

Minutes for the Meet and Discuss Voting and Non-Voting Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Auditorium on Wednesday, October 11, 2023.

I. Call to Order: Mrs. Romasco called the meeting to order at approximately 7:10 p.m.

The Meet and Discuss Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District is held on Wednesday, October 11, 2023. This meeting is being held to review the agenda for the regular monthly Board Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

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

III. 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
 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

V. Mrs. Mueller read the following Sunshine Law:

The Board of School Directors held Executive Session(s) on Wednesday, October 11th to discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)
- Litigation or threatened litigation matters
- Sensitive public safety issues

VI. Correspondence

No Correspondence

VII. Amendments to the Agenda/Approval of the Agenda

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

VIII. Recognition/Presentation**IX. 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

X. LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR THIS MEETING**Education and Technology****Mrs. Smith and Mr. Zatchey**1. Memorandum of Understanding

It is recommended to approve a MOU between the Ambridge Area School District and PA Connecting Communities for out-of-district placements for the 2023-2024 school year, **pending solicitor review.**

Mr. Zatchey moved to accept item 1, seconded by Mrs. Smith. 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. September 20, 2023 Board Meeting Legislative Action Items

It is recommend to reaffirm and ratify for all voting items from the Voting Meeting of September 20, 2023 to ensure technical Sunshine Law compliance.

2. Custodian

It is recommended to ratify the approval of Earl Tucker as a full-time custodian in the high school, effective September 26, 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.

3. Food Service Worker

It is recommended to approve Melissa Coley as food service worker at the middle School, 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.

4. Retirement

It is recommended to approve the resignation due to retirement of James Leo from his position as a custodian at the high school, effective January 3, 2024, with regret.

5. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Lisa Loskoch from her position as a cafeteria worker at Economy Elementary, effective September 25, 2023, with regret.

6. Rescind

It is recommend to rescind the approval of Lauren Mawhinney as a mentor teacher previously approved at the September 20, 2023 Board meeting.

7. Economy Elementary Before and After School Childcare

It is recommended to approve the following individuals as caregivers 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.

Marsha Geweth
Lisa Loskoch

8. Credit Recovery

It is recommended to ratify the following individual as an instructor for the Credit Recovery Program at the Ambridge Area High School. Teachers will be paid as per the collective bargaining agreement.

Jennifer Sirianni, Physical Education

9. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Michelle Keczmer as a Technology Integrator at Economy Elementary, effective October 3, 2023, with regret.

10. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Marshall Bruce from his position of High School Cross County Head Coach and Middle School Cross Country Head Coach, effective October 9, 2023, with regret.

11. 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>Boys’ and Girls’ Cross Country</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Denise Duncan, Varsity Head Coach	\$1,035.17, Pro-Rated
b) Denise Duncan, Middle School Head Coach	\$ 445.34, Pro-Rated

12. Letter of Agreement

It is recommended to approve a Letter of Agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and Local 248 Ambridge Area School Employees AFSCME- AFL- CIO regarding Co-Lead Maintenance Position.

13. 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 Elementary Schedules. **Pending final review by the Bargaining Unit and the Solicitor.**

Mrs. Smith moved to accept items 1-13, seconded by Miss Fitsko. The vote in favor was unanimous.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS (NON-VOTING AGENDA ITEMS)

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 18th – 19th, 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

New York City – March 7th – March 10th – Details to come.

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 25th through October 28th, 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.

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.

Athletics and Public Relations**Mr. Zatchey and Miss Fitsko****Point of Information****Band Festival**

Ambridge Area High School Marching Band will attend the Chartiers Valley Band Festival on Saturday, October 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Athletics and Public Relations**Mr. Zatchey and Miss Fitsko**1. **Athletic Handbook**

It is recommended to adopt the Ambridge Area School District Athletic Handbook for the 2023-2024 school year.

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

XII. President's Address

Nothing to report.

XIII. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pasquerilla congratulated all fall sports teams for an excellent season. Dr. Pasquerilla also recognized the PTOs/PTAs and all of the staff for a good start to the school year.

XIV. Solicitor's Report

Nothing to 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. This period for public comment prior to the standing committee reports will be limited to one-half hour.

Kasi Devinney, Economy

- The GPA is still not being updated and some deadlines have past for seniors to get their GPA and transcripts to Colleges.
- Athletic Handbook, would be helpful to include for each sport what is included such as equipment and uniforms and what parent will be responsible for.
- The District website is not being updated appropriately.
- With the Special Education Director acting as an Interim Transportation Director are IEPs being met and is the District in compliance with all IEPs.
- Why would a high school sporting event being moved for a middle school sporting event taking place at the high school.
 - Dr. Pasquerilla stated that the GPA calculations are being done by hand and they are about half way through the process. All though by hand is not the best practice, Infinite Campus stated they could complete this task for the district but then they could not do so, so that is why in the meantime it is being done by hand. Once Infinite Campus writes the coed to run it will then run on its own. Mrs. Romasco suggested getting paper copies from the Guidance Office to be sent to the colleges. Counselors are able to load the transcripts into Common App. If anyone has concerns please reach out to the Counselors.
 - Mrs. Romasco, agreed to add what equipment/uniform will be included in the sport.
 - Dr. Pasquerilla state IEP needs are being met and if anyone has a concern they can reach out to the Administration.
 - Mr. Lamenza explained that one of the sports events were moved to accommodate a senior project that was already cancelled due to weather. When they tried to move the game again there were no referees to be at the game. Mr. Lamenza stated this is why it's not the best practice to have Senior Projects reliant on sporting events with weather and so many other variables such as the opponents being available as well.
 - The middle school football practice and games take place at the high school, therefore they do hold time slots for the field as well.
 - Mr. Keber stated if the middle school field is feasible then middle school football should be moved back to the middle school, with one game being scheduled at the high school under the lights.

XVI. Motion to Adjourn

At approximately 8:20 p.m., Mrs. Fischer moved to adjourn, seconded by Miss Fitsko. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Mrs. June Mueller
Board Secretary**