

MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 26, 2024 (Continued):

TREASURER'S REPORT:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Steven VanWoert, the Board approved the Treasurer's Report for January, all bills as listed and financial reports. On a roll call vote, members Amos, Bobby, Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Peters, VanWoert, and Whalen voted yes. Member Stotsky abstained.

Motion: Passed

STUDENT DISCIPLINE:

A motion by David Lengel, second by Aimee Peters, the discipline committee recommended strict probation for students #1 through #5.

A motion to amend the discipline to remove strict probation was made by J. Jarrett Whalen, second by David Lengel, and changed as follows:

- The students may participate in any activities in which they are currently enrolled.
- The students may not enroll in any new activities for the rest of the school year.
- The students may not attend the Cedar Point trip this year.
- The students may not attend Prom this year.
- The students shall complete 200 hours of community service at locations and on a schedule, which shall be determined by the administration, before the end of the school year.

On a roll call vote, members Lengel, Nugent, VanWoert, Whalen, Bobby and Hazi voted yes. Members Peters, Stotsky and Amos voted no.

Motion to amend original motion: Passed

A motion to approve the amended student discipline was made by J. Jarrett Whalen, second by David Lengel. On a roll call vote, members Lengel, Nugent, VanWoert, Whalen, Bobby and Hazi voted yes. Members Peters, Stotsky and Amos voted no.

Motion: Passed

PERSONNEL:

Retirement(s):

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Arthur Amos, the Board accepted the following retirements. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

Accepted, with regret, the retirement of Mrs. Karen Handerhan, elementary teacher, effective June 7, 2024.

Accepted, with regret, the retirement of Mrs. Linda Ryan, 10-month secretary, effective June 18, 2024.

MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 26, 2024 (Continued):

Hire:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the following hires. On a roll call vote, members Nugent, Peters, Whalen, Bobby, Hazi and Lengel voted yes. Members Stotsky, VanWoert and Amos abstained.

Motion: Passed

Approved the hiring of coaches for the spring 2024 season, pending clearances, as attached, tabled from the January 2024 board meeting.

Approved the hiring of Mr. Timothy Coryea as Head Boys' Soccer Coach, effective immediately.

Approved the addition of Mr. Chris Washil as a Track Volunteer Coach, pending clearances.

Educational Staffing Solutions:

Granted approval to hire substitute teachers and/or aides & paraprofessionals and/or accept, with regret, the resignation of such employees submitted by Educational Staffing Solutions (ESS), as attached.

Resignation:

On a motion by Arthur Amos, second by Aimee Peters, the Board accepted, with regret, the resignation of Mr. David Foley as technology aide with ESS, effective February 28, 2024. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

Resignation: (Addition to the agenda)

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Steven VanWoert, the Board accepted, with regret, the resignation of Mr. Eric Mount as athletic director, effective March 15, 2024. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

Remove from coaching list:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board granted approval to remove the following previously approved coaches for the 2023-24 school year, as they did not coach during the season. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

- Curtis Esquibel – Wrestling
- Donald “Tom” Swartz – Wrestling
- Zack Swartz – Wrestling
- Luke Rust – Wrestling
- Scott Garner – Wrestling
- Nicolas Campbell - Wrestling

STUDENT TRAVEL:

On a motion by Derek Stotsky, second by Arthur Amos, the Board approved the following requests for student travel. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 26, 2024 (Continued):

STUDENT TRAVEL (Continued):

Granted approval for Ms. Merrilynn Giles to accompany the Junior Class Officers to Tiffany's Banquet Center in Brookfield, Ohio, to make prom plans on a Saturday in March 2024. (Date TBD). One van is requested for transportation. There is no cost to the district.

Granted approval for Michalee Christy to accompany two students to Regional Chorus, March 6 – 8, 2024 at Mars High School. The cost to the district is a substitute teacher for two and one half days (\$250), two hotel rooms for two days (\$550), and the use of a school van.

Granted approval for the third-grade class (approximately 87 students) to travel to Youngstown Playhouse, Youngstown, Ohio on March 7, 2024, to watch a performance of "Shrek". Two busses and one van are requested for transportation. Cost of student tickets and transportation will be paid for by the PEP Association. *Note:* This is a reschedule of a previously approved trip on January 23, 2024, which was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Granted approval for Ms. Lisa Wishart to accompany approximately four (4) students to Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV on March 11, 2024 for Academic Games National Training Day activities. One van is requested for transportation. One substitute teacher is requested for the day. (\$100)

Granted approval for Courtney Brown to accompany eight members of the Aevium Club to attend "The Talk", a discussion on four characteristics of a healthy community, at Wilmington High School on April 5, 2024. The only cost to the district is the use of a school van.

Granted approval for Michalee Christy to accompany the Theater Arts students to Hickory High School on March 13, 2024 to watch *Fiddler on the Roof*. The only cost to the district is the use of a school van and a substitute teacher for the day. (\$100)

Granted approval for Doug Edney or Erin Ellis to accompany five students to Munnell Run Farm for the Envirothon training day on April 3, 2024. The only cost to the district is the use of a school van and one substitute teacher for the day. (\$100)

Granted approval for Mandy Oates to accompany the Spanish II and III students to Pittsburgh, PA on April 9, 2024 to watch cultural dances from Spain, Central America, and South America. The only cost to the district is a substitute teacher for the day. (\$100)

Granted approval for Mrs. Anna Cook and Mr. Troy Morris to accompany approximately 21 students to the Spring Academic Immersive Experience at Robert Morris University on April 16, 2024. One (1) bus is requested for transportation. Cost to the district is transportation and two (2) substitute teachers for one (1) day. (\$200)

FACILITIES:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board approved the following facilities requests. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 26, 2024 (Continued):

FACILITIES (Continued):

Approved the elementary Student Council and Positivity and Kindness Krew (PAKK) to host a Parent's Day Off student activity on Friday, March 15, 2024 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the elementary school. Cost for the students to participate in a variety of activities, is \$10.00, with proceeds being used for elementary field day.

