

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular Meeting  
August 20, 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, August 20, 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. Rudy McCarthy  
Mr. Guy Monica  
Mr. Michael Sheehan  
Mrs. Cindy Sheehan-Westrick  
Mr. Jeffrey Stohon  
TOTAL . . . . . 9

MEMBERS ABSENT:

TOTAL . . . . . 0  
QUORUM PRESENT.

AMONG OTHERS PRESENT:

Jaime Hartline, Superintendent	Justine Hrzic-Smith, Food Service Director
Jill Francisco, Business Administrator	Adam Clevenger, PCEA President
Jeanette Black, Assistant to the Superintendent	Robin Lappi, PCESPA President
Ronald Repak, School Solicitor	Veronica Noll, PCESPA Secretary
Benjamin Watt, High School Principal	Kerry Nileski, Teacher
Kristen Blackburn, Assistant High School Principal	Amanda Smorto, Teacher/Union
Joseph Smorto, Elementary Principal	Stephanie Rossman, Teacher
Carrie Conrad, Special Education Director	Kristin Baudoux, Mainliner Reporter
Jane Burkholder, School Psychologist	Matt Churella, Altoona Mirror Reporter
Lewis Hale, Director of Technology	Morghan Krug
Scott Sherry, Director of Buildings, Grounds, & Maintenance	Susan Plummer
Katlin Little, Athletic Director	Toni Krug
Jacquelyn Mento, Recording Secretary	Jeff Krug

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was offered by Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Dr. Gmuca, and then opened for discussion. Once opened for discussion a motion to amend the agenda was offered by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Monica, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That Board of Directors hereby amend the agenda to make the following additions to first reading of new, revised, or Board policies for review:

- A. Policy 123 – Interscholastic Athletics - add Parental Involvement in Coaching section
- B. Policy 006 – Meetings - add “approving the hiring of a coach who has a child who will be participating in that sport” and reference to Board Policy 123

Detailed discussion was had on why Mr. Kearney was offering the amendment and his disagreement to retire 123 AR2 to allow parents to coach their kids.

Said motion was rejected by roll call vote:

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YES: Mr. Dziabo, Mr. Kearney, Mr. Monica, Mr. Stohon

NO: Dr. Gmuca, Mr. McCarthy, Mrs. Sheehan-Westrick, Mr. Drenning, Mr. Sheehan

Following said rejection, the board took action on the original motion and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That Board of Directors hereby approve the agenda as presented.

#### **SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

Congratulations to the following students who placed 2nd at the 2024 Cambria County Envirothon:

Cody Farabaugh, Austin Gray, Caleb Piszczek, Sophia Rabatin, and Brian Wu

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

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the regular meeting held June 18, 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. Stohon, seconded by Dr. Gmuca, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That the invoices as mailed to 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 REPORTS**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Treasurer's Reports for June and July 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. Drenning, seconded by Mr. Stohon, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolutions:

##### **FINAL STATEMENT WITH TAX COLLECTORS**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors, pending the final audit, concur in the settlement with tax collectors for the 2023 school duplicate in accordance with the TAX COLLECTION SETTLEMENT FOR 2023-2024 DUPLICATE REPORTS, a copy of which shall be made a part of the school district's official files.

##### **ACCEPTANCE OF TAX COLLECTOR'S ANNUAL EXONERATION REPORTS**

**RESOLVED:** That the annual exoneration reports of the tax collectors, submitted for the 2023-2024 school year, be accepted; settlement with the collectors pending review of records by the Business Office and school district auditor.

##### **SET SCHOOL LUNCH PRICE FOR GRADE 5 FOR 2024-2025**

**RESOLVED:** That the school lunch price for grade 5 be set at \$2.00 for the 2024-2025 school term.

##### **MIDDLE SCHOOL BID AWARDS – HEATING OIL AND COAL**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors award the 2024-2025 Middle School bids for heating oil and coal to the lowest responsible bidders as follows:

Heating Oil – Petroleum Traders Corporation

Coal – Penn Keystone Coal Co., LLC

(*See pages Addendum "C"*)

**BID AWARD - CAFETERIA EQUIPMENT**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors award the bid for the purchase of cafeteria equipment to Gerald Sherry & Associates, Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$100,209.00. The purchase will be made by The Nutrition Group and payments will be made by the District in accordance with the Food Service Management Contract.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Attorney Ronald Repak updated the Board of Directors on changes in the school code. He stated that the flat cyber rate of \$8,000 per student failed to pass, however the special education cyber school tuition will now be based on the actual percentage of students with disabilities in the school district, instead of the assumed sixteen percent of average daily membership that it is at currently. Cyber schools will also be required to submit the statement of financial interests and have annual audits conducted.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

A motion was offered by Mr. Monica, seconded by Dr. Gmuca, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, with the exception of Mr. Kearney who abstained from letter A, 2, f, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That the Superintendent's recommendations be approved as follows:

