

Minutes for the Meet and Discuss Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District held in the High School Auditorium on Wednesday, September 9, 2026.

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

The Meet and Discuss Board Meeting of the Ambridge Area School District is held on Wednesday, September 9, 2026. This meeting is being held to review the agenda for the regular monthly Board Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

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

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

Mrs. Cathleen Fischer, Vice President

Mr. Garrett Kovacevic, Treasurer

Mr. Gregory Constantine

Mrs. Kathleen Curtis

Miss Amy Fitsko

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. Muller read the following Sunshine Law

The Board of School Directors held an Executive Session(s) on Wednesday, September 9th to discuss:

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

VI. Correspondence

No correspondence

VII. Amendments to the Agenda/Approval of the Agenda

VIII. Recognition/Presentation

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.

No comments.

X. LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR THIS MEETING**Legislative****Miss Fitsko****1. Attorney-Client Fee Contract for Social Media Litigation**

It is recommended to authorize the Ambridge Area School District to enter into an Attorney-Client Fee Contract with Frantz Law Group, APLC and Dillon McCandless King Coulter & Graham LLP for the commencement of legal action against social media companies (Meta, TikTok, YouTube, etc.), and to authorize the Board President and/or Superintendent to execute all necessary documents related thereto.

Miss Fitsko moved to approve item 1, seconded by Mrs. Kehoe. 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 Musical Staffing

It is recommended to approve the following musical staffing positions for the 2026-2027 musical at the designated stipend, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening:

Musical Director	Jessica Patterson	\$3,000.00
Music Director	Kevin Newton	\$1,800.00
Assistant Director	Andrea Cary	\$1,200.00
Producer	Todd Hartman	\$1,500.00
Choreographer	Rebekah Sedwick	\$1,200.00
Technical Director	Jacob Craig	\$1,200.00

2. Rescind Clubs/Activities, Sponsors

- a) It is recommended to rescind Jessica Patterson as the Senior High Play Director.
- b) It is recommended to rescind Michelle Wilson as the Highland Elementary Student Council Co-Sponsor.

3. Posted Positions: Clubs / Activities

It is recommended that the following individuals who have applied for the specified posted positions for the 2026-2027 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.

<u>ACTIVITY/CLUB (High School)</u>		<u>SALARY</u>
Senior High Play Director	Andrea Cary	\$2,350.00
Ecology Club	Pam Green	\$ 770.00
Book Club	Steve Perciavalle	\$ 770.00

<u>ACTIVITY/CLUB (Elementary)</u>		<u>SALARY</u>
Highland Elementary Student Council	Kellee Gnipp (Co-Sponsor)	\$ 385.00

4. Rescind Mentor

It is recommended to rescind the approval of Dale Steigerwald as the mentor teacher for Scott Lane.

5. Paraprofessional

It is recommended to retroactively hire the following individual as a Paraprofessional within the district, as per the terms of the Ambridge Area Education Support Professional Association (ESPA/PSEA/NEA), pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Heather Villella, State Street Elementary – effective August 20, 2026

Ranayla Revis, High School – effective August 21, 2026

Chakara Walker, High School – effective September 8, 2026

6. Food Service Worker

It is recommended to retroactively hire Mary Jackson as a Five-Hour Cook at State Street Elementary, effective August 24, 2026, in accordance with the terms of the collective bargaining agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses from current or former employers to Act 168 screening.

7. Food Service Worker

It is recommended to retroactively hire Ruth Cooper as a Five-Hour Cook at Highland Elementary, effective September 8, 2026, in accordance with the terms of the collective bargaining agreement, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses from current or former employers to Act 168 screening.

8. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Mike Thear from his position as a Paraprofessional at Economy Elementary School, effective September 15, 2026, with regret.

9. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Breanna Guernsey from her position as a Paraprofessional at Highland Elementary School, effective August 27, 2026, with regret.

10. Resignation

It is recommended to approve the resignation of Karen Simeone from her position as a Four-Hour Cook at the middle school, effective August 21, 2026, with regret.

11. Retirement

It is recommended to approve the resignation due to the retirement of Donald Stuber from his position as a full-time maintenance worker at the high school, effective September 18, 2026, with regret.

12. ABC Transit Bus Driver/Aide

It is recommended to approve the individuals listed as operators, attendants, and maintenance for ABC Transit, Inc. for the 2026-2027 school year, pending receipt of current clearances, satisfactory drug screening, TB testing, and responses by current/former employers to Act 168 screening.

Van Drivers

Jeanette Anger
Destiny Artzberger
Deitre Elliot
Omelan Mycyk
Hamid Hayel
Cynthia Steele
Tarell Harmon

Van Driver and Aide

Randy Frank

Aide

Miranda Fullwood
Janice Hlopek

13. Dismissal Resolution 2026-2027-6

It is recommended that Dismissal Resolution 2026-2027-6 be approved regarding employee #3260.

