



# MERCER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**AGENDA**  
**AUGUST BOARD MEETING**  
**August 19, 2024**  
**\*\*\*High School Library\*\*\***  
**7:30 PM**

**Executive Session – 7:00 PM:** Personnel, Litigation and Contracts (closed);  
Review of agenda items, questions, and comments (open).

**Agenda**

1. Call to order and flag salute by the President.
2. Mr. Chris Garbin, Vice President of AVI Food Systems will introduce himself to the school board.
3. Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 15, 2024 and the Transportation Committee Meeting from August 15, 2024.
4. Approve the Treasurer's Report, all bills as listed and financial statements.
5. Communications.
6. Board committee reports.
7. Administrative reports.
8. **Student Discipline:**  
Recommend approval of student discipline as recommended by the discipline committee.

9. **Personnel:**

Resignations:

Accept, with regret, the resignation of Mrs. Celeste Wilson as van driver, effective immediately.

Accept, with regret, the resignation of Mrs. Abby Shealy as a van driver, effective immediately.

Hires:

Recommend approval to hire Ms. Becky Wymer as a van driver at \$80.00/day, pending clearances.

Recommend approval for the following teachers to serve as mentors for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years.

- Mrs. Kristen Cassano for Ms. Alexandra Rice
- Mrs. Andrea Crooks for Ms. Allison Thomas

Recommend approval to hire additional fall coaches for the 2024-25 school year, per the attached list, pending clearances.

ESS:

Recommend the approval of all substitute teachers as provided by Educational Staffing Solutions (ESS), pending paperwork and clearances, as attached.

Recommend approval of all aides/paraprofessionals as provided by Educational Staffing Solutions (ESS), pending paperwork and clearances, as attached.

10. **Student Travel:**

Recommend approval for Miss Lisa Wishart to accompany approximately 20-25 students to Academic Games competition events at Slippery Rock University on the following dates. One bus is requested for transportation for each event. One substitute is requested for each date. (\$100.00 per day.)

Onsets Tournament	October 16, 2024
Propaganda Tournament	November 13, 2024
LinguiSHTIKs Tournament	December 18, 2024
Presidents Tournament	January 8, 2025
Equations Tournament	February 5, 2025
World Events Tournament	February 19, 2025

Recommend approval for Miss Emily Pepper to accompany two students to MIU IV for Extreme Leadership on September 26, December 5, 2024, February 27, March 27, and April 9, 2025. The only cost to the district is the use of a school van.

**Student Travel (Continued):**

Recommend approval for Mrs. Michalee Christy to accompany the Chamber Choir and Show Choir to the Benedum Center to attend the musical *Hamilton* on September 12, 2024. The only cost to the district is a substitute for the day. (\$100)

Recommend approval for Mrs. Michalee Christy to accompany Chamber Choir students to Westminster College for Honor Chorus auditions on October 3, 2024. The only cost to the district is the use of a school van and a substitute for the day. (\$100)

Recommend approval for Mrs. Michalee Christy to accompany Chamber Choir students to Westminster College for Honors Chorus Festival on October 24, 25 and 26, 2024. The only cost to the district is a sub for two days and the use of a school van. (\$200)

Recommend approval for Mrs. Michalee Christy to accompany Middle School Chorus members to Farrell High School for Junior High County Chorus on November 14, 2024. The only cost to the district is a substitute for the day and the use of a school van. (\$100)

Recommend approval for Mrs. Michalee Christy to accompany senior high chorus members to Chicago and Notre Dame (Performance workshop) on April 24, 25 and 26, 2025. The only cost to the district is a substitute for two days. (\$200)

Recommend approval for Mrs. Michalee Christy to accompany 8th grade Chorus students to Kennywood on May 27, 2025. The only cost to the district is a substitute for the day. (\$100)

Recommend approval for Miss Emily Pepper to accompany 11<sup>th</sup> grade students to the college fair at Thiel College on October 3, 2024. The only cost to the district is for bus transportation.

11. **Staff Development:**

Recommend approval for 18 paraprofessionals and two staff members (Mrs. Korina Yanak and Mr. Kevin Reese) to participate in the Safety Care Re-certification training provided by Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV at our elementary gymnasium on August 20, 2024 at a cost for training at \$500.00 for 20 participants.