Approved Mrs. Ference to host a STEM Night program at the elementary school LGI Room and Computer Lab on April 18, 2024 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. The STEM program will be held in cooperation with students from Grove City College. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

Approved Mercer Midget Football to hold flag football practices on the practice field, located at back of middle/high school, March 4 - May 31, 2024. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

Approved Dance Center Studios to use the auditorium and three additional classrooms for their recital and practices June 10 – 14, 2024. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

CLASSIFIED SALARIES:

On a motion by J. Jarrett Whalen, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the Classified Salaries for the 2024-25 school year, as attached. On a roll call vote, members Peters, VanWoert, Whalen, Bobby, Hazi, and Lengel voted yes. Members Stotsky, Amos, and Nugent abstained.

Motion: Passed

2024-25 DISTRICT CALENDAR:

On a motion by Steven Van Woert, second by Arthur Amos, the Board approved of the 2024 – 2025 Mercer Area School District calendar, as attached. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

MASD LOCAL HOLIDAYS:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved through the authority of Act 30 of 1997, Section 1502, subsection (c), recommend that the Mercer Area School Board designate the following dates as local holidays: November 28, 29, December 2, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, and 31, 2024, and January 1, 2, 3; February 17; April 17, 18 and 21; and May 2 and 26, 2025. Schools may only be open on these dates in the event of weather emergency or natural disaster. On a voice vote all members voted yes.

MIU4 GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Arthur Amos, the Board approved the General Operating Budget for the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV in the amount of \$4,162,498, for the 2024 – 2025 school year. Members Stotsky, VanWoert, Whalen, Amos, Bobby, Hazi, Lengel, Nugent and Peters all voted yes.

Motion: Passed

MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 26, 2024 (Continued):

CHILDREN'S AIDE SOCIETY OF MERCER CNTY-FAMILY BASED MENTAL HEALTH:

On a motion by Arthur Amos, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board approved a linkage agreement between Mercer Area School District and Children's Aide Society of Mercer County for Family-Based Mental Health Services. This item was tabled at the January 2024 board meeting. On a roll call vote, members VanWoert, Whalen, Amos, Bobby, Lengel, Nugent, Peters and Stotsky voted yes. Member Hazi abstained.

Motion: Passed

MIU4 POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND USE OF FUNDS:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Arthur Amos, the Board approved the Adoption of Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV Policies, Procedures and Use of Funds under federal regulations of 34 CFR PART 300¹ for the 2024-2025 school year, as attached. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

LONGMORE ACADEMY (MHY SERVICES):

On a motion by Derek Stotsky, second by Rodney Bobby, the Board approved an agreement between the Mercer Area School District and MHY Services to provide special education services and programming to a student at Longmore Academy for the 2023-2024 school year. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

LINKAGE AGREE. - SHARON REG. PARTIAL HOSP. PROGRAM/PATHFINDERS/KITE STRINGS:

Recommend approval of a Linkage Agreement between Mercer Area School District and Sharon Regional Medical Center's Partial Hospitalization Programs, Pathfinders and Kite Strings, as attached. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

COMBUSTION SERVICE & EQUIPMENT CO.:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Shane Nugent, the Board approved a renewal agreement between Mercer Area School District and Combustion Service & Equipment Co., in the amount of \$12,600.00 for one year, beginning March 1, 2024. On a roll call vote, members Whalen, Amos, Bobby, Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Peters, Stotsky and VanWoert voted yes.

Motion: Passed

GoGUARDIAN:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the renewal of the agreement with GoGuardian in the amount of \$9,317.00 to provide security software for student devices for the 2024-2025 school year. On a roll call vote, members Amos, Bobby, Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Peters, Stotsky, VanWoert and Whalen voted yes.

Motion: Passed

MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 26, 2024 (Continued):

SHAFFER DELINQUENT TAX RETURN:

On a motion by David Lengel, second by Shane Nugent to waive the school districts portion of penalties and interest on Mr. Kevin Shaffer's delinquent 2016 local income tax return. Local income tax returns are processed by Berkheimer Tax Innovations for the District.

On a roll call vote, members Nugent, Peters, Stotsky, VanWoert, Whalen, Amos, Bobby, Hazi, and Lengel voted no to waive the penalties and interest.

Motion: Failed

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC HANDBOOK FOR 2024-25:

On a motion by Arthur Amos, second by Shane Nugent, the Board approved the Mercer Middle/High School Academic Handbook for the 2024-2025 school year, as attached. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

SALE OF COPIERS, PRINTERS AND INK:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved selling the old Ricoh copiers, printers and ink. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no additional business, Shane Nugent motioned to adjourn the meeting, J. Jarrett Whalen seconded. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

Michael H. Stabile, Board Secretary

David R. Lengel, Board President