

**AMBRIDGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**AGENDA**

**May 18, 2022**

**7:00 P.M.**

**High School Auditorium**

**I. Call to Order**

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District Board of Directors on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, is now called to order.

**II. Flag salute-please rise**

**III. Notice** 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**

**V. Sunshine Law**

The Board of School Directors held an Executive Session on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss:

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

**Point of Information**

The annual School Safety and Security Board Report was reviewed, consistent with Act 44 of 2018.

**VI. Correspondence**

**VII. Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, Meet and Discuss Non-Voting and Voting Meeting, and Wednesday, April 20, 2022 Board Meeting.**

**VIII. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report dated: April 2022**

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

**Item 3 under Education and Technology was removed from the agenda.**

Field Trip

It is recommended to grant permission to JROTC cadets, Lance Bobak and Elise Propst, with parental permission, to travel to Kerrville, Texas from July 6<sup>th</sup> through July 12<sup>th</sup> to participate in the Sports Network International drill camp conducted at Schreiner University. The purpose of this trip is to build teamwork, enhance camaraderie amongst the cadets, develop leadership skills, and increase unit cohesion. All student costs will be paid for by the Marine Corps and the chaperone cost to be determined. Chaperones will be required to have current clearances, and TB testing.

**Added Item 8 under Steering and Rules and Legislative**

**X. Recognition/Presentation**

**Beaver County Career and Technology**

Congratulations to Kensy Lopez, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, for her induction into the National Technical Honor Society.

**Varsity Ambridge-Avonworth Hockey Co-op**

Mark Rauenswinter, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade, was selected to the PIHL All-Star team.

**Middle School Ambridge-Avonworth Hockey Co-op**

Winning back-to-back championships with a record of 12-2.

Alexa Best, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Charlie Stefanik, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

***Congratulations to the Student-Athletes!***

**Ambridge Area Musical**

Congratulations to Emily Deane, 11<sup>th</sup> grader, for receiving a Henry Mancini Musical Theatre Award nomination for “Best Supporting Actress” as Aunt Eller in the school musical, Oklahoma!

**High School Student of the Month**

***April Students of the Month***

12<sup>th</sup>- Brandon Streb

11<sup>th</sup>- Norah Best

10<sup>th</sup>- Ava Timmons

9<sup>th</sup>- Madeleine Gelin

**High School Extra Effort**

*April Extra Effort*

- 12<sup>th</sup>- Christian Davis
- 11<sup>th</sup>-Elise Propst
- 10<sup>th</sup>- Pietro Pucci
- 9<sup>th</sup>- Anthony Speicher

**Middle School Student of the Month**

*April Students of the Month*

- 8<sup>th</sup>- Halle Prozenski
- 7<sup>th</sup>- Eleni Bratton
- 6<sup>th</sup>- Olliver Powell

**Middle School Extra Effort**

*April Students of the Month*

- 8<sup>th</sup>- Justin Bishop
- 7<sup>th</sup>- Jackson Kozak
- 6<sup>th</sup>- Rosie Lodovico

**Economy Elementary Student of the Month**

*April Student of the Month*

- 5<sup>th</sup> Emma Pinchot

**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.

**XII. Committee Reports**

**Education and Technology**

**Mrs. Smith and Mr. Zatchey**

1. High School Senior Projects

It is recommended the Administration be approved to adapt the senior project to align with service learning projects according to Act 158 of 2018, Graduation Pathways.

2. JROTC

It is recommended that the tuition share for Non-District Students enrolled in the JROTC Program are as follows:

- \$200.00 - per class
- \$2,000.00 – all day Leadership Academy (Regular Education)
- \$6,000.00 – all day Leadership Academy (Special Education)
- Transportation to be paid by the student’s home district

4. Adventures in Education Club Field Trip

It is recommended that Larry Knopsnyder, an American Cultures Teacher at the High School, be authorized to take 10th-grade students in the Adventures in Education Club to Charleston, South Carolina from November 7<sup>th</sup> through November 10<sup>th</sup>. The students will be visiting historical sites such as Boone Hall Plantation, Patriots Point, and Fort Moultrie. There will be no cost to the District, with the exception of the cost for the substitute teacher. Parents or guardians will be required to sign permission and release forms. Chaperones will be required to have current clearances, and TB testing.

5. Field Trip

It is recommended permission be granted to Todd Hartman and Stephen Rogers, to take The High School Band, Chamber Choir, and Steel Drums to Florida from January 19<sup>th</sup> through January 23<sup>rd</sup> to participate in the Universal Parade and the Chamber Choir will participate in the Candlelight Processional at Epcot. All expenses will be obtained through fundraising. Parents or guardians will be required to sign permission and release forms. Chaperones will be required to have current clearances, and TB testing. This is at no cost to the district, with the exception of the cost for the substitute teachers.

