

AMBRIDGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
AGENDA
December 11, 2019

7:00 P.M.

High School Media Center

I. Call to Order

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District Board of Directors on Wednesday, December 11, 2019, is now called to order.

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. The opinions expressed by any member of the public do not necessarily reflect the view or opinion of the Ambridge Area School District Board of School Directors or the Ambridge Area School District, and are solely that of the speaker. The Ambridge Area School District Board of School Directors hereby expressly disclaims any and all responsibility or liability for any false, defamatory or slanderous statements expressed by the speaker.

IV. Roll Call

V. Sunshine Law

Section 708 of the Sunshine Law permits agencies to hold executive sessions to discuss employment and personnel matters, labor relations and arbitration matters, purchase or lease of real estate up to the time an option or agreement is obtained, litigation or potential litigation, legal matters subject to Attorney Client Privilege and other agency business which if discussed in public would violate lawful privilege or would violate confidentiality laws.

The Board of School Directors held Executive Sessions on Wednesday, December 4th and Wednesday, December 11th to discuss:

- 1) Employment and Personnel Matters
- 2) Salary Schedule and Labor Relations
- 3) Matters subject to Attorney Client Privilege
- 4) Litigation Matters

VI. Correspondence

VII. Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of: November 13th Meet and Discuss Voting Meeting, November 13th Meet and Discuss Non-Voting Meeting, November 20th Board Meeting.

VIII. Motion to Accept the Treasurer's Report dated:

IX. Amendment/Addendum to Agenda/Approval of Agenda

X. Board President's Report

XI. Recognition/Presentation

Dr. Welter would like to present Mary Jo Kehoe with the Pennsylvania School Board Association Honor Roll of School Board Service Certificate of Appreciation for her 12 years of service on the Ambridge Area School District School Board of Directors.

Presentation by Peter Vancheri, CPA of Hosak, Specht, Meutzler & Wood

XII. 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' comment/question 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.

XIII. Committee Reports

Education and Technology

Ms. Trimbur

1. Conference

It is recommended Lori Heim, Lauren Tierney, and Nick Snyder be approved to attend the PETE&C (Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo and Conference) in Pittsburgh, PA on February 23-26, 2020. The conference provides quality programs focused on technology in the educational field. Each year hundreds of exhibitors showcase their latest technology products and services to the vast audience of teachers, administrators, technology directors, school board members and more. All expenses (registration, fees, travel, lodging, meals) will be paid as per Board Policy 331 and Board Policy 431, Job Related Expenses. Total expenses will be approximately \$850.00.

2. Field Trip

It is recommended that Larry Knopsnyder, an American Cultures Teacher at the High School, be authorized to take 10th grade Honors American Cultures II students, along with Student Council members and Adventure Club members, if interested, to New York City, NY from March 25th through March 28th, 2019. There is space for approximately 50 students to attend. Students would miss two days of school. The students will be visiting Fifth Avenue, Chinatown, the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, Grand Central Terminal, the 9/11 Museum & Reflecting Pools and taking the Statue Ferry to Ellis Island. They will also visit the Today Show. There will be no cost to the District. Parents or guardian 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.

3. JROTC Field Trip

It is recommended to approve MSgt. Thomas G. Short, III, Marine Corps JROTC Instructor, be authorized to take the JROTC unit to Parris Island, South Carolina for their annual Citizenship Development trip from February 24th through February 28th, 2020. The purpose of this trip is to build teamwork, enhance the camaraderie amongst the cadets, to develop leadership skills and to increase unit cohesion. The aforementioned training is educational and in compliance with the required curriculum. The JROTC unit will incur the expense related to this trip. All expenses will be obtained through fundraising. Parents or guardian 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.

4. Student Discipline

It is recommended to ratify discipline agreement 2019-2020-09 relevant to a Middle School student, effective November 27, 2019.

Finance and Budget

Ms. Pedigo

1. School District Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly school district bills in the amount of \$1,093,836.03 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,404,503.34 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$71,855.95 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$60,643.57 be paid.

3. Budget Transfers

It is recommended to approve budget transfers for December, 2019.

4. Resolution 2019-2020-4, Accelerated Budget Opt Out

It is recommended to adopt Resolution 2019-2020-4, Accelerated Budget Opt Out Resolution, to allow the *District* to follow normal *budget* procedures, and dispense with the more complicated, expensive, and *accelerated* Act 1 *budget* requirements.

Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Kowal

Athletics

Ms. Trimbur

1. WPIAL

It is recommended to approve Sarah Doncevic to represent the Ambridge Area School District as an independent/individual W.P.I.A.L. Swimmer. It is further recommended to authorize Candy Doncevic to serve as her sponsor/coach at all practices and meets.

Public Relations

Ms. Gill

Steering and Rules

Mrs. Kehoe

1. Policy 828.1 – Whistleblower – Final Reading

It is recommended, as a final reading, to adopt School Board Policy 828.1 – *Whistleblower*, to maintain a workplace where good faith complaints of wrongdoing or waste can be raised free of any concerns about discrimination, retaliation, or harassment. Every employee has the responsibility to assist in implementing this policy.

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 comply with state law and regulations.

3. Policy 203-1 – HIV Infection – First Reading

It is recommended, as a first reading, to revise Policy 203.1 – *HIV Infection*, to provide a safe, healthy environment for students and employees.

