

Minutes for the Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Auditorium on Wednesday, September 20, 2023.

I. Call to Order: Mrs. Romasco called the meeting to order at approximately 7:20 p.m.

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District Board of Directors on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 is now called to order.

II. Flag salute-please rise: Economy Student Council led the flag-salute.

III. Student Council Report

Economy Student Council

Elise Young

Avery Brodmerkel

Kason Ross

Carter Batch

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

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

Ms. Megan Turnbull, Solicitor

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

The Board of School Directors held an Executive Session on Wednesday, September 20th discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)
- 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

No correspondence

VIII. Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of Wednesday, August 9th Meet and Discuss Voting and Non-Voting and Wednesday, August 16th Board Meeting.

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

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

Mr. Keber moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Miss Fitsko. All in favor.

X. Amendment/Addendum to Agenda/Approval of Agenda

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

XI. Recognition/Presentation**Education and Technology****Mrs. Smith and Mr. Zatchey****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 \$1,404,441.23 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$952,593.22 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$79,164.04 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$13,542.16 be paid.

3. Budget Transfers

It is recommended to approve budget transfers for August 2023.

4. Gifts in Kind

It is recommended to accept the donation from Leedsworld, Inc. to the State Street Elementary Library in honor of Elizabeth Peters, with appreciation. The donor has received no goods or services in return for this gift. The donation was in the amount of \$200.00.

5. Rescind

It is recommended to rescind the tax exoneration and repository purchase of Tax Parcel 51-002-0101.000, 3841 Jordan Street, Lot 36, South Heights, PA to be purchased by Albert Charles Borga.

6. Tax Exoneration

It is recommended to approve tax exoneration regarding the collection of Real Estate Tax, conditioned upon mutual municipal and county reciprocal exonerations for the same years, relevant to the following properties:

- a) Tax Parcel 51-002-0100.000, 3839 Jordan Street, Lot 36, South Heights, and purchased by Christian Nauman for the real estate taxes for 2022 to present.
- b) Tax Parcel 51-002-0101.000, 3841 Jordan Street, Lot 36, South Heights, and purchased by Christian Nauman for the real estate taxed for 2020 to present.

7. 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) 3839 Jordan Street, Lot 36, South Heights, PA Tax Parcel 51-002-0100.000, for the bid amount of \$1,367.25 to Christian Nauman.
- b) 3841 Jordan Street, Lot 36, South Heights, PA Tax Parcel 51-002-0101-000, for the bid amount of \$1,744.00 to Christian Nauman.

8. Disabled Veterans Tax Exemption

It is recommended to approve a Disabled Veterans Tax Exemption for property located at 260 Oliver Lane, Freedom, PA, subject to the State Veterans' Commission's continued certification of eligibility and continued use as the applicant's homestead.

9. PA-Educator

It is recommended to approve the contract of service between the Ambridge Area School District and Pennsylvania Educators' Clearinghouse, (PA-Educator.net) for the 2023-2024 school year at a cost of \$2,175.00.

10. Disposal of Unusable Items

It is recommended to dispose of unusable items from 1855 Zehnder Road, Ambridge, PA, previously owned by the district, as per Board Policy 706.1 – *Disposal of Surplus Property and Obsolete Equipment*.

Appendix A

11. Soofa Sign

It is recommended to approve the Ambridge Borough placing a Soofa Sign in front of the Field House on district property.

Mr. Keber moved to accept items 1-11, seconded by Miss Fitsko. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Athletics and Public Relations**Mr. Zatchey and Miss Fitsko****Steering and Rules and Legislative****Mrs. Kehoe and Mrs. Fischer**1. Policy 006 – Local Board Procedures – Final Reading

It is recommended, as a final reading to revise School Board Policy 006 – *Local Board Procedures* to exhibit compliance with the Sunshine Act.

2. Policy 137 – Home Education Programs – Final Reading

It is recommended, as a final reading to revise School Board Policy 137 – *Home Education Programs* to reflect the need for additional recordkeeping based on the new participation provisions for home education students as well as including references to the new Policies 137.2 and 137.3.

3. Policy 137.1 – Extracurricular Participation – Final Reading

It is recommended to revise, as a final reading, Policy 137.1 – *Extracurricular Participation* to address participation in cocurricular activities/academic course and career and technical education programs.

4. Policy 137.2 – Participation in Cocurricular Activities and Academic Courses by Home Education Students – Final Reading

It is recommended to adopt, as a final reading, Policy 137.2 – *Participation in Cocurricular Activities and Academic Courses by Home Education Students* addressing updated requirements pertaining to participation by home education students in district cocurricular activities and academic courses.

