

Minutes for the Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Media Center on Wednesday, June 19, 2024.

I. Mr. Carpenter called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 p.m.

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District Board of Directors on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, is now called to order.

II. Mr. Carpenter asked all present to rise for flag salute.

III. Mr. Carpenter read the follow 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

- Mr. John Carpenter, President
- Mr. William Metz, Vice President
- Mr. Matthew Zatchey, Treasurer
- Mrs. Cathy Fischer
- Miss Amy Fitsko
- Mrs. Mary Jo Kehoe
- Mr. Garrett Kovacevic
- Mrs. Kelly Romasco

Others Present:

- Dr. Joseph W. Pasquerilla, Superintendent
- Mr. Barry J. King, Assistant to the Superintendent
- Ms. Megan Turnbull, Solicitor
- Mrs. Michelle Amadio, Business Manager / Director of Operations
- Mrs. June Mueller, Board Secretary

V. Mrs. Mueller read the following Sunshine Law

The Board of School Directors held an Executive Session on Wednesday, June 19th to discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)
- Considering the purchase or lease of real estate
- Matters subject to attorney-client privilege and other confidentiality laws
- Litigation or threatened litigation matters
- Salary schedule and labor relations

VI. Correspondence

No Correspondence

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

Mr. Metz moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Zatchey. All in favor.

VIII. Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report dated: May 2024

Mr. Metz moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Romasco. All in favor.

IX. Amendment/Addendum to Agenda/Approval of Agenda

Amended Item 1 under Athletics

Mr. Zatchey moved to approve the amendment of item #1 under Athletics, seconded by Mrs. Romasco. All in favor.

X. Recognition/Presentation

2023-2024 Retirees

Glenn Freed, Ambridge Area Middle School/High School Mathematics Teacher, 27 Years

Barbara Friez, Paraprofessional, 3 Years

Michelle Hapich, Ambridge Area High School Mathematics Teacher, 32 Years

Dianne Harris, Food Service Worker, 12 years

Mary Lehocky, Paraprofessional, 10 Years

James Leo, Custodian, 20 Years

Mary Marasco, Building Secretary, 16.5 Years

David Prusick, Paraprofessional, 15 Years

Ron Wilson, Maintenance, 21 Years

Vivian Jarostowski, Food Service Worker, 24 Years

Congratulations and good luck on your future endeavors!

Students of the Month

High School May Students of the Month

Zoe Elias, 12th Grade
Carlise Byrd, 11th Grade
Taylor Thompson, 10th Grade
Charlotte Hill, 9th Grade

High School May Effort Awards

Joe Bellinger, 12th Grade
Hannah Larimore, 11th Grade
Cordell Saunders, 10th Grade
Aiden Voloch, 9th Grade

Middle School May Students of the Month

Jacob Turko, 8th Grade
Arie Russi, 7th Grade
Adam Dunn, 6th Grade

Economy Elementary May Student of the Month

Collin Waters, 5th Grade

Highland Elementary May Student of the Month

Julianna Turner, 5th Grade

State Street Elementary May Student of the Month

Gabriella Shuflyay, 5th Grade

May Employees of the Month

High School Employee of the Month

Stephen Rogers, Music Teacher

Middle School Employee of the Month

Amy Braund, Special Education Teacher

Economy Elementary Employee of the Month

Mary Marasco, Building Secretary

State Street Elementary Employee of the Month

Paul Hrvatin, Special Education Teacher

Highland Elementary Employee of the Month

Goldie Wozniak, Custodian

Ambridge Musical's Production of "The Drowsy Chaperone"

Congratulations to the Cast and Crew for winning four Mancini Awards!

Best Scenic Design Budget 2

Best Costume Design Budget 2

Best Lighting Design Budget 2

Best Supporting Actor – Pietro Pucci (Aldolpho)

This was a very good year for the musical cast and crew! Not only did they win four Mancini awards but the program was represented with eleven award nominations and seven students were selected as semifinalists this year with three moving into the final round!

