

Minutes for the Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Auditorium on Wednesday, August 16, 2023.

I. Call to Order: Mrs. Romasco called the meeting to order at approximately 7:15 p.m.

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District Board of Directors on Wednesday, August 16, 2023 is now called to order.

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

III. Student Council Report – No Student Council Report

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
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
Mrs. Bethann Eyth, Business Manager
Mrs. June Mueller, Board Secretary

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

The Board of School Directors held an Executive Session on Wednesday, August 16th discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)
- Matters subject to attorney-client privilege and other confidentiality laws
- Litigation or threatened litigation matters

VII. Correspondence

VIII. Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of Wednesday, July 19th Board Meeting.

Mr. Carpenter moved to accept the Minutes, seconded by Miss Fitsko. All in favor.

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

Mr. Carpenter moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Mr. Zatchey. All in favor.

X. Amendment/Addendum to Agenda/Approval of Agenda

Added items 5 and 6 under Education and Technology

Added item 15 under Personnel and Salary Schedule and Labor Relations

Mr. Carpenter moved to approve the addendums to the agenda, seconded by Miss Fitsko. All in favor.

XI. Recognition/Presentation**ABE U10 Girls' Travel Soccer**

This spring season, the ABE U10 Travel girls celebrated an accomplished season. In the regular season, the team led their division with 7 wins and 1 tie. The team was led by coaches Sarah Burns, John Burns, and Dan Shields.

Even with a successful season, the girls had their sights on the Edinboro Tournament. The U10 girls won all 3 of their bracket games with 12 goals for and 4 goals against. For the semi-final game, the ABE girls faced a dynamic Plum team. The girls beat Plum 2-1 to move into the finals. For the final game, the ABE girls played against Upper St. Clair (USC). After a long weekend of soccer, the girls lost to USC 0-3. The ABE U10 girls placed 2nd at the Edinboro Tournament.

The U10 girls played hard all year and had fun in the process. ABE is excited to watch these soccer players grow through the years.

Congratulations!

ABE U12 Girls' Travel Soccer

On the weekend of August 26th through August 28th, 2022, ABE Soccer's U12 Girls' Travel Team took the field at the Plum Open Tournament, competing in the Bronze Bracket. The team went undefeated through Group Play, beating Bethel Park by a score of 1-0, Steel Valley by a score of 8-3, and North Allegheny by a score of 5-0 to advance to the final.

In the final, the girls battled a tough opponent in Armstrong, but prevailed by a final score of 5-1, winning the gold!

Team members were Myriah Smith, Rylee Brooms, Khloe Smith, Sara Merryman, Maria Hill, Kiley Schell, Mia Paganie, MacKenzie Meyer, Maggie Moll, Natalie Dunn, Gabbi Rullo, Marissa Waters, Brinley Raymer, Claire Hartman, Alyssa Walker, and Jenna Kerr. The team was coached by Jeremy Merryman, James Raymer, and Frank Paganie. Great job girls!

Some members of the team will attempt to defend their title on August 25th through August 27th. Best of luck to the girls and the coaches!

ABE U13 Girls' Travel Soccer

The U13 girls had an amazing victory at the 2023 PA West Open Tournament at Edinboro University in June. This talented team, coached by James Raymer the new Ambridge High School Girls Soccer coach showed their skills and determination throughout the tournament. They finished with a record of 2 wins, 0 losses, and 2 ties. In an intense final game, they won in a tied double five minute overtime, followed by a penalty kick shootout making it a truly dramatic victory of 2-1!

The athletes that won are:

Mallory Smith-Goalie

Ada Stojan

Kaylee Kerr

Claire Marchionda

Nadia Benkowski

Myriah Smith

Kate McPherson

Alyssa Walker

Maria Hill

Jenna Kerr

Brinley Raymer

Claire Hartman

Sophia Bruce

Alexa Campbell

Not only did they shine in this tournament, but the girls also had a fantastic spring 2023 season. In addition to above players Khloe Smith and Katie Evans also played during regular spring season. They only conceded 6 goals, which was the second-lowest out of all 16 teams. They also achieved 5 shutouts, where they prevented the opposing teams from scoring any goals. This shows their strong defense and teamwork.

Congratulations to the U13 Girls soccer team for their impressive victories and hard work! They have shown great skill, teamwork, and dedication on the field. The future of Ambridge girls soccer continues to look bright!

Team motto: "We don't quit!"

