

Minutes for the Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Auditorium on Wednesday, October 19, 2022.

I. Call to Order: Mrs. Romasco 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, October 19, 2022, is now called to order.

II. Flag salute-please rise: Mrs. Romasco asked all present to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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
Mr. Matthew Zatchey, Treasurer
Mr. John Carpenter
Mr. Thomas Cephas
Mrs. Cathy Fischer
Mr. Robert Keber
Mrs. Mary Jo Kehoe
Mrs. Kelly Smith

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: Mrs. Mueller read the following statement:

The Board of School Directors held an Executive Session and will reconvene back into Executive Meeting at the close of this meeting on Wednesday, October 12th, and Wednesday to discuss:

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

VI. Correspondence

No Correspondence

VII. Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of Wednesday, September 14, 2022, Meet and Discuss Voting and Non-Voting, and Wednesday, September 21, 2022 Board meeting.

Mr. Carpenter moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Keber. All in favor.

VIII. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report dated: August and September 2022

Mr. Carpenter moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Mr. Zatchey. All in favor.

IX. Amendment/Addendum to Agenda/Approval of Agenda

Added Item 10 under Personnel and Salary Schedule and Labor Relations.

Mrs. Smith moved to accept the addendum to the agenda, seconded by Miss Fitsko. All in favor.

X. Recognition/Presentation

A message from the Board of School Directors and the Superintendent to our Principals in Recognition of Principal Appreciation Month:

Thank you to all of our Principals for making our schools a better place! Thank you for your hard work, tireless effort and everyday enthusiasm. Your hard work does not go unnoticed! You all are true educational leaders who create a safe learning environment to help our students reach their full potential!

We appreciate you!

2023 National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC)

The Board would like to recognize **Rudy Erickson** for being named a Commended Student in the 2023 NMSC Program. Those being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success. These students represent a valuable national resource; recognized for their accomplishments, as well as their academic development.

Congratulations Rudy and good luck in your future endeavors!

Bender Leadership Linda Dickerson Scholarship

The Board would like to recognize **Jocelyn Mahmoud** as the recipient of the Linder Dickerson Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00. This scholarship was designed by the Bender Leadership Academy in memory of Linda Dickerson, a trailblazer in the disability community, to help students achieve their educational goals.

Jocelyn is very interested in continuing with her Business Information Systems certifications because of her participation, through the Beaver County Career & Technology Center, in the Bender Leadership Academy Program.

Congratulations Jocelyn and good luck in your future endeavors!

Boys Soccer Team

Congratulations to the Boys' Soccer Team for clinching a spot in the WPIAL playoffs! Last night, Anthony Powell scored a hat trick to put the Bridgers up 3-0 against Central Valley in a must win game. J.J. Simms also scored, as the Bridgers won 4-2 to punch their ticket to the playoffs.

Good luck to the Team in the playoffs!

Middle School Cross Country Team

Congratulations to the Middle School Cross Country on their 2nd place finish in the Youth Town Clash Middle School Invitational and for placing in the MAC meet! The members of the team are Jake Turko, Taven Wise, Colin Meadows, Aiden Meadows, Emmitt Olenic, Jackson Kozak, and Vincent Riegner. The team is coached by Logan Erickson and Denise Duncan.

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.

XI. Committee Reports**Education and Technology**

Mrs. Smith and Mr. Zatchey

1. Pennsylvania Education Technology Expo and Conference (PETE&C)

It is recommended Foster Crawford be approved to attend the Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo and Conference. The event is being held from February 12th through February 15th, 2023 at Pocono Manor, PA. The purpose of this conference is to provide quality programs focused on technology in the educational field. All expenses (registration, fees, travel, lodging, meals) will be paid as per Board Policy 331 Job Related Expenses. The total cost for the employee will be approximately \$1,000.00.

2. MP Security Solutions

It is recommended to approve the proposal of MP Security Solutions to provide security monitoring for a period of one (1) year from November 1, 2022 through November 1, 2023 at a cost of \$6,480.00 and it is furthermore recommended to approve MP Security Solutions to upgrade equipment and install the monitoring system at a cost of \$10,950.48. This total cost has been budgeted in the 2022-2023 technology budget, **pending solicitor review**.

