

Minutes for the Meet and Discuss Voting and Non-Voting Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Media Center on Wednesday, February 11, 2026.

I. Mrs. Scott called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 p.m.

The Meet and Discuss Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District is held on Wednesday, February 11, 2026. This meeting is being held to review the agenda for the regular monthly Board Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Media Center.

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. Gregory Constantine
Mrs. Kathleen Curtis
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. Michelle Gannon, Solicitor
Mrs. June Mueller, Board Secretary

V. Mrs. Mueller read the following Sunshine Law

The Board of School Directors held an Executive Session(s) on Wednesday, February 11th to discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)
- Information, strategy, and/or negotiation session relating to the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement
- Matters subject to attorney-client privilege and other confidentiality laws
- Litigation or threatened litigation matters

VI. Correspondence

No Correspondence

VII. Amendments to the Agenda/Approval of the Agenda**Tabled Item 3 under Legislative Committee**

Mrs. Kehoe moved to table Item 3 under Legislative Committee, seconded by Mrs. Fischer. The vote in favor was unanimous.

VIII. Recognition/Presentation**Audit Presentation – Mr. Peter Vancheri of Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood LLP****IX. 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.

Fabiola Gergerich, Ambridge, PA

- Question on the Charter Budget showing under on the Audit Presentation
 - Mr. Vancheri explained the increase was due to higher cyber and brick-and-mortar costs. He further detailed that the total includes the required reporting of Net Pension and PSERS liabilities, calculated as the district's total liability minus its proportional share of assets.

Mr. Gill

- Requested a Board discussion regarding the potential for live streaming future public meetings. He noted that broadcasting meetings would provide greater accessibility for the community and enhance transparency across the District.

X. LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR THIS MEETING**Education and Technology****Mrs. Romasco**1. 2026-2027 School Calendar

It is recommended that the proposed 2026-2027 School Calendar be approved.

2. Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) Title I Agreement

It is recommended to approve a revised Service Agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit to include Our Lady of Sacred Heart.

Mrs. Romasco moved to approve items 1-2, seconded by Mr. Gill. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Finance and Budget**Mr. Kovacevic**1. GSL Government Consulting

It is recommended to approve a proposal from GSL Government Consulting, which provides specialized grant procurement expertise specifically targeting funding for upcoming facility upgrades and roof projects at no initial cost to the district, with fees offset only through secured funding.

Mrs. Romasco moved to approve item 1, seconded by Mrs. Fischer. The vote was unanimous, with Mrs. Scott voting against item 1.

Legislative**Miss Fitsko**1. Beaver County Career and Technology Center Articles of Agreement

It is recommended to approve the Articles of Agreement between the Beaver County Career & Technology Center and the participating Districts.

2. Special School Authority (SSA) Revitalization Resolution 2025-2026-11

It is recommended to adopt Special School Authority (SSA) Revitalization Resolution 2025-2026-11, that the Ambridge Area School Board of School Directors appoint a representative to the Authority's Board, pending final review of the solicitor.

3. **TABELED - Beaver County Special School Authority**

It is recommended that the Ambridge Area School District hereby appoints _____ to represent the Ambridge Area School District as a Board Member of the Beaver County Special School Authority, as per the terms of Resolution 2025-2026-11.

Mrs. Kehoe moved to approve items 1-2, seconded by Mrs. Scott. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Personnel**Mr. Gill**

***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. Professional Employee

It is recommended to retroactively hire Linwood Ecker, as the Ambridge Area High School Spanish Teacher at a salary of \$50,071.00 (Bachelor, Step 1) pro-rated, effective February 2, 2026, 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 Act168 screening, and PDE certifications if applicable.

2. Professional Employee

It is recommended to retroactively hire Joselynn Martin, as the Ambridge Area Middle School Learning and Emotional Support Teacher All Grades at a salary of \$50,071.00 (Bachelor, Step 1) pro-rated, effective February 2, 2026, 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 Act168 screening, and PDE certifications if applicable.

3. Mentor Teacher

It is recommended to approve the following mentor teacher assignment for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years, as per the negotiated agreement:

Mentor Teacher

Jennifer Ax

Sarah White

Samantha King

New Teacher

Hanna Pruchnitzky

Linwood Ecker

Joselynn Martin

4. 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.

Van Drivers

George Davis

Mike Kashiwsky

Joseph Goldsborough

Heather Meyerson

5. Supervised Experiential Learning

It is recommended to approve Jill Loftus, a Pennsylvania State University, World Campus student, to complete a Supervised Experiential Learning at the Ambridge Area School District to receive her master's degree as a Registered Dietitian, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening. Jill will be placed with Leigh Anne Holman.

6. Coach Rescinded

It is recommended to rescind the approval of Savannah Fischer as the Track Assistant Coach.

