

PENN CAMBRIA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
201 6<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
CRESSON, PENNSYLVANIA 16630

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular Meeting  
May 21, 2024

MEMBERS: Caleb Drenning, Anthony Dziabo, Jennifer Gmuca, Matthew Kearney, Rudy McCarthy, Guy  
Monica, Michael Sheehan, Cindy Sheehan-Westrick, and Jeffrey Stohon

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A Regular Meeting of the Penn Cambria School District Board of Education was called to order by Michael Sheehan,  
Board President, at 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, May 21, 2024, in the Library of the Penn Cambria High School.

ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Caleb Drenning  
Mr. Anthony Dziabo  
Dr. Jennifer Gmuca  
Mr. Matthew Kearney  
Mr. Guy Monica  
Mr. Michael Sheehan  
Mrs. Cindy Sheehan-Westrick  
Mr. Jeffrey Stohon  
TOTAL. . . . . 8

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Rudy McCarthy  
TOTAL. . . . . 1  
QUORUM PRESENT.

AMONG OTHERS PRESENT:

William Marshall, Superintendent	Steve Conrad, Parent	Colleen Reagan
Jill Francisco, Business Administrator	Jim Conrad	Alicia Klatt
Jeanette Black, Assistant to the Superintendent	Marg Conrad	Brett Klatt
Jaime Hartline, Director of Pupil Services	Allison Raymond, Parent	Tia Link
Ronald Repak, School Solicitor	Camryn Ashworth, Student	Josh Link
Benjamin Watt, High School Principal	Mia Balzano, Student	Stacey Rossman
Kristen Blackburn, Assistant High School Principal	Sara Balzano, Parent	Bobie Jo Kaein
Dane Harrold, Middle School Principal	Jessie Skura, Student	Arlo Eckenrode
Justin Wheeler, Assistant Middle School Principal	Heidi Skura, Parent	Keri Riggleman
Joseph Smorto, Elementary Principal	Brenda Vargo	Lydia Riggleman
Carrie Conrad, Special Education Director	Destiny Vargo	Lynde Shingler-Piotti
Jane Burkholder, School Psychologist	Brittanie Vargo, Parent	Mya Piotti
Lewis Hale, Director of Technology	Patty Neff, Grandparent	Samara Piotti
Scott Sherry, Director of Buildings, Grounds, & Maintenance	Glenda Anderson	John Yogus
Jacquelyn Mento, Recording Secretary	Brooklyn Anderson	Katie Burns
Justine Hrzic-Smith, Food Service Director	Brennen Gmuca	Abby Gongloff
Adam Clevenger, PCEA President	Eve Gmuca	Noon Neff
Robin Lappi, PCESPA President	Penelope Gmuca	Chris Marana
Veronica Noll, PCESPA Secretary	Kevin Westrick	Becky Marana
Kristin Baudoux, Mainliner Reporter	Olivia Westrick	Bridget Lidwell
Matt Churella, Altoona Mirror Reporter	Seth Conrad	Grant Lidwell
Emily Lane, Teacher	Ryan Bednarski	Jack Lidwell
Tammy Weakland, Teacher	Heather Bednarski	Jonathan Illig, Parent
Samantha Heverly, Teacher	Darlene Kos	Gina Illig, Parent
Kerry Nileski, Teacher	Tommy Kos	Aiden Martin
Deb Baker, Teacher	Lydia Kos	Sarah Toyne, PTO & Parent
Sharon Glass, Teacher	Aubrey Strait	
Brenda Biller	Mike Strait	

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the following were the items of business and discussion.

#### SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS

Emily Lane, Tammy Weakland, and Samantha Heverly, Penn Cambria Art teachers, along with their students, showcased student artwork that was displayed at the following art shows:

Elementary Artwork - Adeline Bartley, Raelyn Bednarski, Juliana Bianconi, Jolene Burns, Owen Dickson, Kailyn Diehl, Arlo Eckenrode, Bradun Gides, Penelope Gmuca, Kyla Illig, Sophia Kittell, Lydia Kos, Maddox Lingenfelter, Aiden Martin, Rylan Shaffer, Greyson Toyne, and Adalyn Yahner

#### Middle School Artwork

SAMA - Mia Balzano, Bryn Conrad, Brady Diehl, Abigail Gongloff, Daniel Hanlon, Aubrey Karlheim, Jackson Lidwell, Katie Marana, Emma Parker, and Natalie Rossman

ART IN BLOOM - Kyla Adams, Gabriel Baugus, Ryan Dreese, Kyle Eger, Micheal Feathers, Laylah Getz, Landon Klatt, Makylie McMullen, Samara Piotti, Aubrey Strait, and Olivia Westrick  
1<sup>st</sup> place winners: Abigail Gongloff, Zoey Link, Kendall McConnell, and Madilyn Olienyk

CRESSON LEGION 1<sup>st</sup> place winner - Ryan Dreese

High School Artwork - Camryn Ashworth, Korena Behe, Spencer Bukowski, Sara Capraun, Seth Conrad, Benjamin Detrick, Presley Koegler, Haylee Singer, and Jessie Skura

