



MERCER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



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OCTOBER BOARD MEETING

October 19, 2026

High School Library

7:30 PM

Executive Session – 7:15 PM

Agenda review, questions and comments (Open)
Personnel, Litigation, and Contracts (Closed)

AGENDA

1. Call to order and flag salute by the President.
2. Approve the minutes of the following meetings:

Regular meeting held on September 21, 2026
Special meeting held on October 8, 2026
3. Approve the Treasurer's Report, all bills as listed and financial statements.
4. Communications.
5. Board committee reports.
6. Administrative reports.
7. Public Comments.

8. **PERSONNEL:**

Hire(s):

Recommend approval to hire Mr. Andrew Finzel as a Long-Term Secondary Science Substitute Teacher at a salary of \$56,750, pro-rated for the remainder of the 2026-2027 school year, with no benefits, pending clearances, effective immediately.

Recommend approval of the 2026-2027 Winter Coaches, pending clearances, as attached.

Educational Staffing Solutions (ESS):

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

9. **FACILITIES REQUEST:**

Recommend approval for the Student Council to host the 3rd annual DJ Graham Color Run on April 11, 2027. They will use the football field, concession stand restrooms, and the practice fields.

Recommend approval for the Twirling Angels to use the elementary gymnasium and cafeteria on Sunday, May 23, 2027, from 12:00 – 6:00 pm for a baton recital. All aspects of the Facilities Policy will be followed.

Recommend approval for the Western Pennsylvania Constables and the Western Pennsylvania Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) to utilize the elementary school building on either December 28, 2026 or December 29, 2026, subject to availability, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The groups will utilize different areas of the facility to practice crisis and active shooter response. No students will be in the facility during this event. All aspects of the Facilities Policy will be followed.

Recommend approval for Girl Scouts to utilize a classroom at the Mercer Elementary for meetings from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm on the first and third Tuesday of each month, from November 2026 through May 2027. All aspects of the Facilities Policy will be followed.

Recommend approval for the Calvary Fellowship Church to use the high school gym on November 5, 2026. All aspects of the Facilities Policy will be followed.

10. **STUDENT TRAVEL:**

Recommend approval for the third-grade class (approximately 76 students) to travel to the Olympic Fun Center in Hermitage, PA, on May 18, 2027. One bus is requested for transportation. The cost of student admission and transportation will be paid by the PEP Association. One substitute nurse is requested for the day (\$100). This is the only expense to the District.

Recommend approval for the fourth-grade class (approximately 80 students) to travel to Drake Well Museum and Park in Titusville, PA, on November 20, 2026. Two buses and one van are requested for transportation, which will be paid for by the PEP Association. One substitute nurse is requested for the day (\$100). This is the only expense to the District.

Recommend approval for the fourth-grade class (approximately 80 students) to travel to Shenango Dam in Hermitage, PA, on May 12, 2027. Two buses and one van are requested for transportation, which will be paid for by the PEP Association. One substitute nurse is requested for the day (\$100). This is the only expense to the District.

Recommend approval for Mr. Luke Rust to attend the Shell Energy Education Workshop for Teachers in Monaca, PA on November 3, 2026. The cost to the District is a substitute for the day but the cost is expected to be reimbursed.

Recommend approval for Mr. Luke Rust to attend Aquatic Academy: Water Treatment Learning Lab in Pittsburgh, PA on November 20, 2026. The cost to the District is a substitute for the day (\$100).

Recommend approval for Ms. Kelly Heffern to accompany band students to the following PMEA events:

- October 27, 2026 - Honors Band Auditions at Slippery Rock University.
The cost to the District is a substitute for the day (\$100) and van transportation.
- December 10, 11, and 12, 2026 - Honors Band at Slippery Rock University.
The cost to the District is a substitute for two days (\$200) and van transportation.
- January 14, 15, and 16, 2027 - District Band at New Castle High School.
The cost to the District is a substitute for two days (\$200) and van transportation.
- February 18, 19, and 20, 2027 - Region Band at Westminster University.
The cost to the District is a substitute for two days (\$200) and van transportation.
- February 23, 2027 - Junior High Band Festival at Mercer Area Middle-High School.
The cost to the District is a substitute for one day (\$100).

Recommend approval for Mrs. Meghan Glass to accompany students to Youngstown State University "Art Day" on October 21, 2026. The cost to the District is a substitute for a day (\$100) and the use of a school van.

Recommend approval for Mrs. Michalee Christy to accompany middle school and high school choir students to County Chorus at Farrell High School on November 19, 2026. The cost to the District is a substitute for the day (\$100) and bus transportation.

Recommend approval for the Middle School Cross Country Teams to travel to Lock Haven University for the Pennsylvania Middle School Cross Country Championships on October 23 and 24, 2026. The cost to the District is registration \$125 per team (\$250 total) and the use of three school vans.

Recommend approval for Mr. Doug Schmid to accompany the Tech Ed Club to Eastern Atlantic States Carpenters Technical Center in Pittsburgh, PA on November 19, 2026. The cost to the District is a substitute for the day (\$100) and the use of two school vans.

Recommend approval for Mrs. Ariana Ritchey to accompany students to the Gingerbread House Competition at PPG Place in Pittsburgh, PA on December 4, 2026. The cost to the District is a substitute teacher for the day (\$100).

11. Recommend approval for Mrs. Michelle Goehring to attend the PASBO Conference in Hershey, PA on March 9-12, 2027. Total cost to the District is \$1,250.00 which includes conference fees, travel and lodging.
12. Recommend approval of an addendum to the agreement with Educational Staffing Solutions (ESS) for the 2026-2027 school year, as attached.
13. Recommend approval of a one-year maintenance agreement with Cummins Sales and Service, to service our generator at the elementary school, in the amount of \$1,226.16, as attached.
14. Recommend approval of an agreement between Mercer Area School District and KeySolution Staffing, LLC to provide speech and language services for the 2026-2027 school year, as attached.
15. Recommend approval of a linkage agreement between Mercer Area School District and Children's Aide Society of Mercer County for Family-Based Mental Health Services, as attached.
16. Recommend approval of the proposal with SitelogIQ to conduct a facility condition assessment of Mercer Elementary School and Mercer Middle/High School and provide one year of access to the mysitelQ Facility Information System at no cost to the District, as attached.
17. Recommend approval of the continuation of the cooperative agreement with the Grove City Area School District for swimming for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years, as attached.
18. Recommend approval of an agreement between Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV and Mercer Area School District, for the use, reporting and audit of Pass Through Funds, associated with IDEA-B Section 611, in the amount of \$243,545.94 for the 2026-2027 school year, as attached.
19. Recommend approval of a sub-grant agreement between Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV and Mercer Area School District, for IDEA-Section 619, in the amount of \$4,270 for the 2026-2027 school year, as attached.
20. Recommend approval of Board Policies 102, 105, 204.1, 209, 246, 249, 704, 803, 805.2, 822. First read was September 2026.
21. Other Business.
22. Adjournment.

Upcoming Dates

- October 28 – Middle-High School Fall Choral Concert at 7:00 pm, HS Auditorium
- October 29 – 2nd Quarter Begins
- November 3 – Election Day
- November 4 – Marching Band In-Review Concert at 7:00 pm, HS Gym
- November 6 – K-12 Report Cards
- November 13 & 14 – Madrigal Dinner at 6:00 pm, HS Cafeteria
- November 11 – Veteran's Day Program at 9:30 am, Elementary Gym
- November 16 – **School Board Meeting**