**AMBRIDGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Minutes**

**December 6, 2023**

**Minutes for the Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Media Center on Wednesday, December 6, 2023.**

# Call to Order

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District Board of Directors on Wednesday December 6, 2023 is now called to order. Meeting called to order by Mr. John Carpenter, newly appointed Board President.

# Flag salute-please rise- Mr. John Carpenter asked all to rise and say the pledge.

1. **Student Council Report**

Middle School Student Council

-Middle School Council gave report on the events planned at the Middle School – Past Events and upcoming events.

1. **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.

# Roll Call

-Roll Call- Present: John Carpenter, William Metz, Valerie Young, Matt Zatchey, Kelly Romasco, Cathy Fischer, Mary Jo Keho, Amy Fitsko, Garret Kovacevic

Others Present: Dr. Joe Pasquerilla, Barry King, Megan Turnbull, Esquire, Michelle Amadio, Dr. Amy Filipowski, June Mueller

1. **Sunshine Law**

The Board of School Directors held an Executive Session on Wednesday, December 6th to 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

-Board Secretary June Mueller read the Sunshine Law

# Correspondence

# -No Correspondence

1. **Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of** Wednesday, November 8th Meet and Discuss Meeting Voting and Non-Voting and Wednesday, November 15th Board Meeting.

-Motion to Accept the minutes- Cathy Fischer Second- Mary Jo Kehoe

1. **Amendment/Addendum to Agenda/Approval of Agenda**
2. **Recognition/Presentation Students of the Month**

**High School November Students of the Month**

Makenzie Majercik, 12th Grade Chase Fetterman, 11th Grade Janna Rusnak, 10th Grade Kendall Harper, 9th Grade

**High School November Effort Awards** Camden Mawhinney, 12th Grade Madelyn Palmer, 11th Grade

Gianna Georgakis, 10th Grade Idalia Grande-Reyes, 9th Grade

# Middle School November Students of the Month

Daniella Miller, 8th Grade Sideny Kratochvil, 7th Grade Kainer Shepard, 6th Grade

# Economy Elementary November Student of the Month

Remi Matos, 3rd Grade

# Highland Elementary November Student of the Month

Jude El, 4th Grade

# State Street Elementary November Student of the Month

Raelyn Gravener, 5th Grade

# November Employees of the Month

**High School Employee of the Month**

Diana Marshall, Custodian

# Middle School Employee of the Month

Patty Weale, Special Education Teacher

# Economy Elementary

Shana Dowlin, STEAM Teacher

# State Street Elementary

Ron Hannah, Custodian

# Highland Elementary

Brandie Skonieczny, Title One Teacher

-All Board Members and Dr. Pasquerilla acknowledged students and staff on their accomplishments. Congratulations to all.

# 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 public comment on agenda items

# Committee Reports

**Education and Technology**

1. Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officers (PASBO)

It is recommended Michelle Amadio, the District Business Manager and Director of Operations be approved to attend the PASBO Annual Conference and Exhibits being held at the Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA March 5 – 8, 2024. The purpose of this conference is to provide members with education, training, professional development, and timely access to legislative and policy news. All expenses (registration, fees, travel, lodging, meals) will be paid as per Board Policy 331, Job Related Expenses. The approximate cost will be $1,057.13.

-Motion to accept – Kelly Romasco -Seconded Matt Zatchey Eight members voted yes, Mr. Kovacevic abstained

# Finance and Budget and Building and Grounds

* 1. School District Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly school district salaries in the amount of $1,322,391.68 be paid.

* 1. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of $59,378.79 be paid.

* 1. Preliminary Budget Resolution 2023-2024-05

It is recommended the Board adopt Resolution No. 2023-2024-05 in accordance with preliminary budget requirements as set forth in Section 311 of Act 1 regarding the district’s election not to increase any tax for the support of the Ambridge Area School District for the 2024-2025 school year at a rate that exceeds the index of 5.5% as calculated by the PA Department of Education.

* 1. Resolution Interim Delinquent Tax Collectors 2023-2024-06

It is recommended that Resolution No. 2023-2024-06, which appoints all Tax Collectors as interim delinquent tax collectors and extends the deadline to file 2023-2024 returns with the Beaver County Tax Claim Bureau until April 15, 2024, be adopted.

* 1. BVIU 2023-2024 Allocation of Federal 619-IDEA B Funds

It is recommended to accept the 2023-2024 Allocation of Federal 616-IDEA B Funds to the Ambridge Area School District, in the amount of $7,038.00.