5. Policy 137.3 – Participation in Career and Technical Education Programs by Home Education Students – Final Reading

It is recommended to adopt, as a final reading, Policy 137.3 – *Participation in Career and Technical Education Programs by Home Education Students* to address the updated requirements pertaining to participation by home education students in career and technical education programs in which the district participates.

6. Policy 216.1 – Supplemental Discipline Records – Final Reading

It is recommended to revise, as a final reading, Policy 216.1 – *Supplemental Discipline Records* for the purpose requiring the juvenile probation office to provide notice to the building principal and his/her designee upon finding a juvenile, who is enrolled in the school entity, to be a delinquent.

7. Policy 830– Electronic Data Storage

It is recommended to renumber policy 830 to 830.1 to align with PSBA policies.

Mrs. Kehoe moved to accept items 1-7, seconded by Mrs. Fischer. 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. Custodian

It is recommended to hire Jeremy Wagaman as a full-time custodian at Highland Elementary, effective September 18, 2023, as per the terms of the Local 248 Ambridge Area School Employees, AFSCME – AFL – CIO negotiated agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

2. Posted Positions: Clubs / Activities

It is recommended that the following individuals who have applied for the specified posted positions for the 2023-2024 school year be approved at the rate of pay per the collective bargaining agreement, provided the school year allows and sponsors can hold activities as usual.

<u>ACTIVITY/CLUB (High School)</u>		<u>SALARY</u>
Black Student Union Club	Tameki Tarver, Co-Sponsor	\$ 235.00
Teen Leadership Club	Kim Bogati	\$ 470.00
Bible Club	Jamie Orth	\$ 470.00
Ski Club	Deborah Stieving, Co-Sponsor	\$ 235.00
Ski Club	Pamela Wiegand-Green, Co-Sponsor	\$ 235.00
Technology Student Association	Ben Holmes, Co-Sponsor	\$ 337.50
	Kristin Holmes	\$ 337.50
	Zack Dugan	\$ 337.50
	Pam Green	\$ 337.50
Silhouette Club	Sarah Schaffer	\$2,100.00
Tech Production Club	Ben Holmes, Co-Sponsor	\$ 450.00
	Kristin Holmes, Co-Sponsor	\$ 450.00
Video Production Club	Ben Holmes	\$ 470.00
Robotics Club	Ben Holmes, Co-Sponsor	\$ 235.00
	Kristin Holmes, Co-Sponsor	\$ 235.00
Ecology Club	Pamela Wiegand-Green	\$ 470.00
Italian Club	Davide Sciulli	\$ 470.00
<u>ACTIVITY/CLUB (Middle School)</u>		
Math Counts	Glenn Freed	\$1,100.00
Science Explorer Club	Don Ayers	\$ 470.00
Yearbook	Corinna Cooper	\$ 470.00

3. Posted Positions: Department Heads and Building Heads

It is recommended the following individuals who have applied for the specified posted positions for the 2023-2024 school year be approved at the salary designated in the negotiated agreement, pending receipt of current clearances and drug screening:

<u>DEPARTMENT HEADS</u>		<u>SALARY</u>
<u>Secondary</u>		
Science	Terri Moon–Kutzavich	\$1,365.00
Special Education	Bonnie DeAngelis	\$1,365.00
 <u>K-12:</u>		
Business Department	Krista Novak	\$1,365.00

4. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Casey Neel from her position of Secondary Special Education Department Head, effective September 8, 2023.

5. 2023-2024 Band Camp Positions

It is recommended to ratify the following band camp position for the 2023-2024 summer band camp at the designated stipend, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening, provided band camp can be held as normal:

Bridger Belle Choreographer	Melissa Patterson	\$ 1,400.00
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6. Mentor Teacher

It is recommended to approve the following mentor teacher assignments for the 2023-2024 school year, be approved as per the negotiated agreement:

<u>Mentor Teachers</u>	<u>New Teachers</u>
Brenda Antoline	Justice Harris
Carrie Keber	Justine Jedry
Patricia Weale	Abbey Ishida
Chris Yannessa	Stephen Cohen
Amy Fedorek	Melony Hurlburt
Christina Briola	Erin Williams
Lauren Mawhinney	Leslie Berg

7. Uncompensated Leave

It is recommended to approve Employee #2626 taking seven (7) days unpaid days, effective May 21-31, 2023. Unpaid leave is only approved once during an employee’s tenure.

8. Uncompensated Leave

It is recommended to approve the application of Employee #2941 for unpaid sick leave for up to thirty (30) days for the 2023-2024 school year.

9. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify employee #3000 taking an intermittent leave of absence under Board Policy 335, Family and Medical Leave beginning September 21, 2023, not to exceed 12 weeks.