7. 2025-2026 Club Coaches

It is recommended that the following individuals be approved to fill the designated Club coaching positions 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, provided the school year allows coaches to hold sports as normal.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1) <u>Lacrosse (Club)</u> | <u>Stipend</u> |
| a) Dave Ilko, Head Coach | No Remuneration |
| 2) <u>Girls' Flag Football (Club)</u> | <u>Stipend</u> |
| a) Lethera Harrison, Head Coach | No Remuneration |
| b) Keith Olden, Assistant Coach | No Remuneration |

8. 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>Track</u> | <u>Stipend</u> |
| a) Meghan McNabb, Assistant Coach | \$2,400.00 |
| 2) <u>Softball</u> | |
| a) Casi Freed, Middle School Coach | \$2,050.00 |

9. 2026-2027 Coach

It is recommended that the following individual be approved to fill the designated coaching position for the 2026-2027 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>Girls' Volleyball</u> | <u>Stipend</u> |
| a) Stephanie Benkowski, Head Coach | \$4,300.00 |

10. Economy Elementary Before and After School Childcare

It is recommended to approve Gabriella Godby as a caregiver at the Before and After School Child Care Program at Economy Elementary School at a rate of \$15.00 per hour, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and compliance with Act 168. The hours are 6:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. before school and 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. after school.

11. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Chloe Fouse from her position as Paraprofessional at the high school, effective February 2, 2026, with regret.

12. FMLA

It is recommended that Employee #2823 be approved for a leave of absence under Board Policy 435, Family and Medical Leave, beginning February 16, 2026, not to exceed sixty (60) days.

13. 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 (High School)</u>		<u>SALARY</u>
National Honor Society	Samantha Banks (Co-Sponsor, Prorated)	\$422.22

Mr. Gill moved to approve items 1-3, seconded by Mrs. Romasco. The vote was unanimous, with Mr. Constantine abstaining from all items.

Mr. Gill moved to approve items 4-13, as amended, seconded by Mrs. Scott. The vote was unanimous, with Mrs. Fischer abstaining from item 6.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS (NON-VOTING AGENDA ITEMS)

Education and Technology

Mrs. Romasco

1. Pennsylvania State Athletic Directors Association (PSADA) Conference

It is recommended that Anthony Amadio be authorized to attend the 58th Annual PSADA Conference to be held in Hershey, PA, from March 17 – 20, 2026. The conference focuses on the management and operations of athletic events. All expenses (registration, fees, travel, lodging, meals) will be paid as per Board Policy 331 – Job-Related Expenses. The approximate cost will be \$1,900.00.

2. PA TSA Leadership Conference

It is recommended that Ben Holmes, Kristin Holmes, Pamela Green, Zach Dugan, Scott Setzenfand be authorized to take students to the local chapter of the PA Technology Student Association Conference, in which students will compete in a wide variety of technology and S.T.E.M. related areas at the Pennsylvania Technology Student Association State Leadership Conference. The event will be held April 15 through April 18, 2026, at Seven Springs Mountain Resort. Students who attend PA TSA States will be reimbursed as per Board Policy 240 (50% of travel cost or \$250.00 per student, whichever is less) for a maximum total of \$3,000.00. The teachers will be reimbursed at the contracted rate with an expense report attached, which covers registration, fees, travel, lodging, and meals.

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

It is recommended that the monthly school district bills in the amount of \$1,857,580.71 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,334,799.24 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$90,387.36 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$46,898.65 be paid.

3. 2024-2025 Final Auditor's Report

It is recommended that the 2024-2025 final auditor's report be accepted.

4. Repository Settlement

It is recommended to approve the Sale of Property from the Beaver County Repository of Unsold Property for the following properties:

- a) Tax Parcel 64-002-0824.000, located at 624 Howard Street, Ambridge, PA, for the bid amount of \$1,553.00, to be purchased by A Home U, LLC, Betty Miller.
- b) Tax Parcel 64-009-0555.000, located at 2407 Duss Avenue, Ambridge, PA, for the bid amount of \$1,511.00, to be purchased by Richard Ferreira.

5. Tax Exoneration

It is recommended to approve tax exoneration regarding the collection of Real Estate Tax, conditioned upon mutual municipal and county reciprocal exonerations for the same years, relevant to the following properties:

- a) Tax Parcel 64-002-0824.000, located at 624 Howard Street, Ambridge, PA, for the real estate taxes from 2021 to present, to be purchased by A Home U, LLC, Betty Miller.
- b) Tax Parcel 64-009-0555.000, located at 2407 Duss Avenue, Ambridge, PA, for the real estate taxes for 2026, to be purchased by Richard Ferreira.

