

PENN

BOARD REPORT

Volume 44 No. 12

CAMBRIA

June 2023

This report summarizes the actions taken by the Penn Cambria Board of Education at its regular meeting, June 20, 2023. Routine business, such as approval of minutes, treasurer's report, payment of bills, and financial reports was accomplished. The Board also took the following actions:

I. ANNOUNCEMENT

The regular School Board meeting scheduled for July 26, 2023 has been cancelled.

II. SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to the following student/athletes that were named spring LHAC all-conference:

Baseball – Zach Grove, Softball – Jerzy Vinglish, Girls Track – Kasey Farabaugh & Jerzy Vinglish, Boys Track – Andre Marinak & Joshua Stolarski.

Congratulations to the Boys Track Team who finished in 3rd place at Districts. Individual achievements were as follows:

Joshua Stolarski: 1st place 200 dash, 1st place 400 dash

Andre Marinak: 1st place 300 hurdles, 2nd place 110 hurdles

Carter McDermott: 3rd place triple jump

Congratulations to Joshua Stolarski for taking first place in the 400m at the State Track and Field Championship.

Congratulations to Garrett Harrold for being named Altoona Mirror's Male Athlete of the Year.

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

IV. Designated depositories for school district funds for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

V. Authorized the Superintendent or his designee be empowered to invest funds from the various school district accounts in interest bearing accounts in compliance with the District Investment Policy.

VI. Authorized the business office to pay invoices for the 2022-2023 fiscal year that are received after the date of the regular meeting on June 20, 2023, and to make any necessary budgetary transfers for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

VII. Approved premiums for Package and Worker's Compensation insurance for the 2023-2024 policy year.

VIII. Approved Student Accident Insurance Coverage through United States Fire Insurance Company for the 2023-2024 fiscal year with a premium of \$13,300.00 and that under the same policy make available for parents to purchase Voluntary Student Accident Insurance Coverage at a premium of \$28.00 for school-time coverage and \$124.00 for twenty-four-hour coverage.

IX. Set school breakfast/lunch prices for 2023-2024:

Elementary (Pre-K - 4) breakfast \$1.30 and lunch \$2.00; Secondary (5 - 12) breakfast \$1.30 and lunch \$2.10; Reduced prices at \$0.30 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch.

- X.** Approved agreements to provide lunches to Start Smart Learning Center and The Little Red School House for the 2023-2024 school term in accordance with guidelines established by the National School Lunch Program and Pennsylvania Department of Education.
- XI.** Authorized the Business Administrator to establish a new money market account with First National Bank for the Food Service Fund.
- XII.** Awarded the 2023-2024 bid for gasoline to Friday Gas & Oil, Inc., Weedville, PA.
- XIII.** Approved the Superintendent's recommendations as follows:
- A. PERSONNEL ACTIONS**
- Accept Retirement**
Amber Marshall, Patton, Speech Teacher and Bocce Ball Club Advisor, after 28+ years of service, effective January 16, 2024
- Accept Resignations**
Anthony Hurst, Cresson, High School Custodian, effective July 7, 2023
Carrie Vinglish, Dysart, Co-advisor High School Student Council, effective June 12, 2023
Michele Taddei, Gallitzin, Assistant Varsity Girls Basketball Coach, effective May 26, 2023
- Remove Substitutes, effective immediately**
- Substitute Food Service Worker
Marcia Laskowski, Ashville
- Substitute Aide
Tessa O'Keefe, Altoona
- IU08 Substitutes
Mario DaSilva, Patton
Amanda Gonzalez, Summerhill
Mackenzie Walters, Johnstown
Patricia Wood, Ebensburg
- Substitute Teachers
Joan Casale, Cresson
Connor Pielmeier, Duncansville
Kaley Strittmatter, Cresson
Victoria Violet, Altoona
- Substitute Nurse
Samuel Brisini, Ebensburg
- Remove Extended School Year Aide**
Lynn Lassak
- Additional Extended School Year Aide**
Rebecca Panek
- Approve Appointment, per Act 93 Agreement**
Kristen Blackburn, Windber, High School Assistant Principal with a 205-day contract and salary of \$65,000.00, effective July 1, 2023
- Approve Appointments**
Lisa Beck, Ebensburg, Assistant Varsity Girls Basketball Coach, at a stipend of \$3,958, effective pending documentation

Alyssa Martinazzi, Cresson, Volunteer Varsity Girls Basketball Coach, effective immediately

Guido Fabbri, Lilly, from Volunteer to Assistant Varsity Boys Basketball Coach, at a stipend of \$3,958, effective immediately

Tori Shingler, Altoona, Volunteer Junior High Volleyball Coach, effective pending documentation

Nicholas White, Gallitzin, Volunteer Junior High Football Coach, effective pending documentation

Michael Summerville, Cresson, from Assistant 7th and 8th Grade Football Coach to Volunteer, effective immediately

Joshua Stringent, Lilly, from Volunteer to Assistant 7th and 8th Grade Football Coach, at a stipend of \$1,726.40, effective pending documentation