A. Personnel Actions

1. Accept Resignations

- a. Marie Cattoi, Elmora, Special Education Teacher, effective June 26, 2024
- b. Amanda Decker, Cresson, Food Service Worker, effective August 14, 2024
- c. Joelle Hanlon, Gallitzin, Special Education Teacher, effective July 26, 2024
- d. Brittany Mogollon, Assistant Marching Band Director, effective immediately
- e. Tonya Niebauer, Cresson, School Nurse, effective July 30, 2024
- f. James Ronan, Ashville, Head Varsity Baseball Coach, effective immediately
- g. Stacey Russian, Lilly, Aide, effective July 30, 2024
- h. Adam Smearman, Altoona, Dean of Students/Gifted Education Teacher, effective August 7, 2024
- i. Hanna Stoudnour, Lilly, Part Time Custodian, effective August 7, 2024
- j. Natalie Watt, Ashville, Special Education Teacher, effective July 12, 2024

2. Approve Appointments

- a. Kiana Brink, Ashville, School Nurse under Emergency Permit Type 01 with an educational obligation to pursue certification as per CSPG #13, effective immediately, Bachelor Step 1 salary of \$41,638, pro-rated from effective date
- b. Isabella Burkhart, Portage, High School Aide, effective pending documentation
- c. Leigh Casher, Cresson, Intermediate School Aide, effective with the start of the 2024-2025 school year
- d. Hannah Fitzsimmons, Cresson, Volunteer Junior High Volleyball Coach, effective pending documentation
- e. Nancy Fochler, Altoona, Co-Bocce Ball Coach, at a stipend of \$500, effective immediately
- f. Mackenzie Kearney, Cresson, from High School Floating Secretary to Primary School Aide, effective immediately
- g. Morghan Krug, Loretto, Elementary Special Education Teacher, Bachelors Step 1, \$41,638, effective at the start of the 2024-2025 school year
- h. Debbie Love, Gallitzin, High School Aide, effective pending documentation
- i. Rhonda Myers, Ashville, High School Floating Secretary, retroactive to August 19, 2024
- j. David Piszczek, Cresson, Head Varsity Softball Coach, at a stipend of \$3,958, effective pending documentation
- k. Susan Plummer, Cresson, Elementary Special Education Teacher, Masters Step 18, \$71,838, effective pending release from current employment
- l. Stephanie Rossman, Assistant Marching Band Director, at a stipend of \$1,794, effective immediately
- m. Lois Smith, Lilly, Middle School Aide, effective with the start of the 2024-2025 school year
- n. Nevaya Wilt, Gallitzin, Aide, location to be determined, effective pending documentation

3. Approve Substitutes for the 2024-2025 school year, pending documentation

a. Nonpublic Title 1 Teachers

i. Deletions are as follows:

1. Amy Dietrich, Loretto
2. Amanda Zalznock, Cresson

- b. Substitute Teachers
  - i. Deletions are as follows:
    - 1. Hannah Ernest, Portage
    - 2. Morghan Krug, Loretto
  - ii. Additions are as follows:
    - 1. Brooke Litzinger, Johnstown
    - 2. Marissa Vinglish, Dysart
- c. IU08 Substitute Teachers
  - i. Deletions are as follows:
    - 1. Leigh Casher, Cresson
- d. Substitute Aide/Secretary
  - i. Additions are as follows:
    - 1. Margo Buck, Ashville
- 4. Approve School Bus Drivers for the 2024-2025 school year
  - a. Deletions are as follows:
    - i. Sherry Adams, Gallitzin
    - ii. Adam Burick, Portage
    - iii. Roger Cavalet, Dysart
    - iv. Merle Conley, Lilly
    - v. Eileen Durbin, Cresson
    - vi. Lee Erickson, Ebensburg
    - vii. Joseph Gallagher, Loretto
    - viii. Deanna Gority, Dysart
    - ix. Robert Hobba, Mineral Point
    - x. Mary Kumpf, Cresson
    - xi. Pat McConnell, Dysart
    - xii. Wesley Miller, Portage
    - xiii. Lloyed Rummel, Gallitzin
    - xiv. Thomas Schettig, Cresson
    - xv. Sandy Vinglas, Gallitzin
- 5. Award Tenure
  - a. Abby Mento
- 6. Approve Mentors for the 2024-2025 school year, stipend per PCEA contract:
 

<u>Professional Staff</u>	<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
John Yogus	Andrew Tomaselli	\$250
Derrick Eckenrode	Heather Kerfonta	\$250
Susan Plummer	Jessica Wyland	\$250
Morghan Krug (Induction)	Bryan Marra	\$500/yr for 2 yrs
- B. Approve Student Handbooks
- C. Approve the Athletic Code of Conduct

**NEW BUSINESS**

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

**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL TARGETED SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT (TSI) PLAN**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors hereby approve the 2024-2025 Title 1 Targeted School Improvement (TSI) Schoolwide plan for Penn Cambria Intermediate School. (*See Addendum "D"*)

**ELEMENTARY K-4 DIGITAL LITERACY COMPUTER UNIT MAPS**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors hereby approve the Elementary K-4 Digital Literacy Computer Unit Maps.

