

# MERCER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## MINUTES OF MAY 20, 2024 BOARD MEETING

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**           ARTHUR AMOS           RODNEY BOBBY (via phone -Exec. Session only)  
                                  MATTHEW HAZI           DAVID LENGEL  
                                  SHANE NUGENT           AIMEE PETERS  
                                  DEREK STOTSKY           STEVEN VanWOERT

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**           J. JARRETT WHALEN       RODNEY BOBBY (Regular Board Mtg.)

**OTHERS PRESENT:**           DR. RONALD R. ROWE, JR, SUPERINTENDENT  
                                  DR. MICHAEL G. PIDDINGTON, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT  
                                  ERIC MAUSSER, MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
                                  GREGORY ACRE, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
                                  AMANDA SIMPSON, ASSISTANT MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
                                  SHIRLEY SPIEGEL, ASSISTANT ELEM. PRINCIPAL/SPEC. EDUC. COORD.  
                                  LYNN R. LONG, CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY/OFFICE MANAGER

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. David Lengel, at 7:35 p.m. in the high school library. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. There were seven members present.

### **MINUTES:**

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Matthew Hazi, the Board approved the following minutes. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes:

- Regular Board Meeting on April 15, 2024
- Budget/Special Board Meeting April 17, 2024
- Curriculum & Extracurricular Committee Meeting on May 16, 2024

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

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

**Motion:** Passed

### **Student Discipline:**

David Lengel made a motion that any student going to and successfully completing basic training, will count as 100 hours of community service. A motion to accept was made by Shane Nugent, second by Aimee Peters. On a roll call vote, members Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Peters, Stotsky, VanWoert and Amos voted yes.

**Motion:** Passed

**MINUTES FROM MAY 20, 2024 MEETING (Continued):**

**Personnel:**

**Resignations:**

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Steven VanWoert, the Board accepted, with regret, the following resignations. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Ms. Samantha Hong as Chemistry Teacher at the end of the 2023-24 school year.

Accepted with regret, the resignation of Mrs. Kelsey Rose as ¾ time speech therapist, effective June 7, 2024. (Mrs. Rose will continue extended school year through the summer months)

Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Ms. Kayla Johnson as Flagline Advisor, effective immediately.

Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Mrs. Jennifer Wamboldt as a 10-month guidance counselor secretary, effective June 21, 2024.

**Hires:**

On a motion by Steven VanWoert, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board approved the following hires. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Granted approval to hire Miss Allison Thomas as an elementary teacher on Step 1 of the Bachelor's scale at an annual salary of \$54,350, with full benefits, pending clearances.

Granted approval to hire Ms. Renee Masson as a 10 month (205 day) administrative assistant at a salary of \$22,472.10, with full benefits, beginning July 1, 2024, pending clearances.

Granted approval of Mr. Ryan Shaw as a volunteer percussion instructor, pending clearances, for the upcoming 2024-25 school year.

Granted approval to hire summer maintenance employees, per the attached list, pending clearances. Wages listed accordingly and there are no benefits with these positions.

**Removal:**

On a motion by Aimee Peters, second by David Lengel, the Board approved removing Mr. Michael Eakman from the Girls softball volunteer coach list for the 2024 season, as the season has ended.

**FACILITIES:**

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Matthew Hazi, the Board approved the following requests for use of facilities. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

**MINUTES FROM MAY 20, 2024 MEETING (Continued):**

**FACILITIES (Continued):**

Approved the Mercer Ministerium to use the middle/high school auditorium for a baccalaureate service at 7:30 p.m. on June 5, 2024.

Approved the Mercer Midget and PeeWee Football program to host a flag football tournament at the stadium on June 1, 2024. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

Approved TADA to use the auditorium on July 12, 2024 for a Musical Theater Showcase. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

Approved TADA to use the auditorium, LGI, Choir and Band Rooms on May 2, 3, and 4, 2025 for their Dance Recital. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

Approved Community Counseling Center of Mercer County to use a designated space and time, as approved by high school administration, during the summer months.

**STUDENT TRAVEL:**

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the following student travel requests. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Approved the Mercer High School Speech Team Qualifiers to attend the National Catholic Forensic League (NCFL) Grand Championship Tournament in Chicago, IL, May 24 – 27, 2024. The use of two (2) school district vans are requested and is the only expense to the school district.

Approved the Mercer High Speech Team Qualifiers to attend the National Speech and Debate Assoc., (NSDA) National Tournament in West Des Moines, Iowa, June 16 - 22, 2024. The use of two (2) school district vans are requested and is the only expense to the school district.

Approved Mrs. Michalee Christy to accompany the 8<sup>th</sup> grade choir students to Kennywood Park on Monday, June 3, 2024. The only cost to the district is a substitute teacher for the day. (\$100)

Approved Eric Mausser to accompany the RYLA students to the Rotary Luncheon on May 22, 2024. The only cost to the district is the use of a school van.

Approved Jeff Lockard to accompany five football players to Commodore Perry School District on May 22, 2024. The only cost to the district is the use of a school van.

