

AMBRIDGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
AGENDA
August 20, 2025

7:00 P.M.

High School Auditorium

I. Call to Order

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District Board of Directors on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, is now called to order.

II. Flag salute-please rise

III. Notice This meeting is being recorded for District purposes. It is or may be published in part or in its entirety on the district's website without the express permission of meeting participants.

IV. Roll Call

V. Sunshine Law

The Board of School Directors held an Executive Session on Wednesday, August 20th to discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)
- Matters subject to attorney-client privilege and other confidentiality laws
- Litigation or threatened litigation matters
- Sensitive public safety issues

VI. Correspondence

VII. Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of Wednesday, July 9th, Board Meeting

VIII. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report dated: June 2025

IX. Amendment/Addendum to Agenda/Approval of Agenda

X. Recognition/Presentation

Turnip the Beet SILVER Award

Ambridge Area School District has been awarded the Turnip the Beet SILVER award! This recognition honors summer meal program sponsors nationwide who diligently provide children with high-quality, nutritious meals during the summer months.

This is an elite group of 199 sponsors across the country.

Congratulations to our Food Service Department!

Kelly Gregory
Sue Palombo
Anna Robinson
Vickie Pinkerton
Amanda Knox
Barb McGeorge
Leah Hartman
Leigh Anne Holman, Director of Food Service

All-State Volleyball

Congratulations to 2025 senior Karson Merlina! He earned a spot on the All-State Team.

From across the state, 10 players were chosen to the First Team; 10 players on the Second Team; and 9 players on Honorable Mention. Karson earned FIRST TEAM honors. Very awesome.

What a great honor! Way to represent Ambridge Area High School and the team.

GO BRIDGERS.

Public Comment (Regarding Agenda Items Only)

At this time, DISTRICT RESIDENTS may come forward to comment on agenda items only. Each person must state their first and last name and address prior to speaking. Each resident will be allowed three minutes and can speak only once. This period for public comment prior to the standing committee reports will be limited to one-half hour. Although not required, board members desiring to address questions or concerns may do so after the residents' comments/questions or at the conclusion of the committee reports. There will still be an opportunity for residents to comment on any business relevant to the Ambridge Area School District under Old and New Business at the end of the meeting.

XI. Committee Reports

Education and Technology

Mrs. Kelly Romasco

1. Foster Care Youth Transportation MOU

It is recommended to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ambridge Area School District and the Beaver County Children and Youth Services to establish transportation procedures to ensure the educational stability of Foster Care Youth.

Finance and Budget

Mr. Matthew Zatchey

1. School District Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly school district bills in the amount of \$3,172,927.29 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,126,964.59 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$10,166.97 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$16,440.57 be paid.

3. Tax Exemption

It is recommended to approve the requested real property tax exemption for 412 River Glen Drive, Economy Borough (Parcel 60-044-0598-000) for 2024 school taxes, as certified by the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs letter dated May 6, 2024.

Building and Grounds

Mrs. Adina Ferragonio

1. Crossing Guards

It is recommended that crossing guards be placed at locations throughout the Ambridge Area School District for the 2025-2026 school year, as listed below:

- 10th Street and Duss Avenue
- 5th Street and Duss Avenue
- 8th Street and Duss Avenue
- 15th Street and Church Street
- State Street and Harmony Road

2. State Street Elementary Fire Alarm Panel

It is recommended to approve a proposal from Johnson Controls to replace the Fire alarm control panel at State Street Elementary in the total amount of \$9,000.00 through the state bidding process (Co-Stars).

3. High School Football Field Quarterback Club

The Board authorizes the demolition of the high school football field quarterback club structure in connection with the visitor bleacher removal project. The demolition will cost \$0 to the district and be performed without further remuneration by Tom Sipes Demolition as a donation, subject to agreement finalization.

Athletics

Mrs. Cathleen Fischer

1. Award of Bowling Facility

It is recommended to approve a bid proposal from Fair Oaks Bowling Lanes to provide a venue for the high school bowling team for a three-year term beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

Public Relations

Miss Amy Fitsko

Steering and Rules

Mrs. Mary Jo Kehoe

1. Policy 105.1- Curriculum Review by Parents/Guardians and Students – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second reading, to update Policy 105.1 – *Curriculum Review by Parents/Guardians and Students* to ensure that parents/guardians have an opportunity to review instructional material and curriculum.

