

**Minutes for the Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Auditorium on Wednesday, May 17, 2023.**

- I. Call to Order: Mrs. Romasco called the meeting to order at approximately 7:25 p.m.**  
The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District Board of Directors on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 is now called to order.
- II. Flag salute-please rise: Mrs. Romasco asked all present to rise for the flag salute.**
- III. Student Council Report**
- IV. 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.
- V. Roll Call**

Mrs. Kelly Romasco, President  
Miss Amy Fitsko, Vice President  
Mr. Matthew Zatchey, Treasurer  
Mr. John Carpenter  
Mrs. Cathy Fischer  
Mr. Rob 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

**VI. Sunshine Law: Mrs. Mueller read the following:**

The Board of School Directors held an Executive Session on Wednesday, May 17<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

**VII. Correspondence**

Correspondence received from Justin Hysong, Baden, PA and Lauren Shakespeare, Baden PA. Correspondence were circulated to the Board.

**VIII. Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> Meet and Discuss Voting and Non-Voting Meeting and Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.**

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

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

Mr. Zatchey moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Miss Fitsko. All in favor.

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

Amended item #3 under Education and Technology

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

**XI. Recognition/Presentation**

**Trez Everett**, 9<sup>th</sup> Grader and **Shamar Underwood**, 8<sup>th</sup> Grader were recognized for their courageous acts in supporting their fellow neighbors.

**National High School Musical Theatre Awards**

The Henry Mancini Awards Ceremony is a celebration of outstanding student achievement in high school musical theatre. These awards recognize individual artistry and honor the dedication and professionalism of students and educators and their schools' commitment to performing arts education.

Participating school musicals are adjudicated by a panel of industry professionals from across the region and students participate in a culminating awards ceremony featuring a variety of student performances as well as individual and group awards.

Under the sponsorship of the Pittsburgh CLO, the Mancini Awards are part of the National High School Musical Theatre Awards.

This year Ambridge Area High School's cast of School of Rock will be one of the few competing schools who were invited to perform at the awards this Sunday.

AAHS Musical received 6 nominations

Best Ensemble

Best crew/ technical execution

Best scenic design

Best costume design

Best lighting design

Best Musical

The musical cast crew and staff would like to thank all those that made this production possible. Results of the Mancini Awards will be available Sunday evening.

**Beaver County Career and Technology**

Jason DeSantis, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade: Receiving the Penn Foster Certificate for Customer Service & Sales

Violet Warren, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade: Receiving the Penn Foster Certificate for Customer Service & Sales

Jocelyn Mahmoud, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade: Receiving the Penn Foster Certificate for Business of Retail

Ceara Tenney, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade: Receiving the Penn Foster Certificate for Business of Retail

**Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 862 Annual Awards Banquet**

Lena Carr, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade – Receiving the Blaine Allinder Memorial Scholarship

**Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) State Competition**

BCCTC Sydney Ford, 11<sup>th</sup> grade, a Health Occupations student, placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Researched Persuasive Writing and Speaking earning her a silver medal. Eleven finalists from across Pa. were required to write and present a persuasive essay that had to be less than 4 minutes in length. Sydney's presentation was on the need for in-person not virtual learning.

**BCCTC National Technical Honor Society (NTHS)**

On April 26, 2023, the following students were inducted into the BCCTC National Technical Honor Society:

Sydney Ford, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade - Health Occupations

Mason Lewis, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade - Graphic Arts

**BCCTC Student of the Month – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Cameron Drexler, January

Jenn Price, February

Cole Chalupiak, February

**BCCTC Student of the Month – 11<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Jason Desantis, September

Violet Warren, January

Alex Pearce, March

**Students of the Month**

**High School April Student of the Month**

Myah Sherri, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

Nickolas Henry, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

Kylie Dryer, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

James Davis, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

**High School April Extra Effort Award**Brittany Porch, 9<sup>th</sup> GradeGavin Creese, 10<sup>th</sup> GradeDonald Kurth, 11<sup>th</sup> GradeAddison Eisel, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade**Middle School April Student of the Month**Liam Cooper, 7<sup>th</sup> GradeAlena Strong, 6<sup>th</sup> GradeCharlotte Hill, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**Economy Elementary April Student of the Month**Brinley Raymer, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**Highland Elementary April Student of the Month**Madison Chandler, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**State Street Elementary April Student of the Month**Caleb Lewis, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**Employees of the Month****Middle School Employee of the Month**

