

**AMBRIDGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MEET AND DISCUSS BOARD MEETING  
VOTING AND NON-VOTING AGENDA  
April 10, 2024**

**7:00 p.m.**

**High School Auditorium**

**I. Call to Order**

The Meet and Discuss Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District is held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024. This meeting is being held to review the agenda for the regular monthly Board Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

**II. Flag salute-please rise**

**III. 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.

**IV. Roll Call**

**V. Sunshine Law**

The Board of School Directors held Executive Session(s) on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> 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

**VI. Correspondence**

**VII. Amendments to the Agenda/Approval of the Agenda**

**VIII. Recognition/Presentation**

**Mrs. Michelle Amadio - 2024-2025 Proposed Final Budget 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.

**X. LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR THIS MEETING**

**Finance and Budget**

**Mr. Zatchey**

1. 2024-2025 Proposed Final Budget

It is recommended to approve the Proposed Final General Operating Fund Budget for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year with Expenditures of \$58,979,828.00. The Proposed Final Budget is on display for public inspection at the Administration Office and online on our website.

2. Grant Acceptance

It is recommended to accept the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Stronger Connections Title IV Competitive Grant in the amount of \$583,370.00. The funding will be used for mental health supports and safety.

3. TIPS (The Interlocal Purchasing System)

It is recommended the district become a member of TIPS, a national purchasing cooperative that offers access to competitively procured purchasing contracts to its members in compliance with the School Code for Procurement Law Compliance. **Pending solicitor final review.**

**Salary Schedule and Labor Relations**

**Mr. Kovacevic**

1. Ambridge Area Educational Support Personnel Association Cafeteria Branch Agreement

It is recommended to approve the agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and the Ambridge Area Education Support Professional Association Cafeteria Branch for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2030. **Pending solicitor final review.**

**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. 2023-2024 Spring Coaches

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

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 1) <u>Middle School Softball</u>                     | <u>Stipend</u>  |
| a) Jorge Alvarez, Assistant Coach                    | \$2,050.00      |
| b) Troy Hartman, Volunteer Coach                     | No Remuneration |
| c) Brian Strong, Volunteer Coach                     | No Remuneration |
| 2) <u>Track</u>                                      |                 |
| a) Dakota Pritchard, Assistant Coach (split stipend) | \$1,000.00      |
| 3) <u>Boys' Volleyball</u>                           |                 |
| a) David Stuebgen, Volunteer                         | No Remuneration |

2. 2024-2025 Head Coaches

It is recommended the following individual be approved to fill the designated head coaching position 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 sports as normal.

<u>Wrestling</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Larry Knopsnyder	\$4,300.00

3. Boys' Basketball coach

It is recommended to approve Jonas Ankrom as the Boys' Basketball Head Coach at a salary of \$6,000.00, for the 2024-2025 season, as per the employee 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 sports as normal.

4. Girls' Basketball coach

It is recommended to approve Lethera Harrison as the Girls' Basketball Head Coach at a salary of \$6,000.00, for the 2024-2025 season, as per the employee 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 sports as normal.

5. 2024-2025 Coaches

It is recommended the following individuals be approved 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.

1) <u>Football</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Shane Newhouse, Assistant Coach	\$4,200.00
b) Neil Tkatch, Assistant Coach	\$4,200.00
c) Ron Wilson, Equipment Manager	\$3,500.00
d) Tom Baranyak, Weightlifting Coach	\$3,500.00
e) Shane Dablock, Middle School Coach	\$3,350.00
f) Greg Kimbrough, Volunteer Coach	No Remuneration
g) Craig Wiltrek, Volunteer Coach	No Remuneration
h) Mike Zmijanac, Volunteer Coach	No Remuneration
i) Deonte McIntosh, Volunteer Coach	No Remuneration

6. Homeless Liaison Coordinator

It is recommended to ratify Jo Ann Hoover as a Homeless Liaison Coordinator to be paid a stipend of \$2,833.00 for the 2023-2024 school year.

7. ABC Transit Bus Driver/Aide

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.

Van Drivers

Brandon Call  
Meghan Dawson  
Paul Montell

Aides

Diane Gilliam  
Belinda Williams

8. Professional Employee

It is recommended to approve Ty Baker, as an Ambridge Area Middle School / High School Mathematics Teacher at a salary of \$48,781.00 (Step 1, Master), effective date to be determined based upon the completion of student teaching (Slippery Rock University), as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Association AAEA/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.

9. Mentor Teacher

It is recommended to approve the following teacher assignment for the 2023-2024 school year, as per the collective bargaining agreement:

Mentor Teacher  
Kent Withrow

New Teacher  
Ty Baker

10. Professional Employee

It is recommended to approve the extension of Cory Bailey as a Grant Funded Elementary Guidance Counselor as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Association AAEA/PSEA Agreement. This position is contingent on grant funding and will not be continued if grant funding is not secured. This extension is for January 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026. **To be paid for through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Stronger Connections Title IV Competitive Grant.**

11. Retirement

It is recommended to approve the resignation due to retirement of Mary Lehocky, a Paraprofessional at the Ambridge Area Middle School, effective July 15, 2024, with regret.

12. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Daniel Kalenak, a custodian at Economy Elementary, effective April 5, 2024, with regret.

## XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS (NON-VOTING AGENDA ITEMS)

### Education and Technology

Mrs. Romasco

#### 1. CT – Evolv Express Dual Lane

It is recommended to accept a quote from Ink Labs Buffalo LLC for a four (4) year period for two (2) CT – Evolv Express Dual Lane scanners/software and support at a cost of \$231,577.00 to provide security at schools. **To be paid for through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Stronger Connections Title IV Competitive Grant.** Through the national bidding process TIPS.

#### 2. Rachel’s Challenge Professional Development

It is recommended to approve the purchase of Rachel’s Challenge Professional Development, Digital Resources, and Staff, Student and Community Sessions at a cost of \$31,750.00. **To be paid for through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Stronger Connections Title IV Competitive Grant.**

#### 3. McGraw Hill Elementary Science

It is recommended to approve the adoption of a five (5) year McGraw Hill science series, *Inspire Science*, grades K-5. The total cost of this series is \$284,612.67. **\$250,000.00 will be paid through the Ready to Learn Grant.**

#### 4. Savvas Learning Company LLC Science

It is recommended to approve the adoption of a five (5) year Saavas Learning Company science series, *Elevate Science*, grades 6-8. The total cost of this series is \$137,591.40.

#### 5. Savvas Learning Company LLC Math

It is recommended to approve the purchase of a five (5) year Savvas Learning Company math series, *enVision Math*, and digital licenses, High School/Middle School Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. The total cost of the series is \$133,470.21.

#### 6. Senior Project

It is recommended the Ambridge Area High School Senior Projects Manual for the 2024-2025 school year be approved.

#### 7. Tuition Income

It is recommended to approve the attendance of student #363433 in accordance with School Board Policy 607 – *Tuition Income* for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year, and to assess a tuition charge in accordance with the School Code in the total amount of \$2,327.14.

#### 8. 2024 Adventures in Education Club Field Trip Addendum

It is recommended to approve the Adventures in Education Club to use Charleston, SC as an alternate field trip location to the already Board approved field trip to Nashville, Tennessee, which was approved at the March 20, 2024 Board meeting for the purpose of pricing comparison.

9. Club Formation

It is recommended to approve the formation of a district wide club, Mary Makers Club, to promote STEAM Education with the sponsor to be paid a stipend of \$470.00 as per the contracted rate.

10. WIDA Annual Conference

It is recommended Michelle Druga and Tracy Parsons attend the WIDA Annual Conference at David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA from October 16 – October 18, 2024. All expenses (registration, fees, travel, meals) will be paid as per Board Policy 431, Job Related Expenses. The total cost will be approximately \$1,000.00 per person.

11. Category 2 E-Rate Funding

It is recommended to approve a contract between the Ambridge Area School District and Communications Consulting, Inc (using Category 2 E-Rate funding) for District Network Equipment for Economy Elementary, Middle School, High School and the Field House. The total cost of the project is \$193,091.00. Pending E-Rate funding approval, the E-Rate program will pay 80% (\$154,472.80) of the total cost. The Ambridge Area School District will pay approximately 20% (\$38,618.20) of the total cost.

12. Mental Health Support

It is recommended to approve a contract between the Ambridge Area School District and the Prevention Network for five (5) days a week at the High School, two (2) days a week at the Middle School, and one (1) day a week at each elementary school for the 2024-2025 school year to provide mental health support at a cost of \$106,000.00. **To be paid for through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Stronger Connections Title IV Competitive Grant.**

13. Summer Credit Recovery Program

It is recommended to approve a Summer Credit Recovery Program to provide high school students the opportunity to recover course credits. The program is tentatively scheduled based on adequate enrollment for Wednesday, June 12, 2024 through Tuesday, June 25, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Ambridge Area High School. This is at no cost to the district.

**Finance and Budget**

**Mr. Zatchey**

1. School District Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly school district bills in the amount of \$1,849,723.10 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,300,332.93 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$68,207.47 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$54,524.85 be paid.

3. Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA)

It is recommended to approve the renewal dues for the 2024-2025 Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) membership for a total cost of \$14,565.42.

1. Concrete Pad Project – Pole Building

It is recommended to accept the bid proposal from \_\_\_\_ for the grading, site work, base preparation and installation of a concrete pad for the district’s pole building for a total cost of \_\_\_\_ through the bidding process.

2. Window Film Coverings

It is recommended to accept the quote for window film coverings from Novum Design to be used throughout the district for safety purposes for the total cost of \$24,142.92 through the State bidding process (Co-Stars). **To be paid for by the PCCD School Mental Health & Safety and Security Grant.**

**Athletics**

**Mrs. Fischer**

**Public Relations**

**Miss Fitsko**

**Steering and Rules**

**Mrs. Kehoe**

**Legislative**

**Miss Fitsko**

**XII. President’s Address**

**XIII. Superintendent’s Report**

**XIV. Solicitor’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. This period for public comment prior to the standing committee reports will be limited to one-half hour.

**XVI. Motion to Adjourn**