Bridger Baseball

Congratulations to the Bridger Baseball 9u and 10u baseball All Star kids for an outstanding season! Throughout the four tournaments, your team showcased incredible talent and determination, securing victories in the Freedom and Ambridge tournaments. Finishing in 2nd place in the Central Valley tournament is an impressive feat, and reaching the semifinals in the Peters Township tournament demonstrates your strong competitive spirit. It's truly remarkable that our team has won back to back championship. Your hard work and teamwork have undoubtedly paid off, and you should be proud of your remarkable achievements on the baseball field. Well done!

Parker Parish	Xavia Michalik	Luca Fabanich	Brody Rice
Parker Pitaro	Zach Couch	Nate Mitchell	Cameron George
Patrick Marsillio	James Pielin	Vincent Manganello	Gabe Tomkowski
Ronan Gnarra	Landon Hokenbrough	Benjamin Hoke	Hunter King
Santino Patterson	Layton Byrne	Braydon Hokenbrough	Jacob Maddox

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.

XII. Committee Reports

Education and Technology

Mrs. Smith and Mr. Zatchey

1. Allegheny Intermediate Unit

It is recommended to approve the Comprehensive Service Agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit. The AIU will provide Interpreter Services for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing.

2. Student Settlement Agreement

It is recommended to approve a special education settlement involving student #2740032595.

3. Student Settlement Agreement

It is recommended to approve a special education settlement involving student #4106753413.

4. Student Discipline 2023-2024-01

It is recommended to ratify the discipline agreement for student #8505853997 relevant to a High School student, effective August 15, 2023.

5. Student Settlement Agreement

It is recommended to approve a special education settlement involving student #296565561.

6. Psychology and Learning Center

It is recommended to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ambridge Area School District and Psychology and Learning Center to provide neurological evaluations, outpatient therapy and medical management of district students at no cost to the district, **subject to final review of solicitor.**

Mr. Zatchey moved to approve items 1-6 as amended, seconded by Mrs. Smith. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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 \$1,263,440.18 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,054,709.77 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$14,569.07 be paid.

3. Crossing Guards

It is recommended that crossing guards be placed at locations throughout the Ambridge Area School District for the 2023-2024 school year as listed below:

10th Street and Duss Avenue
 5th Street and Duss Avenue
 8th Street and Duss Avenue
 15th Street and Church Street
 State Street and Harmony Road

4. Economy Elementary Playground Surface

It is recommended to ratify the acceptance of the bid proposal from Best Rubber Mulch LLC to replace the rubber mulch playground surface at Economy Elementary at a total cost of \$21,445.20.

5. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment

It is recommended to dispose of damaged pole vault pit and equipment as per Board Policy 706.1 – *Disposal of Surplus Property and Obsolete Equipment.*

6. Disabled Veterans Tax Exemption

It is recommended to approve a Disabled Veterans Tax Exemption for property located at 104 Rockrose Drive, Baden, PA 15005 effective January 1, 2023, subject to State Veterans' Commission continued certification of eligibility and continued use as the applicant's homestead.

Mr. Carpenter moved to approve items 1-6, seconded by Mr. Keber. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Athletics and Public Relations

Mr. Zatchey and Miss Fitsko

1. Girls' Tennis

It is recommended to approve the Girls' Tennis to use Hopewell School District tennis courts for fall home matches at a cost of \$50.00 per match. There will be two home matches this fall.

Mr. Zatchey moved to accept item 1, seconded by Mr. Keber. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Steering and Rules and Legislative

Mrs. Kehoe and Mrs. Fischer

1. Policy 006 – Local Board Procedures – Second Reading

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

2. Policy 137 – Home Education Programs – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended to revise, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended to adopt, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended to adopt, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended to revise, as a second 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.

Mrs. Kehoe moved to approve items 1-6, 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. Professional Employee

It is recommended to approve Justice Harris, as an Economy Elementary 3rd Grade Teacher at a salary of \$47,871.00 (Step 1, Bachelor), effective August 21, 2023, 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.

2. Professional Employee

It is recommended to approve Justine Jedry, as an Economy Elementary 5th Grade Teacher at a salary of \$48,301.00 (Step 1, Bachelor +24), effective August 21, 2023, 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.

3. Professional Employee

It is recommended to approve Abbey Ishida, as an Ambridge Area Middle School Learning Support/Emotional Support Teacher All Grade Levels at a salary of \$47,871.00 (Step 1, Bachelor), effective August 21, 2023, 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.