6. Student Agreement 2021-2022-23

It is recommended to ratify the discipline agreement for student #4372813961 relevant to a high school student, effective May 6, 2022.

7. Student Agreement 2021-2022-24

It is recommended to ratify the discipline agreement for student #7078946863 relevant to a high school student, effective May 3, 2022.

8. Student Agreement 2021-2022-25

It is recommended to ratify the discipline agreement for student #1877914312 relevant to a high school student, effective May 16, 2022.

9. Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) Interpreter Agreement

It is recommended to ratify an Interpreter Agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3 for services provided by the AIU Deaf and Hard of Hearing Support Program to support the parents who require ADA Accommodations, at the cost of \$90.00 per hour with a minimum of two hours. Agreement pending solicitor review.

**Finance and Budget and Building and Grounds**

**Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Keber**

1. School District Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly school district bills in the amount of \$1,502,138.04 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,255,686.32 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$62,718.71 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$54,146.29 be paid.

3. Student/Athletic Insurance

a) It is recommended that the United States Fire Insurance Company (PSBA endorsed) be approved for **voluntary** student insurance coverage for the 2022-2023 school year beginning August 1, 2022. 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.

\*This is at no increase in cost.

4. Berkheimer

It is recommended to authorize the Per Capita Tax Collection Agreement with Berkheimer through December 31, 2024 with associated terms and to adopt the related Resolutions appointing Berkheimer as the current Collector, Delinquent Collector and Tax Hearing Officer pursuant to the Local Taxpayers Bill of Rights, and adopting an Act 20 Schedule of Fees.

5. 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, 2022, at an annual fee of \$3,400.00, at no increase in cost.

6. Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA)

It is recommended to approve the renewal dues for the Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) membership for a total cost of \$13,948.02, at no increase in cost to the District.

7. Repair Economy Elementary Elevator

It is recommended to approve TK Elevator Corporation to repair the elevator at Economy Elementary at a cost of \$42,874.00.

8. Early Head Start of Beaver County Program

It is recommended to approve a Lease Agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and Private Industry Council of Westmoreland/Fayette, Inc., operating its Early Head Start of Beaver County Program (PIC) to use a classroom in Economy Elementary, effective June 1, 2022 and end on May 31, 2023 at a cost of \$1,000.00 per month. Pending district's solicitor review and the funding of the Private Industry Council of Westmoreland/Fayette, Inc to Head Start of Beaver County program for the lease of the classroom.

9. Tax Exoneration

It is recommended to approve a tax exoneration regarding the collection of Real Estate Tax for 2016 to 2021, conditioned upon mutual municipal and county reciprocal exoneration for the same years, relevant to the following property:

- a) Tax Parcel 51-001-0812.000, 2227 Hill Road, South Heights, and purchased by Kendall Liggins.

10. Assessment Settlement

It is recommended to approve the tax assessment settlement in the matter of PZ Northern Limited Partnership v. Beaver County Board of Assessment Appeals.

**Athletics and Public Relations**

**Mr. Zatchey and Miss Fitsko**

**Steering and Rules and Legislative**

**Mrs. Kehoe and Mrs. Fischer**

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

It is recommended the 2022 mail ballot be cast for the 2022-2023 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, 2022 and ending June 30, 2025 as provided in the School Code.

2. Policy 218 – Student Discipline – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to revise School Board Policy 218 – *Student Discipline* to update the language regarding off-campus activities to clarify the circumstances under which the Code of Student Conduct and board policy applies to student behavior that occurs both on and off-campus and to include language on reports to the threat assessment team.

3. Policy 220 – Student Expression/Dissemination of Materials – Third and Final

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to change the title of School Board Policy 220 - *Student Expression/Distribution and Posting of Materials* to *Student Expression/Dissemination of Materials* and to update and streamline terminology and section headings throughout the policy to address this change. The policy now defines dissemination as a term that includes both distribution and posting.

4. Policy 227 – Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia – Third and Final

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to revise School Board Policy 227 - *Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia* to update the off-campus activities section in this policy to refer to Policy 218 - *Student Discipline* which is where school administrators should be directed when considering consequences for a student’s conduct that occurred off school property or during non-school hours.

5. Policy 237 – Electronic Devices – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to revise School Board Policy 237 - *Electronic Devices* to keep pace with technology used in educational settings, revisions to this policy provide an updated definition and additional options for school entities that allow students to use electronic devices during the school day in approved locations for educational purposes.

6. Policy 808 – Food Services – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to revise School Board Policy 808 – *Food Services* to make provisions to the language related to alternative meals being served to students if the student is not eligible for free-reduced-price school meals and the student’s account reaches a negative balance of more than fifty dollars (\$50) in a school year was removed from this policy, based on recent foodservice audits conducted by the PA Department of Education (PDE).