Boys' Volleyball Team

The boys' volleyball finished the 2024 season in 9th place in the state PIAA, 3rd place in the district WPIAL, and 1st place in the Section. The team entered the WPIAL playoffs as the 4th seed with a 11-3 overall record. The Bridgers defeated Trinity 3-0 and South Fayette 3-1 in the first two rounds. In the semifinal, Mars, the eventual champions, defeated Ambridge 3-2. Ambridge defeated Thomas Jefferson 3-2 in the consolation match to earn the Bronze medal and a spot in the PIAA playoffs. The Bridgers have earned a WPIAL medal 19 times out of the last 22 seasons.

The team lost a close match to West Shamokin in the first round of the PIAA playoffs. This was the boys' volleyball team's 17th time in the last 18 seasons earning a birth into the state playoffs.

Three AAHS student-athletes were selected to the All-WPIAL team from votes by the coaches of the other teams. Senior Donovan Bober and junior Karson Merlina earned 1st Team honors. Senior Sam Miller was chosen to the 2nd Team. There were 10 players on each team. The All-State team is TBA.

Congratulations to the boys' volleyball team and head coach Glenn Freed and assistant coach Jason Benkowski.

Student Scholarship Awards**Sarah Duncan Challenge Program Awards Scholarship**

- Jonathan Cermak – Academic Achievement
- Abdallah Omishat – Academic Improvement
- Trevor Grabski – Attendance
- Natahja Alexander – Community Service
- Mackenzie Majercik – STEM

Walter "Buzzy" Gradek 1950's Alumni Scholarship

- Jonathan Cermak
- Kylie Dryer
- Jordan Garrison
- Trevor Grabski
- Raina Hammond

- Camden Mawhinney
- Joey Pugh
- Brianna Smith
- Ava Timmons

Ambridge Area Education Association Scholarship

- Camden Mawhinney
- Sophia Kindle
- Makenzie Majercik

Italian's Women's Club Scholarship

- Trevor Grabski

Baden's Lion's Club Scholarship

- Camden Mawhinney

Ambridge Rotary Club Scholarship

- Trevor Grabski
- Mackenzie Majercik
- Em Wenum
- Natash Alexander
- Mackenzie Sutton

David Bupp Beaver Youth Baseball Scholarship

- Nate Thomas
- Jordan Garrison
- Joey Pugh

Helen Ringel and Mark Romutis Scholarship

- Mackenzie Sutton – Helen Ringel
- Azure Humphries – Mark Romutis

Joe Zerrilla Scholarship

- Raina Hammond
- Trevor Grabski
- Mackenzie Sutton
- Ava Timmons

Beaver County Career and Technology 2024 Challenge Program Award Scholarship

- Jason DeSantis
- Sydney Ford

MCJROTC Parent Support Group Scholarship

- Troy Arlof
- Lance Bobak
- Ethan Carey
- Justin Couch
- William Townsend

Kyle B. Wilson Group Scholarship

- Miley Devinney
- Zachary Bucka

Moe Rubenstein Scholarship

- Raina Hammond

Tenaris merit Award Scholarship

- Jonathan Cermak
- Jordan Garrison
- Trevor Grabski
- Camden Mawhinney
- Ava Timmons

The Stanley G. Polikowski Scholarship

- Ava Timmons
- Camden Mawhinney
- Jordan Garrison
- Riley Fallecker
- Kylie Dreyer

