

**AMBRIDGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEET AND DISCUSS BOARD MEETING
VOTING AND NON-VOTING AGENDA**

May 13, 2026

7:00 p.m.

High School Auditorium

I. Call to Order

The Meet and Discuss Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District is held on Wednesday, May 13, 2026. This meeting is being held to review the agenda for the regular monthly Board Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

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(s) on Wednesday, May 13th to discuss:

- Personnel matter(s)
- Information, strategy, and/or negotiation session relating to the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement
- Considering the purchase or lease of real estate
- Matters subject to attorney-client privilege and other confidentiality laws
- Litigation or threatened litigation matters
- Sensitive public safety issues
- Salary schedule and labor relations

VI. Correspondence

VII. Amendments to the Agenda/Approval of the Agenda

VIII. Recognition/Presentation

Beaver County Academic Games League

Tonight, we are proud to recognize a group of students who have demonstrated exceptional academic talent, dedication, and perseverance through their participation in the Beaver County Academic Games League.

The Academic Games challenge students to think critically, apply advanced problem-solving skills, and compete at a high level against peers from across the region. Success in this league requires not only strong academic ability but also focus, teamwork, and determination.

First, we would like to recognize our students who earned **one qualifying score** at local tournaments. Achieving a qualifying score is a significant accomplishment and reflects a high level of academic excellence. We congratulate these students for their hard work and commitment.

Highland Elementary 5th Grade

Jacey Zaraspe - Presidents

Marielle Cordes - Current Events

State Street Elementary 5th Grade

Leeland Wood - Current Events

Middle School

6th Grade

Jordan Ax - Equations

7th Grade

Ava Grace Akella - Presidents

Jack D'Emilio - Presidents

Jace Singh - Propaganda

Johannah Hustead - Equations

8th Grade

Simon Singh - Current Events

Next, we are especially proud to recognize three **students who earned two qualifying scores**, an achievement that invited them to compete at the **National Academic Games Tournament**. This distinction places them among the top competitors in our region, and we commend them for reaching this elite level.

Economy Elementary 5th Grade

Ava Burns - Propaganda & Current Events

Middle School

6th Grade

Quinn Olenic - Propaganda & Presidents

7th Grade

Mia Paganie - Propaganda & Presidents

Additionally, we had seven students who received two qualifying scores and **competed at the national level**, representing our school and community with pride. Competing at Nationals is an extraordinary experience that requires not only academic skill but also confidence, resilience, and a willingness to challenge oneself among the best students in the country. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and the way they represented us.

Economy Elementary 5th Grade

Taylor Gilbert - Propaganda & Theme

Tegan Hokenbrough - Current & Presidents

Cameron Brodmerkel - Theme & Presidents

Middle School

6th Grade

James Pielin - Equations & Current Events

Luca Fabanich - Theme & Presidents

Mason Schweikert - Propaganda, Theme & Current Events

This is Mason's 2nd year attending Nationals, and he qualified for the most events in the district.

Finally, we would like to offer special recognition to one of our 8th-grade students, **Jayda Palmer**, who has demonstrated remarkable consistency and dedication by qualifying for and attending the National Academic Games Tournament for **three consecutive years**. This level of sustained excellence is truly outstanding and serves as an inspiration to others.

8th Grade

Jayda Palmer - Propaganda & Equations

Math 24 Competition

We are proud to recognize our students who participated in the Beaver County Math 24 Competition. This is an event that challenges students to think quickly, apply mental math strategies, and demonstrate strong number sense under pressure. Competitors must use all four numbers on a card to make 24 using any combination of operations, requiring both accuracy and speed.

We are especially excited to share that two of our 8th-grade students advanced to the **semi-final round**, an impressive accomplishment given the high level of competition from across the county. Their success reflects not only strong mathematical ability but also perseverance, focus, and confidence in problem-solving.

We congratulate these students on their outstanding achievement and for representing our school so well. Congratulations to **Jayda Palmer** and **Adam Dunn**!