4. Professional Employee

It is recommended to approve Stephen Cohen, as an Ambridge Area High School Social Studies Teacher at a salary of \$48,781.00 (Step 1, Master), effective August 21, 2023, 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.

5. Posted Positions: Clubs / Activities

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

<u>ACTIVITY/CLUB (High School)</u>		<u>SALARY</u>
SH Pep Band	Stephen Rodgers	\$1,200.00
Adventures in Education	Larry Knopsnyder	\$ 470.00
Art Club	Jamie Orth	470.00
Tri-M Music Honor Society	Stephen Rodgers	470.00
Black Student Union	Carlyn Humphries	470.00
PA Math League	Sarah Burns	470.00
Chess Club	Terri Moon-Kutzavitch	470.00

6. Posted Positions: Department Heads and Building Heads

It is recommended the following individual who have applied for the specified posted position for the 2023-2024 school year be approved at the salary designated in the negotiated agreement:

<u>DEPARTMENT HEADS</u>		<u>SALARY</u>
<u>Elementary</u>		
Fifth Grade	Michelle Wilson	\$1,365.00
<u>Secondary</u>		
Special Education	Casey Neel	\$1,365.00
<u>K-12</u>		
Foreign Language	Davide Sciulli	\$1,365.00
Physical Education	Jeff Modrovich	\$1,365.00
Business	Krista Novak	\$1,365.00

7. Custodian

It is recommended to approve hiring Steve Tucker as a full-time custodian at the high school 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.

8. Food Service Utility Worker

It is recommended to approve Don Stuber as a Food Service Utility Worker 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.

9. 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.

Appendix A

10. 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:

Mentor Teachers

Gen Scaletta
 Jamie Wellman
 Heidi Bober
 Ben Holmes
 Amy Braund
 Chelsea Benedict

New Teachers

Megan Fitzgerald
 Madison Hiltz
 Brittany Graft
 Scott Douglas
 Caitlin Dee
 Philip Goerig

11. Food Service Worker

It is recommended to approve Elizabeth Vincent as a Food Service Assistant at Highland Elementary, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

12. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify employee #580 taking a leave of absence under Board Policy 435, Family and Medical Leave beginning August 20, 2023, not to exceed 12 weeks.

13. Band Para-Professional

It is recommended to approve Lisa Patton as a Para-Professional for Band, to be paid as per the negotiated contract.

14. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Marquie Hudak from her position as a PreK Para-Professional at Highland Elementary, effective August 14, 2023, with regret.

15. 2023-2024 Fall Coach

It is recommended the following individual be approved to fill the designated fall coaching position 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) Marshall Bruce, Middle School Coach	\$1,850.00

Mrs. Smith moved to approve items 1-15 as amended, seconded by Mr. Zatchey. The vote in favor was unanimous.

XIII. President's Address

Nothing to report.

XIV. Solicitor's Report

Nothing to report.

XV. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pasquerilla thanks all of the staff for their hard work this summer. Looking forward to the start of the school year.

XVI. 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.

XVII. Motion to Adjourn

At approximately 7:40 p.m. Mrs. Fischer moved to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Smith. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Mrs. June Mueller
Board Secretary**

APPENDIX A

ABC
TRANSIT
DRIVERS
AND AIDES

2023-24

Last Name	First
Allen	Patricia
Bobinski	Edward
Boniphant	Michael
Brown	Robert
Cybak	Richard
DiNino	Andrea
Falarski	Jacob
Fleming	George
Flores-Lazo	Carlos
Flores-Lazo	Erick
Frolo	Amy
Galvan	Mike
Henderson	Jon Eric
Iannini	Dale
Kelly	Susan
Kirby	Augustine
Knoll	Randy
Kotouch, Jr.	Leslie
Kouvolo	Alex
Mattern	Raymond
McDowell	Anna Marie
McGeorge	Barbara
McSorley	Michael
Migliore	James
Olexa	John
Payne	Lucinda
Phillips	Stacy
Prest	Karen
Seymour	Tina
Shanner	Denise
Smith	Heather
Smith	Lynda
Spratley	Jennifer
Stokes	Alyssa
Swiderski	Toni

Szuchy	Janet
Velez	Tempest
Waters	Kenneth
Weber	Raymond
Wert	Christine
Williams	Dorine
Woodman	Sharon
Wright	Margaret
Yeager	Tammy
Young	Glenn
Zickefoose	Margaret