4. Policy 251 – Homeless Students – First Reading

It is recommended, as a first reading, to revise Policy 251 – *Homeless Students*, to recognize the need to promptly identify homeless children and youths within the District, facilitate their immediate enrollment and eliminate existing barriers to their attendance and education, in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations.

5. Policy 255 – Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care – First Reading

It is recommended, as a first reading, to adopt Policy 255 – *Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care*, to ensure the educational stability of children in foster care and to collaborate with the local children and youth agency and other school districts.

Legislative

Mrs. Kehoe

Salary Schedule and Labor Relations

Mr. Wear

Personnel

Mr. Angus

1. Custodian

It is recommended to ratify Daniel Kalenak as a full-time custodian at Economy Elementary, effective November 21, 2019, as per the terms of the Local 248 Ambridge Area School Employees, AFSCME – AFL – CIO negotiated agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

2. Custodian

It is recommended to approve the following individuals as full-time custodians within the Ambridge Area School District, as per the terms of the Local 248 Ambridge Area School Employees, AFSCME – AFL – CIO negotiated agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Aadan Buck, Economy Elementary

3. Rhodes Transit Bus Drivers / Aides / Substitutes

It is recommended to approve the individuals listed as operators, attendants, and maintenance for Rhodes Transit, Inc. for the 2019-2020 school year, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Joyce Speer: Aide
Georgette Batemaon: Driver
Gerald Patsiga: Driver
Tiffany Duncan: Driver

4. Retirement

It is recommended to ratify the resignation of James Merryman from his position as a Food Service Worker, effective November 21, 2019, with regret.

5. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Cathy Jo Samarco, a Para-Educator at Highland Elementary, effective December 20, 2019, with regret.

6. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation due to retirement of Andre Hough, a custodian and nightwatchman at the High School, effective May 15, 2020, with regret.

7. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Laura Young from her position as the Musical Director for the 2020 Spring Musical, effective December 11, 2019, with regret.

8. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Anastasia Maia, from her position as a caregiver at the Before and After School Child Care Program at Economy Elementary, effective December 13, 2019, with regret.

9. Resignation

It is recommended to ratify the resignation of Mark Jula, the Varsity Boys' Basketball Head Coach, for the 2019-2020 school year, effective November 30, 2019, with regret.

10. Resignation – 2019-2020 Winter Coach

It is recommended to ratify the resignation of Ryan Healy as Boys' Basketball Assistant Coach, effective November 22, 2019, with regret.

11. Rescind

It is recommended to rescind Eric Astorino as Boys' Basketball Assistant Coach, approved at the November 20, 2019 Board meeting.

12. MCJROTC Instructor

It is recommended that a one-year Employment Agreement, school term 2019-2020, for the position of Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) with Master Gunnery Sergeant William A. Brahen at a prorated salary of \$71,709.48 through June 5, 2020, be approved. It is anticipated that a salary adjustment for the period between January 1, 2020 and June 5, 2020, determined in part by District Agreement and in accordance with the notification from Marine Corps Training and Education Command, regarding the annual increase to minimum instructor pay (MIP) entitlements for JROTC instructors will occur. Official start date will be determined pending receipt of valid PA Teaching Certificate and current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

*The District will be reimbursed half the salary by the United States Marine Corps.

13. Student Teachers

It is recommended to approve the following student teachers, for student teaching within the District for the 2020 spring semester, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Slippery Rock University

Alyssa Quillin, Economy Elementary - to be placed with Carrie Malinich

Robert Morris University

Laura Pavlick, High School – to be placed with Karen DeMarco

Geneva College

Brianna Frashure, Economy Elementary School – to be placed with Jennifer Shannon

Shannon Small, High School – to be placed with Greg Helsel

14. Interim Varsity Boys' Basketball Head Coach

It is recommended to approve Eric Astorino as the Interim Varsity Boys' Basketball Interim Head Coach for the 2019-2020 school term. He will receive a stipend of \$4,500.00, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

15. Para-Educators (Teaching Assistants)

It is recommended to hire the following individual to fill current Para-Educator (Teaching Assistant) vacancy as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Support Professional Association (ESPA/PSEA-NEA) collective bargaining agreement pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening:

James Maseth, Middle School

16. Mentor Teachers

It is recommended the following individuals be approved as mentor teachers at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement:

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>New Teacher</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Paul Hrvatin	Mallory Accamondo	\$250.00
Anthony Amadio	Kimbery Cuppett	\$250.00
Teresa Brewer	Bonnie DeAngelis	\$250.00
Sean Beighley	Deborah Faux	\$250.00
Jennifer Shannon	Alyssa Greco	\$250.00
Melissa Paulos	Marissa Niaros	\$250.00
Carl Baker	Rebecca Rose	\$250.00

17. Uncompensated Leave

It is recommended to approve Employee #2675 taking 3 days unpaid leave, effective on or around December 12, 2019. Unpaid leave is only approved once during an employee's tenure.

18. 2019-2020 Winter/Spring Coaches

It is recommended to approve Michael Fitzgerald as the Boys' Basketball Assistant Coach, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

19. High School Play Vocal Instructor

It is recommended to approve Jessica Patterson as the Musical Director for the 2020 Spring Musical, to be paid a stipend of \$4,800.00, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

20. Professional Employee

It is recommended to hire Nicole Hoegerl, an English Language Learners Teacher, at a salary of \$44,992.00 (Step 1 Masters +30), 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.

XIV. Solicitor's Report

XV. Superintendent's Report

XVI. 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.

XVII. Motion to Adjourn