

**AMBRIDGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**AGENDA**  
**October 18, 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 October 18, 2023 is now called to order.

**II. Flag salute-please rise**

**III. Student Council Report**

Highland Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Aleeah Barkfelt

Timmy Bruno

Ian Fusco

Olivia McGarvey

Ritaj Rizki

Robyn Mayo

**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, October 18<sup>th</sup> discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)
- Information, strategy, and/or negotiation session relating to the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement
- Considering the purchase or lease of real estate
- Matters subject to attorney-client privilege and other confidentiality laws
- Litigation or threatened litigation matters
- Sensitive public safety issues
- Salary schedule and labor relations

**VII. Correspondence**

**VIII. Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> Meet and Discuss Meeting Voting and Non-Voting and Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.**

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

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

**XI. Recognition/Presentation**

**Girls Volleyball**

Abby Reeves, 11<sup>th</sup> Grader, Class 3A Player of the Week.

*Congratulations!*

**Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA)**

Congratulations to 12<sup>th</sup> Grader Joseph Bellinger on earning a spot in the PMEA District 5 Honors Chorus Festival at Westminster College! Joey finished in 11<sup>th</sup> place on the vocal part of Tenor 2.

**Beaver County Career & Technology Center**

Kiarrah Byrd, 12<sup>th</sup> Grader, September Student of the Month for the Health Occupations Program

*Congratulations!*

**Students of the Month**

**High School September Student of the Month**

Pietro Pucci, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Aashna Sinha Roy, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Claire Elias, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Elizabeth Traupman, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

**High School September Extra Effort Award**

Heidi Setzenfand, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Samantha Patton, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Jaylynn Campbell, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Bella Spencer, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Middle School September Students of the Month**

Chase Powers-Brown, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Elizabeth Speicher, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Logan Barton, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Economy Elementary September Student of the Month**

Nathan Racioppo, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Highland Elementary September Student of the Month**

Kamrynn Lawson, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

**State Street Elementary September Student of the Month**

Emma Ersher, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

## **Employees of the Month**

### **High School Employee of the Month**

Kimberly Racioppo, Para-Professional

### **Middle School Employee of the Month**

Brandie Johnson, Teacher

### **Economy Elementary**

Cory Bailey, Guidance Counselor

### **State Street Elementary**

Sandra Mutschler, Cafeteria Worker / Crossing Guard

### **Highland Elementary**

Jennifer Shannon, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade 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. Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA)**

It is recommended permission be granted to Todd Hartman, to take The High School Steel Drum Band to the Bayfront Convention Center in Erie, PA April 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to perform during the 2024 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) Annual In-Service Conference. Students who attend PMEA will be reimbursed as per Board Policy 240 (50% of travel cost or \$250.00 per student, whichever is less) for a maximum total of \$3,000.00. It is furthermore recommend to approve Todd Hartman to attend the PMEA Conference. Mr. Hartman will be reimbursed as per Board Policy 331, Job Related Expenses.

#### **2. Musical Trip**

It is recommended permission be granted that Todd Hartman, Jessica Patterson and Jacob Craig take The High School Musical Students, Thespian Club Students and Stage Crew Students to New York City from March 8<sup>th</sup> – March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The students will attend performances of the Lion King and the Blue Man Group. This is at no cost to the district. Parents or guardians will be required to sign permission and release forms. Chaperones will be required to have current clearances, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

3. National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) Conference

It is recommended to approve Nicole Darroch to attend the National Science Teachers Association Conference being held in Kansas City, MO from October 25<sup>th</sup> through October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. This is the largest conference focused exclusively on science and STEM teaching for grades K-12 teachers of science. To be paid for by the by the NSTA Shell Science Grant.

4. Global Wordsmith Language

It is recommended to approve an agreement with Global Wordsmith Language Services to provide Interpretation Services.

5. BVIU 2023-2024 IDEA Allocation

It is recommended to accept the 2023-2024 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Allocation to the Ambridge Area School District, in the amount of \$411,318.32.

**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 \$2,508,946.42 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,303,615.89 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$88,497.09 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$55,830.16 be paid.

3. Repository

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

- a) Lot 242, 0 Howard Street, Ambridge, PA Tax Parcel 64-002-0825.000, for the bid amount of \$1,457.25 to Hidden Gem House, LLC.

4. Maintenance Truck Purchase

It is recommended to approve the purchase of a 2023 Ford F-350 XL 4x4 SRW Pickup Truck with a Plow from Woltz & Wind Ford, Inc. in Heidelberg, PA in the amount of \$64,277.00. The bid for the truck was made through the State bidding process (Co-Stars). This is to replace the current truck. The truck is used for maintenance and snow plowing of District buildings.

