

Minutes for the Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Auditorium on Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

I. Mrs. Fischer called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m.

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District Board of Directors is called to order on Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

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

Highland Elementary Student Council

Bayani Strong
Madison Chandler
Dutchess Coleman
Marielle Cordes
Aurora Hinklin
Jacey Zaraspe

III. Mrs. Fischer 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
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. 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, April 15th to discuss:

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

VI. Correspondence

No correspondence

VII. Motion to accept or correct the Minutes of Wednesday, March 11th Meet and Discuss Voting and Non-Voting Meeting and Wednesday, March 18th Board Meeting

Miss Fitsko moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Kovacevic. All in favor.

VIII. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report dated: March 2026

Miss Fitsko moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Mrs. Kehoe. All in favor.

IX. Amendment/Addendum to Agenda/Approval of Agenda

No amendment/addendum to the agenda.

X. Recognition/Presentation**Varsity Girls' Basketball**

Welcome, Mr. Nate Smith – Head Coach

PMEA Region 1 Band Festival

Congratulations to Lana Holcomb and Samantha Waschak for an awesome performance at the PMEA Region 1 Band Festival this past weekend. The festival includes students from Beaver, Butler, Mercer, Lawrence, Greene, Fayette, Westmoreland, and Allegheny counties.

Lana placed 7th on Tuba, and Samantha placed 1st on Bass Clarinet. Samantha will continue to the PMEA All-State Festival next month at Kalahari Resort, Poconos.

Congratulations to all and good luck to Samantha!

Baden Women's Club Literature Short Story Narrative

Congratulations to the Baden Women's Club Literature Short Story Narrative Winners in grades 3–5, under the direction of Stacey Brock, Grade 5 teacher at State Street Elementary. We celebrate the creativity, imagination, and outstanding storytelling of all participating students—well done to our young authors on this impressive achievement!

Bryce Douds – 1st Place and moving on to States

Wyatt Bayer - 2nd Place

Roscia Quib-Chub - 3rd Place

Alivia Hysong – 4th Place

Alyssa Mihalek - 4th Place

Kennedy Hines-Lucas - 4th Place

Congratulations to all and good luck to Bryce!

Baden Design a Banner Contest Winner

Congratulations to the following student for winning the Baden America Design-a-Banner Contest. This outstanding achievement brings recognition to both the student and our school community. The student's artwork will be proudly displayed throughout Baden during the upcoming festival.

Kennedy Hines-Lucas

6th Grade Girls' Basketball Team

Congratulations to the 6th-grade girls' basketball team for their outstanding achievement in becoming league champions. Congratulations to the team, coaches, and families for their hard work, dedication, and sportsmanship throughout the season!

Layla Ravello
Milyn Hayes
Aubreyonna Delon-Delugi
Lyrikk Hines
Mela Galley
Danyica Ridout
Carly Belkot
Ky'aer Motton

March Students of the Month**High School Student of the Month**

Halle Pruszenski, 12th Grade
Isabella Rivera, 11th Grade
Taylor Samarco, 10th Grade
Emma Pinchot, 9th Grade

High School Extra Effort Award

Nevaeh Cox, 12th Grade
Carter Mason, 11th Grade
Claire Marchionda, 10th Grade
Desirae Pearce, 9th Grade

Middle School Student of the Month

Landon Hokenbrough 8th Grade
Nathan Grimm, 7th Grade
Serenity Bartlett, 6th Grade

Economy Elementary Student of the Month

Isabelle Ramalho Poubel Rodrigues, 5th Grade

Highland Elementary Student of the Month

Joel Chandler, 2nd Grade

State Street Elementary Student of the Month

Bryce Douds, 5th Grade

March Employee of the Month**High School Employee of the Month**

Diana Marshall, Custodian

Middle School Employee of the Month

Chris Ceratti, Chorus Teacher and Lead Teacher

Economy Elementary

Erica Schmidt, 5th Grade Teacher

Highland Elementary

Jessie Wehler, STEAM Teacher

State Street Elementary

Steven Lavery, Maintenance

XI. 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 Second 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.

No Comments

XII. Committee Reports**Education and Technology**

Mrs. Romasco

1. AOT Service Agreement Renewal

It is recommended to renew the service agreement with Associated Occupational Therapy for the 2026-2027 school year, at a minimal increase.

2. Precision HR Solutions

It is recommended to approve a one (1) year extension agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and Precision HR Solutions, Inc. The term of this agreement shall end on June 30, 2027, **subject to solicitor review**. This is at no increase in cost.

3. Special Education Plan

It is recommended that the Special Education Plan Report for July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2029, be approved and submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

4. 2026 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) All-State Festival

It is recommended to approve Stephen Rodgers to take a high school student to participate in the 2026 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association - PMEA All-State Festival and Annual In-Service Conference. The Conference will be held April 22 – April 25, 2026, at Kalahari Resort and Convention Center, Pocono Manor, PA. The student will be reimbursed as per Board Policy 240 – *Student Contest/Competitions* (50% of travel cost or \$250.00 per student, whichever is less) for a maximum total of \$3,000.00. The teacher will be reimbursed for all expenses (registration, fees, travel, lodging, and meals) as per Board Policy 431, *Job-Related Expenses*. This will be at an approximate cost of \$1,600.00.

5. Carlow University Affiliation Agreement

It is recommended to approve an Affiliation Agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and Carlow University for its College of Health and Wellness students to seek clinical practicum experience within the district, **pending the solicitor's review**.

Mrs. Romasco moved to approve items 1-5, seconded by Miss Fitsko. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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 \$2,926,854.17 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$1,323,873.41 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$102,267.59 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$59,962.09 be paid.

