



# MERCER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



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## FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

February 16, 2026

High School Library

\*\*\*7:30 p.m.\*\*\*

### Work Session

\*\*\*6:45 p.m.\*\*\*

**Executive Session:** *Closed* – Personnel, litigation, and student discipline; *Open* – Agenda.

### Agenda

1. Call to order and flag salute by the President.
2. Recommend approval of the following minutes:
  - Regular Board Meeting, January 26, 2026
  - Minutes from the Curriculum and Extracurricular committee meeting on February 12, 2026.
3. Approve the Treasurer's report for January, all bills as listed, and financial statements as attached.
4. Communications.
5. Board committee reports.
6. Administrative reports.
7. Public comments.

*The Mercer Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, creed, age, handicaps, or national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational or employment policies.*

8. **Personnel:**

**Hire:**

Recommend approval to hire the following additional coaches for the 2026 season, pending clearances.

Walter “Jay” McNulty: Elementary Wrestling - Paid Coach

Buck Baldwin and Lilly Erwin: Softball – Volunteer Coaches

Bryce Kightlinger and Bill Mudrak: Track and Field – Volunteer Coaches

**Educational Staffing Solutions:**

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

9. **Student Travel:**

Recommend approval for the Kindergarten class, approximately 62 students, to travel to OH Wow! Children’s Museum, Youngstown, OH on May 13, 2026. Two buses are requested for transportation. The cost of student admission and bus transportation is being paid for by the PEP Association. There is no expense to the school district.

Recommend approval for Mr. Doug Schmid to accompany the Tech Ed Club to Tessy Automation on March 17, 2026. The cost to the district is a substitute for the day. (\$100)

Recommend approval for Mr. Bill Chess to accompany the students to the Mathfest at Youngstown State University on February 26, 2026. The cost to the district is the use of a school van and substitute for the day. (\$100)

10. **Staff Development:**

Recommend approval for Mrs. Korina Yanak, Mrs. Lydia Sipe, and Ms. Kylie McElrath to attend the Mercer County Speech Round Table on Friday, April 10, 2026. There is no cost to the district.

11. **Facilities:**

Recommend approval for the Mercer PeeWee and Midget Program to use the high school library on March 9 and March 16, 2026 to hold sign-ups. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

Recommend approval for the Choral Boosters to use the Auditorium on March 7, 2026 to hold a fundraiser “Be a Wildcat” for elementary students who will learn a dance routine and participate at the elementary and at the final performance on Saturday. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

12. Recommend approval of the 2026–27 Mercer Area School District calendar, as attached.

13. Through the authority of Act 30 of 1997, Section 1502, subsection (c), recommend that the Mercer Area School Board designate the following dates as local holidays: November 26, 27 & 30, December 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, and 31, 2025, and January 1, 2026; February 15; March 25, 26 & 29; and May 3 and 31, 2026. Schools may only be open on these dates in the event of weather emergency or natural disaster.
14. Recommend approval of the E-Rate Services Agreement from CSIU (Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit) for 2026-27, as attached.
15. Recommend approval for Berkheimer to initiate Electronic Funds Transfers, utilizing Automated Clearing House System (ACH), for Act 511 Tax Funds collected for Mercer Area School District.
16. Recommend approval of a resolution to request funding for Elementary & Middle-High School roof repairs through the Public-School Facility Improvement Grant program, in the amount of \$919,819.00.
17. Recommend approval to accept the General Operating Budget for the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV in the amount of \$4,552,816 for the 2026-27 school year.
18. Recommend approval of the attached Letter of Affiliation between Paoletta Counseling Services and Mercer Area School District, to insure continuation of care and treatment of Mental Health services.
19. Recommend approval of the K-12 Guidance Plan and the K-12 Guidance Curriculum.
20. Recommend approval of the Mercer Middle/High School Academic Handbook for the 2026-27 school year, as attached. (List of changes included)
21. Other business.
22. Adjournment.

<b><i>FYI:</i></b>		
March	2	First Day of Spring Sports Practice (Permitted by PIAA)
March	8	Daylight Savings Time Begins (Spring ahead one hour)
March	12	<i>School Board Committee Meetings, if needed</i>
<b>March</b>	<b>16</b>	<b><i>Next School Board Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.</i></b>