**AMBRIDGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES**

**January 17, 2024**

**Minutes for the Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Media Center on Wednesday, January 17, 2024.**

# Call to Order

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District Board of Directors on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 is now called to order.

-Meeting called to order by Mr. John Carpenter at 7:11 PM

# Flag salute-please rise

-Mr. John Carpenter asked all to rise for pledge and had a moment of silence.

1. **Student Interact Club Report**

Ambridge Area High School Interact Club

Emma Wenum-President

Brenna Gerle-Vice President

Natajha Alexander-Secretary

Makenzie Majercik-Treasurer

Madison Kozak-Social Media

-High School Interact Club shared the events they held for students and the community as well as the upcoming events. The Board Members thanked them for their efforts.

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.
2. **Roll Call**

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

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

# Sunshine Law

The Board of School Directors held an Executive Session on Wednesday, January 17th 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

-Dr. Pasquerilla read the Sunshine Law

# Correspondence

-No Correspondence

1. **Motion to Accept the Treasure’s Report dated:** November 2023 andDecember 2023

-Treasurer’s Report motion Mr. Zatchey. Seconded by Ms. Young. Accepted by all

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

**Holiday Greeting Card Winners**

Sofia Chirumbolo, 5th Grade, Economy Elementary

Luca Fabanich, 4th Grade, State Street Elementary

Bayani Strong, 3rd Grade, Highland Elementary

**December Students of the Month**

**High School December Student of the Month**

Riley Fallecker, 12th Grade

Sheridan Olenic, 11th Grade

Pablo Malla Armijos, 10th Grade

Edita Deen Ilagan, 9th Grade

**High School December Extra Effort Award**

Kemagne Phillips, 12th Grade

Reanna Ramirez, 11th Grade

Quinn Tkatch, 10th Grade

Sierra Tyson, 9th Grade

**Middle School December Students of the Month**

Madison Curry, 8th Grade

Royal Easley, 7th Grade

Lily Buchanan, 6th Grade

**Economy Elementary December Student of the Month**

Nathan Mihelich, 5th Grade

**Highland Elementary December Student of the Month**

Aria Barfield, 1st Grade

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

Raelyn Gravener, 5th Grade

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

Jacob Walls, 5th Grade

**December Employees of the Month**

**High School Employee of the Month**

Bonnie DeAngelis, Special Education Teacher

**Middle School Employee of the Month**

Krista Novak, Business Education Teacher

**Economy Elementary**

Kevin Martin, Maintenance

**State Street Elementary**

Sharon Kilmer, Nurse

**Highland Elementary**

Marie Buck, Speech Therapist

**MAC Tournament Wrestling**

Two of our student athletes placed in the wrestling MAC Tournament. Congratulations Ethan Wrotny and Dean Chalupiak.

-All students and staff were recognized with a certificate and accolades by the Board and District Administrators. Some students could not make it due to weather and their names will be announce at the February 21st Board meeting.

1. **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.

1. **Committee Reports**

**Education and Technology Mrs. Romasco**

1. 2024-2025 School Calendar

It is recommended the Proposed 2024-2025 School Year Calendar be approved, as presented.

1. Pennsylvania State Athletic Directors Association (PSADA) Conference

It is recommended that Joseph Lamenza be authorized to attend the 55th Annual PSADA Conference in which Mr. Lamenza will receive professional development regarding management and operations of athletic events. The event will be held March 19-22, 2024, at Hershey. Mr. Lamenza will be reimbursed at the contracted rate with an expense report attached, which covers registration, fees, travel, lodging, and meals not to exceed $2500.

1. BCWAN Consortium

It is recommended to retroactively approve the Ambridge Area School District should participate in the BCWAN Consortium for Telecommunications and Internet Access Services. Pricing through the Beaver County Intermediate Unit is approximately $1,791. 46 per month beginning July 1, 2023 for a five-year period. The District has participated in this Consortium in the past.

1. Approval of Flourish Beaver County Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

It is recommended to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the

Ambridge Area School District and Flourish Beaver County for the launch of the

Beaver County Education Initiative to foster educational opportunities for our

students and the coordination of a post-secondary scholarship.

