

MERCER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF July 15, 2024 BOARD MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT:

ARTHUR AMOS
MATTHEW HAZI
SHANE NUGENT
STEVEN VanWOERT

RODNEY BOBBY
DAVID LENGEL
DEREK STOTSKY
J. JARRETT WHALEN

MEMBERS ABSENT:

AIMEE PETERS

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.
MICHAEL STABILE, BUSINESS MANAGER/BOARD SECRETARY

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. David Lengel, at 7:30 p.m. in the high school library. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. There were eight members present. A moment of silence for Mrs. Betty Sunday followed.

Ms. Lena Hannah, Pennsylvania School Boards Association Member Outreach Manager, made a presentation celebrating the districts Great PA School designation.

MINUTES:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Shane Nugent, the Board approved the minutes from the regular meeting on June 17, 2024, the special meeting on June 24, 2024, the Curriculum & Extra Curricular Committee meeting held on July 11, 2024. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

TREASURER'S REPORT, ALL BILLS, AND FINANCIAL REPORT:

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

Motion: Passed

BOARD MINUTES FROM JULY 15, 2024 (Continued):

PERSONNEL:

Hire(s):

On a motion by Arthur Amos, second by Rodney Bobby, the Board approved the following hires. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Hired Mr. Travis Bell as boy's head wrestling coach beginning with the 2024-25 school year, pending clearances.

Granted approval to hire *coaches and* advisors for fall supplemental contracts for 2024-2025 as attached, pending clearances.

AmeriCorps:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board approved Dahlia Jacks to fill the Full Time (1700 Hour) Elementary School AmeriCorps position for the 2024-25 school year, at \$15,400 cost share to the district. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

FACILITIES REQUEST:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board approved Mercer Midget Football to use the following school district facilities: On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

- ❖ Practice fields at the middle/high school July 22 – October 31, 2024 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ Football stadium, concession stand, and press box for two Saturdays between August 17 and September 28, 2024. Dates TBD. This will be scheduled through the Athletic Director and the Principal based on availability.

STUDENT TRAVEL:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Matthew Hazi, the Board granted approval for Mr. Jonathan Freidhoff to accompany the 5M band to Kennywood Park on August 17, 2024. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

2024-25 ARP ESSER HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN:

On a motion by Steven VanWoert, second by Shane Nugent, the Board approved the 2024-25 ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan. The Plan will be made available to the public on the school district's website. On a roll call vote, members Amos, Bobby, Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Stotsky, and VanWoert, voted yes. Member Whalen voted no.

Motion: Passed

LDP, INC. aka LEADER SERVICES:

On a motion by J. Jarrett Whalen, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board approved the agreement between Mercer Area School District and LDP, Inc, referred to as Leader Services, which will provide Pennsylvania Medicaid Direct Services web applications and support services. This agreement is from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025, as attached. On a roll call vote, members Amos, Bobby, Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Stotsky, VanWoert, and Whalen voted yes.

Motion: Passed.

BOARD MINUTES FROM JULY 15, 2024 (Continued):

ESS ADDENDUM TO AGREEMENT:

On a motion by Arthur Amos, second by J. Jarrett Whalen, the Board approved of an addendum to the agreement with Educational Staff Solutions (ESS) for the 2024-2025 school year, as attached. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

2024-25 ADULT MEAL PRICES:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Steven VanWoert, the Board approved to set the adult meal prices for the 2024-25 school year. This is required for participation in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Breakfast: Adults \$2.40
Lunch: Adults \$4.75

BOOSTER/SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS:

On a motion by Arthur Amos, second by Rodney Bobby, the Board approved 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. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

PEP	Mercer Girls Basketball Boosters	Mercer Speech Boosters
Mercer Band Boosters	Mercer Golf Boosters	Mercer Track & Cross-Country Boosters
Mercer Boys Basketball Boosters	Mercer Area Soccer Helpers	Mercer Girls Volleyball Boosters
Choral Boosters	Mercer Softball Boosters	Mercer Wrestling Boosters Club
Mustang Touchdown Club	Mercer Tech-Ed Booster Club	

2024-25 ELEM STUDENT HANDBOOK:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Rodney Bobby, the Board approved the 2024-25 elementary school student handbook, as attached. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

2024-25 ELEM STAFF HANDBOOK:

On a motion by Steven VanWoert, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board approved the 2024-25 elementary staff handbook, as attached. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

2024-25 MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Shane Nugent, the Board approved the 2024-25 middle/high school student handbook, as attached. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

2024-25 MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL STAFF HANDBOOK:

On a motion by Matthew Hazi, second by Rodney Bobby, the Board approved the 2024-25 middle/high school staff handbook, as attached. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

BOARD MINUTES FROM JULY 15, 2024 (Continued):

2024-25 1:1 HANDBOOK:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by J. Jarrett Whalen, the Board approved the 1:1 handbook for the 2024-25 school year, as attached. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

MERCER BOROUGH INTERNAL LOCAL TAX AUDIT:

On a motion by Arthur Amos, second by Matthew Hazi, the Board approved the Internal Audit, in accordance with Local Tax Collection Law, Title 72, P.S. 5511, Section 26, for Suzanne Carter-Barner, Mercer Borough, Tax Collector for tax year 2023. (3/1/23-1/15/24) On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Michael H. Stabile, Board Secretary

David R. Lengel, Board President