Jen Buchanan, Building Secretary

**Economy Elementary**

Cindy Hooks, Head Cook

**State Street Elementary**

Kim Bichey, Para-Professional

**Highland Elementary**

Marquie Hudak, Para-Professional

**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.

Melinda Arlof, Baden, PA

- Asked the Board to consider voting against item 23 under Personnell
- Concerns with combing Special Education Teachers
- Feels there is not enough time for special teachers to travel from building to building.

- Can't keep elimination staff, this is what drives families away from the district.
- Concerns with the age differences of the students in the special education classrooms with the grades being combined.

Christina Briola, Harmony Twp.

- Asked if there was a Spanish Teacher being hired
- Concerns with the cost of teachers traveling to different buildings and how it will impact the schedule.
- Will there be elimination of courses?
- Have the certifications of teachers been check before the curtailment and creations of positions.

Jamie Curry, Freedom PA

- Major concerns with item 3 under Personnel
- Concerns with special teacher traveling from high school to three elementary schools – will students still have specials?
- Where can a list of all of the electives be found?
- Curtailment of staff is not helpful to the district.

Mrs. Romasco

- Electives were reviewed and voted on at a Board meeting in November.
- Guidance department can give lists of electives.

Dr. Pasquerilla

- Spanish will not show on the agenda because it is a biddable positions.
- The district continues to look for a Spanish Teacher and until a full-time Spanish Teacher is hired the district will continue Spanish with a substitute.
- There will be some cost with mileage for the travel.
- With the teachers traveling we have gained significant electives at the high school.
- There will be Tech and STEAM offered.
- Elementary Schools will have STEAM, PE and Art.
- There will be a full time elementary gym teacher.
- We can now offer many more Tech and Art electives.
- We have increase total number employees by a 1/3, we are not cutting positons.
- There was not a cut to the special education teacher positions. For special education questions please reach out to Dr. Amy Filipowski

## **XII. Committee Reports**

### **Education and Technology**

**Mrs. Smith and Mr. Zatchey**

#### 1. Savvas Learning Company LLC PreK Curriculum

It is recommended to approve the purchase of the Savvas Learning Company PreK series *Three Cheers for PreK* and an eight (8) year digital license for each PreK classroom (a total of 5 classrooms). The total cost of the series is \$25,868.00. **To be paid for by the PreK Grant.**

2. Student Discipline 2022-2023-22

It is recommended to ratify the discipline agreement for student #2616725142 relevant to a Middle School student, effective April 21, 2023.

3. Student Discipline 2022-2023-23

It is recommended to ratify the discipline agreement for student #2878387872 relevant to a Middle School student, pending finalization.

4. Settlement Agreement

It is recommended to approve the special education settlement agreement between the district and student #1447797035. It is further recommended to authorize the Administration to take all steps in accordance therewith.

5. Settlement Agreement

It is recommended to approve the special education settlement agreement between the district and student #2965655611. It is further recommended to authorize the Administration to take all steps in accordance therewith.

6. Grade Point Average (GPA) for Ambridge Area High School

It is recommended to adopt the following grading scale retroactively beginning with the class of 2024 for courses that were taken at the Ambridge Area High School.

	<b>Grade</b>	<b>*Standard Quality Point Average</b>	<b>Honors Course</b>	<b>CIHS &amp; Advanced Placement</b>
<b>90-100%</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>5.0</b>
<b>80-89%</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>70-79%</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>60-69%</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>59% and Below</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

7. Grade Point Average (GPA) Ratification for Ambridge Are High School

It is recommended to retroactively weight 9th and 10<sup>th</sup> grade honors courses that were taken at the Ambridge Area High School beginning with the 2024 graduating class.