* Item #1 School Calendar was tabled for further discussion. Motion made by Mrs. Kelly Romasco and seconded by Mrs. Cathy Fischer. The Board asked Dr. Pasquerilla to

compare the Ambridge School Calendar to BCCTC Calendar and report back to the Board

Items 2-4 were approved unanimously.

**Finance and Budget Mr. Zatchey**

1. Berkone Act 80 Proposal

It is recommended to accept the proposal from Berkone to review the Act 80 tax jurisdiction by the school district to determine if there are taxpayers who reported an incorrect school code on their tax returns. This is at a cost of approximately $860.00.

1. School District Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly school district bills in the amount of $­­­­­2,834,261.27 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of $1,334,357.04 be paid.

1. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of $81,333.05 and

the Monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of $55,704.45 be paid.

-Mr. Matt Zatchey made a motion to accept items 1-3. It was seconded by Mr. John Carpenter and all Board Members voted yes.

**Buildings and Grounds Mr. Metz**

1. Exterior Speaker Purchase

It is recommended to authorize the purchase of Exterior Speakers for the Middle School at a cost of $9,440.00 to allow announcements to be heard on the outside of the building.  This will be paid for by the PCCD Grant and is at no cost to the district.

**-**Mrs. Mary Jo Kehoe made a motion to accept item #1. It was seconded by Mrs. Valerie Young and all Board Members voted yes.

**Athletics Mrs. Fischer**

## **Overnight Tournament Participation Request**

It is recommended to approve the High School Boys’ Varsity Volleyball Team attend the following overnight tournaments:

Northeastern High School, Manchester, PA – April 6, 2024

The district will pay for dues, fees and transportation. The Boosters will pay for

lodging.

-Mrs. Cathy Fischer made a motion to accept item #1. It was seconded by Mr. Matt Zatchey and all Board Members voted yes.

**Public Relations Miss Fitsko**

## **Steering and Rules** **Mrs. Kehoe**

**Legislation**   **Miss Fitsko**

**Labor Relations**  **Mr. Kovacevic**

# Personnel Ms. Young

**\*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. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Foster Crawford from his position as Technology Director, effective January 19, 2024, with regret.

1. 2024-2025 Fall Coaches

It is recommended the following individuals be ratified to fill the designated Fall coaching positions for the 2024-2025 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.

Football

1. Sherman McBride, Varsity Head Coach For a 3-year term at an annual

salary of $9,800 and all other

terms provided within the

contract

Girls Volleyball Stipend

1. Carlyn Humphries, Varsity Head Coach $4300

Girls Soccer Stipend

1. James Raymer, Varsity Head Coach $4300

Boys Golf Stipend

1. Chris Yannessa, Varsity Head Coach $4300

Girls Golf Stipend

1. Larry Knopsnyder, Varsity Head Coach $4300

Girls Tennis Stipend

1. Megan Racioppo, Varsity Head Coach $4300
2. Paraprofessional

It is recommended to hire the following individual as Paraprofessional as per the

terms of the collective bargaining agreement, pending receipt of satisfactory and current

clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former

employers to Act 168 screening.

Nicole Toney, Economy

1. Hall Monitor

It is recommended to hire the following individual as Hall Monitor as per the terms of

the collective bargaining agreement, pending receipt of satisfactory and current

clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former

employers to Act 168 screening.

Crystal Cain, Middle School

- Mr. John Carpenter made a motion to accept items 1-4. It was seconded by Miss Fitsko and all Board Members voted yes.

1. **President’s Address**

-Mr. Carpenter recognized all the wonderful things our students are doing.

1. **Solicitor’s Report**

-No report

1. **Superintendent’s Report**

-Dr. Pasquerilla congratulated students and staff.

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.

-The only comment was by a former bus driver, Mr. Lou, who was seeking his job back. The district could not make any further comments.

## **Motion to Adjourn**

-Motion to adjourn meeting by Mr. John Carpenter. Seconded by Mrs. Valerie Young. All members agreed.