla apologized for the inconvenience.

XI. Solicitor's Report

No Report

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.

- William Taylor III, Ambridge, PA
 - Concerns with incident involving his grandson and Mrs. DeMarco and it not being dealt with in the proper way.
 - ✓ Dr. Pasquerilla asked for contact information and will contact the student's mother.
- Larissa, Ambridge, PA
 - Concerns with Mrs. DeMarco bullying students.
- Ms. Stevens, Ambridge, PA
 - Concerns with COVID quarantining rules.
 - Sent in hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes to her kids teacher and they were returned to her. She would like to know why.
 - She wants to know what parents can do to help.
- Community Resident
 - Questioned regarding the hiring process and when interviews were held because she referred a few people and they were never called for an interview.
 - ✓ Mrs. Fischer will provide dates of the interview.
- Isaac, Baden, PA
 - Would like the district to provide to him demographic information for applicants who apply to our district.
 - Concerns with bullying policy not being followed. Students have been using racial slurs to bully his children.
 - ✓ Mrs. Fischer had him write down his contact information and will follow up with him.
- Kristen Paxton, Economy Boro
 - Requested a status update on the Middle School SRO
- Adrianna Cephus, Ambridge, PA
 - Is against bringing back the old SRO back to the Middles School, he is not a rule follower, and he targets African American students at the Middle School.
 - Concerns with not having a 6th grade math teacher in place at the Middle School. The 6th grade students need a consistent teacher to prepare them for the state assessments.

XIII. Motion to Adjourn the Voting Meeting

At approximately 8:00 p.m. Mrs. Fischer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Curtis. All in favor.

October 13, 2021

AMBRIDGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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RECONVENE THE MEET AND DISCUSS

Respectfully Submitted,

June Mueller, Board Secretary