The Hal Galupi Scholarship

- Grant Uvodich

The George and Alma Wargetz Scholarship

- Madison Holcomb

The Coach JP Legacy Scholarship

- Azure Humphries
- Camden Mawhinney
- Joseph Janicki
- Joey Pugh

Ambridge Area Football Scholarship

- Grant Udovich

Maggie Tkatch Memorial Scholarship

- Jayden Fisher

Ambridge Area Support Staff Scholarship

- Alaina Huey
- Azure Humphries
- Joey Pugh

Chris Peters Memorial Scholarship

- Jayden Fisher

The Economy Women's Club Scholarship

- Brianna Smith
- Camden Mawhinney

The Alyssa McKee Scholarship

- Mackenzie Majercik

The Virginia Griffith Scholarship

- Ethan Grant

The Ohio Next Generation Scholarship, The Ohio Premiere Scholarship, Honors Tutorial College Scholarship, and the ABE Scholarships

- Heidi Setzenfand

The Slippery Rock University Achievement Award Scholarship, Green and White Scholarship and the SRU Connect to Success Scholarships

- Azure Humphries

The Presidential Scholarship

- Avery Kelly

Perfect Attendance for 2023-2024 School Year

- Trevor Grabski
- Domenic Lees
- Jason DeSantis

Competed in ACT-SO Program with Carter Spruill

- Nyahnna Collins

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

XI. Committee Reports**Education and Technology****Mrs. Romasco**1. Pennsylvania Department of Education ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan

It is recommended to approve the updated American Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) Health and Safety Plan for the 2024-2025 school year.

2. Special Education Out-of-District Placements

It is recommended to approve the following agreements with the Special Education out-of-district placements for the 2024-2025 school year, pending review of the Administrators and the Solicitor:

1) Outside Special Education Placement

- a) Bradley Center
- b) BCRC, Inc.
- c) CLASS Academy (Private)
- d) DePaul Institute
- e) Easter Seals
- f) Holy Family Institute
- g) MHY Longmore Academy
- h) McGuire Memorial
- i) New Horizon School
- j) Pressley Ridge Day School
- k) St. Stephens Academy/Glade Run
- l) Watson Education Center
- m) Watson Institute (WISCA)
- n) Western PA School for the Blind
- o) Western PA School for the Deaf
- p) Wesley Spectrum Academy

2) Mental Health Facilities

- a) Clarion Psychiatric Services
- b) Pathways Adolescent Center
- c) Persius
- d) Sharon Regional Health System
- e) Southwood
- f) Taylor Diversion Program
- g) Western Psychiatric
- h) MHY Family Services

3) Detention Center

- a) Keystone Adolescent Center/Charter School
- b) Adelphoi Village

3. Master Schedules

It is recommended to approve the tentative master schedules for the 2024-2025 school year.

4. On-Site Dental Care

It is recommended to approve the Miracle Dental Association On-Site Team to provide dental care to all students in the District for the 2024-2025 school year. The District does not incur any expense or liability.

5. Vision To Learn

It is recommended to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ambridge Area School District and Vision To Learn for the 2024-2025 school year. The program provides free vision screenings and glasses to students who need them but cannot afford them. The District does not incur any expense or liability.

6. VEEAM Software

It is recommended to approve the renewal of VEEAM software licenses in an approximate amount of \$8,368.10. This software provides backup, recovery and data management solutions that deliver modern data protection.

7. Technology Support Agreement

It is recommended to approve a three (3) year agreement with Communications Consulting, Inc. beginning July 1, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2027 for the total cost of \$321,750.00, \$107,250.00 per year broken down in (4) quarterly payments. **Pending final review of the Solicitor.**

8. Technology Purchase

It is recommended to authorize the purchase of 220 Dell Latitude 3140 Laptops from Communications Consulting, Inc. using state bidding PEPPM 2023 for a total cost of \$126,898.00. This will be paid from the 2024-2025 budget.

9. Technology Purchase

It is recommended to authorize the purchase of 200 iPads (10th Gen) with AppleCare+ for four (4) years and STM Dux cases from the Apple Education Store for a total cost of \$99,381.40 not to exceed \$110,000.00. This will be paid from the 2024-2025 budget.

10. Infinite Campus

It is recommended to approve the renewal of the Infinite Campus annual licensing subscription for the 2024-2025 school year at a cost of \$26,204.40.