* 1. Economy Elementary Boiler Repair

It is recommended to accept a proposal from Huckestein Mechanical in the amount of $6,514.00 to purchase and install a new Burner for the Boiler at Economy Elementary.

* 1. Economy Elementary Dish Washer Repair

It is recommended to accept a proposal from Great Lakes Hotel Supply in the amount of $4,615.00 for a replacement Booster for the dish washer at Economy Elementary cafeteria and it is furthermore recommended to accept a proposal from Hobart Service in the amount of $1,564.00 for the installation of the Booster.

-Motion to accept all items – Matt Zatchey Seconded- Amy Fitsko Eight members voted yes, Mr. Kovacevic abstained

**Athletics and Public Relations**

**Point of Information - Holiday Needs for our District Families**

**Economy Elementary**

Economy Student Council is sponsoring a food drive that will benefit the Baden Methodist Church Food Bank. The food will be delivered on December 11th.

# Contact Person - Justine Jedry, 5th Grader Teacher

Economy PTA is sponsoring Holiday Hugs. Sixteen Economy families will receive clothing and toys for Christmas.

# Contact Person - Melinda Arlof, PTA President State Street Elementary

The following items can be used at State Street. **Please bring to the Main Office**:

* Food: Nonperishable
* Coats, gloves, hats
* Underwear size 3T to Size 14 boys and girls
* T-shirts – Size XS youth to Adult Large
* Socks – Size 3T to Adult Large/X-Large
* New or gently used clothing, shoes size 3T to Adult Men’s and Women’s
* New or gently used board games, balls, jump ropes, hula hoops
* Cereal Boxes

# High School

CYS Toy Drive - At this time, all children have been spoken for but wrapping paper is still needed.

# Contact Person - Christina Briola, High School Teacher

Center for Hope - Teen Leadership and Winter Olympic food Drive is a combined effort with a senior project to support the Center for Hope by collecting canned/dry goods, such as the below items:

Boxed Pasta

Boxed Mac and Cheese Stuffing mix

Rice Cereal

Baking supplies Jelly/jam

Contact Person - Kim Bogati, High School Teacher

-Cathy Fischer gave point of information for any families in need to contact their schools so we could assist. Shared the different school information listed above.

# Athletics and Public Relations

1. Community College of Beaver County (CCBC) Memorandum of Understanding

It is recommended to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between The Ambridge Area School District and CCBC, to establish a written Reunification Partnership, at a minimal cost of shared supplies. **Subject to final review of the solicitor.**

-Motion to accept – Cathy Fischer Seconded- Amy Fitsko All nine members vote yes

# Steering and Rules and Legislative

1. Policy 815 – *Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources* – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading to update School Board Policy 815 – *Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources* based on updates issued this year related to data governance and security, and breach notification for computerized personal information.

-Motion to accept – Amy Fitsko Seconded- Kelly Romasco All nine members vote yes

# Personnel and Salary Schedule and Labor Relations

**\*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. Maintenance Employee

It is recommended to hire Don Stuber as a full-time Maintenance Worker at the Ambridge Area High School, effective January 2, 2024 as per the terms of the Local 248 Ambridge Area School Employees, AFSCME - AFL – CIO negotiated agreement, pending receipt current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TBN testing and responses by current

1. Keystone Remediation Instructors

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

Christina Briola, English 10

1. Resignation

It is recommended to accept the resignation of Glenn Freed from the following positions:

* 1. MathCounts Club Sponsor, effective January 19, 2024, with regret.
  2. Technology Integrator, effective January 19, 2024, with regret.

1. Student Teaching

It is recommended to approve Benny Gundlach, a Geneva College student for student teaching for the 2024 spring semester, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening. Benny will be placed with Stephen Rodgers.

1. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify employee #2583 taking an intermittent leave of absence under Board Policy 535, Family and Medical Leave beginning October 30, 2023, not to exceed 12 weeks.

1. 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.

Bus Driver Joseph Bergandy

Van Driver Tori Sessie Melissa Calvin

Katherine Longmire

Aide

Vernon Young Lynn Galloway Ronald Sessie Malina Gibson

-Motion to accept – Mary Jo Kehoe Seconded- Kelly Romasco Eight yes, Abstained from voting #6- Bill Metz

1. **Solicitor’s Report**

-Megan Turnbull wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

1. **Superintendent’s Report**

-Dr. Pasquerilla congratulated the students and staff one more time and wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

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1. **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.

-No public comment

1. **Motion to Adjourn**

* John Carpenter made a motion to adjourn , Valerie Young seconded the motion, All in favor.