**PRE-K COUNTS FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve the Pre-K Counts Flexible Instructional Plan for the 2024-2025 school year.

**SURVEY PARTICIPATION**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors hereby approve the participation in the following surveys in various grade levels/classrooms:

- A. Safe Touches (*if applicable*)
- B. Botvin Lifeskills Grades 6-8 for United Way

**MENTAL HEALTH THERAPY SERVICES**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve entering into an agreement with Alternative Community Resource Program to provide school-based student mental health counseling services for the 2024-2025 school year.

**DRUG AND ALCOHOL SERVICES**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve entering into an agreement with Impact Counseling Services, LLC to provide school-based drug and alcohol services for the 2024-2025 school year.

**SCHOOL-AGE EDUCATION PROGRAM AND SERVICES**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve entering into an agreement with Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 for school-age education programs and services, effective August 1, 2024.

**COMMUNITY GUIDANCE CENTER**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve entering into an agreement with Community Guidance Center to provide school-based student mental health counseling services for the 2024-2025 school year funded by 23-24 PCCD Meritorious Safety and School Mental Health grants.

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

**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL PUBLIC HEARING**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve to hold a public hearing of the Board to consider the permanent closure and/or reconfiguration of the Intermediate School Building. (*See Addendum "E"*)

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

**MIDDLE SCHOOL PUBLIC HEARING**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve to hold a public hearing of the Board to consider the permanent closure and/or reconfiguration of the Middle School Building. (*See Addendum "F"*)

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE RE-ASSIGNMENTS**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve the following administrative re-assignments effective with the start of the 2024-2025 school year:

- A. Dr. Joseph Smorto, Principal grades PreK-5
- B. Mr. Dane Harrold, Principal grades 6-8
- C. Mr. Justin Wheeler, Assistant Principal grades PK-8

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

**SALARY ADJUSTMENT**

**RESOLVED:** The Board of Directors approve a \$2,500 salary increase for Dr. Joseph Smorto, Elementary School Principal, effective for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

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

**SCHOOL POLICE OFFICER CONTRACT**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors hereby approve revision of the School Police Officer contract with *Mr. Shawn Dishong*, Gallitzin, effective immediately.

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

**E-SIGNATURE AUTHORITY**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors grant Jaime Hartline, Superintendent, electronic signatory power with the Pennsylvania Department of Education as per the attached resolution. (*See Addendum "G"*)

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

**GESA CONTRACT AMENDMENT 2 – WATER DAMAGE REPAIRS AT HIGH SCHOOL**

**RESOLVED:** The Board of Directors approve an Amendment to the Guaranteed Energy Savings Act (GESA) contract with SitelogIQ for asbestos tile remediation and new flooring for select areas and a new unit ventilator for Room 209. These select areas were impacted by a November 2023 water leak initiated in Room 209 at the High School. The total value of the GESA Amendment is \$156,518.

**FIRST READING OF NEW, REVISED, OR BOARD POLICIES FOR REVIEW:**

- A. 103 – Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Student
- B. 103.1 – Nondiscrimination - Qualified Students with Disabilities
- C. 104 – Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Staff
- D. 234 – Pregnant/Parenting/Married Students
- E. 247 – Hazing
- F. 249 – Bullying/Cyberbullying
- G. 252 – Dating Violence
- H. 317.1 – Educator Misconduct
- I. 336 – Personal Necessity Leave
- J. 339 – Uncompensated Leave
- K. 807 – Opening Exercises/Moment of Silence/Flag Displays
- L. 824 – Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries  
(*See Addendum "H"*)

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

- A. Revised Administrative Regulations:
  - 1. 122-AR – Academic Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities
  - 2. 123-AR-1 – Academic Eligibility for Interscholastic Activities
  - 3. 204-AR – Attendances and Absences
  - 4. 204-AR – Attachment-Educational Trips  
(*See Addendum "I"*)
  
- B. Retired Administrative Regulation
  - 1. 123-AR-2 – Athletic Coaches  
(*See Addendum "J"*)

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

Lewis Hale, Director of Technology, informed the Board of Directors regarding technology updates that occurred over the past year such as: the intercom replacement at PC Intermediate School; digital hall passes at the High School and Middle School; Windows 11 compatibility upgrades; Axis door controller installation including entry tag, video sensors, and audible alarm; movement of Federal ECF laptops to third grade classrooms; return of laptops from graduated seniors; and the realignment of laptop carts due to 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade location changes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**RESOLVED:** That there being no further business, this meeting is adjourned at 7:34 P.M.