

**AMBRIDGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MEET AND DISCUSS BOARD MEETING  
VOTING AND NON-VOTING AGENDA  
October 9, 2024**

**7:00 p.m.**

**High School Media Center**

**I. Call to Order**

The Meet and Discuss Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District is held on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. This meeting is being held to review the agenda for the regular monthly Board Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Media Center.

**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, October 9th 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**

Mario Leone - Ambridge Borough Manager

**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

### Education and Technology

Mrs. Romasco

#### 1. Blue Ribbon

It is recommended Melissa Ramer and two additional district employees (TBD) be approved to attend The 2024 National Blue Ribbon Schools Recognition Ceremony being held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC from November 7, 2024 through November 8, 2024. The ceremony will recognize Economy Elementary School as being named one of the prestigious 2024 National Blue Ribbon Schools by the United States Department of Education. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes schools that excel academically. All expenses (registration, fees, travel, lodging, meals) will be paid as per Board Policy 331, Job Related Expenses.

Congratulations to the Economy Elementary Staff!

#### 2. Sunbelt Staffing, LLC Agreement

It is recommended to approve a staffing agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and Sunbelt Staffing, LLC to provide contracted services with VocoVision for the provision of bilingual psychologist services on an as needed basis. This is at a rate of \$130.00 per hour.

### 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.**

### Point of Information:

The Board of School Directors assessed the Superintendent's performance and determined that he met the agreed-to performance standards for the 2023-2024 school year. His compensation for the 2024-2025 school year will be adjusted consistent with his employment agreement.

#### 1. Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

It is recommended to hire Meghan Watelet as the Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment at a pro-rated annual salary of \$100,000.00, effective date to be determined, as per the terms of the Act 93 Agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act168 screening, and PDE certifications if applicable.

#### 2. Professional Employee

It is recommended to retroactively approve Nicole Feeley as an Ambridge Area High School/All Elementary Schools Health and Physical Education Teacher at a salary of \$48,971.00 (Step 1, Bachelor), effective October 9, 2024 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 retroactively approve Joie Dusold as an Ambridge Area High School Learning Support/Emotional Support/Autistic Support/Life Skills/Transition/Special Education Teacher at a salary of \$51,171.00 (Step 1, Master+30), effective October 8, 2024, 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 retroactively approve Michael Falgione as an Ambridge Area High School Chemistry Teacher at a salary of \$49,881.00 (Step 1, Master), effective October 7, 2024, 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 individual who has applied for the specified posted position 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.

**ACTIVITY/CLUB (Middle School)**

Yearbook

Jordan Simpson

**SALARY**

\$470.00

6. 2024-2025 Spring Coaches

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

Softball

Joseph Georgakis, Volunteer Coach

Stipend

No Remuneration

7. Technology Integrators

It is recommended to approve the following individual to serve as the Technology Integrator in their assigned building for the 2024-2025 school year, to be paid a stipend of \$1,200.00, as per the collective bargaining agreement:

State Street Elementary

Tim Buresh

8. 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.

Heather Villella, Van Driver  
Jakob Clawson, Van Driver  
Tonya Hayes, Van Driver  
Denise Stasiowski, Van Driver  
Patricia Steals, Van Driver  
Barbara Schmidley, Aide

9. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify Employee #27 taking an intermittent leave of absence under Board Policy 435, Family and Medical Leave, beginning October 8, 2024, not to exceed sixty (60) days.

10. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify Employee #2381 taking an intermittent leave of absence under Board Policy 535, Family and Medical Leave, beginning September 13, 2024, not to exceed sixty (60) days.

11. FMLA

It is recommended to ratify Employee #1764 taking an intermittent leave of absence under Board Policy 535, Family and Medical Leave, beginning October 8, 2024, not to exceed sixty (60) days.

12. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Megan Fitzgerald from her position as an Ambridge Area School District Psychologist Grades K-12, effective November 25, 2024, with regret.

13. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Kristin Lucarini-Lowes from her position as a kitchen worker at State Street Elementary, effective October 11, 2024, with regret.

14. Resignation

It is recommended to ratify the resignation of Timothy Richards from his position as a Hall Monitor at the middle school effective September 21, 2024, with regret.

15. Slippery Rock University Student Teacher

It is recommended to approve Carson Gabbard, a Slippery Rock University student for student teaching at Highland Elementary for the fall semester, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening. Carson will be placed with Jennifer Shannon.

16. District Dentist

It is recommended to approve Dr. Brittany Kinol as the District Dentist for the 2024-2025 school year, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug test, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

17. 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:

Michelle Hooten – October 13, 2024

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

**Education and Technology**

**Mrs. Romasco**

1. Cheer Team Field Trip

It is recommended to approve the student attendance, coaches' registration fee of \$1,497.00, and application of the student discipline code for the high school varsity cheerleaders to travel to Walt Disney World to participate in the Universal Cheerleaders Association National High School Cheerleading Championship from February 6, 2025, through February 11, 2025. Reimbursement for expenses shall be governed by Board Policy 240 - Student Contests/Competitions and conditioned on attendance and event participation. Parents and/or guardians will be required to sign permission and release forms. Chaperones will be required to have current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

**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 \$1,801,228.11 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,287,031.84 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$111,409.00 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$ 52,416.85 be paid.

3. 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

4. Repository Settlement

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

- a) Tax Parcel 09.002.0211.000, 308 Park Road, Ambridge, PA for the bid amount of \$212.00 to be purchased by Ambridge Borough.
- b) Tax Parcel 09.002.0718.000, 407 Melrose Avenue, Ambridge, PA for the bid amount of \$158.80 to be purchased by Ambridge Borough.
- c) Tax Parcel 10.003.0321.000, 511 Glenwood Avenue, Ambridge, PA for the bid amount of \$153.60 to be purchased by Ambridge Borough.
- d) Tax Parcel 10.003.0318.000, 505 Glenwood Avenue, Ambridge, PA for the bid amount of \$387.05 to be purchased by Ambridge Borough.
- e) Tax Parcel 09.005.0706.000, 4 Glenwood Drive Rear, Ambridge, PA for the bid amount of \$186.00 to be purchased by Ambridge Borough.

**Building and Grounds**

**Mr. Metz**

1. Snowplow

It is recommended to accept the proposal from Meiters LLC, to purchase and install a snowplow on a district truck. This is at a total cost of \$9,760.00. The district obtained two quotes and this was the lowest bidder.

2. NRG/Direct Energy for Natural Gas

It is recommended to approve a three-year contract extension between the Ambridge Area School District and NRG/Direct Energy for Natural Gas on the Columbia Gas System to commence on September 1, 2025. The Western Pennsylvania Natural Gas Consortium Committee recommended the contract extension. This is a no increase in cost.

**Athletics**

**Mrs. Fischer**

**Public Relations**

**Miss Fitsko**

**Steering and Rules**

**Mrs. Kehoe**

**Legislative**

**Miss Fitsko**

**XII. President's Address**

**XIII. Superintendent's Report**

**XIV. Solicitor's 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.

**XVI. Motion to Adjourn**