

MERCER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

May 18, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT: ARTHUR AMOS RODNEY BOBBY
REBEKAH BOLYARD MATTHEW HAZI
DAVID LENGEL SHANE NUGENT
AIMEE PETERS DEREK STOTSKY

MEMBERS ABSENT: ZACHARY RYAN

OTHERS PRESENT: DR. RONALD R. ROWE, JR, SUPERINTENDENT
DR. MICHAEL G. PIDDINGTON, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
ERIC MAUSSER, MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
CHARLES BIGELOW, MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ASST. PRINCIPAL
GREGORY ACRE, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
AMANDA SIMPSON, DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION
MICHELLE L. GOEHRING, BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS MANAGER

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. David Lengel, at 7:40 p.m. in the high school library. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. There were eight members present.

MINUTES:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting on April 20, 2026 and the special meeting on May 6, 2026. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Rebekah Bolyard, the Board approved the Treasurer's Report, all bills as listed and financial reports. On a roll call vote, members Amos, Bobby, Bolyard, Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Peters, and Stotsky voted yes.

Motion: Passed

PERSONNEL:

Retirement/Resignations:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Matthew Hazi, the Board approved the following retirements and resignations as follows. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Mrs. Alexis Cannon as an elementary teacher, effective at the end of the 2025-26 school year.

Accepted, with regret, the retirement of Miss Allison Thomas as an elementary teacher, effective at the end of the 2025-26 school year.

MINUTES FROM MAY 18, 2026 (Continued):

PERSONNEL (Continued):

Hires:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board approved the following hires. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Granted approval to hire Ms. Tammy Cantella as a long-term Family Consumer Science substitute at a salary of \$58,739 with no benefits, pending clearances.

Granted approval to hire Miss Kiley Kennis as a full-time Health & Physical Education teacher on step 1 of the Bachelor's Scale in the amount of \$56,750 with full benefits, pending clearances.

Granted approval to hire Mrs. Korrin Thomas as a full-time Special Education teacher on step 5 of the Bachelor's Scale in the amount of \$59,123 with full benefits, pending clearances.

Granted approval to hire Mrs. Samantha Fritz as a full-time Payroll Specialist/Assistant to the Business Manager, at a salary of \$36,000, prorated based on the start date of July 20, 2026, with full benefits, pending clearances.

Granted approval to hire Ms. Micah Kelly as a volunteer wrestling coach for the 2026-27 school year.

Granted approval to hire summer maintenance employees, as follows, pending clearances. Wages listed accordingly and there are no benefits with these positions.

- Pressley Washil @ \$10.50/hr.
- Logan Nugent @ \$10.50/hr.
- Justin Amos @ \$10.00/hr.
- Kameron Woods @ \$10.00/hr.
- Carolin Piddington @ \$10.00/hr.
- Izzy Modzelewski @ \$10.00/hr.

Promotion:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the promotion of Mrs. Delaney Munnal from $\frac{3}{4}$ time art teacher to full time beginning with the 2026-27 school year, on Step 6 of the Master's salary scale at \$62,564, with full benefits. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Remove Coaches:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Rebekah Bolyard, the Board approved the removal of the following from our list of coaches, as they did not coach during the 2025-26 school year. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Brian Phillips (wrestling)
Matthew Spragale (wrestling)

Zachary Swartz (wrestling)
Robert Palmer (boys' basketball)

MINUTES FROM THE MAY 18, 2026 (Continued):

STUDENT TRAVEL:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Rebekah Bolyard, the Board approved the following student travel requests. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Approved Mrs. Meghan Glass to accompany Students for Charity to Brandy Springs Park on Thursday, May 21, 2026 for a cleanup day. The cost to the district is a substitute for a day. (\$100)

Approved the Jr. High, JV, and Varsity Football teams to participate in 7 on 7 workouts throughout the area. The football teams are requesting the use of school vans for transportation.

Approved Mrs. Michalee Christy to accompany chorus students to Universal Studios in Florida on January 2-6, 2027. The cost to the district is a substitute teacher for three days. (\$300)

FACILITIES REQUEST:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the following facilities requests. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Granted approval for Mercer Midget and Peewee Cheerleading to use the main entrance of the elementary school, main hallway restrooms, and LGI Room (in the event of inclement weather on June 2 & 3, 2026 from 5:15 p.m. - 8:45 p.m. for uniform fitting. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

Granted approval for the Mercer Ministerium to use the auditorium at Mercer Middle/High School, for Baccalaureate services on June 3, 2026.

Granted approval for Mercer Football Future Mustangs Kids Camp to use the restrooms at the middle-high school field on June 19 & 20, 2026.

Granted approval for Mercer Midget and Peewee Cheerleading to use the front grass area of the elementary school, circular loop at the elementary entrance, locker room restrooms, and music wing restrooms on the following dates, from 5:15 – 8:45 p.m. for cheer camp. In the event of inclement weather, the group is also requesting the use of the elementary LGI room. All aspects of the facilities policy shall be followed.

