

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, August 9, 2023.

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

The Meet and Discuss Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District is held on Wednesday, August 9, 2023. This meeting is being held to review the agenda for the regular monthly Board Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, August 16, 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. 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.

IV. Roll Call

Mrs. Kelly Romasco, President
Miss Amy Fitsko, Vice President
Mr. Matthew Zatchey, Treasurer
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. June Mueller, Board Secretary

V. Sunshine Law: Mrs. Mueller read the following

The Board of School Directors held Executive Session(s) on Wednesday, August 9th to discuss:

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

VI. Correspondence

VII. Amendments to the Agenda/Approval of the Agenda

Added items #11 and 12 under Legislative Action Personnel and Salary Schedule and Labor Relations

Mrs. Smith moved to approve the addendums to 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**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. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Steven Hrvatin from his position as a 5th Grade Teacher at Economy Elementary, effective July 28, 2023, with regret. The District reserves the right to retain the employee for the sixty (60) days statutory period or until relieved of duties, whichever occurs first.

2. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Ashley Simpson from her position as an Ambridge Area Middle School Mathematics Teacher, effective August 2, 2023, with regret. The District reserves the right to retain the employee for the sixty (60) days statutory period or until relieved of duties, whichever occurs first.

3. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Greg Mell from his position as an Ambridge Area High School Social Studies Teacher, effective August 1, 2023, with regret. The District reserves the right to retain the employee for the sixty (60) days statutory period or until relieved of duties, whichever occurs first.

4. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Carolyn Crawford from her position as an Ambridge Area Middle School Learning Support and Emotional Support Teacher All Grade Levels, effective August 3, 2023, with regret. The District reserves the right to retain the employee for the sixty (60) days statutory period or until relieved of duties, whichever occurs first.

5. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Osazee Aigbe from his position as a Technology Support Technician, effective August 21, 2023, with regret. The District reserves the right to retain the employee for the sixty (60) days statutory period or until relieved of duties, whichever occurs first.

6. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Jen Kamzelski from her position as a Para-Professional at Highland Elementary, effective August 4, 2023, with regret.

7. Professional Employee

It is recommended to ratify the corrected salary of Phillip Goerig, an Ambridge Area High School Guidance Counselor, at a salary of \$50,071.00 (Step 1, Master+30).

8. Band Camp

It is recommended to ratify the following band camp position for the 2023-2024 band camp.

Lisa Patton, Para-Professional – Paid per the negotiated contract

9. Posted Positions: Clubs / Activities – Department Heads

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Greg Mell from the following specified posted positions for the 2023-2024 school year:

ACTIVITY/CLUB (High School)

National Honor Society

Student Council

DEPARTMENT HEAD (K-12)

Library

11. Resignation

It is recommended to accept the resignation of Veronica Simunick, effective August 9, 2023 and authorize the related agreement.

12. 2023-2024 Fall/Spring Coach

It is recommended the following individuals be ratified 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 fall/spring sports as normal.

	<u>Stipend</u>
1. <u>Boys' Golf</u>	
a) Terry George, Assistant Coach	\$1,050.00
2. <u>Boys' Soccer</u>	
a) Ryan Meadows, Assistant Coach	\$2,400.00
b) Don Ayers, Middle School Head Coach	\$2,050.00
c) Gianna Sinatra, Middle School Assistant Coach	\$1,350.00
3. <u>Girls' Soccer</u>	
a) Madison Edwards, Assistant Coach	\$2,400.00
b) Gianna Sinatra, Middle School Head Coach	\$2,050.00
c) Don Ayers, Middle School Assistant Coach	\$1,350.00
4. <u>Girls Volleyball</u>	
a) Kayli Newman, Assistant Coach	\$2,400.00
5. <u>Lacrosse</u>	
a) Dave Ilko, Head Coach	No Remuneration
b) Vicky Freed, Assistant Coach	No Remuneration

Mrs. Smith moved to approve items 1-12 as amended, 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. 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.

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*.

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.

Steering and Rules and Legislative

Mrs. Kehoe and Mrs. Fischer

1. Policy 006 – Local Board Procedures – First Reading

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

2. Policy 137 – Home Education Programs – First Reading

It is recommended, as a first 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 – First Reading

It is recommended to revise, as a first 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

It is recommended to adopt, as a first 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

It is recommended to adopt, as a first 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

It is recommended to revise, as a first 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.

XII. President’s Address

Nothing to report.

XIII. Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Pasquerilla asked the school community for patients during the transition from Tyler to Infinite Campus. The staff has been working diligently to get everything uploaded and get everything as accurate as possible along with transportation.

Also, stated this is an exciting time of year getting geared up for the students to be back on campus and for fall sports.

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.

Fabriolla Gargorich, Harmony Twp.

- # 1 under Education and Technology - Explain more – Is the interpreter there for the full day
- # 2&3 under Education and Technology - Can you touch base on this
- #4 – under Finance and Budget - \$21,000 seems high
- #2 under Steering and Rules and legislative – what is different with Homeschooling
- #3, 4, 5 under Steering and Rules and Legislative – Explain
- Is there an update on the final Budget
 - Dr. Pasquerilla addressed all questions asked as follows:
 - The Budget was approved with no increase in mileage.
 - The interpreter is used in different levels, sometimes services and sometimes personnel with the student.
 - Rubber Mulch – the district followed protocol and Board policy and went with the lowest bid. This is a large area to mulch.
 - #4 under Steering and Rules – students attending home education programs may participate in academic courses in person at the building the student would be assigned to if the student was enrolled in the district, with the parent providing the transportation.
 - #2-5 under Steering and Rules and Legislative – PSBA provides update and revisions in accordance with the law to districts, these are usually minor changes to the policy. All policies can be found on the district website. If you have specific questions on a policy you may reach out to our solicitor.
 - Ms. Turnbull added the district is to comply with the new laws or recommendations from PSBA. Many districts are approving the same policies as they PSBA recommends.
 - Ms. Turnbull - items 2&3 under Education and Technology – it is the district’s duty to education and follow the rights of students with IEPs. In these incidents, it is believed that those rights were not fully implemented.

XVI. Motion to Adjourn

At 7:40 p.m. Mrs. Romasco moved to adjourn, seconded by Miss Fitsko. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. June Mueller
Board Secretary