

**AMBRIDGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MEET AND DISCUSS BOARD MEETING  
VOTING AND NON-VOTING AGENDA  
September 11, 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, September 11, 2024. This meeting is being held to review the agenda for the regular monthly Board Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, September 18, 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, September 11<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**

**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**

**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. 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:

Ashley Schmidt – September 8, 2024

2. Open Position

A. It is recommended to hereby approve the creation of the following position:

1. English as a Second Language Teacher (ESL), District-wide K-12

3. Posted Positions: Clubs / Activities

It is recommended the following individuals who have applied for the specified posted positions for the 2024-2025 school year be approved at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement, provided the school year allows and sponsors can hold activities as normal.

<b><u>ACTIVITY/CLUB (High School)</u></b>		<b><u>SALARY</u></b>
Senior High School Play Director	Jessica Patterson	\$2,050.00
JR Drill Team	Emily Gregory	\$1,200.00
Thespian Club	Jessica Patterson	\$ 470.00
Ecology Club	Pamela Green	\$ 470.00

<b><u>ACTIVITY/CLUB (Middle School)</u></b>		<b><u>SALARY</u></b>
MathCounts	Noah Rinker	\$1,100.00
TSA Club	Scott Setzenfand	\$ 470.00

4. Clubs / Activities Co-Sponsor Ratification

It is recommended to ratify Pamela Green as an additional co-sponsor, in addition to Ben Holmes and Kristen Holmes who were previously approved, for the Technology Student Association (TSA) Club. The stipend should be split as follows:

Pamela Green - \$450.00  
Ben Holmes – \$450.00  
Kristin Holmes - \$450.00

5. Paraprofessional

It is recommended to approve the following Paraprofessionals, as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Support Professional Association (ESPA/PSEA/NEA), pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Mu Kler, Highland Elementary PreK – effective August 26, 2024, retroactively  
Donavan Hopkins, Highland Elementary PreK – Effective September 10, 2024, retroactively  
Shannon Kennedy, Economy Elementary – effective August 28, 2024, retroactively  
Heather Stimmel, State Street Elementary – effective September 23, 2024

6. Hall Monitors

It is recommended to ratify Tim Richards as a Hall Monitor at the middle school, effective September 9, 2024, as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Support Professional Association (ESPA/PSEA/NEA), pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

7. Economy Elementary Before and After School Childcare

It is recommended to approve Kate Kuczma as a caregiver at the Before and After School Child Care Program at Economy Elementary School at a rate of \$15.00 per hour, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and compliance with Act 168. The hours are 6:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. before school and 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. after school.

8. Geneva College Field Placements

It is recommended to approve the following Geneva College students, to complete observation hours within the Ambridge Area School District, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Carmen Medvit, Economy Elementary – to be placed with Carrie Keber, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA  
Karlen Honey, Economy Elementary – to be placed with Sean Beighley, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA

9. 2024-2025 Winter Coaches

It is recommended the following individuals be ratified to fill the designated winter 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 winter sports as normal.

<u>Middle School Girls' Basketball</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Lethera Harrison	\$1,750.00
Craig Wiltrek	\$1,750.00

10. Retirement

It is recommended to accept the resignation of Dave Murphy, due to his retirement from the position of Maintenance Worker at Highland Elementary, effective September 16, 2024, with regret.

11. Resignation

It is recommended to accept the resignation of David Smith, from his position as a Paraprofessional at the middle school, effective August 21, 2024, with regret.

12. Resignation

It is recommended to accept the resignation of Virginia Jamery, from her position as a Union Kitchen Worker at Economy Elementary, effective August 27, 2024, with regret.

13. FMLA

It is recommended to approve Employee #462 taking an intermittent leave of absence under Board Policy 435, Family and Medical Leave, beginning September 20, 2024, not to exceed sixty (60) days.

14. FMLA

It is recommended to approve Employee #821 taking a leave of absence under Board Policy 435, Family and Medical Leave, beginning September 11, 2024, not to exceed sixty (60) days.

15. FMLA

It is recommended to approve Employee #2576 taking an intermittent leave of absence under Board Policy 535, Family and Medical Leave, beginning October 1, 2024, not to exceed sixty (60) days.

16. Credit Recovery

It is recommended that the following individuals be approved as instructors for the Credit Recovery Program at the high school. Teachers will be paid as per the collective bargaining agreement.

Jodi Musser – Math  
Kent Withrow - Math  
Kim Bogati - English  
Christina Briola – English  
Paul Hladio - Science  
Shane Newhouse - Social Studies  
Nicole Connolly – Social Studies  
Jennifer Sirianni – Health and Physical Education

17. High School After-School Detention

It is recommended that the following individuals be approved as supervisors of the after-school detention at the Ambridge Area High School. The teachers will be paid as per the collective bargaining agreement.

Nicole Connolly  
Stephen Rodgers

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

### **Education and Technology**

**Mrs. Romasco**

#### 1. Sweetwater Center for the Arts Program

It is recommended to approve a program between the Ambridge Area High School and Sweetwater Center for the Arts in Sewickley, PA to bring digital arts to the district's high school art students. 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 \$1,693,400.58 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$983,552.28 be paid.

#### 2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$142,074.76 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$ 14,774.94 be paid.

#### 3. Tax Exoneration

It is recommended to approve the 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 13-005-0318-000, 391 Prospect Street, Baden, PA, for the real estate taxes for 2022 and 2023, to be purchased by Baden Borough.

#### 4. Tax Exoneration

It is recommended to approve the Borough of Ambridge's request dated August 6, 2024, to exonerate delinquent 2024 school taxes pursuant to the Pennsylvania Property Donation Statute for the following tax parcels, with the condition that should either property sell in the future to a non-tax exempt entity, a pro-rata share of the proceeds will be remitted to the District, less the Borough's direct costs of acquisition.

- a) Tax Parcel 12-006-0101-010, 0 Merchant Street, Ambridge, PA
- b) Tax Parcel 12-006-0101-002, 1401 New Economy Drive, Ambridge, PA

### **Building and Grounds**

**Mr. Metz**

#### 1. Economy Elementary HVAC Units

It is recommended to accept the proposals received from Building Control Systems, Inc. to replace and program two existing Trane Rooftop Units at Economy Elementary. This is at a total cost of \$36,420.00 through the State bidding process (Co-Stars).

**Athletics**

**Mrs. Fischer**

**Public Relations**

**Miss Fitsko**

**Steering and Rules**

**Mrs. Kehoe**

**Legislative**

**Miss Fitsko**

1. PSBA Officer Elections

It is recommended the Board Secretary be directed to cast the vote of the Ambridge Area School Board for the election of the following PSBA Slate of Candidates for 2025:

President-elect     Sabrina Backer, Franklin Area School District

Vice President     Matt Vannoy, Sharon City School District

Western Zone     Kristy Bolte

Insurance Trust   Nathan Mains  
                          Richard Frerichs  
                          William LaCoff

**President’s Address**

**XII. Superintendent’s Report**

**XIII. Solicitor’s Report**

**XIV. 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.

**XV. Motion to Adjourn**