July 7-9, 2026

July 29 & 30, 2026

August 3-7, 2026

August 18 & 19, 2026

Every Tuesday through October 2026

Granted approval for Micah Kelly to host summer workouts for female wrestlers, gym time will be scheduled through the athletic director.

MINUTES FROM THE MAY 18, 2026 (Continued):

FACILITIES (Continued):

Granted approval for the Mercer County Sheriff's office to use the elementary school, including a hallway with 5 rooms, AV room, library and surrounding hall, 4-5 classrooms with movable desks chairs etc., for ALICE Training on August 17 & 18 2026 from 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Granted approval for the 5M Band to host a Jr. High band festival on September 19, 2026. Use of the football field and practice fields are requested. All aspects of the facilities policy will be followed.

BOARD TREASURER:

Shane Nugent made a motion to nominate Arthur Amos as Board Treasurer for the 2026 – 2027 fiscal year, second by Aimee Peters. There were no other nominations. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes for Arthur Amos.

FINAL BUDGET 2026-2027:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Shane Nugent, the Board approved the *final budget* for the 2026-27 school year in the amount of **\$21,393,022**. On a roll call vote, members Bobby, Bolyard, Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Peters, Stotsky, and Amos voted yes.

Motion: *Passed*

2026 LIST OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the list of 2026 Mercer Area Senior High School graduates pending satisfactory completion of required courses, number of credits, and the high school principal's approval (list attached). On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

PER CAPITA AND ACT 511 TAXES FOR 2026-27:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Rebekah Bolyard, the Board approved the following Per Capita and Act 511 Taxes be re-enacted for the 2026-2027 school year. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

\$5.00 Per Capita under Section 679 of the School Code of 1949

\$5.00 Per Capita under Act 511

One percent (1%) Earned Income Tax*

\$5.00 Occupation Privilege Tax

One Percent (1%) Real Estate Transfer Tax

*Shared with municipalities

KNOX LAW SOLICITOR:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Rodney Bobby, the Board approved Knox, McLaughlin, Gornall & Sennett, P.C. (Knox Law) to continue as the Mercer Area School District solicitor for the 2026-27 school year, at billing rates specified on the attached rate schedule. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

MINUTES FROM THE MAY 18, 2026 (Continued):

ELECT PROGRAM CONSORTIUM:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Aimee Peters, the Board gave MIU IV authorization to submit an application, on behalf of the Mercer Area School District, to continue participation in the regional Education Leading to Employment and Career Training (ELECT) program consortium. If awarded, the Board further authorizes MIU IV to implement the ELECT program on activities as outlined in the approved application and consortium agreement. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

CARLOW UNIVERSITY:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Rebekah Bolyard, the Board approved the Affiliation Agreement between Carlow University and Mercer Area School District to host an art education student teacher at Mercer Elementary. The student teacher will be supervised by Mrs. Delaney Munnal for an 8-week placement beginning in October 2026. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

PSBA POLICY SERVICES:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, second by Rebekah Bolyard, the Board approved the PSBA Policy Services Member Agreement between Pennsylvania School Boards Association, Inc. (PSBA) and Mercer Area School District. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

MUNICIPAL REVENUE SERVICE:

On a motion by Shane Nugent, second by Rodney Bobby, the Board approved *to not purchase* the previously sold delinquent taxes from Municipal Revenue Service. The District will receive 95% of all delinquent taxes collected by Municipal Revenue Service, in the years prior to 2023. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

VECTOR SOLUTIONS:

On a motion by Derek Stotsky, second by Rebekah Bolyard, the Board approved a three (3) year agreement with Vector Solutions to provide access to professional development training modules for teachers and staff. Cost to the district is \$2,100.00/year. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

2026-2027 MILLAGE:

A motion was made by David Lengel to increase the millage by one (1) mill. On a motion by Shane Nugent second by Aimee Peters the Board set the millage for the 2026-27 school year at 69.75. On a roll call vote, members Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Peters, Stotsky, Amos, Bobby, and Bolyard voted yes.

Motion: Passed

HOMESTEAD/FARMSTEAD EXCLUSION:

On a motion by Rebekah Bolyard, second by Derek Stotsky, the Board approved the 2026 Homestead and Farmstead exclusion resolution, and setting of the Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion credit in the amount of \$299.78. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

MINUTES FROM THE MAY 18, 2026 (Continued):

Un-Tabled:

On a motion by David Lengel, second by Shane Nugent, the Board un-tabled the motion from the previous board meeting regarding the retirement of Dr Ronald R. Rowe, Jr., Superintendent. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

RESCIND:

Dr. Ronald R. Rowe, Jr. would like to rescind his retirement. Board President, Mr. David Lengel stated there is no further action required.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no additional business, Rodney Bobby motioned to adjourn the meeting, Aimee Peters seconded. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

Michelle L. Goehring, Board Secretary

David R. Lengel, Board President