10. Credit Recovery

It is recommended to approve the following individuals as instructors for the Credit Recovery Program at the high school. Teachers will be paid as per the collective bargaining agreement.

Terri Moon Kutzavich
Paul Hladio
Pam Green
Shane Newhouse
Christina Briola
Kent Withrow
Jodi Musser
Kim Bogati

11. Field Observation

It is recommended to approve Benny Gundlach, a Geneva College student, for five (5) hours of field observation within the district. Benny will be placed with Jessica Saxon.

12. Student Teaching

It is recommended to approve the following Slippery Rock University students student teaching 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. The students will be placed at Economy Elementary with Michelle Kecmer and Carrie Keber.

Makayla Rosell
Michael Zang

13. Administrator Equity Adjustments

It is recommended that the Superintendent, Dr. Joseph W. Pasquerilla, receive consideration for a 3% (three percent) increase in salary for the 2023-2024 school year based on his evaluation for the 2022-2023 school year.

Mrs. Smith moved to accept items 1-13, seconded by Miss Fitsko. Mr. Keber abstained from items 6 and 12 and voted against item 13. The vote was unanimous for items 1-5, and 7-11.

XII. President's Address

Nothing to report.

XIII. Solicitor's Report

Rhodes Transit breached contract with the Ambridge Area School District and the District is in a lawsuit against Rhodes Transit.

XIV. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pasquerilla thanked all of the students and staff for a good start to the school year. Looking forward to all of the fall activities and events.

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.

Kasi Devinney, Economy

- What justifies Dr. Pasquerilla's raise?
- This raise could pay for sports uniforms.
- Why a raise when we are not hiring staff?
- How is the district budget being managed?
- Is student success being met?
 - Ms. Turnbull – The Board judged Dr. Pasquerilla's performance as a whole. Dr. Pasquerilla had 26 goals he was asked to complete. The Board found him distinguished. This raise percentage is less than ever other entity's raise of the district. The Board will work to set goals for the upcoming year to address the needs of the district.
 - Mrs. Romasco – Dr. Pasquerilla met his 26 goals. The test scores did not come in on time and this will be reflected on the following school year's evaluation. The Board is working on the Goals for next year. We appreciate your feedback.

Shawn Dugay, Ambridge

- Attended Football game and commended the staff and Dr. Pasquerilla for making sure everyone was safe.
- Daughter was assaulted on the bus and the bus driver did not pull over or call the police.
- This is the second time his daughter was assaulted.
- If there are no crossing guards in place, who is accountable for the students safety?
- Mr. Dugay is willing to help even as a volunteer.
 - Mrs. Romasco – stated student discipline cannot be discussed in a public forum and stated that ABC Transit does have video cameras on the bus.

XVI. Motion to Adjourn

At approximately 7:55 p.m. Mrs. Smith moved to adjourn, seconded by Miss Fitsko. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Mrs. June Mueller
Board Secretary**

APPENDIX A

Subject: Summary of Ridge Road Book Inventory for Disposal/Donation

September 18, 2023

The proposed list of instructional materials proposed for disposal includes the following items:

*The first three items take up the majority of the curriculum storage space at Ridge Road.
1. 6 McGraw Hill Teacher Classroom Resource sets with Manipulatives given to the district free of charge.
2. 21 Math My Math Teacher Classroom Resource sets given to the district free of charge.
3. 2007-2008 Houghton Mifflin Science series for grades 3, 4, 5, and 6. This includes the student hardback textbooks and teacher classroom resource sets along with the unused consumables.
4. 2 McGraw Hill ELA Teacher Classroom Resource sets (4 th Grade, 2014). The rest of the McGraw Hill 2014 ELA Series Materials are stored in the buildings.
5. 1 Scott Forman Mathematics Classroom Resource set
6. Snap together floor at Economy
7. Numerous tables and chairs from the old high school and Anthony Wayne.
8. Old floor chemicals (55 gallon drums, we would need a specialized company to dispose of these).

Instructional Material Title	Copyright Date	Quantity
Discovery Works Silver Burdett Glenn (Reading)	1999	56
Graphing and Patterns	Unknown	46
Merrill General Science	1986	20

Holt Mathematics	2007	6
Reading Favorites Textbooks	2004	19
CR Lit Anthology Grade 4	2014	14
McGraw Hill Reading Workshop Grade 3	2014	20
PSSA Coach Grade 5	2007	50
Scott Foreman Math	2004	28
Glencoe Health	2001	23
World Geography	1997	7
PSSA Grade 3 Jumpstart	2005	15

- This is the materials list before teachers went to Ridge Road and selected materials. 2 truck loads of materials were selected by teachers according to maintenance.