14. 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) Girls' Basketball

- a) Savannah Fischer, Assistant Coach
- b) Savannah Fischer, Middle School Coach
- c) Nate Smith, Middle School Coach

Stipend

\$2,710.00
\$2,050.00
\$2,050.00

Mrs. Romasco moved to approve items 1-14, seconded by Miss Fitsko. Mrs. Fischer abstained from Item 14 (a) and (b),

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS (NON-VOTING AGENDA ITEMS)**Education and Technology****Mrs. Romasco****1. VMWare Software Licensing**

It is recommended to approve a three-year renewal agreement for VMWare Software Licensing through the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit (BVIU) Consortium at an annual cost of \$6,160.00.

2. PA TSA Leadership Conference

It is recommended to authorize Ben Holmes, Kristen Holmes, Pam Green, Shana Dowlin, and Scott Setzenfand to take students to the TSA State Leadership Conference, at which students compete in a wide variety of technology and STEAM-related areas. The conference will be held April 14 – April 17, 2027, at Seven Springs Resort in Champion, PA. Students who attend will be reimbursed as per Board Policy 240 – *Student Contests/Competitions* (50% of travel cost or \$250.00 per student, whichever is less) for a maximum of \$3,000.00. (Only a total of four of the five teachers approved will attend the conference) The teachers will be reimbursed at the contracted rate with an expense report attached, which covers registration, fees, travel, lodging, and meals.

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 \$1,988,351.89 and the monthly school district personnel salaries in the amount of \$ 1,053,105.67 be paid.

2. Cafeteria Monthly Bills and Salaries

It is recommended that the monthly cafeteria bills in the amount of \$8,417.66 and the monthly cafeteria personnel salaries in the amount of \$14,045.61 be paid.

3. Disabled Veterans Tax Exemption

It is recommended to approve the requested real property tax exemption for Robert G. Thiry, 144 Shady River Blvd, Economy Borough (Parcel 60-044-0562.000) for 2026 school taxes, as certified by the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs letter dated July 22, 2026.

4. Gift in Kind

It is recommended to accept, with gratitude, the donation of a fire truck to the Beaver County Career & Technology Center Emergency Services Program from Nicole Tripp, an alumna of Ambridge Area High School. The donor has received no goods or services in return for this gift.

5. Gift in Kind

It is recommended to accept, with gratitude, the donation of a drum set, accessories, and related percussion equipment from an anonymous donor for use by the high school Music Department. The donor has received no goods or services in return for this gift.

6. Gift in Kind

It is recommended to accept, with gratitude, the monetary donation and school supplies from Good Samaritan Parish and St. Vincent De Paul, for use by all elementary buildings. The donor has received no goods or services in return for this gift.

7. Gift in Kind

It is recommended to accept, with gratitude, the donation of school supplies from Family Connections, a program of Adoption Connection, PA, for use by our students in need. The donor has received no goods or services in return for this gift.

Building and Grounds**Mr. Constantine****Athletics****Mrs. Fischer****Public Relations****Miss Fitsko****Steering and Rules****Mrs. Kehoe**1. Memorandum of Understanding

It is recommended that the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ambridge Area School District and the Ambridge Area Education Association regarding a Library stipend be approved, **pending solicitor review.**

Legislative**Miss Fitsko**1. PSBA Officer Elections

It is recommended that the Board Secretary be directed to cast the vote of the Ambridge Area School Board for the election of the following PSBA Slate of Candidates for 2027:

President-elect: Matt Vannoy, Sharon City School District

Vice President: Kristy Bolte, Northwestern School District

Insurance Trust: Marianne L. Neel
Dr. Michael Faccinetto

Salary Schedule and Labor Relations**Mrs. Curtis**

XII. President's Address

Mrs. Fischer stated that she was filling in for President Scott. She thanked all of the donors who have thoughtfully supported the District and its students through their generous gifts in kind. She also noted that the fall athletic schedule is in full swing and encouraged everyone to attend the games and support the students as they compete.

XIII. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pasquerilla thanked everyone who donated items to help get the school year off to a good start. He noted that the Rotary and other community members have generously donated school supplies and other items to support the District and its students. He expressed his appreciation for the community's support and stated that the school year is off to a very good and exciting start.

Dr. Pasquerilla also commented on the District's fall athletics, noting that the season is in full swing and that it was great to see the first home game end in a win. He complimented the band on its performance. He added that all of the other fall sports are also underway.

XIV. Solicitor's Report

Nothing to 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.

No comments.

XVI. Motion to Adjourn

At approximately 7:38, Miss Fitsko moved to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Romasco. All in favor.

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