MERCER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

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 7:30 p.m. in the High School Library. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. There were nine (9) members present.

MINUTES:
On a motion by Shane Nugent, seconded by Rodney Bobby, the Board approved the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on August 17, 2026 and the Policy and Planning Committee Meeting held on September 17, 2026. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

TREASURER'S REPORT:
On a motion by Rodney Bobby, seconded by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the Treasurer's Report, all bills as listed and the financial reports. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

PERSONNEL:

Retirement:
On a motion by Shane Nugent, seconded by Zachary Ryan, the Board accepted, with regret, the retirement of Mrs. Tammy Bright as an elementary teacher, effective June 7, 2027. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Resignation:
On a motion by Rebekah Bolyard, seconded by Aimee Peters, the Board accepted with regret, the resignation of Mrs. Caryn Schreckenghost as a Long-Term Substitute Science Teacher, effective immediately. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Hires:
On a motion by Aimee Peters, seconded by Rebekah Bolyard, the board approved to hire Diane Nugent, Darla Roman, and Maggie Ference as Webmasters for the 2026-27 school year. Amos, Bobby, Bolyard, Hazi, Lengel, Peters, Ryan and Stotsky voted yes. Member Nugent abstained.
Motion: Passed

On a motion by Derek Stotsky, seconded by Matthew Hazi, the board approved to hire Mrs. Krista Bobby as a van driver at a rate of $72.00 per day, pending clearances. Amos, Bolyard, Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Peters, Ryan and Stotsky voted yes. Member Bobby abstained.
Motion: Passed

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, seconded by Art Amos, the Board approved the following hires. One a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Granted approval for the following teachers to serve as mentors for the 2026-2027 school year:

Mrs. Shelley Rowe Mr. Derek Myers

Granted approval of to hire advisors for the 2026-2027 school year, as attached.

Granted approval to hire Mr. Kevan Yorns as a part-time Social Studies Teacher at one-half of Step 1 of the Bachelor's salary scale, $28,375, pro-rated for the remainder of the 2026-2027 school year, with no benefits, pending clearances, effective immediately.

Granted approval to hire the Jr. High Girls Basketball Coaches for the Fall 2026 season, pending clearances, as attached.

Granted approval of Ms. Debbie Foster as an elementary volunteer Cross-Country coach for the 2026-2027 school year, pending clearances.

ESS:
Granted approval of all 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.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:
On a motion by Shane Nugent, seconded by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the following staff development requests. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Granted approval for Mrs. Allyson Rust to attend the Mercer County Counselors meetings on November 6, 2026, at Thiel College, and February 26, 2027, at the Mercer County Career Center. There is no cost to the District.

Granted approval for Miss Sharilynn Jones to attend the Pennsylvania K-12 Student Assistance Program (SAP) Training on October 27 and 28, 2026, at the Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission. There is no cost to the District.

Granted approval for Mrs. Korina Yanak, Mrs. Lydia Sipe, and Miss Kylie McElrath to attend the Speech Therapist Professional Learning Community meetings on October 27, 2026, February 11, 2027, and April 12, 2027. There is no cost to the District.

Granted approval for Mrs. Jillian Braden to attend Transition Council Meetings at MIU4 on October 7, 2026, December 9, 2026, February 24, 2027, and April 19, 2027. There is no cost to the District.

Granted approval for Ms. Ava Park to attend Wilson Reading System training at MIU4 on October 1, October 28, and October 29, 2026. The cost to the district is $700 and one substitute teacher for each day ($300).

FACILITIES REQUESTS:

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

Granted approval for the Mercer County Community Band to hold its Annual Christmas Concert in the High School Auditorium on Sunday, November 29, 2026. All aspects of the Facilities Policy will be followed.

Granted approval for Sankey Financial to use the High School Auditorium on Saturday, November 14, 2026, for a retirement seminar. All aspects of the Facilities Policy will be followed.

Granted approval for the Band Boosters to use the High School Cafeteria on Saturday, November 7, 2026, to host a spaghetti dinner fundraiser. All aspects of the Facilities Policy will be followed.