3. Student Discipline 2022-2023-05

It is recommended to ratify the discipline agreement for student #6525266092 relevant to a High School student, effective October 7, 2022.

4. Student Discipline 2022-2023-06

It is recommended to ratify the discipline agreement for student #5625029814 relevant to a High School student, effective October 18, 2022.

5. Allegheny Intermediate Unit

It is recommended to approve the Title I Non-Public School Agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit. The AIU will provide remedial reading and math instructional services in line with the Title I Program that educates the Ambridge Area School District's non-public students. This will be at a cost of \$7,294.00, to be paid out of the Title I funds.

Mrs. Smith moved to accept items 1-5, seconded by Mr. Zatchey. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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 \$2,135,766.77 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,288,981.39 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$143,867.51 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$48,918.00 be paid.

3. Budget Transfers

It is recommended to approve budget transfers for October 2022.

4. Repository

It is recommended the Board approve the Sale of Property from the Beaver County Repository of Unsold Property for the following property:

- a) 2225 Hill Road, South Heights, PA Tax Parcel 51-001-0813.000, for the bid amount of \$2,048.00 to Steinberg Holdings, LLC.
- b) 435 Maplewood Avenue, Ambridge, PA Tax Parcel 09-002-0127.000-01-1, for the bid of \$1,617.00 to Steinburg Holding, LLC.

5. Tractor Purchase

It is recommended to approve the purchase of a 2022 New Holland Workmaster Tractor from Vernon Dell Tractor in Prospect, PA in the amount of \$17,190.16. The bid for the tractor was made through the State Bidding process (Co-Stars). This is to replace the current tractor, which cannot be fixed. The tractor is used for snow removal, loading salt, lawn duties, and upkeep of the baseball field.

6. Award of Bids

It is recommended to accept the bid proposal from The A.G. Mauro Company in the amount of \$45,970.00 to replace approximately 100 door locks throughout the district. **Pending the approval of the PCCD School Mental Health & Safety and Security Grant.**

7. Maintenance Agreement

It is recommended to renew a two (2) year Maintenance Agreement with Penn Power Systems at an annual amount of \$3,525.00 to perform regularly scheduled maintenance and inspections of the emergency power generator systems effective September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2024. The services will occur at all district buildings, **pending solicitor review.**

8. CMS Controls HVAC Service

It is recommended to approve a one (1) year agreement with CMS Controls to provide HVAC maintenance, at a total cost of \$4,800.00, **pending solicitor review.** This is at a lower cost than the previous vendor.

9. Electric Booster Heater

It is recommended to approve the purchase of a replacement electric booster heater from Curran Taylor, in the amount of \$6,454.00 for Highland Elementary cafeteria.

10. Resurfacing of the High School Baseball Field

It is recommended to approve Dura Edge to resurface the high school baseball field at a cost of \$17,063.75. The district will pay \$12,000.00 towards this project through a sponsored donation. The Ambridge Baseball Booster Organization will pay the remainder of the resurfacing total cost as well as the cost to advertise the sponsored donor's name (Wilson Group) and logo at the field.

Mr. Carpenter moved to accept items 1-10, seconded by Mr. Keber. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Athletics and Public Relations**Mr. Zatchey and Miss Fitsko**1. Arbiter Pay

It is recommended to approve a three (3) year Arbiter Pay License Subscription at a total cost of \$8,535.00. Arbiter Pay is an efficient digital payment solution for 1099 workers in high school and higher education sports and scholastic events.

Miss Fitsko moved to accept item 1, seconded by Mr. Carpenter. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Steering and Rules and Legislative**Mrs. Kehoe and Mrs. Fischer**1. Beaver County Career & Technology Joint Operating Committee

It is recommended that Mrs. Mary Jo Kehoe be appointed as the representative and Miss Amy Fitsko be appointed as the alternate representative to serve a three-year term as representatives on the Beaver County Career and Technology Joint Operating Committee that will expire on December 31, 2025.

