

**AMBRIDGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**AGENDA**

**March 15, 2023**

**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, March 15, 2023, is now called to order.

**II. Flag salute-please rise**

**III. Student Council Report**

State Street Student Council

Aaiden DiNuno

Layla Miskiel

Colton Pringle

Britney Fodor

Eli Fabrizio

Briella Loftus

Mya Draganjac

Dezmond Motton

**IV. 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.

**V. Roll Call**

**VI. Sunshine Law**

The Board of School Directors held an Executive Session on Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)
- Information, strategy, and/or negotiation session relating to the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement
- Matters subject to attorney-client privilege and other confidentiality laws
- Salary schedule and labor relations

**VII. Correspondence**

**VIII. Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of Wednesday, February 1st Meet and Discuss Voting and Non-Voting Meeting and Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.**

**IX. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report dated: February 2023**

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

Amended item #2 under Personnel and Salary Schedule and Labor Relations to change intermediate leave to intermittent leave.

Amended item #15 under Personnel and Salary Schedule and Labor Relations to add the name Zazshyra Bryant as a Para-Professional at the Middle School.

**XI. Recognition/Presentation**

**The Ambridge Area Varsity Competitive Cheer**

The Ambridge Area Varsity Competitive Cheer teams traveled to Orlando, Florida, to compete in the prestigious UCA National High School Cheer Championship. Their 1st and 3rd place wins at Regionals in Columbus, Ohio, gained them invitations to move onto the Nationals competition for only the second time ever in Ambridge history.

Ambridge's Game Day team performed very well, with a zero deduction routine! Even though their first routine was amazing, they fell short of moving on by one-tenth of a point, which shows the level of competition at a national level. The traditional team competed in Ambridge's second routine of the day, with a few hiccups in the routine that cost them from advancing.

We want to congratulate the coaches and cheerleaders on representing Ambridge Area School District at a national level! Under Coaches Jenn Phillips and Amanda Palshaw, Ambridge Varsity Competitive Cheer plans to keep bringing home trophies, while being recognized as a serious contender at the Nationals competition next year, with even better routines!

*Congratulations!*

**Ambridge Wrestling**

On the weekend of February 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, the Ambridge Youth Wrestlers participated in the Western Area Wrestling Association WAWA Championship. During WAWAs the wrestlers compete with representatives from other youth wrestling programs around the Western PA and West Virginia area. This year there were 22 youth organizations present. 15 Ambridge youth athletes placed at this event. Ambridge youth wrestling.

Novice:

Alex Cogan 6U 60 1<sup>st</sup>

Luke Stimmel 8U 125 1<sup>st</sup>

Ryan Sweitzer 6U 50 2<sup>nd</sup>

Eugene Sturdivant 6u 50lbs 2<sup>nd</sup>

Royal Cobbs 6U 55 2<sup>nd</sup>

Luca Fabanich 8U 60 3<sup>rd</sup>

Riley Wallace 6U 60 3<sup>rd</sup>

Nolan Spencer 8U 100 3<sup>rd</sup>

Chase Certich 12U 100 3<sup>rd</sup>

Parker Pitaro 10U 80 4<sup>th</sup>

Open:

Derek Dixon 10U 120 1<sup>st</sup>

Brady Vucovcan 12U 105 1<sup>st</sup>

Dominic DeRiggi 10U 85 2<sup>nd</sup>

Max Bablock 10U HWT 2<sup>nd</sup>

Bryce Mckinney 12U 105 2<sup>nd</sup>

*Congratulations!*

### **Ambridge Gymnasts**

Congratulations to the following Ambridge freshman gymnast:

Elizabeth Hoge for competing and qualifying in the Judge's Bronze Invitational on February 9th! Hoge placed 3rd on the vault and competed in the PA Classic State Meet on February 17th at Moon Area High School.