2. Policy 105.2 – Exemption From Instruction – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second reading, to update Policy 105.2 – *Exemption from Instruction* to update the policy to comply with the requirement of the state Board of Education to assure parents/guardians the right to have their children excused from specific instruction that conflicts with their religious beliefs.

Legislative

Miss Amy Fitsko

Salary Schedule and Labor Relations

Mr. Garrett Kovacevic

Personnel

Mrs. Valerie Scott

***ALL NEW HIRES, PENDING RECEIPT OF SATISFACTORY AND CURRENT CLEARANCES, SATISFACTORY DRUG SCREENING, TB TESTING, RESPONSES BY CURRENT/FORMER EMPLOYERS TO ACT 168 SCREENING, AND PDE CERTIFICATIONS IF APPLICABLE.**

1. Elementary School Resource Officer

It is recommended to approve a pilot partnership with the Ambridge Area Police Department to place a part-time School Resource Officer (SRO) at Economy Elementary School for the 2025-2026 school year, at a cost not to exceed \$35,000.00. **Pending solicitor review.**

2. Elementary School Resource Officer

It is recommended to approve a pilot partnership with the Harmony Township Police Department to place a part-time School Resource Officer (SRO) at Highland Elementary School for the 2025-2026 school year, at a cost not to exceed \$35,000.00, contingent on whether the police department is willing and able to perform the duties. **Pending solicitor review and municipal commitment.**

3. Elementary School Resource Officer

It is recommended to approve a pilot partnership with the Beaver Valley Regional Police Department to place a part-time School Resource Officer (SRO) at State Street Elementary School for the 2025-2026 school year, at a cost not to exceed \$35,000.00, contingent on whether the police department is willing and able to perform the duties. **Pending solicitor review and municipal commitment.**

4. 2025-2026 Coaches

It is recommended that the following individuals be approved to fill the designated coaching positions for the 2025-2026 school year at a salary as per the terms of the collective bargaining agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening, provided the school year allows coaches to hold sports as normal.

1) <u>Boys' Soccer</u>	<u>Stipends</u>
a) Jon Miller, Volunteer Coach	No Remuneration
2) <u>Girls' Volleyball</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Jaimeson Franz, Middle School Coach	\$2,050.00
b) Lethera Harrison, Middle School Coach	\$1,350.00
3) <u>Wrestling</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Ron Wilson, Assistant Coach	\$2,400.00
b) Ron Wilson, Middle School Coach	\$1,850.00
c) Larry Knopsnyder, Middle School Coach	\$1,350.00
4) <u>Boys' Basketball</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Eric Astorino, Assistant Coach	\$2,410.00
5) <u>Cheer</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Emily O'Malley, Middle School Coach	\$1,350.00

5. Posted Positions: Clubs / Activities

It is recommended that the following individual who has applied for the specified posted position for the 2025-2026 school year be approved at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement, provided the school year allows and sponsors are able to hold activities as normal.

<u>ACTIVITY/CLUB (Middle School)</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
Club Hope Brad Olenic (Co-Sponsor)	\$235.00

6. Paraprofessional

It is recommended to hire the following individual to fill the Paraprofessional position as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Support Professional Association (ESPA/PSEA-NEA) collective bargaining agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Lisa Loskoch, PreK Economy Elementary School

7. Professional Employee

It is recommended to retroactively hire Emily Lentz as an Highland Elementary School Learning Support, Emotional Support, Autistic Support, and Life Skills All Grade Levels at a salary of \$50,981.00 (Step 1, Master), effective with the first day of new teacher induction, as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Association AAEA/PSEA Agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening, and PDE certifications if applicable.

8. Mentor Teacher

It is recommended to ratify Susan Parisi as a mentor teacher to Shannon Tatman for the 2024-2025 school year, as per the negotiated agreement.

9. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Cathy Ray as the Ambridge Area Middle School Full-Time Secretary, effective August 11, 2025, with regret.

XII. President's Report

XIII. Superintendent's Report

XIV. Solicitor's Report

XV. Old and New Business

It is now time for old and new business. Any DISTRICT RESIDENT who desires to comment on any business relevant to the Ambridge Area School District should now come forward. Each person must state their first and last name and address prior to speaking. Each person will be allowed three minutes and can speak only once.

XVI. Motion to Adjourn