Middle School Student of the Month

Mia Paganie, 7th Grade

Technology Purchase Presentation – Kristen Ferguson

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.

X. LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR THIS MEETING

Finance and Budget

Mr. Kovacevic

1. Final Budget for the 2026-2027 School Year

It is recommended to approve Resolution 2026-2027-01 adopting the Final General Operating Fund Budget for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year in the amount of \$66,668,042.00. The final budget includes no tax increase, and the millage rate complies with the reassessment anti-windfall provisions of Act 1 of 2006, as amended.

2. Resolution – Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion

It is recommended that Resolution 2026-2027-02 to implement the Act 1 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion be adopted.

3. Resolution Providing for Real Estate Installment Payment

It is recommended to approve Resolution 2026-2027-03, a resolution authorizing the collection of real estate taxes during the 2026-2027 fiscal year in installments.

Education and Technology

Mrs. Romasco

1. Remote Learning Days

It is recommended to approve the use of Remote Learning Days for the 2026-2027 school year as an alternate form of instruction in place of a day otherwise cancelled due to an emergency. PDE will count these days as a full day of school.

2. Flexible Instructional Days (FID) Application

It is recommended that the FID Application be approved for a three-year term beginning with the 2026–2027 school year, pending state approval. These days are available to be used as an alternate form of instruction in place of a day otherwise cancelled due to an emergency.

3. Ambridge Area School District Modified 2026-2027 School Calendar

It is recommended to approve the revised 2026–2027 school calendar to reflect the updated graduation ceremony date:

- Wednesday, June 2...Graduation Day.

4. Technology Purchase

It is recommended to approve a quote from CDW-G to purchase seventy-two (72) Asus Chromebooks at a cost of \$34,802.64 through PEPPM pricing. This purchase will be funded from the High School CSI Grant, and the previously approved seventy-seven (77) Dell Chromebooks will now be paid for out of the General Fund.

5. Technology Purchase

It is recommended to approve a quote from Communications Consulting, Inc. to purchase fifty (50) Dell Pro Towers through PEPPM pricing to replace outdated desktops in the High School Technology Education labs at a total cost of \$94,009.50 through PEPPM pricing. This will be paid out of the 2026-2027 budget.

6. Technology Purchase

It is recommended to approve a quote from CDW-G to purchase five hundred and twenty-three (523) Asus Chromebooks at a total cost of \$240,449.25 through PEPPM pricing. This will be paid out of the 2025-2026 budget.

7. Technology Purchase

It is recommended to approve a quote from Communications Consulting, Inc. to purchase two hundred fifty-one (251) 8008G Alcatel desk phones to replace old, unsupported 8012 desk phones, including programming and installation at a total cost of \$36,328.00 through PEPPM pricing. This will be paid out of the 2026-2027 budget.

Steering and Rules

Mrs. Kehoe

1. Policy 202- Eligibility of Nonresident Students – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to update Policy 202 – *Eligibility of Nonresident Students* to include the requirements for disenrollment of a nonresident student. Also, the legal citation, regarding National Guard or Reserve parent/guardian and student support, was added to the policy where applicable.

2. Policy 209.2 – Diabetes Management – third and final reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to update Policy 209.2 – *Diabetes Management* is recommended for legal liability purposes, to provide parents/guardians of incoming elementary school students and students entering grade six with the Type 1 Diabetes Fact Sheet developed by the PA Department of Health on the school district's website.

3. Policy 234 – Pregnant/Parenting/Married Students – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to revise Policy 234 – *Pregnant/Parenting/Married Students* to provide equal access and reasonable modifications to the district's educational program for a student experiencing pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions, or parenting.

4. Policy 247 – Hazing – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to revise Policy 247 *Hazing* to more broadly reference the responsibilities for coordinating with the Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator when reports of alleged hazing may also be impacted by laws, regulations, and policies addressing discrimination/harassment.