Marena Baker for her gymnastics accomplishments this year as a freshman high school gymnast. Marena competed as an individual gymnast representing Ambridge School District along with Lizzie Hoge. Although Marena qualified for WPIALS in gymnastics this year, she did not attend due to attending the National competition in Disney with her Varsity Cheerleading team, but she did go on to qualify to compete in the Pennsylvania High School State Championship as an Ambridge High School gymnast where she placed 12th overall in the state of Pennsylvania in her division.

*Congratulations!*

### **MathCounts Success**

On Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, twelve students from Ambridge Area Middle School participated in the Beaver County MathCounts Competition held at Geneva College. The competing students were Charles Stefanik, Parker Eisel, James Husted, JR Koster, Colin Meadows, Evan Francis, Mala Sinha Roy, Sydney Smith, Noella Jaworzkyowska-Edwards, Gavin Kolder, Alyssa Smith, and Oliver Ozenich. The competition featured 48 students from schools across Beaver County. Students independently competed in the Sprint round of 30 no calculator questions within 40 minutes and the Target round of four sets of 2 calculator questions within 6 minutes for each set. Then Charles Stefanik, JR Koster, James Husted, and Parker Eisel worked together on the Team round of 10 questions. The team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. The final individual results had two Ambridge students in the top 10 in the county level. They were Charles Stefanik who ranked 4<sup>th</sup> and JR Koster who ranked 7<sup>th</sup> overall. With his top 4 placement, Charles qualified for the state level and will be competing in Harrisburg on March 18th. Please join us in wishing Charles the best of luck!

*Congratulations!*

## **TSA Region 1 2023 Results**

The Technology Education department is pleased to announce the results from the Technology Student Association (TSA) Region 1 Conference. Twenty-four members of the local ***Ambridge Area Chapters of the Technology Student Association (TSA)*** captured multiple individual and team awards. The conference was held at Black Hawk High School on January 21st. With students from over a dozen different chapters competing.

### **High School Chapter**

#### **Children's Stories**

3<sup>rd</sup> Makenzie Majercik, Ryen Reichart, Heidi Setzenfand, Leah Cain, Natajha Alexander

#### **Dragster Design**

2<sup>nd</sup> Kaitlyn Desrochers

5<sup>th</sup> Lindsay Stickle

7<sup>th</sup> Sean Anderson

#### **Engineering Design**

3<sup>rd</sup> Sean Anderson, Kade McGovern, Cody Roper, Camden Mawhinney, Tobias Dowlin, Gabriel Fisher

#### **Essays on Technology**

2<sup>nd</sup> Mara Ilko

#### **On Demand Video**

2<sup>nd</sup> Jana Rusnak, Abby Smith, Logan Szymoniak

#### **Photographic Technology**

1<sup>st</sup> Makenzie Majercik

5<sup>th</sup> Heidi Setzenfand

#### **Prepared Presentation**

3<sup>rd</sup> Conner Brenner

#### **Structural Design & Engineering**

1<sup>st</sup> Axton Denny & Kaitlyn Desrochers

2<sup>nd</sup> Mara Ilko & Hannah Larimore

#### **Systems Control**

9<sup>th</sup> Jana Rusnak, Abby Smith, Logan Szymoniak

#### **Technology Problem Solving**

8<sup>th</sup> Axton Denny & Kaitlyn Desrochers

#### **PA Logo Design**

2<sup>nd</sup> Leah Cain

3<sup>rd</sup> Makenzie Majercik

### **Chapter Team – Written**

2<sup>nd</sup> Cody Roper

3<sup>rd</sup> Hannah Larimore

4<sup>th</sup> Kaitlyn Desrochers

### **Forensic Science – Written**

2<sup>nd</sup> Ryen Reichart

4<sup>th</sup> Hannah Larimore

### **Coding – Written**

9<sup>th</sup> Gabriel Fisher

### **Junior High Chapter**

#### **Challenging Technology Issues**

2<sup>nd</sup> Isla Ozenich & Oliver Ozenich

3<sup>rd</sup> Christian Roberts & Jakari Lavette

#### **Tech Bowl - Written**

12<sup>th</sup> Oliver Ozenich

#### **Forensic Technology - Written**

5<sup>th</sup> Isla Ozenich

*Congratulations!*

### **Martin Luther King Oratorical Competition Winners**

Congratulations to the winners of the Dr. Martin Luther King Oratorical Contest from the Ambridge Area School District! The results were as follows:

4<sup>th</sup> Grade- Economy Elementary

Mia Paganie, 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner

4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Highland Elementary

Tianna Cephas, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner

5<sup>th</sup> Grade -State Street

Taw Taw Shwe, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner

8<sup>th</sup> Grade-Ambridge Middle School

Faith Aguirre, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner

7<sup>th</sup> Grade-Ambridge Middle School

Molly-Anna Cephas, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner

10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Grade- Ambridge Area High School

MacKenzie Sutton, 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner – Perfect Score!

The students listed above will receive their prizes at the King Community Luncheon Banquet on Saturday, April 15, 2023.

### **Martin Luther King Oratorical Competition Semi-Finalists**

Congratulations to the following students who represented AASD as semi-finalists at the Dr. Martin Luther King Oratorical Competition on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. at Rochester High School Auditorium.

4th Grade- Economy Elementary

Mia Paganie

Norah Pletz

Angel Crusciel

4<sup>th</sup> Grade Highland Elementary

Tianna Cephas

5<sup>th</sup> Grade -State Street Elementary

Taw Taw Shwe

Alice Smedley

8th Grade-Ambridge Middle School

Faith Aguirre

Kendal Harper

Holly Budzak

Sophia Miller

7<sup>th</sup> Grade-Ambridge Middle School

Molly-Anna Cephas

10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Grade- Ambridge Area High School

MacKenzie Sutton

Madelyn Palmer

Grade 12- Ambridge Area High School

Amanda Palmer

Addison Eisel

*Congratulations!*

### **Congratulations to the GFWC Woman's Club of Baden**

#### **Literature Winners**

Short Story-Category Two for Grades 3-5

Celia Meunier

Landon Musser

Layla Miskiel

Lucas Brisco

Aniyah Betsch

Marley Stevenson

Congratulations to Celia, she will be moving on to the State Level.

The Art Division 1 Grades 1-2

Ellie Duda

Liliana Roush

The Art Division 2 Grades 3-5  
Alice Smedley  
Adrian Martin  
Jackson Payne  
Grant Zatchey

### **Students of the Month**

#### **High School January Student of the Month**

9<sup>th</sup> Grade – Karlyce “Caz” Chandler  
10<sup>th</sup> Grade – Reanna Ramirez  
11<sup>th</sup> Grade – Pietro Pucci  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade – Carter Dunlap

#### **High School January Extra Effort Award**

9<sup>th</sup> Grade – Henry Budzak  
10<sup>th</sup> Grade – Angelina Propst  
11<sup>th</sup> Grade – Mackenzie Majercik  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade – Zachery Weigand

#### **High School February Student of the Month**

9<sup>TH</sup> Grade – Taylor Thompson  
10<sup>th</sup> Grade – Luka Ditto  
11<sup>th</sup> Grade – Joseph Janicki  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade – Taylor Kennedy

#### **High School February Extra Effort Award**

9<sup>TH</sup> Grade – Ava Draganjac  
10<sup>th</sup> Grade – Benjamin Francis  
11<sup>th</sup> Grade – Ethan Grant  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade – Samantha Astorino

#### **Middle School February Student of the Month**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Rosella DeMuth  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Grace Beaver  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Parker Eisel

#### **Economy Elementary February Student of the Month**

Claire Hartman, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### **Highland Elementary February Student of the Month**

Caroline Blonski, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Alexandria Blonski, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

#### **Highland Elementary February Extra Effort Award**

Brayden Bland, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Colton Vorderbrueggen, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

## **State Street 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Student of the Month**

### **Kindergarten**

Benjamin Tusick  
Isla Wojciechowski  
Remington Stump  
Emersyn Hill  
Amy Shwe  
Max Fabanich  
Wesley Schwarz