Mrs. Fischer moved to accept item 1, seconded Miss Fitsko. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Personnel and Salary Schedule and Labor Relations**Mr. Cephas and Mrs. Smith**

***ALL NEW HIRES, PENDING RECEIPT OF SATISFACTORY AND CURRENT CLEARANCES, SATISFACTORY DRUG SCREENING, TB TESTING, RESPONSES BY CURRENT/FORMER EMPLOYERS TO ACT 168 SCREENING, AND PDE CERTIFICATIONS IF APPLICABLE.**

1. Field Observation

It is recommended to approve Cailey Shimko, a Geneva College student, to complete her five (5) hours of field observation for her Survey of Disabilities Class at Economy Elementary, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening. Cailey Shimko will be placed with Kelly Bischak.

2. Field Observation

It is recommended to approve the following Slippery Rock University students, to complete field observation in the district, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Economy Elementary

Jade Stephanian, to be placed with Tammy Kennedy
 Kristina Coscarelli, to be placed with Tammy Kennedy
 Autumn Lersch, to be placed with Michelle Fetkovich
 Tyler Fedisin, to be placed with Carrie Keber
 Reed Angelucci, to be placed with Jennifer Shannon
 Timmi-Jo Pashuta, to be placed with Carrie Keber
 Olivia Seney, to be placed with Michele Fetkovich

High School

Elizabeth Buchan, to be placed with Marian Puet
Ryan Alexander, to be placed with Larry Knopsnyder
Abigail Campbell, to be placed with Larry Knopsnyder
Colby Quaye, to be placed with Nicole Connolly
Eleanor Faulds, to be placed with Nicole Connolly

3. Economy Elementary Before and After School Childcare

It is recommended Grace Buchanan be approved as a caregiver at the Before and After School Child Care Program at Economy Elementary School at a rate of \$15.00 per hour, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and compliance with Act 168. The hours being 6:30a.m.-8:30a.m. before school and 3:30p.m.-6:30p.m. after school.

4. Employment Agreement

It is recommended to approve the employment agreement with Bethann Eyth for the Business Manager and Director of Operations and Transportation effective November 1, 2022, as presented, and thereby supersede and terminate the employment agreement and associated stipend dated August 20, 2021. The position shall be paid starting at an annual salary of \$75,000.00.

5. Professional Employee

It is recommended to approve Zachary Dugan, as an Ambridge Area High School Technology Education Teacher at a salary of \$46,771.00 (Step 1, Bachelor), as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Association AAEA/PSEA Agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening, and PDE certifications if applicable.

6. Professional Employee

It is recommended to approve Alexis Corgis, as a Highland Elementary Grade 2 Teacher at a salary of \$46,771.00 (Step 1, Bachelor), as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Association AAEA/PSEA Agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening, and PDE certifications if applicable.

7. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Kimberly Springer from her position as an Economy Elementary and Middle School ESL Teacher, effective October 13, 2022, with regret.

8. 2022-2023 Winter/Spring Coach

It is recommended the following individuals be approved to fill the designated winter/spring coaching positions for the 2022-2023 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 coaches to hold winter/spring sports as normal.

Girls Basketball

Marshayla Underwood, Middle School Coach

Stipend

\$1,750.00

9. Food Service Worker

It is recommended to approve Rhona Ferguson as Food Service Worker, as per the terms of the collective bargaining unit, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

10. Act 93 Members Administrative Compensation Plan

It is recommended to approve a one-year extension of the current Act 93 Members Administrative Compensation Plan (2017-2022), subject to execution of a mutual acknowledgment. The extension will be utilized for the 2022-23 school year.

Mrs. Smith moved to accept items 1-10 as amended, seconded by Mr. Carpenter. The vote in favor was unanimous with Mr. Keber abstaining from item 2.

XII. President's Address

Mrs. Romasco congratulated all the student athletes and wished them all the best of luck with the end of the first nine weeks and the end of fall sports.

XIII. Solicitor's Report

Nothing to report.

XIV. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pasquerilla thanked the students and athletes for a great start of the nine weeks. He also thanked the entire staff for all they do for the students. Reminded all about the upcoming holiday concerts as he is looking forward to those.

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.

No Comment

XVI. Motion to Adjourn

At approximately 7:45 p.m. Mrs. Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting and reconvene back into Executive Session, seconded by Mrs. Fischer. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Mrs. June Mueller
Board Secretary**