Approved Michalee Christy to accompany the Chamber Choir to Munnell Run Farm to perform for the Liberty Tree Planting Ceremony on May 30, 2024. The only cost to the district is the use of a school van and a substitute for half a day. (\$50)

**MINUTES FROM MAY 20, 2024 MEETING (Continued):**

**BOARD TREASURER:**

A motion by Elect the Board Treasurer, Mr. Arthur Amos, for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, was made by David Lengel, seconded by Shane Nugent. Mr. Arthur Amos was named Board Treasurer. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

**PROPOSED FINAL BUDGET:**

On a motion by Steven VanWoert, second by Matthew Hazi, the Board approved the *proposed final budget* for the 2024-2025 school year in the amount of **\$19,977,910**. On a roll call vote, members Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Peters, Stotsky, VanWoert and Amos voted yes.

***Motion:*** Passed

**2024 LIST OF GRADUATES:**

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board approved the list of 2024 Mercer Area Senior High School graduates pending satisfactory completion of required courses, number of credits, and the high school principal's approval (list attached). On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

**PER CAPITA AND ACT 511 TAXES:**

On a motion by Aimee Peters, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board approved the following Per Capita and Act 511 Taxes be re-enacted for the 2024-2025 school year:

On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

- \$5.00 Per Capita under Section 679 of the School Code of 1949
- \$5.00 Per Capita under Act 511
- One percent (1%) Earned Income Tax\*
- \$5.00 Occupation Privilege Tax
- One Percent (1%) Real Estate Transfer Tax
- \*Shared with municipalities

**CERTIFIED SCHOOL NURSE SERV. AT MCCC:**

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second y Matthew Hazi, the Board approved an agreement between the Mercer Area School District and the Mercer County Career Center for Certified School Nurse Services, for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years, as attached. On a roll call vote, members Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Peters, Stotsky, VanWoert, and Amos voted yes.

***Motion:*** Passed

**GENERATOR MAINTENANCE:**

On a motion by Steven VanWoert, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the renewal of the semi-annual generator maintenance agreement, in the amount of \$1,044.52. On a roll call vote, members Lengel, Nugent, Peters, Stotsky, VanWoert, Amos and Hazi voted yes.

***Motion:*** Passed

**MINUTES FROM MAY 20, 2024 MEETING (Continued):**

**ST. FRANCIS UNIV. COLLEGE IN HS PROGRAM:**

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board approved of a cooperative agreement between Saint Francis University and the Mercer Area School District for the “College in High School Program” for the 2024-2025 school year. St. Francis’ courses will include FREN 112 & 201, SPAN 112 & 201, MATH 110, MATH 112, and PHYS 104. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

**ESS ADDENDUMS:**

On a motion by David Lengel, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved three (3) addendums to the agreement with Educational Staffing Solutions (ESS) for the 2024-2025 school year. On a roll call vote, members Nugent, Peters, VanWoert, Amos, Hazi, and Lengel voted yes. Member Stotsky abstained.

***Motion:*** Passed

**ASCC DOOR ALARMS:**

On a motion by Derek Stotsky, second by Shane Nugent, the Board approved the purchase of eight (8) additional exterior door alarms from ASCC in the amount of \$20,854.51. Funds from the PCCD Meritorious grant will be used to fund the purchase. On a roll call vote, members Peters, Stotsky, VanWoert, Amos, Hazi, Lengel and Nugent voted yes.

***Motion:*** Passed

**NAS SERVERS:**

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Matthew Hazi, the Board approved the purchase of two (2) NAS servers in the amount of \$9,240.00 for use with the school district’s security cameras. Funds from the PCCD Meritorious grant will be used to fund the purchase. On a roll call vote, members Stotsky, VanWoert, Amos, Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, and Peters voted yes.

***Motion:*** Passed

**LONGMORE ACADEMY:**

On a motion by Steven VanWoert, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board approved an agreement with Longmore Academy for Extended School Year (ESY) services for one (1) student from June 10 – July 12, 2024. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

**GLADE RUN LUTHERAN SERVICES:**

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Matthew Hazi, the Board approved an agreement between Glade Run Lutheran Services (Day Student Education Program) and Mercer Area School District for the 2024-2025 school year. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

**VELOCITY EHS AGREEMENT:**

On a motion by Derek Stotsky, second by David Lengel, the Board approved a three (3) year renewal agreement with VelocityEHS for chemical management solution software for the school district. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

**MINUTES FROM MAY 20, 2024 MEETING (Continued):**

**MERCER ELEMENTARY TUITION STUDENT:**

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Matthew Hazi, the Board approved one second grade student to attend Mercer Elementary as a tuition student at the rate of \$5000.00 per year for 2024-2025 school year. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

**MILLAGE FOR 2024-25:**

A motion was made by David Lengel, to raise millage by 1.75 mills to **67.75** mills for the 2024-25 school year. Derek Stotsky seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, members Amos, Hazi, Lengel, Peters, Stotsky, and VanWoert voted yes. Member Nugent voted no.

***Motion:*** Passed

**2024 HOMESTEAD/FARMSTEAD EXCLUSION:**

On a motion by David Lengel, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the 2024 Homestead and Farmstead exclusion resolution, in the amount at **\$248.03**. On a roll call vote, members Amos, Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Peters, Stotsky, and VanWoert voted yes.

***Motion:*** Passed

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

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Lynn R. Long, Confidential Sec/Office Mgr.

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David R. Lengel, Board President