### **1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

Luke Stimmel  
Carlie Milligan  
Justin Hysong  
Aryiah Knox  
Meadow Cordes  
Rhett Poore  
Clara Frederick  
Elias West

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

Owen Duda  
Ellie Duda  
Carter McFarland  
Lillian Dobich  
Roscia Quib-Chub  
Grant Kratochvil  
Ja'Zarii Rodgers  
Bryce Douds

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

Chase Szuchy  
Dahniica Quib  
Scott Kochis  
Holly Bell  
Baylee Knox  
Luca Fabanich  
Danyica Ridout  
Martin Kirsch

### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Caleb Lewis  
Nina Elms  
Tyler Cook  
Emma Ersher  
Pharah Steward  
Eli Fabrizio  
Abigail Dobich  
Milo Neish



**5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Christian Pringle  
Alice Smedley  
Tyler Grimm  
Mila Chehovits  
Layla Miskiel  
Quinn Zatchey  
Peyton Jones  
Jonah Sabol

**\*Building Stars** – Royal Cobbs, Amiya Cobbs, Micah Sabol and Camille Gilbert

**Employees of the Month**

**High School Employee of the Month**

Rob Jamery, Custodian

**Middle School Employee of the Month**

Ashley Simpson, Math Teacher

**Economy Elementary**

Barb Friez, Para-Professional

**State Street Elementary**

Jared Pride, Custodian, January Employee of the Month  
Patricia Filbert, Para-Professional, February Student of the Month

**Highland Elementary**

Lauren Taormina, Teacher

**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. Category 2 E-Rate Funding

It is recommended to approve (using Category 2 E-Rate funding) the purchase of Wireless Access Points for State Street Elementary School and Ambridge Area Middle School. The total cost of the project is \$50,866.00. Pending Universal Service Administrative Company Schools and Library Divisions (USAC SLD) approval, the E-Rate program will pay approximately 80% (\$40,692.80) of the total cost. The Ambridge Area School District will pay approximately 20% (\$10,173.20) of the total cost.

#### 2. Food Service Orientation

It is recommended Leigh Anne Holman attend the Orientation Part 2 to School Food Service Operations in Harrisburg, PA from May 3 through May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023. All expenses (registration, fees, travel, lodging, meals) will be paid as per Board Policy 531, Job Related Expenses. The total cost for will be approximately \$659.58.

#### 3. 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 St. Augustine, Florida from November 6-9, 2023. 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.

#### 4. Geneva College Agreement

It is recommended to approve an agreement between Geneva College Department of Communication Disorders and the Ambridge Area School District for the purpose of a Geneva College student's field and clinical experiences for the fall of 2023.

#### 5. Flexible Instructional Days (FID)

It is recommended to approve Flexible Instructional Days for the 2023-2024 school year 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.

### **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 \$1,284,421.19 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,933,004.69 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$55,989.08 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$137,777.01 be paid.

3. Budget Transfers

It is recommended to approve budget transfers for March 2023.

4. Proposed 2023-2024 Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit Budget

It is recommended the 2023-2024 Beaver Valley Intermediate unit General Operating Budget in the amount of \$1,608,913.00 be approved. It is further recommended the Board President and Secretary be authorized to execute the DECO-779 Resolution form concerning the BVIU budget.

5. Gifts in Kind

It is recommended to accept the donation of \$1,000.00 from Mentoring Partnership in honor of Zappula Lewis's selection as a member of the Inaugural Steelers All-Peer Team! The donor has received no goods or services in return for this gift.

6. Gifts in Kind

It is recommended to accept the donation of a Gaga Pit for Economy Elementary Playground from the Economy Elementary PTA. The donor has received no goods or services in return for this gift.

