



**MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 18, 2024 BOARD MEETING (Continued):**

**PERSONNEL CONTINUED:**

**Hires:**

Granted approval to hire Mr. Robert Kish as a substitute van driver at a rate of \$65 per day, pending clearances.

Granted approval to add the following volunteer coaches to the 2024-25 winter coach list, pending clearances.

Wrestling Volunteer - Brian Phillips  
M/HS Girls Basketball Volunteer – Matthew Allen

Granted approval to add Mr. Evan Daugherty as a volunteer assistant speech coach, pending clearances.

**EDUCATIONAL STAFFING SOLUTIONS (ESS):**

**Hires/Resignations:**

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

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT:**

On a motion by Aimee Peters, second by Steven VanWoert, the Board approved the following personnel to attend Safety Care Training at Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV as follows. Mrs. Joni Kostelnik, recertification on Nov. 14, 2024 for a total of \$195 for registration and training. Ms. Amy Cubellis, initial certification on Nov. 19 & 20, 2024 for a total of \$175 for registration. Mrs. Allyson Rust, recertification on January 23, 2025 for a total of \$95 for registration. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

**STUDENT TRAVEL:**

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

Approved Mr. Jonathan Freidhoff to accompany band students to Grove City College to perform in the 2025 County Band Festival on January 7 & 8, 2025. The cost to the district is a substitute teacher for two days (\$200) and bus transportation.

Approved Mr. Jonathan Freidhoff to accompany band students to the PMEA Honors Band Festival at Grove City College December 12 - 14, 2024. The cost to the district is a substitute for two days (\$200) and the use of a school van.

Approved Mr. Jonathan Freidhoff to accompany band students to PMEA District 2/3/5 Orchestra Festival at Collegiate Academy in Erie, January 9 - 11, 2025. The cost to the district is a substitute for two days (\$200), the use of a school van, and lodging.

**MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 18, 2024 BOARD MEETING (Continued):**

**STUDENT TRAVEL (Continued):**

Approved Mr. Jonathan Freidhoff to accompany the Jazz Band to Maplewood High School to perform in the Jazz Festival on March 12, 2025. The cost to the district is bus transportation.

Approved Mr. Jonathan Freidhoff to accompany Middle School Band students to North Catholic to perform in the Jr. District Band Festival on March 25, 2025. The cost to the district is a substitute for the day (\$100) and the use of a school van.

Approved Mr. Jonathan Freidhoff to accompany the Jazz Band to Conneaut High School to perform in the Jazz Festival on April 5, 2025. The cost to the district is bus transportation.

Approved third grade, approximately 98 students, to travel to the Munnell Run Farm, Mercer, PA on May 27, 2025. The PEP Association is covering \$3.00 per student as well as two buses (\$150 each) for transportation.

Approved Mrs. Michalee Christy to accompany the show choir as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COST TO THE SCHOOL DIST.</u>
Dec. 3, 2024	Quality of Live Services, Mercer	None
Dec. 3, 2024	Shenango on the Green, New Wilmington	Bus Transportation
Dec. 4, 2024	Lions Club, Fredonia	None
Dec. 6, 2024	TADA Studio for light up night, Mercer	None
Dec. 7, 2024	Cottage Gardens / Buhl Park, Shen. Valley	Bus Transportation
Dec. 10, 2024	Whispering Oaks, Hermitage	Bus Transportation
Dec. 13, 2024	Common Grounds, Mercer	None
Dec. 16, 2024	Court House and Avalon Springs, Mercer	½ Day Sub & Transportation
Dec. 16, 2024	Highland Church, New Castle, for the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Organization	Bus Transportation
Dec. 17, 2024	Ridgewood Nursing Home, Hermitage	Bus Transportation
Dec. 18, 2024	The Lakes at Jefferson, Mercer	None
Dec. 20, 2024	Mercer Elem. School and Grove Manor, Grove City	Substitute for the day and Bus Transportation

Approved Mrs. Michalee Christy to accompany Jr. High chorus students to Greenville High School for Jr. High District Chorus January 31, 2025. Cost to the district is a substitute for the day (\$100) and the use of one school van.

Approved Mrs. Marlena Priester to accompany Family Consumer Science students and Culinary Arts students to the City County Building in Pittsburgh, PA, to see their gingerbread houses on display, December 17, 2024. The only cost to the district is for a substitute for one day (\$100) as the students are covering the cost of transportation.

**MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 18, 2024 BOARD MEETING (Continued):**

**FACILITIES:**

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

Approved the wrestling boosters to host the Kevin Kubalic Wrestling Tournament on January 11, 2025. They will use the high school gym, cafeteria, and locker room. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

Approved Mercer Area Little League to use the elementary cafeteria for baseball practice, drill sessions, and open gym, between January 2025 – March 2025. The group requests the use of the batting cage net during these practices. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed. Availability of the facility will be determined and scheduled by the athletic director.

Approved the Mercer Softball recreation league to use the Mercer Elementary new gym lobby on January 19, 2025 and January 26, 2025 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. for league registration.

Approved Mrs. Jessica Ingley to use the elementary school for Camp Invention June 9 – 13, 2025 from 7:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

Approved the Twirling Angels to use the elementary gymnasium and cafeteria on Sunday, May 25, 2025 from 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. for a baton recital. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

**MUSICAL:**

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved Mrs. Michalee Christy to direct the musical *Grease*, to be performed on March 27, 28, and 29, 2025 in the high school auditorium. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

**PA LEADERSHIP CHARTER SCHOOL RELEASE OF CLAIMS:**

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Matthew Hazi, the Board approved a Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release of Claims between Mercer Area School District and PA Leadership Charter School, regarding tuition from the 2018-19 school year. On a roll call vote, members Bobby, Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Peters, Stotsky, VanWoert and Amos voted yes.

***Motion:*** Passed

**CARING FOUNDATION:**

On a motion by Arthur Amos, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved a two-year agreement with the Caring Foundation to provide grief support services, in concert with District staff, to students experiencing grief or loss of a person. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

**MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 18, 2024 BOARD MEETING (Continued):**

**CELL PHONE RESTRICTION:**

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Matthew Hazi, the Board directed the building principals to restrict cell phone usage to times outside of the instructional day, given the exceptions already listed in Policy# 237. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

**PSBA DONATED BOOK:**

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the donated book from PSBA entitled "The Buddy Bench" by Patty Brozo, for the elementary library. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

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Michael H. Stabile, Board Secretary

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David R. Lengel, Board President