11. Alternative Education/Private Academic Services Agreement

It is recommended to approve the purchase of eight (8) Alternative Education seats through the CLASS Academy Program for the 2024-2025 school year at a cost of \$17,500.00 per seat and it is furthermore recommended to approve the purchase of four (4) Private Academic seats for the 2024-2025 school year at a cost of \$22,500.00 per seat.

Mrs. Romasco moved to accept items 1-11, seconded by Mr. Metz. Mr. Zatchey voted against item #11. The vote in favor of items #1-10 was unanimous.

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 \$3,178,014.12 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,743,141.10 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$80,063.14 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$62,712.93 be paid.

3. Budget Transfer

It is recommended to approve a budget transfer for June 2024.

4. Post Audit Budget Transfers

It is recommended The Board of School Directors approve the Administration's recommendation to ratify the list of budget transfers for the 2023-2024 fiscal year due to audit reclassifications. A list of transfers will be provided to the Board after the completion of the 2023-2024 audit.

5. Pennsylvania School-Based ACCESS Program (SBAP)

It is recommended to approve the Pennsylvania School-Based ACCESS Program (SBAP) Local Education Agency Agreement for the 2024-2025 school year.

6. Insurance Coverage

It is recommended the Board approve the following insurance premiums obtained through the district broker, Arthur J. Gallagher, for the 2024-2025 school year at a total cost of \$317,640.00.

Package (Property/Casualty, General Liability, Auto, Legal Liability, and all Commercial Coverages)	Utica	\$198,752.00
Cyber Coverage	Travelers	\$19,286.00
Workers Compensation	UPMC	\$99,602.00

7. Services Agreement Reinstatement

It is recommended to approve the Third Party Administrative Services Agreement Reinstatement for the continuation of 403(b)/457(b) administration services by the Omni Group for the 2024-2025 school term as per the Fee Schedule for 2024-2025.

8. PA-Educator

It is recommended to approve the contract of service between the Ambridge Area School District and Pennsylvania Educators’ Clearinghouse, (PA-Educator.net) for the 2024-2025 school year at a cost of \$2,175.00. This is at no increase in cost.

9. Tax Exoneration

It is recommended to approve tax exoneration regarding the collection of Real Estate Tax, conditioned upon mutual municipal and county reciprocal exonerations for the same years, relevant to the following property:

- a) Tax Parcel 13-009-0106-000, 57 Harmony Road, Lot, Baden, PA, to be purchased by Blue Sky Builders, Baden, PA for the real estate taxes for 2016 to present.

10. Repository Settlement

It is recommended the Board approve the Sale of Property from the Beaver County Repository of Unsold Property for the following property:

- a) 57 Harmony Road, Lot. Baden, PA Tax Parcel 13-009-0106.000 for the bid amount of \$2,326.75 to Blue Sky Builders.

Mr. Zatchey moved to accept items #1-10, seconded by Mrs. Romasco. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Building and Grounds**Mr. Metz**1. Concrete Pad Project Change-Order

It is recommended to ratify a change order request from Murin & Murin, Inc. for the Concrete Pad Project previously approved at the April 17, 2024 Board Meeting to include the scope of work as identified by Murin & Murin, Inc. in their correspondence at an increased amount of \$15,295.13.

2. Economy Elementary Unit Ventilator

It is recommended to approve a proposal from Building Control Systems, Inc. to replace the Unit Ventilator Control System at Economy Elementary at a total cost of \$67,870.00 through the State bidding process (Co-Stars).

3. TKE Elevator

It is recommended to amend the current contract with TKE Elevator and consolidate to one contract for a three (3) year term at a total cost of \$23,558.40 per year. This is at a savings of \$2,841.60 annually.

4. Scissor Lift

It is recommended to approve a proposal from Lift from Burns Industrial Equipment to purchase a scissor lift in the amount of \$23,100.00. The district has obtained three quotes and this was the lowest bidder.