**Athletics and Public Relations**

**Mr. Zatchey and Miss Fitsko**

**Steering and Rules and Legislative**

**Mrs. Kehoe and Mrs. Fischer**

1. Policy 204 – Attendance –Third Reading

It is recommended, as a third reading to update School Board Policy 204 – *Attendance* to require the attendance of all students during the days and hours that the school is in session, except that temporary student absences may be excused by authorized district staff in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, Board policy and administrative regulations.

**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. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify employee #1583 taking an intermediate leave of absence under Board Policy 335, Family and Medical Leave beginning February 23, 2023, not to exceed 12 weeks.

2. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify employee #1159 taking an intermittent leave of absence under Board Policy 535, Family and Medical Leave beginning March 8, 2023, not to exceed 12 weeks.

3. Uncompensated Leave

It is recommended to ratify employee #1721 taking unpaid leave, effective March 7 – 19, 2023. This will be a one-time approval for the duration of employment with the district. All personal days must be used before using unpaid days.

4. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Victoria Roque from her position as a School Psychologist Grades 5-12, effective March 8, 2023, with regret.

5. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Brandie Bupp from her position as a five-hour cafeteria worker at the high school, effective March 2, 2023, with regret.

6. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Dr. Michael Harris from his position as our District Dentist, effective March 31, 2023, with regret.

7. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Alex Jewell from his position as a tutor in the Middle School after School Tutoring Program, effective March 17, 2023, with regret.

8. 2022-2023 Spring Coach

It is recommended the following individual be ratified to fill the designated spring coaching position 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 spring sports as normal.

1) <u>Middle School Girls' Volleyball</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Kayli Newman, Co-Assistant Coach	\$ 675.00
2) <u>Middle School Softball</u>	
a) John Fedora, Assistant Coach	\$2,050.00
3) <u>Boys Tennis</u>	
a) Marian Puet, Assistant Coach	\$1,050.00
4) <u>Wrestling</u>	
a) Ron Wilson, Varsity Assistant Coach	\$2,400.00
b) Ron Wilson, Middle School Coach	1,850.00

5) Lacrosse

a) Paige Scherer, Volunteer

No Remuneration

9. Tutoring

It is recommended to approve the following teacher for tutoring at all grade levels to address the learning gaps due to COVID-19. The Tutoring Program will meet a maximum of two days a week. The teacher will be paid 1.5 hours per day at the contracted rate. This is funded through the ESSERS III grant.

High School

Michelle Hapich, Mathematics

10. Coaches Stipend

It is recommended to correct the stipend of Jenn Ax, approved as the Middle School Boys' Volleyball Assistant coach to \$1,350.00.

11. Field Observation

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

Char-Les Stephens, to be placed with Michelle Hooten – Economy Elementary  
Madison Linck, to be placed with Jackie Cosky – Economy Elementary  
Adeline Tellier, to be placed with Christina Thomas – Economy Elementary  
Carter Stanley, to be placed with Lynn Hartle – Economy Elementary  
Braden Stillwagon, to be placed with Brenda Antoline – Economy Elementary  
Erin Roland, to be placed with Sean Beighley – Economy Elementary  
Cameron Jacobson, to be placed with Jennifer Shannon – Economy Elementary  
Aleah Walendziewicz, to be placed with Kellee Gnipp – Highland Elementary  
Karrah Timko, to be placed with Amy Wass – Highland Elementary

12. Posted Positions: Clubs / Activities

It is recommended the following individuals who have applied for the specified posted positions for the 2022-2023 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.

**ACTIVITY/CLUB (High School)**

Book Club

Christina Briola

**SALARY**

\$470.00

13. Nursing Service

It is recommended to approve an agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and BAYADA Home Health Care, Inc., to provide substitute nursing services, **pending final review of the solicitor.**

14. Food Service Worker

It is recommended to approve Anna Micija be a non-union food service worker at Economy Elementary, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

15. Para-Educators (Teaching Assistants)

It is recommended to hire the following individual to fill Para-Educator (Teaching Assistant) position as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Support Professional Association (ESPA/PSEA-NEA) collective bargaining agreement pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Zazshyra Bryant- Middle School

**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**