SAMA - Madison Farabaugh, Haley Lowery, Alainna Lynch, Ellianna Plewa, Sarah Porter, Lydia Riggelman, and Alaina Toth

ART IN BLOOM - Rhett Baker, Emily Ball, Eden Darity, Avery Glass, Lucy Mastri, Kaylee Raytay

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT - Congratulations to the following basketball athletes who were named to the Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference All Conference Team for the 2024 sports season: Isabelle Andersen and Easton Semelsberger

HEARING OF VISITORS - There were no questions, concerns, comments, related to school business.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was offered by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Stohon, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the regular meeting held April 16, 2024, be approved as recorded in the copies mailed to the Board prior to this meeting.

#### PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was offered by Mr. Drenning, seconded by Dr. Gmuca, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the invoices as mailed to the Board prior to the meeting, and as evaluated and reviewed, reconciled, and recommended for payment by the Business Office be hereby approved for payment. Copy to be made part of the minutes. (*See Addendum "A"*)

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was offered by Mrs. Sheehan-Westrick, seconded by Mr. Kearney, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the Treasurer's Report for April 2024 be accepted as mailed to the Board, and that a copy be filed with the official records of the School District. (*See Addendum "B"*)

#### BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A motion was offered by Mr. Stohon, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan-Westrick, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolutions:

##### FINANCIAL REPORTS

RESOLVED: That the reports of grants, projects and federal programs and financial reports for the general fund, capital projects fund, and cafeteria fund be accepted as presented to the Board and that a copy be filed with the official records of the School District. (*See Addendum "C"*)

LIFE AND LONG TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors hereby approve a two-year agreement effective July 1, 2024 with OneAmerica to provide Life insurance coverage for all eligible employees and Long Term Disability insurance coverage for three support staff members. These benefit plans will continue to be administered in compliance with all employment agreements.

RE-ENACTMENT OF PER CAPITA TAX UNDER SCHOOL CODE OF 1949

RESOLVED: That the Board of School Directors of the Penn Cambria School District, Cambria County, Pennsylvania, under and by virtue of Section 679 of the School Code of 1949 P.L. 30, and its supplements and amendments, declares that the resolution by which a per capita tax had been levied for the school fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for general school purposes in the sum of FIVE (\$5.00) DOLLARS upon each and every person residing in the Penn Cambria School District of the age of eighteen (18) years and over is hereby re-enacted without change for the school fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.

RE-ENACTMENT ACT 511 TAXES

RESOLVED: That the Board of School Directors of the Penn Cambria School District, Cambria County, Pennsylvania, under and by virtue of the authority vested in it by Act No. 511 of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approved December 31, 1965, as amended, declares that the resolutions levied for the school year ending June 30, 2024, for general school purposes, are hereby re-enacted without change for the school fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025. The Act 511 taxes include:

- i. Real Estate Transfer Tax (.5%)
- ii. Earned Income Tax (.5%)
- iii. Per Capita Tax (\$5.00)
- iv. Flat Occupation Tax (Gainfully Employed Tax) (\$5.00)
- v. Local Services Tax (formerly Occupation Privilege Tax) (\$5.00)

BIDS – GASOLINE, DIESEL, AND HEATING OIL

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors award the bids for gasoline, diesel, and heating oil to the lowest responsible bidders as follows: (*See Addendum “D”*)

- Gasoline – Friday Gas & Oil, Inc.
- Diesel – Petroleum Traders Corporation
- Heating Oil – Friday Gas & Oil, Inc.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

*Mr. Ronald Repak* notified the Board of Directors that the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court overturned Pennsylvania Department of Education’s (PDE) regulation stating special education students are entitled to a free and appropriate public education until the day before their 22nd birthday. PDE appealed this ruling on Monday. Attorney Repak will keep the Board of Directors informed on future updates.

Mr. Repak also discussed adding a new item (number four) to the board agenda, titled “Approve the Agenda as Presented” to keep the school district in compliance with the Sunshine Laws for any emergency additions to the agenda that may arise during the twenty-four-hour posting rule.

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS

A motion was offered by Mr. Monica, seconded by Mr. Drenning, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the Superintendent’s recommendations be approved as follows:

A. PERSONNEL ACTIONS

1. Accept Resignations, effective immediately
  - a. Mark Mardula, Head 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade football coach
  - b. Dominic Ricupero, Assistant 9<sup>th</sup> grade football coach
  - c. Matthew Pyo, Volunteer football coach
2. Approve Appointments
  - a. John Yogus, Hollidaysburg, Middle School Science Teacher, M+30 Step TOP, \$76,378, effective at the start of the 2024-2025 school year
  - b. Amanda Decker, Cresson, Food Service Worker, Location to be determined, effective August 7, 2024
  - c. Kayla Imler, Altoona, Substitute Teacher, effective pending documentation