5. Policy 252 – Dating Violence- Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to revise Policy 252 – *Dating Violence* to more broadly reference the responsibilities for coordinating with the Title IX Coordinator when reports of dating violence may also be impacted by laws, regulations, and policies addressing discrimination/harassment.

6. Policy 317 – Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to update Policy 317 – *Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures* to reference the Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators.

7. Policy 317.1 – Educator Misconduct – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to adopt Policy 317.1 – *Educator Misconduct* to promote the integrity of the education profession and to create a climate within district schools that fosters ethical conduct and practice.

8. Policy 336 – Personal Necessity Leave – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to revise Policy 336 – *Personal Necessity Leave* to address situations in which a paid or unpaid leave or absence may be part of an accommodation under the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act, or other applicable laws and regulations.

9. Policy 807 – Opening Exercises/Moment of Silence/Flag Displays – Third and Final Reading

It is recommended, as a third and final reading, to update Policy 807 – *Opening Exercises/Moment of Silence/Flag Displays* to include a provision for a moment of silence on the anniversary of September 11th.

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. Elementary Counselor

It is recommended to approve Cory Bailey as an Elementary Counselor for the 2026-2027 school year. Salary and benefits funded through the anticipated Ready to Learn Grant Adequacy Funding. **This position is contingent on the grant funding and will be for the 2026-2027 school year only.**

2. 2026-2027 District Course and Section Adjustments

A. It is recommended to hereby approve the following position curtailments at the close of the 2025-2026 school year:

1. Ambridge Area High School Spanish Teacher
2. Ambridge Area Middle School Exploratory Language Teacher, All Grade Levels

B. It is recommended to approve the alterations of the following position for the 2026-2027 school year:

1. Ambridge Area High School Spanish Teacher/Ambridge Area Middle School Exploratory Language Teacher, All Grade Levels
2. District K-12 English as a Second Language (ESL) Teacher

3. Paraprofessional

It is recommended to retroactively hire the following individual as a paraprofessional at the prospective building, 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.

Connor Bukoskey, Middle School – effective April 28, 2026

4. Extended School Year Services

It is recommended to approve the following individuals to provide Extended School Year services to students from Monday, July 13, 2026, through Thursday, July 16, 2026, and Monday, July 20, 2026 through Thursday, July 23, 2026, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Highland Elementary and the High School at the rate of pay as per the collective bargaining agreement (with an additional hour of planning time per day for the teacher).

Emily Lentz, Teacher
Kamala Shadd, Paraprofessional

5. Summer Credit Recovery Program

It is recommended to approve the following teachers as instructors for the Summer Credit Recovery Program to be held Monday, June 15, 2026, to Friday, June 26, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Teachers will be paid at the contracted rate.

Christina Briola, English and Social Studies
Shane Newhouse, Social Studies
Lea Ritz, English
Ty Baker, Math
Megan Racioppo, Health and Physical Education
Terri Moon-Kutzavitch, Science
Pam Green, Science

6. Retirement

It is recommended to approve the resignation due to retirement of LaVonna Wisniewski from her position as a Five-Hour Cook at Economy Elementary, effective June 5, 2026, with regret.

7. Retirement

It is recommended to approve the resignation due to retirement of Amy Hoback from her position as a Third Grade Teacher at State Street Elementary, effective June 5, 2026, with regret.

8. FMLA

It is recommended that Employee #2719 be approved for an intermittent leave of absence under Board Policy 535, Family and Medical Leave, beginning April 14, 2026, not to exceed sixty (60) days.

9. FMLA

It is recommended that Employee #3100 be approved for a leave of absence under Board Policy 535, Family and Medical Leave, beginning June 17, 2026, not to exceed sixty (60) days.