Mrs. Smith

- Asked if this could benefit current seniors.
- Dr. Zupsic
  - The graduation program has already been submitted and printed with the tope 10 students
  - With graduation in just five days would not want to recognize in error
  - Transcripts of seniors have already been sent.
  - Scholarships already awarded based on current stats.
- Mrs. Smith apologized to the current senior class and wished this was done sooner

Mr. Zatchey moved to approve items 1-7, seconded by Miss Fitsko. 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 \$876,099.44 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,255,505.03 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$49,163.93 be paid.

3. Budget Transfers

It is recommended to approve budget transfers for May 2023.

4. Proposed Final Budget for the 2023-2024 School Year

It is recommended to approve the Proposed Final General Operating Fund Budget for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year with Expenditures of \$54,617,806.00. The Proposed Final Budget is on display for public inspection at the Administration Office and online on our website.

5. 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.

6. 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 2023-2024 school year beginning August 1, 2023. Goodwin & Gruber Agency will act as the insurance broker. The medical limits are \$250,000.00 for 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.

7. 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, 2023, at an annual fee of \$3,500.00, at no increase in cost.

8. Precision Substitute Teacher Services

It is recommended to approve a one (1) year extension agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and Precision HR Solutions, Inc. The term of this agreement shall end on June 30, 2024, **subject to solicitor review**, at no increase in cost.

9. Repository

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

- a) 915 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Ambridge, PA Tax Parcel 10-004-0616.000, for the bid amount of \$2,293.07 to Tom J. Fedorko.

Mr. Carpenter moved to approve items 1-9, seconded by Miss Fitsko. The vote in favor was unanimous with Mr. Keber abstaining from item 4.

**Athletics and Public Relations**

**Mr. Zatchey and Miss Fitsko**

**Steering and Rules and Legislative**

**Mrs. Kehoe and Mrs. Fischer**

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

It is recommended the 2023 mail ballot be cast for the 2023-2024 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, 2023 and ending June 30, 2026 as provided in the School Code.

2. Employee Agreement

It is recommended to approve the employment agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and Rebecca DeMase. The agreement will commence on July 1, 2023 and expire on June 30, 2026.

3. Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent

It is recommended that June Mueller, the Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent, receive a 4% increase for the 2023-2024 school year.

4. PSBA Delegate Assembly

It is recommended that Mrs. Kelly Romasco and Mr. Matthew Zatchey be appointed as voting delegates to participate in the PSBA Delegate Assembly to be held virtually on Saturday, November 4, 2023.

5. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify employee #27 taking a leave of absence under Board Policy 435, Family and Medical Leave beginning May 16, 2023, not to exceed 12 weeks.

6. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify employee #2918 taking a leave of absence under Board Policy 435, Family and Medical Leave beginning April 24, 2023, not to exceed 12 weeks.

7. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify employee #2788 taking a leave of absence under Board Policy 535, Family and Medical Leave beginning April 12, 2023, not to exceed 12 weeks.

8. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify employee #679 taking a leave of absence under Board Policy 535, Family and Medical Leave beginning April 12, 2023, not to exceed 12 weeks.

9. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify employee #2532 taking a leave of absence under Board Policy 535, Family and Medical Leave beginning June 20, 2023, not to exceed 12 weeks.

10. Uncompensated Leave

It is recommended to ratify employee #2532 taking unpaid leave, effective September 13<sup>th</sup> – January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. 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.

11. Retirement

It is recommended to approve the resignation due to the retirement of Debra Angus from her position as a Para-Professional at the middle school, with regret.

12. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Zazshray Bryant from her position as a Para-Professional at the Middle School, effective May 1, 2023, with regret.

13. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Rhona Ferguson from her position as a Cafeteria Worker at the middle school, effective April 27, 2023, with regret.

14. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of James Maseth from his position as a Para-Professional at the high school, effective April 18, 2023, with regret.

15. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Aamaria Hall from her position as a Highland Elementary Second Grade Teacher, effective May 19, 2023, with regret.

16. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Matthew LaPorte from his position as a 2/3 position Physical Education Teacher at Highland Elementary, effective June 3, 2023, with regret.

17. Rescind

It is recommended to rescind the approval of Carlton Davis as the Track Assistant Coach.

18. Elementary Summer School

It is recommended the following teachers be approved to work in elementary summer school from Monday, July 10, 2023, through Thursday, July 13, 2023, and Monday, July 17, 2023 through Thursday, July 20, 2023, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Highland Elementary at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement.

- Greta Bible
- Christine Fishel
- Lisa Fox
- Michelle Hooten
- Carrie Malinich
- Tammy Kennedy
- Michelle Wilson
- Carrie Keber

19. Slippery Rock University

It is recommended to approve Karrah Timko, a Slippery Rock University student, for student teaching at Highland Elementary for the 2023 fall semester, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening. Karrah will be placed with Mrs. Amy Wass and Mrs. Robin Francis.

20. PennWest University

It is recommended to approve Kayla Eaton, a PennWest University student, for student teaching at Highland Elementary for the 2023 fall semester, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening. Kayla will be placed with Marie Buck.

21. 2023-2024 Fall Coach

It is recommended the following individuals be ratified to fill the designated fall coaching positions for the 2023-2024 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 fall sports as normal.

- |                                      |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1) <u>Varsity Cheerleading</u>       | <u>Stipend</u> |
| a) Amanda Palshaw, Assistant Coach   | \$1,950.00     |
| b) Wenzday Koskey, Assistant Coach   | \$1,350.00     |
| 2) <u>Middle School Cheerleading</u> |                |
| a) Emily O’Malley, Head Coach        | \$1,350.00     |

- 3) Varsity Football
  - a) Mike Zmijanac, Assistant Coach 5,000.00
  - b) Gregg Kimbrough, Assistant Coach \$4,200.00
  - c) Tom Baranyk, Assistant Coach \$4,200.00
  - d) Neil Tkatch, Assistant Coach \$4,200.00
  - e) Ron Wilson, Equipment Manager \$3,500.00
  - f) Tommie Campbell, Volunteer No Remuneration
  - g) Craig Wiltrek, Volunteer No Remuneration
  
- 4) Middle School Football
  - a) Marlon Kittrell, Head Coach \$3,350.00
  
- 5) Girls' Tennis
  - a) Megan Racioppo, Assistant Coach \$1,050.00
  
- 6) Varsity Girls' Volleyball
  - a) Jennifer Ax, Volunteer No Remuneration
  
- 7) Varsity Girls' Soccer
  - a) Sarah Burns, Volunteer Coach No Remuneration

22. Memorandum of Understanding

It is recommended to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ambridge Area School District and the Ambridge Area Education Association regarding an asynchronous cyber education program.

23. 2023-2024 District Course and Section Adjustments

- A. It is recommended to hereby approve the following position curtailments at the close of the 2022-2023 school year:
  - 1. Ambridge Area High School Health and Physical Education Teacher
  - 2. Elementary/MS STEAM Teacher (Travel)
  - 3. Ambridge Area Middle School All Grade Levels/Economy Elementary Art Teacher
  - 4. Economy Elementary School Emotional Support and Learning Support Teacher Grades K-3
  - 5. Economy Elementary School Emotional Support and Learning Support Teacher Grades 4-5
  - 6. Economy Elementary School Life Skills Support Grades Teacher K-2
  - 7. Economy Elementary School Life Skills Support Teacher Grades 3-5
  - 8. Health and Physical Education Teacher
  - 9. Highland Elementary School Learning Support/Emotional Support Teacher Grades K-4
  - 10. Highland Elementary School Learning Support/Emotional Support Teacher Grades 3-5
  - 11. Highland Elementary School Learning Support/Autistic Support Teacher Grades 3-5
  - 12. Highland Elementary School Learning Support/Autistic Support Teacher Grades K-2
  - 13. Highland Elementary School Autistic Support Teacher Grades K-2
  - 14. Highland Elementary School Autistic Support Teacher Grades 3-5
  - 15. Highland Elementary School 2/3 Physical Education Teacher