3. Approve Extended School Year Staff
  - a. Teachers:
    - i. Kristen Kargo
    - ii. Lauren Madonna
    - iii. Abby Mento
    - iv. Adrienne Rabatin
    - v. Kristin Talko
  - b. Speech Therapist
    - i. Alexandra Williams
  - c. Aides:
    - i. Susan Baum
    - ii. Nickole Bender
    - iii. Joo Hanlon
    - iv. Cherri Heiss
    - v. Robin Lappi
    - vi. Lynn Lassak
    - vii. Rhonda Macalus
    - viii. Debora Rabatin
    - ix. Stacey Russian
    - x. Kimberly Thomas
  - d. Nurse:
    - i. Christina Plouse
  - e. Subs:
    - i. Marie Cattoi
    - ii. Maura Smay
    - iii. Michele Smith
    - iv. Any additional teacher, aide, or nurse in our current staff
4. Approve McIlwain School Bus Lines, Inc. Driver
  - a. Nicole McCloskey, Cresson, effective pending documentation

#### NEW BUSINESS

A motion was offered by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Stohon, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

##### ADOPTION OF PROPOSED FINAL BUDGET FOR 2024-2025

RESOLVED: That in accordance with Section 687 of the School Laws of Pennsylvania, a Proposed Final Budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, be adopted and advertised and be available for public review at least twenty (20) days prior to final adoption. Copy to be made part of the minutes. (*See Addendum "E"*)

A motion was offered by Mrs. Sheehan-Westrick, seconded by Dr. Gmuca, and approved by roll call vote, to accept the following resolution:

##### MILLAGE LEVY FOR 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR

RESOLVED: The Penn Cambria School District Board of Directors, in Regular Session assembled, that for the purpose of providing revenue for said district for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, a tax of sixty four and ninety hundredths (64.90) mills of all property in said district upon which Cambria County tax is levied and assessed. Properties levied and assessed within the District lying in Blair County shall be taxed at nine and eight hundredths (9.08) mills. These mill rates are in compliance with Section 24 of the Public-School Code 6-672.1 (re-balancing). This resolution adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 2024.

##### ROLL CALL VOTE:

YES: Dr. Gmuca, Mr. Kearney, Mrs. Sheehan-Westrick, Mr. Stohon, Mr. Drenning, Mr. Sheehan

NO: Mr. Dziabo, Mr. Monica

A motion was offered by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Stohon, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

##### HOMESTEAD/FARMSTEAD EXCLUSION

RESOLVED: The Penn Cambria School District Board of Directors authorize the homestead and farmstead exclusion real estate tax assessment reductions for the school year beginning July 1, 2024, under the provisions of

the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006). Complete resolution to be made a part of the minutes. (*See Addendum "F"*)

A motion was offered by Mr. Drenning, seconded by Mr. Stohon, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolutions:

**PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION**

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors hereby request a Public-School Facility Improvement grant not to exceed \$5,000,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for replacement of domestic water piping, pneumatic control systems, fire alarm system, switchboard, panelboards and generator at the Penn Cambria High School. (*See Addendum "G"*)

**MOU WITH HEAD START**

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors hereby approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Penn Cambria School District and Community Action Partnership of Cambria County (CAPCC) Early Childhood Program as a Head Start provider for the purpose of coordinating mutually beneficial activities between the District and Head Start as required by the Every Student Succeeds Act.

**FITNESS CENTER COORDINATORS**

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors approve the following as Fitness Center Coordinators:

	NAME	DATE	STIPEND
a.	James Ronan	August 1, 2024 – November 1, 2024	\$1,500
b.	Andrew Tomaselli	November 1, 2024 – February 1, 2025	\$1,500
c.	Nicholas Felus	February 1, 2025 – May 1, 2025	\$1,500
d.	Nicholas Wanyo	May 1, 2025 – August 1, 2025	\$1,500

**GESA CONTRACT - ROOFING**

RESOLVED: The Board of Directors hereby approve a Guaranteed Energy Savings Act (GESA) contract with SitelogIQ for the completion of roofing work at the High School and Middle School. The total value of the GESA is \$3,987,724.

A motion was offered by Mr. Dziabo, seconded by Mr. Kearney, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL DISTRICT TREASURER**

RESOLVED: That in accordance with Section 404 of the School Laws of Pennsylvania, *Jeffrey Stohon* be appointed as Treasurer of the Penn Cambria School District for the fiscal year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

A motion was offered by Dr. Gmuca, seconded by Mr. Kearney, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**ADOPTION OF NEW, REVISED, OR BOARD POLICIES FOR REVIEW**

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors hereby approve the second reading and adoption of the following policies: (*See Addendum "H"*)

- a. 609 - Investment of District Funds
- b. 815.2 - District Social Media

Matthew Kearney thanked Mr. Marshall for his years of service and congratulated him on a well-deserved retirement.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was offered by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Dziabo, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That there being no further business, this meeting is adjourned at 8:09 P.M.