3. 2026-2027 Beaver County Career & Technology Center Operating Budget

It is recommended to approve the 2026-2027 Beaver County Career & Technology Center Operating Budget for \$8,512,832.00. It is further recommended that the Board President and Board Secretary be authorized to execute the BCCTC Resolution Form.

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 12-006-0101.009, located at 0 Oak Aly (Lot), Ambridge, PA, for the bid amount of \$2,109.75, to be purchased by John Swaray.

5. Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA)

It is recommended to approve the renewal dues for the 2026-2027 Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) membership for a total of \$16,681.63.

6. Ambulance Service

It is recommended to approve an agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and the Non-Profit Emergency Services of Beaver County, Medic Rescue, for a period of one year commencing on July 1, 2026, at an annual fee of \$3,800.00. This is at a slight increase in cost.

Miss Fitsko moved to approve items 1-6, seconded by Mrs. Romasco. Mr. Gill voted against item 4.

Building and Grounds

Dr. Constantine

Point of Information:

Drum Corps International Ensembles

Ambridge Area High School will be hosting the Drum Corps International ensembles on July 28 - 29, 2026, and on August 1 - 2, 2026.

Athletics

Mrs. Fischer

Public Relations

Miss Fitsko

Steering and Rules

Mrs. Kehoe

1. Policy 202- Eligibility of Nonresident Students – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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- Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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 – Second Reading

It is recommended, as a second 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.

Mrs. Kehoe moved to approve items 1-9, seconded by Miss Fitsko. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Legislative

Miss Fitsko

Salary Schedule and Labor Relations**Mrs. Curtis**1. Ambridge Area Education Support Professional Association Agreement

It is recommended to approve the agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and the Ambridge Area Education Support Professional Association ESPA/PSEA-NEA for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2031.

2. Memorandum of Understanding

It is recommended that the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ambridge Area School District and the Ambridge Area Education Support Professional Association ESPA/PSEA-NEA regarding a four-day work week for the summer of 2026, be approved.

3. Ambridge Area Education Association Agreement

It is recommended to approve the agreement between the Ambridge Area School District and the Ambridge Area Education Association for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2031.

4. 2026-2027 Head and Assistant Coaches Salary Stipend Adjustment

It is recommended that the salary stipends for all head coaches and assistant coaches previously hired for the 2026–2027 school year be adjusted to the rates established in the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective July 1, 2026.

Mr. Kovacevic moved to approve items 1-4, seconded by Miss Fitsko. 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. 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>Football</u> | <u>Stipend</u> |
| a) Marlon Kittrell, Volunteer Coach | No remuneration |
| b) Shawn West, Middle School Volunteer Coach | No remuneration |
| c) Marlon Kittrell, Middle School Volunteer Coach | No remuneration |

2) <u>Boys' Soccer</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Jon Miller, Volunteer Coach	No remuneration
b) Nate Hokenbrough, Volunteer Coach	No remuneration
3) <u>Girls' Tennis</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a) Ty Baker, Assistant Coach	\$1,050.00

2. Custodian

It is recommended to hire Andrew Doyle as a full-time custodian at Economy Elementary School, as per the terms of the Local 248 Ambridge Area School Employees, AFSCME – AFL – CIO negotiated agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

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.

Paula Christian: Van Driver

Karolina Cox: Van Driver

Kim Hanshaw: Bus Driver

Earl Kammerdeiner: Bus Driver

Patricia Roberts, Van Driver

Barbara Luff, Sub Bus

James Luff, Sub Aide

4. Posted Positions: Club/ Activity

It is recommended that the following individuals who have applied for the specified posted positions 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.

ACTIVITY/CLUB (Middle School)

Dungeons and Dragons	Michael Daugherty	<u>SALARY</u> \$156.67 (pro-rated)
Student Council	Brittany Graft	\$156.67 (pro-rated)

Mr. Gill moved to approve items 1-4, seconded by Mrs. Romasco. The vote in favor was unanimous.

XIII. **President's Address**

Vice President Mrs. Fischer congratulated all of the students recognized during the meeting. She noted that she looks forward to these monthly student recognitions, as she deeply values their hard work. Additionally, Mrs. Fischer extended her gratitude to Dr. Pasquerilla for negotiating the collective bargaining agreements, emphasizing that the ongoing hard work does not go unnoticed. She concluded by stating she is proud to be called a Bridger and also thanked the union representatives for their hard work with the negotiations.

XIV. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pasquerilla congratulated all of the staff and students recognized during the meeting, noting how wonderful it is to hear about the various awards. He extended a warm welcome to the new head basketball coach, Mr. Smith. Additionally, Dr. Pasquerilla commended the middle school spring concert and remarked that it was a nice day to see some of the outdoor athletics, noting he had the opportunity to stop by the softball game. Finally, he thanked the Board for their support during negotiations and expressed his sincere appreciation to the union representatives, noting he was glad they were all able to finalize the agreement in a timely manner.

XV. Solicitor's Report

Ms. Gannon had nothing to report.

XVI. 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 Second 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.

Mr. Gill stated he is very proud of Dr. Pasquerilla's work on the negotiations and the positive position he has put the district in moving forward. He added that he is also very proud of the union leaders for their efforts.

Pam Senese, Treasurer of Baden Memorial Library

- Distributed a handout detailing community service, including the spring schedule for adults and students, updated statistics, and a children's center with books and computers.
- Emphasized the library's support for the school district, noting an agreement dating back to 1974 and the regular hosting of State Street Elementary students throughout the year.
- Noted the Board's generous donation in the 2023–2024 school year and expressed hope that the Board would consider a donation for the upcoming year.

XVII. Motion to Adjourn

At approximately 7:55 p.m. Miss Fitsko moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs Curtis. All in favor.

**Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. June Mueller, Board Secretary**