10. 2026-2027 Coaches

It is recommended that the following individuals be approved to fill the designated coaching positions 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>Varsity Cheer</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Amanda Palshaw, Head Coach	\$4,600.00
b) Amanda Palshaw, Competitive Head Coach	\$4,600.00
2) <u>Football</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Patrick Marsilio, Middle School Assistant Coach	\$3,650.00
b) Shane Deblock, Middle School Volunteer Coach	No remuneration
3) <u>Girls' Soccer</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Ashley Braswell, Assistant Coach	\$2,700.00
b) Sarah Burns, Volunteer Coach	No remuneration
c) Madison Edwards, Volunteer Coach	No remuneration
4) <u>Boys' Golf</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Zach Dugan, Assistant Coach	\$1,350.00
5) <u>Girls' Golf</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Brittany Graft, Assistant Coach	\$1,350.00

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS (NON-VOTING AGENDA ITEMS)

Education and Technology

Mrs. Romasco

1. 2026 Pre-K Counts Grantee Conference Meeting

It is recommended that Jo Ann Hoover be approved to attend the 2026 Annual Pre-K Counts Grantee Meeting being held at Blair County Convention Center, Altoona, PA, from May 26 - May 27, 2026. The conference will provide professional development to enhance program quality and management. All expenses (registration, fees, travel, lodging, meals) will be paid as per Board Policy 331, Job-Related Expenses. The approximate cost will be \$650.00 to be paid through pre-K funds.

2. Pennsylvania School-Based ACCESS Program (SBAP)

It is recommended to approve the Pennsylvania School-Based ACCESS Program (SBAP) Local Education Agency Agreement for the 2026-2027 school year.

3. Special Education Out-of-District Placements

It is recommended to approve the following agreements with the Special Education Out-of-District Placements for the 2026-2027 school year, pending review by the Administrators and the Solicitor:

1) Outside Special Education Placement

- a) Adelphoi School
- b) Bradley Center
- c) BCRC, Inc.
- d) CARES Transitions
- e) CLASS Academy (Private)
- f) DePaul Institute
- g) Easter Seals
- h) Holy Family Institute
- i) MHY Longmore Academy
- j) The School at McGuire Memorial
- k) New Horizon School
- l) Pressley Ridge Day School
- m) Pressley Ridge School for Autism
- n) St. Stephen's Academy/Glade Run
- o) Watson Education Center
- p) Watson Institute (WISCA)
- q) Western PA School for the Blind
- r) Western PA School for the Deaf
- s) Wesley Spectrum Academy

2) Mental Health Facilities

- a) Clarion Psychiatric Services
- b) Abraxas
- c) Pathways Adolescent Center
- d) Persius
- e) Sharon Regional Health System
- f) Southwood
- g) Taylor Diversion Program
- h) Western Psychiatric
- i) MHY Family Services

3) Detention Center

- a) Keystone Adolescent Center/Charter School
- b) Adelphoi Village

4. Beaver County Children and Youth Services Transportation

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 for the 2026-2027 school year.

5. Geneva College Direct Admission Agreement

It is recommended to approve a three (3) year Direct Admission Agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and Geneva College for the purpose of providing qualifying seniors with direct admission opportunities, **pending Solicitor's review.**

6. Mental Health Support

It is recommended to approve a contract between the Ambridge Area School District and the Prevention Network for five (5) days a week at the High School, two (2) days a week at the Middle School, and one (1) day a week at each elementary school for the 2026-2027 school year to provide mental health support at a cost of \$113,000.00.

7. Alternative Education/Private Academic Services Agreement

It is recommended to approve the purchase of eight (8) Alternative Education seats through the CLASS Academy Program for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost of \$19,250.00 per seat, and it is furthermore recommended to approve the purchase of four (4) Private Academic seats for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost of \$24,000.00 per seat.