STUDENT TRAVEL:

On a motion by Arthur Amos, seconded by Shane Nugent, the Board approved the following student travel. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Granted approval for the first-grade class (approximately 62 students) to travel to Irons Mill Farmstead, New Wilmington, PA, on October 15, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Two (2) buses and one (1) van are requested for transportation. The cost of admission ($12 per student) and transportation will be paid by the PEP Association. There is no cost to the District.

Granted approval for the fourth-grade class (approximately 80 students) to travel to Oil Creek State Park, Oil City, PA, on October 16, 2026. Two (2) buses and one (1) van are requested for transportation, which will be paid for by the PEP Association. There is no cost to the District.

Granted approval for Mrs. Shelley Rowe and Mrs. Meghan Glass to accompany French Club and Art Club students to the Frick Museum in Pittsburgh to visit the French Impressionists Exhibit on Friday, September 25, 2026. The cost to the district is two substitute teachers for the day ($200).

Granted approval for Mrs. Courtney Smithco to accompany students to the Youth Leadership Conference on Wednesday, September 30, 2026 at the Covenant Presbyterian Church in Sharon, PA. The event is through the Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission. The cost to the District is the use of a school van.

Granted approval for Mrs. Courtney Smithco to accompany students to the AEVIDUM Club "The Talk" at Wilmington Area High School on Thursday, October 22, 2026. The cost to the District is the use of a school van.

Granted approval for Ms. Kelly Heffern and Mrs. Courtney Smithco to accompany members of the 5M Band, cheerleaders and homecoming court to the elementary school on Friday, October 2, 2026 for an assembly. Two (2) buses are requested for transportation, which will be paid for by the School-Wide Positive Behavior Support (SWPBS). There is no cost to the District.

TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT WITH GROVE CITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, seconded by Aimee Peters, the Board approved the Contract for the Transportation of School Pupils between the Mercer Area School District and Grove City Area School District from August 2026 to June 30, 2027, at an estimated rate of $60 per day for the transportation of two (2) students, as attached. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

KITE STRINGS AND PATHFINDERS:

On a motion by Rebekah Bolyard, seconded by Matthew Hazi, the Board approved a Linkage Agreement between Sharon Regional Medical Center's Partial Hospitalization Programs, Kite Strings and Pathfinders, as attached. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

TMR ROOFING:

On a motion by Rodney Bobby, seconded by Aimee Peters, the Board approved for TMR Roofing to complete remedial roof repairs to both the Elementary School and High School in the amount of $13,975, as attached. On a roll call vote, members Bolyard, Hazi, Lengel, Nugent, Peters, Ryan, Stotsky, Amos and Bolyard voted yes.
Motion: Passed

STOCK METAL BID:

On a motion by Aimee Peters, seconded by Shane Nugent, the Board approved to award stock metal bid to West Middlesex School District in the amount of $600, as attached. On a roll call vote, Hazi, Nugent, Peters, Stotsky, Amos and Bobby voted yes. Members Lengel, Ryan and Bolyard voted no.
Motion: Passed

RESCHINI GROUP:
On a motion by Arthur Amos, seconded by Rodney Bobby, the Board approved an Engagement Agreement between the Reschini Group and Mercer Area School District to fulfill reporting requirements mandated by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) and Internal Revenue Service for 2026, as attached. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA:
On a motion by David Lengel, seconded by Aimee Peters, the Board approved to add an agenda item. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

MERCER COUNTY FACILITIES DIRECTORS:
On a motion by Rodney Bobby, seconded by Shane Nugent, the Board approved to host Day 1 of a 4-day training for Mercer County Facilities Directors on October 7, 2026 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm in the High School LGI. The training will focus on sustainable, high-performance building practices specific to ventilation, safer cleaning chemicals, and energy efficiency. Lunch will be provided by the District. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

POLICIY NUMBERS:
First read of the following policies: 102, 105, 204.1, 209, 246, 249, 704, 803, 805.2, and 822.

ADJOURNMENT:
There being no additional business, Rodney Bobby motioned to adjourn the meeting. Zachary Ryan seconded the motion. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

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Michelle L. Goehring, Board Secretary

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David R. Lengel, Board President