

**Minutes for the Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Auditorium on Wednesday, December 3, 2025.**

**I. Mrs. Scott called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m.**

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District Board of Directors on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, called to order.

**II. Mrs. Scott asked all present to rise for the Flag salute**

**III. Mrs. Scott read the following 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**

Mr. Valerie Scott, President  
 Mrs. Cathleen Fischer, Vice President  
 Mr. Garrett Kovacevic, Treasurer  
 Mr. Gregory Constantine  
 Mrs. Kathleen Curtis  
 Miss Amy Fitsko  
 Mr. Joshua Gill  
 Mrs. Mary Jo Kehoe  
 Mrs. Kelly Romasco

Others Present:

Dr. Joseph W. Pasquerilla, Superintendent  
 Dr. Amy Filipowski, Assistant Superintendent  
 Mrs. Michelle Amadio, Business Manager / Director of Operations  
 Ms. Megan Turnbull, Solicitor  
 Mrs. June Mueller, Board Secretary

**V. Mrs. Mueller read the following Sunshine Law**

The Board of School Directors will hold an Executive Session at the conclusion of this meeting on Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)
- Matters subject to attorney-client privilege and other confidentiality laws

**VI. Correspondence**

**VII. Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of Wednesday, November 12, 2025, Meet and Discuss Meeting, and Wednesday, November 19th Board Meeting**

Miss Fitsko moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Mrs. Romasco. All in favor.

**VIII. Amendment/Addendum to Agenda/Approval of Agenda**

**IX. Recognition/Presentation****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.

Felicia Mycyk, Ambridge, PA

- Stated the enrollment number in AEDY for the years 2024-2025 and 2025-2026.
- Wanted to know how the decision to send a student to AEDY was made.
- Stated the cost the district pays to send students to AEDY and the cost of transportation
- Noted the handbook should include "Zero Tolerance."
- Why is the district unable to provide a reason for AEDY placement?

**X. Committee Reports****Education and Technology****Mr. Gregory Constantine**1. High School Handbook

It is recommended to approve the revised student handbook to realign the dance attendance policy as recommended by the administration.

**Finance and Budget**1. School District Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly school district bills in the amount of \$2,350,584.87 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,432,247.17 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$79,585.89 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$62,123.44 be paid.

3. Interim Delinquent Tax Collectors Resolution 2025-2026-06

It is recommended to adopt Resolution No. 2025-2026-06, which appoints all Tax Collectors as interim delinquent tax collectors and extends the deadline to file 2025-2026 returns with the Beaver County Tax Claim Bureau until April 20, 2026.

## **Building and Grounds**

### **Athletics**

### **Public Relations**

### **Point of Information:**

#### In-Person Kindergarten and Pre-K Registration Dates, 2026-2027 School Year

Children who turn five by September 1<sup>st</sup> are eligible to register for kindergarten. For the Pre-K Counts Program, we accept three and four-year-olds whose birthday is on or before the first day of school. Online registration is available on our District's website at [www.ambridge.k12.pa.us](http://www.ambridge.k12.pa.us).

#### In-Person Registration Dates

- Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. at Economy Elementary
- Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. at Highland Elementary
- Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. at State Street Elementary

## **Steering and Rules**

### 1. Policy 113.1 – Discipline of Students with Disabilities – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to update Policy 113.1 - *Discipline of Students with Disabilities* - This policy was reviewed with current state and federal legal provisions. The language on reporting of school safety and security incidents was updated based on the terminology changes from the School Code. The provisions addressing coordination with law enforcement agencies and submitting the annual report to the PA Department of Education were also revised, and the legal citation references were updated to align with the current School Code.

### 2. Policy 113.2 – Behavior Support – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to update Policy 113.2 *Behavior Support*- This policy was reviewed with current state and federal legal provisions. The language on reporting of school safety and security incidents was updated based on the terminology changes from the School Code. The provisions addressing coordination with law enforcement agencies and submitting the annual report to the PA Department of Education were also revised, and the legal citation references were updated to align with the current School Code.

### 3. Policy 320 – Freedom of Speech by Employees – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to revise Policy 320 - *Freedom of Speech by Employees* - Detail has been added to this policy to facilitate acknowledgement of the freedom of rights of school employees and the indications as to when such speech may impact efficiency or

constitute a reasonable likelihood of disruption. Any decision in this regard must include consultation with the school solicitor.

4. Policy 718 – *Service Animals in Schools* – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to update Policy 718 - *Service Animals in Schools* to specifically include the only permissible questions a school entity may ask regarding an individual requesting the use of a service animal, as well as those inquiries and requests that a district may NOT ask.

5. Policy 102 – *Academic Standards* – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to update Policy 102 - *Academic Standards* to adopt the new 2025-2026 state standards for Science, Environment, Ecology, Technology, and Engineering across all grade levels, with a planned update next year to include the Personal Finance and Financial Literacy requirements for the 2026-2027 school year.

6. Policy 105 – *Curriculum* – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to update Policy 105 – *Curriculum* to include a new section addressing Special Instruction and Observances to ensure compliance with state and federal laws—such as those mandating Constitution Day, Bill of Rights Week, and various PA historical and environmental observances—that promote civic, historical, and cultural awareness.

7. Policy 122 – *Extracurricular Activities* – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to revise Policy 122 - *Extracurricular Activities* - Authority section states that the Board shall make school facilities, supplies, and equipment available and shall assign staff members for the support of extracurricular activities for students. Such availability and assignment shall be in accordance with the Equal Access Act and other applicable laws, regulations, and Board policies.

8. Policy 122.1 – *Non-School-Sponsored Student Groups* – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to adopt Policy 122.1 - *Non-School-Sponsored Student Groups*. This policy addresses the requirements regarding the provision of Equal Access to non-school-sponsored student groups.

It is important to note that this policy is separate and distinct from the subjects below:

- Extracurricular activities that are sponsored or approved by the Board are governed by Policy 122. Extracurricular Activities.
- Non-school organizations, groups and individuals initiating a request for use of school facilities or dissemination of materials are governed by policies 707. Use of School Facilities and 913. Non-school Organizations/Groups/Individuals.

9. Policy 918 – Title I Parent and Family Engagement – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to revise Policy 918 - *Title I Parent and Family Engagement* to ensure compliance and accountability for federal Title I funds by requiring dated agendas and sign-in sheets for meetings and adding mandated District-Level and School-Level attachments to formalize specific actions taken to engage parents and families.

**Legislative**

**Salary Schedule and Labor Relations**

**Personnel**

**\*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. Retirement

It is recommended to accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Aphrodite Galitsis from her position as the Economy Elementary Principal, effective December 31, 2025, with regret.

2. Retirement

It is recommended to accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Cathy Hopkins from her position as the Accounts Management and Student Registration Secretary, effective January 2, 2026, with regret.

3. ABC Transit Bus Driver/Aide

It is recommended to approve the individuals listed as operators, attendants, and maintenance for ABC Transit, Inc. for the 2025-2026 school year, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Aides

Julia Drewnoski

Ty Funk

Van Drivers

Brett Stokes

4. FMLA

It is recommended that Employee #3146 be approved for a leave of absence under Board Policy 335, Family and Medical Leave, beginning December 3, 2025, not to exceed sixty (60) days.

**XI. President's Report**

**XII. Superintendent's Report**

**XIII. Solicitor's Report**

**XIV. 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**