16. Highland Elementary STEAM Teacher (Travel))
17. Elementary Art Teacher
18. State Street Elementary School Learning Support Teacher Grades K-2
19. State Street Elementary School Learning Support Teacher Grades 3-5

B. It is recommended to approve the alterations of the following positions for the 2023-2024 school year:

1. Ambridge Area High School Technology Education Teacher
2. Ambridge Area High School/All Elementary Schools Health and Physical Education Teacher
3. Ambridge Area High School, Ambridge Area Middle School All Grade Levels, and All Elementary Schools STEAM Teacher
4. Ambridge Area High School, Ambridge Area Middle School All Grade Levels, and All Elementary Schools Art Teacher
5. Economy Elementary School Learning Support, Emotional Support, Autistic Support, and Life Skills Teacher All Grade Levels
6. Economy Elementary School Learning Support, Emotional Support, Autistic Support, and Life Skills Teacher All Grade Levels
7. Economy Elementary School Life Skills Teacher All Grade Levels
8. Economy Elementary School Life Skills Teacher All Grade Levels
9. Economy Elementary, State Street Elementary, and Highland Elementary Health and Physical Education Teacher
10. Economy Elementary, Highland Elementary, and State Street Elementary STEAM Teacher
11. Economy Elementary, Highland Elementary, and State Street Elementary Art Teacher
12. Highland Elementary School Learning Support, Emotional Support, Autistic Support, and Life Skills Teacher All Grade Levels
13. Highland Elementary School Learning Support, Emotional Support, Autistic Support, and Life Skills Teacher All Grade Levels
14. Highland Elementary School Learning Support, Emotional Support, Autistic Support, and Life Skills Teacher All Grade Levels
15. Highland Elementary School Autistic Support Teacher All Grade Levels
16. Highland Elementary School Autistic Support Teacher All Grade Levels
17. Highland Elementary School Emotional Support Teacher All Grade Levels
18. State Street Elementary School Learning Support, Emotional Support, Autistic Support, and Life Skills Teacher All Grade Levels
19. State Street Elementary School Learning Support, Emotional Support, Autistic Support, and Life Skills Teacher All Grade Levels

Mr. Keber

- With the creation of the new positions does this give the district more control over the teachers bid?

Ms. Turnbull

- The teachers bid will be the same consistent with the CBA

Dr. Filipowski, Special Education Director

- Special Education laws are in place.
- Grades K-5 – classrooms can only be up to a three year grade span without a parent signing off.
- The changes made will better serve students.

Mr. Carpenter

- Item #23 what are the sensitive timelines involved? How will this benefit the district and what are if any some of the downsides.

Dr. Pasquerilla

- Some of the positions would be created and opened for the teachers bid which is before the next meeting.

Dr. Pasquerilla

- The benefit to the special education department is the flexibility and helps to balance class sizes
- This will maintain core classes while using teachers to offer more electives.
- The downside is that it will illuminate a planning periods for elementary teachers.

#### 24. Sub-Contracted PIMS Coordinator

It is recommended to approve a contract between the Ambridge Area School District and Carol Jessep, for sub-contracted PIMS services. **Pending solicitor's review of the final agreement.**

#### 25. Resolution 2022-2023-13

It is recommended to approve Resolution 2022-2023-13, a resolution placing Employee #335 on unpaid leave effective May 11, 2023 and authorizing the issuance of charges and related notices consistent with the School Code.

