

Minutes for the Meet and Discuss Voting and Non-Voting Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Media Center on Wednesday, June 12, 2024.

I. Mr. Carpenter 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, June 12, 2024. This meeting is being held to review the agenda for the regular monthly Board Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

II. Mr. Carpenter asked all present to rise for the Flag salute.

III. Mr. Carpenter read the following 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 Executive Session(s) on Tuesday, May 18th and Wednesday, June 12th to discuss:

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

VI. Correspondence

No Correspondence

VII. Amendments to the Agenda/Approval of the Agenda

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.

Rodger Kowal, Sewickley, PA

- Why the purchase of laptops/iPads
- What is the change order
- Why the purchase of the volleyball net system
- Under Sunshine Law what is being considered for purchase or lease
 - Mr. Carpenter – The technology purchase is a gradual roll-out
 - Dr. Pasquerilla – Most of the funding for the technology purchase is grant funding and we need to have the technology being we are a one-to-one district. We are trying to be conservative with the purchase.
 - Dr. Pasquerilla – the change order is for the Pole Building needed areas of additional concrete support.
 - Dr. Pasquerilla – The volleyball net is failing and needs to be replaced. The program has been successful and I recommend the purchase and want to support the program.

X. LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR THIS MEETING**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 accept the resignation of Erin Hein from her position as an Ambridge Area High School Biology Teacher, effective June 4, 2024, with regret.

2. Summer Credit Recovery

It is recommended to ratify the following teachers as instructors for the Summer Credit Recovery Program to tentatively be held on Wednesday, June 12, 2024 through Tuesday, June 25, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Teachers will be paid at the contracted rate.

Shana Dowlin

Ty Baker

Terri Moon-Kutzavich

Megan Racioppo

3. ABC Transit Bus Driver/Aide

It is recommended to approve the individuals listed as operators, attendants, and maintenance for ABC Transit, Inc. for the 2024-2025 school year, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Kevin Roland, Driver
Sabria McLeod-Kimbrew, Aide

4. 2024-2025 Coaches

It is recommended the following individual be approved to fill the designated fall 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 fall sports as normal.

1) Football

a) Marlon Kittrell, Volunteer Coach

Stipend

No Remuneration

5. Permanent Contracts

It is recommended the following professional employee, who has completed three years of satisfactory service in the Ambridge Area School District as of the effective date designated, be given permanent professional contracts:

Mara Bartholomew – Tenured as of June 15, 2024

6. Posted Positions: Clubs / Activities

It is recommended to retroactively approve of Noah Rinker as the MathCounts Club Sponsor for the 2023-2024 school year to be paid the split stipend of \$488.87.

7. High School Silhouette Club

It is recommended to rescind the approval of Sarah Schaffer as the Silhouette Club sponsor for the 2023-2024 school year.

Mrs. Fischer moved to accept items 1-7, seconded by Mr. Metz. The vote in favor was unanimous with Mr. Metz abstaining from item #2.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS (NON-VOTING AGENDA ITEMS)**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. Back to School

The first day of the 2024-2025 school year for students is Thursday, August 22, 2024. The instructional day start and end times are:

Elementary	8:25 a.m. – 3:05 p.m.
Middle School	7:25 a.m. – 2:20 p.m.
High School	7:30 a.m. – 2:26 p.m.

Teachers return on Tuesday, August 20, 2024

4. Point of Information

Teacher Start and End Times:

Elementary:	7:50 a.m. – 3:25 p.m.
Middle School:	7:20 a.m. – 2:55 p.m.
High School:	7:25 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

5. Master Schedules

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

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. Technology Support Agreement

It is recommended to approve a __ year agreement with Communications Consulting, Inc. beginning __ and ending on __ for the total cost of \$____. **Pending final review of the Solicitor.**

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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.

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	Utica	\$198,752.00
(Property/Casualty, General Liability, Auto, Legal Liability, and all Commercial Coverages)		
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 exoneration 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.

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.

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

It is recommended to purchase a Volleyball Net System replacement from Sports Imports at a total cost of \$6,419.70.

Public Relations**Miss Fitsko****Steering and Rules****Mrs. Kehoe**1. Policy 249 – Anti-Bullying/Cyberbullying – Third Reading

It is recommended, as a third 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.

Legislative**Miss Fitsko**1. Meeting Notice

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

XII. President's Address

Mr. Carpenter attended and enjoyed the graduation ceremony and thank all who made it a first class send off to the class of 2024, what an exemplary group of students. I am looking forward to the 2024 school year!

XIII. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pasquerilla wished all the best; it was a great close to the school year, thanks to all the staff, students and parents. Have a safe summer.

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.

Fabiola Gergerich, Ambridge, PA

- Any updates on the Baden Academy Charter
- Update on Window Films
- What is the cost of elementary student and secondary students – what does the State give
- Page 3 – Out of District Placements – Is it possible to pair down
- Page 5 – Tech purchase – oppose Kindergarten students having iPads
- Infinite Campus – is it grading
- Elevator – a lot of money
- Scissor Lift – what is it
 - Dr. Pasquerilla – Moving forward with window film coverings.
 - The dollar amount is the population/level of poverty that decides on State funding
 - Special Education Placements – some are used more than others and some we do not use at all, it is based on student IEPs.
 - Technology purchase – Technology can not replace teaching but it is a tool used and we are a one-to-one school district.
 - Infinite Campus – is used for grading, transcripts and attendance tracking.
 - Elevators – buildings require all to access other floors, this is at a savings.
 - Scissor Lift – Equipment that rolls to change high lights, it is more efficient to purchase rather than to rent every time.
 - Baden Academy Charter – No hearing is scheduled at this time.

Rodger Kowal, Sewickley, PA

- Charter School – try to change the laws that allow Charter School in that cost the tax payers thousands
- Does the school district have accounts/policies on fundraising
- Field House Bleachers – losing out of rental fee
- Promote the Elementary Principal who promotes Blue Ribbon schools and utilize her knowledge – maker that Principal the Assistant to the Superintendent
 - Dr. Pasquerilla – Bleachers in the field house will need to be replaced which is very costly, upwards of \$300,000.00
 - Mrs. Romasco – requested a more recent appraisal on the cost to replace the bleachers.
 - Mr. Carpenter – appreciates the commentary on that Principal

XVI. Motion to Adjourn

At approximately 8:25 p.m., Mr. Zatchey moved to adjourn, seconded by Miss Fitsko. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. June Mueller, Board Secretary