6. Tax Exoneration

It is recommended to approve tax exoneration regarding the collection of Real Estate, conditioned upon mutual municipal and county reciprocal exonerations for the tax year 2024, relevant to the following properties, which were purchased by the Baden Methodist Church:

- a) Tax Parcel 1300502190000, located at 500 State Street, Baden PA
- b) Tax Parcel 1300502150000, located at 433 Dippold Avenue, Baden, PA
- c) Tax Parcel 1300505010000, located at 420 Dippold Avenue, Baden, PA
- d) Tax Parcel 1300505000000, located at 420 Dippold Street Hall, Baden, PA

7. Budget Transfer

It is recommended to approve the Theater Accounts budget transfers for February 2026.

Building and Grounds

Mr. Constantine

1. Field House Drainage System

It is recommended to approve the estimate from Bufalini's Plumbing Solutions, LLC, for repairs to the primary drainage system in the Field House visitor locker room. This is at a total cost of \$5,898.00.

2. High School Ice Maker

It is recommended to approve the quote from Tri-State Equipment Company to purchase an ice maker for the high school cafeteria. This is at a total cost of \$5,450.00 through state contracting pricing (Co-Stars).

Athletics

Mrs. Fischer

Public Relations

Miss Fitsko

Point of Information - Bridger Hall of Honor

Each year, the Ambridge Area School District proudly recognizes distinguished graduates by inducting them into the **Bridger Hall of Honor**. This tribute is reserved for those who have reached the heights of their professions, demonstrated a profound commitment to serving others, or earned significant state and national accolades.

If you would like to nominate a graduate for this distinction, the 2026 application forms are now available on the district website.

Please ensure all submissions are completed and turned in by the end of the day on Monday, March 9, 2026.

Steering and Rules

Mrs. Kehoe

Legislative

Miss Fitsko

XII. President's Address

Mrs. Scott extended her congratulations to both the Girls and Boys Varsity Basketball teams on their recent seasons and offered best wishes to the Wrestling team as they head into their upcoming competitions.

XIII. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pasquerilla extended his congratulations to all winter sports programs for their hard work and achievements this season. He noted his anticipation for the upcoming spring sports schedule and the high school musical, encouraging the community to support our student-athletes and performers.

XIV. Solicitor's Report

Nothing to 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. This period for public comment prior to the standing committee reports will be limited to one-half hour.

Denise Manganello, Baden, PA

- Expressed concerns regarding emails sent to the Board that were reportedly not received or acknowledged.
- Recommended that the Board take a more active role in reviewing student policies, graduation requirements, and the Program of Studies to ensure they are formally Board-approved.
- Noted that errors within the Program of Studies can have a direct negative impact on student progress and scheduling.
- Advocated for the District to honor and accept credits earned through external educational institutions.
- Urged the District to expand "College in the High School" offerings to provide students with more competitive opportunities.
- Highlighted specific programs, such as Arizona State University, which allow students to earn college credits for a \$25.00 fee.
- Emphasized the need for the District to provide more College in High School courses.

Dr. Pasquerilla

- Will direct the Technology Department to investigate the reported issues regarding the Board's email delivery system to ensure consistent communication.
- Reaffirmed that the District currently offers a variety of Advanced Placement (AP) and College in the High School (CHS) courses.
- Noted his strong support for concurrent and dual-enrollment opportunities and confirmed the administration is actively exploring additional CHS course options for students.
- Clarified the District's stance on external credits, stating that for such credits to be recognized, courses should involve collaboration with or be taught by District faculty.
- Agrees on the importance of CHS offerings.
- Cautioned that accepting credits from external sources without District-led instruction or collaboration can lead to significant administrative and curriculum-alignment challenges.
- Will review the District's current CHS and AP course offerings.
- The administration will evaluate these courses to ensure they remain competitive, align with faculty collaboration standards, and continue to provide students with diverse collegiate-level opportunities within the District.

Mrs. Romasco

- Expressed agreement with Dr. Pasquerilla's assessment, noting the ongoing and productive partnership between the Board and the administration in expanding College in the High School (CHS) opportunities.
- Highlighted the District's progress over the last four years, specifically noting that nine additional CHS courses have been successfully integrated into the curriculum during that period.

Mr. Constantine

- Expressed agreement with Mrs. Manganello regarding the potential benefits of allowing students to receive credit for courses taken through external educational institutions.
- Inquired about the District's current national rankings and performance metrics.
- Confirmed that he is currently collaborating with the administration to develop and implement additional Math College in the High School (CHS) courses and exploring other potential collegiate-level pathways for students.

Fabiola Gergerich, Ambridge, PA

- Inquired regarding Legislative Item 3, to confirm that the appointment for the Beaver County Special School Authority would be a Board Member rather than a community representative.
- Expressed support for the proposal to live-stream Board meetings.
- Emphasized that college is not the appropriate path for every student and noted that skilled trades are currently a "dying skill".
- Advocated for exploring a "European-style" educational model where students can begin specializing in a trade or profession earlier in their schooling.
- Questioned the validity of ranking Beaver County schools against national standards.

XVI. Motion to Adjourn

At approximately 8:55 p.m., Mrs. Scott moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Gill. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Mrs. June Mueller
Board Secretary**