Mr. Carpenter moved to table item 23, seconded by Mr. Zatchey, and move to recess at the conclusion of this meeting. Mr. Zatchey voted against tabling item 23.

Mrs. Smith moved to approve items 1-22 and 24-25, seconded by Mr. Zatchey. The vote in favor was unanimous with Mr. Keber abstaining from items 18 and 22.

Mrs. Romasco reconvened the meeting at 9:36 p.m.

Mrs. Smith moved to place item 23 back on the agenda, seconded by Mr. Carpenter. All in favor.

Miss Fitsko moved to accept item 23. Mr. Keber and Mr. Zatchey voted against item 23.

Ms. Fitsko moved to adjourn, Mr. Zatchey seconded. All in favor

### **XIII. President's Address**

Nothing to report.

### **XIV. Solicitor's Report**

Ms. Turbull reported that the sale of Ridge Road will be closed by the end of the fiscal year.

**XV. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Pasquerilla stated the Middle School Band performance was excellent as well as all other activity and events going on through the district.

**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.

Wendy Duguay, Ambridge, PA

- Concerns with giving employees raises.
- With so many busing issues, will the district renew Rhodes when contract is up?

Dr. Pasquerilla

- Employee raises are in the CBA and in Employee Contracts
- We continue to meet with Rhodes to improve on the process and we are now reaching out to a neighbor busing company to help.

Sherry Raunswinter, Economy, PA

- Thanked the School Board for approving the new GPA grade scale because this will affect her son.
- Thank you to the Board and Dr. Pasquerilla.

Shaun Duguay, Ambridge, PA

- Spoke on a matter on his child's academics
- With the district filing suit with Norfolk, what are the plans if there is a settlement?
- Concerns why an incident with staff incidents that are not being communicated.

Dr. Pasquerilla

- Told the parent to reach out to Dr. Filipowski with academic concerns.

Ms. Turnbull

- The Board nor the district can speak on incidents regarding staff, it is a personnel issue. But there are certain incidents that take place that occasionally warrant communications to the community.

Amy Fitsko, Ambridge, PA

- Concerns with a bus aid yelling at her child and retaliation against her child by the bus aid.
- Concerns with transportation issues and Rhodes not responding to these incidents.

Jamie Curry, Freedom, PA

- Will the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade resignation at Highland Elementary be replaced?
- Will there be elementary teachers at the elementary level.

Dr. Pasquerilla

- There will be a fulltime PE teacher at all three buildings, one STEAM and one Art for all elementary with some split time at the Middle School and High School

Christina Briola, Harmony Twp., PA (AASD Teacher)

- Thanked the Board for taking the time to consider item #23 under Personnel.
- These curtailments are sacrifices in education in general
- The problems with busing were only fixed for 2 days and then went back to the same unsafe conditions and seating three students in a seat.

Marquie Hudak, Baden, PA

- Concerns with Rhodes
- Three students to a seat.
- Is there a ratio or amount of students that can legally be on a bus

Ms. Turnbull

- Most school buses have the maximum capacity posted on the bus. We are taking an overlay of what the minimums are for safety we are communicating our concerns with Rhodes and will continue to communicate with Rhodes. Dr. Pasquerilla has gone out and counted bodies on buses to make sure those measurements are met. We appreciate the input.

Kitty Curtis, Economy

- Would like to thank Rhodes.
- The communications she has had with Rhodes they have always been respectful and have answered questions.
- Granddaughter fell asleep and missed her bus stop and 20 minutes later the bus brought her back home.
- Mr. Rhodes is doing the best he can with what he has. If you want to complain help try and find a solution.
- If picking your children up at the end of the day works for you then do that.

## **XVII. Motion to Adjourn**

At approximately 8:40 p.m. Mrs. Romasco made a motion to recess back into Executive Session for Personnel and Matters Subject to Attorney-Client privilege, seconded by Mrs. Smith. All in favor.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Mrs. June Mueller**  
**Board Secretary**