



MERCER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

545 West Butler Street
Mercer, Pennsylvania 16137

**Michael G. Piddington, Ed. D.**

Assistant Superintendent
mpiddington@mercer.k12.pa.us

Central Office
724-662-5100

Ronald R. Rowe, Jr., Ed. D.

Superintendent
rrowe@mercer.k12.pa.us

Fax Number
724-622-5109

Michael H. Stabile

Business Manager/Board Secretary
mstabile@mercer.k12.pa.us

Business Office
724-662-4120

AGENDA
MARCH BOARD MEETING
March 18, 2024

7:30 PM

High School Library

Work Session (7:00 p.m.): – Contracts, Student Discipline, and Personnel (closed);
General information, Agenda questions (open).

Agenda

1. Call to order and flag salute by the President.
2. Approve the minutes of the regular meeting on February 26, 2024.
3. Approve the Treasurer's Report, all bills as listed and financial reports.
4. Communications.
5. Board committee reports.
6. Administrative reports.
7. Public comments.

Ten minute recess

8. **Student Discipline:**
Recommend approval of student discipline as recommended by the discipline committee.

9. **Personnel:**

Hires:

Recommend approval to hire Ms. Sharilynn Jones as a 12-month administrative assistant, pending clearances, at a salary of \$28,000, prorated, beginning March 7, 2024.

Recommend approval to hire Mr. Daniel Heckman as Athletic Director at a supplemental contract pay of \$9,000 annually, prorated for the remainder of the 2023-24 school year.

Recommend approval to add the following coaches to the spring coaches list, pending clearances.

- Mr. Jeffrey Lockard – volunteer junior high baseball coach

Position Change:

Recommend approval to move Mr. Rick Whenry from volunteer status to a paid position for junior high boys' baseball. This position will be split with Mr. Gary Hartman.

Remove from coaching list:

Recommend approval to remove Mr. Alex Dupuis from the junior high boys' baseball coach list.

Educational Staffing Solutions:

Recommend 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.

10. **Student Travel:**

Recommend approval for Mr. Doug Edney to accompany the Conservation Club to stock trout with the Fish and Game Commission on March 28, 2024. The only cost to the district is the use of a school van.

Recommend approval for Ms. Emily Peffer and two additional chaperones to accompany the 9th grade class to the Business and Industry Fair on April 4, 2024 at the Park Inn by Radisson Sharon, West Middlesex, PA. The cost to the district is for transportation.

Recommend approval for Ms. Lisa Wishart to accompany two (2) students to the Academic Games – Nationals Tournament in Atlanta, GA on April 19 – April 23, 2024. The cost for student registration is \$130/student (\$260). Students will be transported, lodged and supervised by a family member. Approximate cost to the district for Ms. Wishart to attend include: Lodging (\$760), food (\$250), transportation (\$590), registration (\$130) and one substitute teacher for three days (\$300.00). The estimated total cost to the district for this trip is \$2,290.00.

Recommend approval for the second-grade class (approximately 96 students) to travel to the New Castle Playhouse in New Castle, PA on May 7, 2024 to watch a performance of High School Musical. Two buses are requested for transportation. Cost of the transportation, food/snacks, and show admission will be paid for through the PEP Association. There is no cost to the school district.

Student Travel (Continued):

Recommend approval for the sixth-grade class (approximately 69 students) to travel to the Meadville Cinema in Meadville, PA on May 29, 2024 from 8:30 – 12:00 p.m., to see the PG rated movie “IF”. Two buses are requested for transportation. Ticket bundles to the movie (admission, food, and drink at \$10/student) and transportation costs are all being paid by the PEP Association. There is no cost to the school district.

Recommend approval for the sixth-grade class (approximately 69 students) to travel to Ten Pin Alley, Hermitage, PA on June 4, 2024 from 12:00 – 2:30 p.m. Two buses are requested for transportation. The admission fees, bowling, food and drink are \$11.95/student and the transportation expenses are all being paid by the PEP Association. There is no cost to the school district.

11. **Staff Development:**

Recommend approval for Mr. Jonathan Freidhoff to attend the PMEA All State Conference, as a chaperone, on April 18 and 19, 2024. The only cost to the district is a substitute for two days. (\$200)

12. **Facilities Requests:**

Recommend approval for Mercer Midget and Peewee Cheerleading to use the entrance lobby of the elementary school on April 9 & 18, 2024 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. for registration. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

Recommend approval for Mercer Midget and Peewee Cheerleading to use the front grass area of the elementary school and the music wing restrooms on July 16, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26, 2024, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. for cheer camp. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

Recommend approval for Mercer Midget and Peewee Cheerleading to use the front grass area of the elementary school and the music wing restrooms on Thursdays from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. between July 29 – October 10, 2024. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

Recommend approval for The Pennsylvania Dance Company to use the middle/high school auditorium and three additional rooms for their dance recital on May 17 and 18, 2024. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

13. Recommend approval of the agreement with JMI Consultants to enroll the District’s utility accounts into a Demand Response Portfolio for participation in Demand Response Programs and Demand Response Services. (JMI is the District’s consultant for the Electric and Natural Gas Consortiums).
14. Recommend approval of a two-year agreement between UPMC Sports Medicine and the Mercer Area School District, for athletic training services.
15. Recommend approval of the 2024-2025 Intergovernmental Agreement between Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV and Mercer Area School District.
16. Recommend approval of a five (5) year renewal agreement with Ruckus Commscope for software support & management of access points & switches in the amount of \$13,819.00.

17. Recommend approval for CM Regent Solutions along with United Concordia and National Vision Administrators to continue to serve as the dental and vision plan administrators for Mercer Area School District. This agreement will be in effect July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, per the attachments.
18. Recommend approval of the agreement between Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) and Mercer Area School District for Financial Management Software and Support Services, which include Fund Accounting, Human Resources, and Payroll for the 2024-25 school year, as attached.
19. Recommend approval to accept the 2024-2025 Mercer County Career Center Budget in the amount of \$6,425,022, as attached.
20. Recommend approval of an agreement between the Mercer Area School District and Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit to provide special education services and programming to students at the New Horizon North facility for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.
21. Recommend approval of the elementary and middle/high school roof repairs bid from Ramp Construction Company, Inc., for \$876,500, as attached.
22. Recommend approval of a cooperative agreement between the Mercer Area School District and the Commodore Perry School District for football, marching band, and football cheerleading for a four (4) year period (2024-25, 2025-26, 2026-27, & 2027-28).
23. Other business.
 - a. Establish a date for the budget meeting.
24. Adjournment.

* *First read of Special Education Plan (2024-2027)*

* IU4 Convention – 4/24/24

FYI:

March 18 - 22	Kindergarten Registration
March 28-31 & April 1	NO School-Spring Break (March 31 st is Easter)
April 2	4 th Quarter Begins
April 5	K-12 Report Cards
April 8	Teacher In-service day (No students) <i>Solar Eclipse today</i>
April 11	School Board Committee Meetings @ 6 p.m. <i>(if needed)</i>
April 11 – 13	Musical – <i>Hello Dolly!</i>
April 15	Next School Board Meeting at 7:30
April 24	MIU4 Convention