

Minutes for the Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Auditorium on Wednesday, May 4, 2022.

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

The Meet and Discuss Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District is held on Wednesday, May 4, 2022. This meeting is being held to review the agenda for the regular monthly Board Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. in the High School Auditorium.

II. Flag salute please rise: Mrs. Romasco asked all present to rise for the flag salute.

III. Notice: Mrs. Romasco 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. Kelly Romasco, President
 Miss Amy Fitsko, Vice President
 Mrs. Mary Jo Kehoe, Treasurer
 Mr. John Carpenter
 Mr. Thomas Cephas
 Mrs. Cathy Fischer
 Mrs. Smith
 Mr. Matt Zatchey

Others Present

Dr. Joseph W. Pasquerilla, Superintendent
 Mr. Barry J. King, Assistant to the Superintendent
 Mrs. Bethann Eyth, Director of Business and Operations
 Ms. Megan Turnbull, Solicitor
 Mrs. June Mueller, Board Secretary

V. Sunshine Law

The Board of School Directors held Executive Session(s) on Wednesday, May 4th to discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)
- Matters subject to attorney-client privilege and other confidentiality laws
- Sensitive Public Safety Issues

VI. Amendments to the Agenda/Approval of the Agenda

VII. Recognition/Presentation

Bethann Eyth – Draft 4 Budget Presentation

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

Mrs. Smith and Mr. Zatchey

1. Student Agreement 2021-2022-21

It is recommended to ratify the discipline agreement for student #3953617648 relevant to a high school student, effective April 11, 2022.

2. Student Agreement 2021-2022-22

It is recommended to ratify the discipline agreement for student #7169914743 relevant to a high school student, effective April 22, 2022.

Mrs. Smith moved to approve items 1-2, seconded by Mrs. Fischer. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Finance and Budget and Building and Grounds

Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Keber

1. Proposed Final Budget for the 2022-2023 School Year

It is recommended to approve the Proposed Final General Operating Fund Budget for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year with Expenditures of \$52,997,914.00. The Proposed Final Budget is on display for public inspection at the Administration Office and online on our website.

Mr. Carpenter moved to approve item 1, seconded by Mrs. Smith. Mrs. Fischer voted against item 1.

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

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 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. Repair Economy Elementary Elevator

It is recommended to approve _____ to repair the elevator at Economy Elementary at a cost of \$_____.

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 – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second reading, to change the title of School Board Policy 220 - *Student Expression/Dissemination 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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 food service audits conducted by the PA Department of Education (PDE).

7. Policy 801.1 – Records Retention and Disposition – Second Reading

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

XI. President's Address

Nothing to report.

XII. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pasquerilla, thanked Mrs. Eyth for prepping the budget presentation and answering questions.

XIII. Solicitor's Report

Nothing to report.

XIV. 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. This period for public comment prior to the standing committee reports will be limited to one-half hour.

Mr. Carpenter

- As a parent that transferred his children from a private school to the district, recognized the district for the experience that it gave to his daughters, it is an outstanding school district and thanked the teachers for being protectors, health agents and for doing all that was asked of them. Thanks the teachers for doing a great job.

XV. Motion to Adjourn

At approximately 7:50 p.m. Mrs. Romasco moved to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Fischer. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

**June Mueller
Board Secretary**