8. Psychology and Learning Center

It is recommended to ratify a Memorandum of Understanding between the Psychology and Learning Center and the Ambridge Area School District to provide neurological evaluations, outpatient therapy and medical management of district students at no cost to the district, **subject to final review of solicitor.**

9. PSBA Policy Services Member Agreement

It is recommended to approve the PSBA Policy Service Member Agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and the Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) for policy development, maintenance, licensing, and related policy services and resources, **pending solicitor review.**

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 \$4,754,829.85 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,343,673.99 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$101,674.05 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$62,585.63 be paid.

3. The PIMS People, LLC

It is recommended to approve a renewal agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and The PIMS People, LLC, to provide PIMS Administrators to the district, ensuring accurate data collection and reporting within the PIMS system for a total cost of \$2,250.00 per month, beginning July 1, 2026, and ending on June 30, 2027.

4. Audit Engagement

It is recommended to approve an agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and Hosack, Specht, Muetzel and Wood, LLP for School District Financial and Real Estate Tax Collector Audits, at a cost of \$24,200.00 for the Year Ended June 30, 2027; \$24,900.00 for the Year Ended June 30, 2028; \$25,650.00 for the Year Ended June 30, 2029.

5. Student/Athletic Insurance

- a) It is recommended that the United States Fire Insurance Company (PSBA endorsed) be approved for **voluntary** student insurance coverage for the 2026-2027 school year beginning August 1, 2026. Goodwin & Gruber Agency will act as the insurance broker. The medical limits are \$250,000.00 for a one-year period. The rate for school-time coverage is \$22.50 and \$90.00 for 24-hour coverage.
- b) It is recommended that the United States Fire Insurance Company be approved for student **athletic and field trip** coverage at a cost of \$12,507.00 to insure interscholastic athletes, band, cheerleaders, and field trips. The medical limit for sports and field trips is \$1,000,000.00 with a two-year benefit period. Plan 1, which pays all medical expenses “Usual & Customary,” will be used.

6. 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 64-002-0819.000, located at 640 Howard Street, Lots 248 and 249, Ambridge, PA, for the bid amount of \$2,621.75, to be purchased by Richard Ferreira.

Building and Grounds

Mr. Constantine

1. State Street Elementary Dishwasher Repair

It is recommended to approve a quote from Mark A. Redinger Plumbing for dishwasher plumbing repairs at State Street Elementary. This is at a total cost of \$9,500.00.

2. Middle School Curb and Walkway Repair

It is recommended to approve a quote from 3D Murin Construction to repair the Middle School curb and walkway. This is at a total cost of \$24,294.00.

3. Head Start of Beaver County Lease Agreement

It is recommended to approve the Lease Agreement with the Head Start of Beaver County Program, effective June 1, 2026, through August 31, 2027, **subject to final solicitor review**.

Athletics

Mrs. Fischer

1. Overnight Boys' Soccer

It is recommended that David Stuebgen, the Boys' Soccer Head Coach, be authorized to take the high school Boys' Varsity Soccer Team to Westminster College, New Wilmington, PA, to attend the Westminster Griffin's Men's Soccer Elite ID Camp from July 31 – August 2, 2026. All expenses will be covered through fundraising, with no cost to the district. Parents and/or guardians will be required to sign permission and release forms. Chaperones will be required to have current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Public Relations

Miss Fitsko

Steering and Rules

Mrs. Kehoe

Legislative

Miss Fitsko

1. Board of School Directors of the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit (BVIU) Mail Ballot

It is recommended that the 2026 mail ballot be cast for the 2026-2027 Board of School Directors of the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit. The term of the Board of School Directors of the BVIU elected by this ballot shall be for three (3) years beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2029, as provided in the School Code.

2. The Beaver County Vocational-Technical School Authority Resolution

It is recommended to approve a Resolution for the revival of the Beaver County Vocational-Technical School Authority.

3. Beaver County Area Vocational-Technical Authority

It is recommended to approve the filing of the Municipal Statement of Revival.

Salary Schedule and Labor Relations

Mrs. Curtis

XII. President's Address

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. This period for public comment prior to the standing committee reports will be limited to one-half hour.

XVI. Motion to Adjourn