Recommend approval for Mrs. Kelli Sealand and Ms. Jessica Medvan to participate in the Initial Safety Care Training at MIUIV on August 27 & 28, 2024. Total cost to the district is \$350.00

Recommend approval for Courtney Brown to attend the Counselor Network Meetings at MIU IV on October 3, 2024, January 16 and March 20, 2025. There is no cost to the school district.

**Staff Development (Continued):**

Recommend approval for Miss Lisa Wishart to attend Academic Games coaches training sessions at Midwestern Intermediate Univ IV on the following dates. One substitute is requested for each of these days. (\$100 per day)

September 6 & 9, 2024

October 7, 2024

December 6, 2024

January 9, 2025

March 10 & 13, 2025

May 5, 2025

**12. Facilities:**

Recommend approval for Mr. Jonathan Freidhoff to host District Band in the middle/high school on January 25, 2025.

Recommend approval for the Mercer Community Band to use the middle/high school auditorium and cafeteria on Sunday, December 1, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. to present their annual Christmas Concert. All aspects of the facility policy will be followed.

Recommend approval for the Track/Cross Country Boosters to use the elementary cross-country course at the high school for the elementary relays on September 25, 2024.

Recommend approval for the Band Boosters and the Cheerleaders to use the high school cafeteria on August 24, 2024, for their mattress sale fundraiser. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

13. Recommend approval to participate in the backpack program at Mercer Elementary School for the 2024-25 school year. This program is in conjunction with Trinity Presbyterian Church.
14. Recommend approval to purchase two (2) 2020 school vans from Watson's Inc. in the amount of \$70,000.00.
15. Recommend approval of an Agreement between Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission, Inc. and Mercer Area School District to provide services for the Student Assistance Program (SAP) for the 2024-25 school year.
16. Recommend approval of the subscription renewal for the Reading Eggs Program license at the elementary school for the 2024-2025 school year, in the amount of \$2,234.40.
17. Recommend approval of 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 2024-2025 school year.
18. Recommend approval of an agreement with Hudl for athletic video equipment and access subscription in the amount of \$8,500.00 from September 27, 2024 through September 26, 2025. Multiple booster groups are covering \$7,600 of the total cost and the school district will pay \$900.00.

19. Recommend approval of the following Parent Booster/Support Organizations for the 2024- 25 school year, as they all meet the requirements set forth by the Mercer Area School Board in Policy 915, as follows:
  - Baseball Boosters
20. Recommend approval to use TC's Cutting Edge Lawn Care as a contractor for the maintenance and upkeep of the Lamor Road Soccer Field, pending proof of liability insurance.
21. Recommend approval of all van routes, drivers and salaries for the 2024-25 school year, per attached.
22. Recommend approval of all bus drivers and routes for the 2024-25 school year, per attached.
23. Recommend approval to set the adult meal prices for the 2024-25 school year. This is required for participation in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). This is a *revision* for breakfast from the July 15, 2024 board approval.

Breakfast:	Adults \$2.85
Lunch:	Adults \$4.75 (no change)
24. Recommend approval of an updated facility rental fee schedule, as attached.
25. Recommend approval for Mercer Area SD to reimburse Brandy Springs Park for materials that will be used to replace two (2) bridges within the park that are part of the cross-country course that is used by the elementary, middle school, & high school teams. Cost to the district is \$1,373.87, which is ½ of the cost for the project.
26. Other Business
27. Adjournment

*\*First Read of the following Policies:*

- Policy 103 – Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Students
- Policy 103 – Grievance Procedures
- Policy 103 – Discrimination Complaint Procedures
- Policy 103 – Confidentiality Template Letter
- Policy 104 – Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Staff
- Policy 104 – Grievance Procedures
- Policy 104 – Discrimination Complaint Procedures
- Policy 104 – Report Form

**FYI – Dates of interest**

August 20	Teacher In-Service Day
<b>August 21</b>	<b>First day of school for students</b>
August 30	Middle/High School Open House 5:30-7:15 pm
	Meet the Mustangs at M/HS field @ 7:30 p.m.
September 2	No School – Labor Day
September 3	Elementary Book Fair Begins
September 5	Elementary Open House 5:30-7:30 pm and Elementary Book Fair
<b>September 16</b>	<b>School Board Meeting</b>