Mr. Metz moved to accept items 1-4, seconded by Mrs. Fischer. Mr. Zatchey voted against item #1. The vote in favor of items #2-4 was unanimous.

Athletics**Mrs. Fischer**1. Volleyball Net System

It is recommended to purchase two (2) volleyball net system replacements from Sports Imports at a total cost of \$9,695.70.

Mr. Zatchey moved to accept item #1, seconded by Mrs. Romasco. All in favor.

Public Relations

Miss Fitsko

Steering and Rules

Mrs. Kehoe

1. Policy 249 – Anti-Bullying/Cyberbullying – Final Reading

It is recommended, as a final reading to update School Board Policy 249 – *Anti-Bullying/Cyberbullying*, to provide all students and employees with the right to a safe and civil educational environment, free from harassment or bullying.

Mrs. Kehoe moved to accept item #1, seconded by Mrs. Fischer. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Legislation

Miss Fitsko

1. Meeting Notice

It is recommended to reschedule the July 10, 2024 Board meeting to July 17, 2024.

Miss Fitsko moved to accept item 1, seconded by Mr. Metz. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Salary Schedule and Labor Relations

Mr. Kovacevic

Nothing to report.

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. Homeless Liaison Coordinator

It is recommended to approve Jo Ann Hoover as a Homeless Liaison Coordinator to be paid a stipend of \$2,833.00 for the 2024-2025 school year.

2. Mentorship

It is recommended to approve Jessica Oliver, a Slippery Rock University student enrolled in the Principal Certification Program for a mentorship, during the summer break, under the supervision of Mrs. Aphrodite Galitsis, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

3. Consideration for Salary Increase

It is recommended that Administrators receive consideration for a salary increase for the 2024-2025 school year based on their evaluation for the 2023-2024 school year, per Act 93 Agreement and receive retroactive payment and salary adjustments. This serves as the initial increase. The final salary adjustment will be recommended once the final evaluations have been completed.

4. Technology Support Technician

It is recommended to approve Christian Morrison as the Technology Support Technician at a pro-rated salary of \$41,000.00, as per the terms of the Employee Agreement. The Employee Agreement is for three (3) year term.

5. Uncompensated Leave

It is recommended to ratify Employee #3001 taking four (4) days unpaid days, effective April 24th, April 26th, May 10th, and May 13th, 2024. Unpaid leave is only approved once during an employee's tenure.

6. Retirement

It is recommended to approve the resignation due to the retirement of Mary Marasco from her position as Economy Elementary Building Secretary, effective July 31, 2024, with regret.

7. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Ronnell Heard from his position of Ambridge Area Middle School Principal, effective June 30, 2024, with regret.

8. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Lydia Bable, from her position as a 4th Grade Teacher at State Street Elementary, effective June 18, 2024, 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.

9. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Melony Hurlburt, from her position as an Ambridge Area Middle School ELA Teacher All Grade Levels, effective June 18, 2024, 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.

Mr. Kovacevic moved to accept items 1-9, seconded by Mr. Fischer. The vote in favor was unanimous.

XII. President's Report

Mr. Carpenter thanked all and congratulated all retirees, best of luck in your future endeavors. Again we as a collective Board than and appreciate our administration.

XIII. Solicitor's Report

Ms. Turnbull reported that she will present at a School Synopsis and will bring back information to the district. She will also be presenting at State College Solicitor Conference.

Ms. Turnbull announced that the Board would return to Executive Session at the conclusion of the public meeting to discuss Personnel Matters and Matters subject to attorney-client privilege.

XIV. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pasquerilla congratulated and thanked the retirees for all that they have done for the district.

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.

- Denise Duncan Harmony Twp., PA
 - Spoke in regards to a Service Dog in the schools to help with mental health and emotional support.

XVI. Motion to Adjourn

At approximately 9:00 p.m., Mrs. Fischer moved to adjourn back into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Zatchey. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. June Mueller, Board Secretary