7. Policy 801.1 – Records Retention and Disposition – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to revise School Board Policy 801.1 – *Records Retention and Disposition* to outline various statutory and regulatory requirements for documents retention and disposition.

8. Policy 218.1 – Weapons – Suspend Policy

It is recommended to approve the temporary suspension of the relevant portions of School Board Policy 218.1 – *Weapons*, relative to the simple possession of pepper spray, mace, and other chemical propellant and to make simple possession of the same a Level I offense subject to confiscation, effective and including May 18, 2022, until the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year.

1. Employee Agreement

It is recommended to approve the employment agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and June Mueller. The agreement will commence on July 1, 2022 and expire on June 30, 2025.

2. MCJROTC Military Instructor

It is recommended that a one-year Employment Agreement for the 2022-2023 school year, for the position of Senior Military Instructor of the Ambridge Area Marine Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (MJROTC) with Lieutenant Colonel Jeffery Tisak at a net salary of \$42,197.28 through December 31, 2022, and the appropriate salary adjustment for the period between January 1, 2023 and June 30, 2023, which will be determined in part by the District Agreement and in accordance with the notification from Marine Corps Training and Education Command regarding the annual increase to minimum instructor pay (MIP) entitlements for JROTC instructors.

\*The District will be reimbursed half the salary by the United States Marines.

3. 2022-2023 Fall Coaches

It is recommended to approve the following individuals to fill the designated fall coaching positions for the 2022-2023 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 can hold fall sports as normal.

1) Football

a) Kenny Carlisle, Assistant	\$5,000.00
b) Tom Baranyk, Assistant	4,200.00
c) Ron Wilson, Equipment Manager	3,500.00
d) Keith Olden, Middle School Coach	3,350.00

2) Boys Soccer

a) Ben Fiore, Head Coach	\$4,300.00
b) Don Ayers, Middle School Coach	2,050.00

3) Girls Soccer

a) Gianna Sinatra, Middle School Coach	\$2,050.00
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4) Girls Tennis

a) Georgia Barlamas, Head Coach	\$4,300.00
b) Megan Racioppo, Assistant Coach	1,050.00
c) Ryan Racioppo, Volunteer Coach	No Remuneration

5) Boys Golf

a) Chris Yannessa, Head Coach	\$4,300.00
b) Terry George, Assistant Coach	1,050.00

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|------------------------------------|------------|
| 6) <u>Girls Golf</u>               |            |
| a) Larry Knopsnyder, Head Coach    | \$4,300.00 |
| b) Terry George, Assistant Coach   | 1,050.00   |
| 7) <u>Boys/Girls Cross Country</u> |            |
| a) Denise Duncan, Head Coach       | \$4,300.00 |

4. Solicitor

It is recommended to reappoint Weiss Burkardt Kramer, LLC as Solicitor for the 2022-2023 school year consistent with their August 9, 2019, three-year proposal rates.

5. Retirement

It is recommended to approve the resignation, due to retirement, of Cathy Wyman, from her position as a head cook at the middle school, effective May 31, 2022, with regret.

6. Remedial Summer School Program (Tentative upon student enrollment to ensure no cost to the District)

It is recommended the following teachers be approved to provide Summer School Program services to students from Thursday, June 9, 2022 through Wednesday, June 22, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Ambridge Area High School. Teachers will be compensated at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement.

Christina Briola - English  
 Greg Mell – Social Studies  
 Shad Greco – Math

7. Common Assessment Authors

It is recommended to ratify the following individuals to serve as the Common Assessment Authors for the 2021-2022 school year. Teachers will be compensated at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement. Not to exceed 15 hours to develop three (3) common assessments.

Lauren Taormina, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA

8. Cafeteria Food Service Assistants/Substitutes Non-Bargaining Unit Employees

It is recommended to hire the following individuals listed as Food Service Assistants/Substitutes non-bargaining unit employees for the 2021-2022 school year, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Kathy Taylor, High School

9. Retirement

It is recommended to approve the resignation due to the retirement of Catherine Kuharsky, a Para-Professional at the Middle School, effective June 6, 2022, with regret.

10. Elementary Summer School

It is recommended to the following teachers be approved to work in elementary summer school from Monday, July 11, 2022, through Thursday, July 14, 2022, and Monday, July 18, 2022, through Thursday, July 21, 2022, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Highland Elementary and the High School at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement.

Christine Fishel  
Greta Bible

**XIII. President's Address**

**XIV. Solicitor's Report**

**XV. Superintendent's Report**

**XVI. 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.

**XVII. Motion to Adjourn**