5. 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.

6. Economy Elementary Air Handler Controller

It is recommended to accept the proposal of CMS Controls to install and program a new Air Handler Controller for the Multi-Purpose Room at Economy Elementary for a total cost of \$5,150.00 through State Bidding Co-Stars.

7. Grant Acceptance

It is recommended to accept the Walmart Community Grant in the amount of \$1,500.00. The grant will be used for middle school student supplies and food pantry. Genifer Scaletta was instrumental in securing this grant.

**Athletics and Public Relations**

**Mr. Zatchey and Miss Fitsko**

1. Athletic Handbook

It is recommended to take the Athletic Handbook off the table.

2. Athletic Handbook

It is recommended to adopt the Ambridge Area School District Athletic Handbook for the 2023-2024 school year, **pending Solicitor review.**

**Steering and Rules and Legislative**

**Mrs. Kehoe and Mrs. Fischer**

1. PSBA Officer Elections

It is recommended the Board Secretary be directed to cast the vote of the Ambridge Area School Board for election of the following PSBA Slate of Candidates for 2023:

President-elect     Allison Mathis, North Hills School District

Vice President     Sabrina Backer, Franklin Area School District

Insurance Trust     Marianne Neel  
                                 Michael Faccinetto

**\*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. 2023-2024 Winter Coach

It is recommended the following individuals be approved to fill the designated winter 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 winter sports as normal.

- 1) Middle School Girls' Volleyball
  - a) Jennifer Ax, Head Coach \$2,050.00
  - b) Corrina Cooper, Assistant Coach \$1,350.00
  
- 2) Boys' Basketball
  - a) Nick Campalong, Assistant Coach \$2,410.00
  - b) Lisa Fox, Assistant Coach \$2,410.00
  
- 3) Middle School Boys' Basketball
  - a) Craig Wiltrek, Head Coach \$1,750.00
  
- 4) Wrestling
  - a) Ron Wilson, Assistant Coach \$2,400.00
  
- 5) Middle School Wrestling
  - a) Ron Wilson, Head Coach \$1,850.00
  - b) Larry Knopsnyder, Assistant Coach \$1,350.00

2. Permanent Contracts

It is recommended the following professional employee, who has completed three years of satisfactory service in the Ambridge Area School District as of the effective date designated, be given permanent professional contracts:

Paige Scherer, effective October 14, 2023

3. Technology Integrators

It is recommended to approve the Carrie Malinich as the Technology Integrator at Economy Elementary for the 2023-2024 school year, to be paid a pro-rated stipend of \$1,066.67, as per the collective bargaining agreement.

4. Resignation

It is recommended to accept the resignation of Shana Dowlin from her position as a caregiver at the Economy Elementary Before and After School Program, effective October 11, 2023, with regret.

5. Professional Employee

It is recommended to retroactively approve Shana Dowlin, as an Ambridge Area High School, Ambridge Area Middle School All Grade Levels, and All Elementary Schools STEAM Teacher at a salary of \$47,871.00 (Step 1, Bachelor), effective October 13, 2023, as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Association AAEEA/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. Foodservice Worker

It is recommended to approve Gianina Shaginaw as a non-union Food Service Assistant at Economy Elementary, 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. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify employee #109 taking an intermittent leave of absence under Board Policy 535, Family and Medical Leave beginning October 16, 2023, not to exceed 12 weeks.

8. Keystone Remediation Instructors

It is recommended to approve the following teachers as instructors for preparation of Keystone Remediation for winter testing, not to exceed six (6) hours per subject area, as follows:

\_\_\_, Algebra  
\_\_\_, English 10  
Erin Hein, Biology

9. ABC Transit Bus Drivers / Aides / Substitutes

It is recommended to approve the individuals listed as operators, attendants, and maintenance for ABC Transit, Inc. for the 2023-2024 school year, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

AIDES

Shawna Allen  
Tina Sheetz

BUS DRIVERS

Mellanie Lipscomb

VAN DRIVERS

Michael Bianchini  
Shane Bonzo  
Phillip Huggins  
Thomas Hunt  
Julius Kirland  
Susan Shaw  
Tina Sheetz  
Krista Treemarchi  
Eva Young

**XIII. Solicitor's Report**

**XIV. Superintendent's Report**

**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.

**XVI. Motion to Adjourn**