Douglas Fogel, Ashville, Substitute Teacher, effective immediately

Gabriel Hutsky, Ashville, High School Custodian, effective pending documentation

Melissa Kane, Hastings, National Honor Society Advisor, at a stipend of \$1,517, effective with the start of the 2023-2024 school year

Douglas Harrold, Loretto, Temporary Driver, effective pending documentation

Approve Leave

Employee #016519, Pre-Primary School Teacher, effective on or about October 6, 2023 through on or about December 21, 2023

Approve McIlwain School Bus Lines, Inc. Drivers, effective pending documentation

Norman Townsend, Cresson

Brian Datres, St. Benedict

- B. Retain *Dr. Oravec* as a school dentist at \$5.00 per exam.
- C. Establish the daily substitute teacher rate of \$100 for the 2023-2024 school year.
- D. Establish the hourly substitute support staff rate of \$9 for the 2023-2024 school year.
- E. Authorize the Superintendent to apply for various state and federal grants, including those administered by PDE. The Superintendent is also authorized to sign and file related contracts (annual approval).
- F. Approve salary increases of 3% plus \$200 for the Computer Technician and each of the confidential personnel in Central Office effective July 1, 2023.
- G. Approve salary increase of 3% for Charles Terek, Athletic Director, effective July 1, 2023.

XIV. Approved the Federal Programs Parent and Family Engagement Policy Statements for Penn Cambria School District, Penn Cambria Pre-Primary School, Penn Cambria Primary School, and Penn Cambria Intermediate School.

XV. Adopted the Final budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, in the amount of \$27,834,408.

XVI. Approved the Home/School Compact for Penn Cambria School District.

XVII. Authorized Altoona Area School District's ELECT Program to apply for and expend funds on behalf of the Penn Cambria School District through the AASD ELECT Consortium, to operate the ELECT program and activities for eligible students through 2024.

- XVIII.** Approved a one-year service agreement for non-hazardous waste services with M & M Roll-Off Service of Lilly, PA for the Intermediate School and Primary School effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 at a yearly rate of \$6,600.00.
- XIX.** Approved a three-year service agreement for non-hazardous waste services with Waste Management, Inc. of Davidsville, PA for the High School, Middle School, and Pre-Primary School effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026 at a monthly rate of \$1,797.62, with a ten percent increase in years two and three.
- XX.** Approved revisions to the Benefit Plan for Non-Contract Non-Professional Classified Personnel, effective July 1, 2023.
- XXI.** Approved a salary increase of 3% effective July 1, 2023, for the Superintendent, based upon performance evaluation.
- XXII.** Approved a contract with *Courtney Hirsch*, Johnstown, for School Psychologist services, at a rate of \$500 per day, and a contract with *Kayla M. Mantini*, Hollidaysburg, for School Psychologist services, at a rate of six hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$655.00) per record review (no additional data required/no on-site time commitment required) or eight hundred dollars (\$800.00) (if additional data/on-site time commitment is required), effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.
- XXIII.** Approved 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.
- XXIV.** Approved entering into an agreement with Imagine Learning to provide curricular and instructional services for grades K-5 PC Cyber Academy.
- XXV.** Approved a resolution in support of School Meals for All (SB180 and HB180) so that all kids throughout the state of Pennsylvania can receive the food they need to be successful in school and further work to remove the stigma that has always existed in the school meals program. The Board of Directors further resolved to call upon fellow elected officials to support these efforts by passing resolutions at the local level, co-sponsoring legislation at the state level, and advocating for kids across the state to access the healthy food they need during the school day.
- XXVI.** Approved the revised Penn Cambria School District Health and Safety Plan.
- XXVII.** Approved entering into an agreement with e-LUMA to provide Telehealth Mental Health Services for students and to provide staff professional development for the 2023-2024 school year, funded by PCCD School Mental Health grant.
- XXVIII.** Approved the second reading and adoption of the following policies:
103 & 104 Attachment - Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process
204 AR - Attendances and Absences
204 AR Attachment - Educational Trip Request
- XXIX. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
First reading of the following new, revised or Board policies for review:
137 - Home Education Programs
137.1 - Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students
137.2 - Participation in Cocurricular Activities and Academic Courses by Home Education Students
137.3 - Participation in Career and Technical Education Programs by Home Education Students
251 - Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care, and Other Educational Instability

XXX. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mrs. Carrie Conrad, Special Education Director, informed the Board of Education on new initiatives and updates in the Special Education Department during the 2022-2023 school year.

“The contract with IU07 for Deaf/Blind Services includes sending trainers to help our staff learn how to manage and educate in the classroom. As the school year progressed, our staff grew and blossomed to the point where IU07 was so proud of them, that the IU brought their own team to observe, which was a big accomplishment.

With the frequent rotation of aides and due to turnover, there has not been formal training in the IU08 for at least three years which has really put a strain on our classrooms. After reaching out to other coordinators in the area, we are able to implement formal training the 2nd week of July.

This school year, I met with learning and emotional support teachers who had concerns regarding specific students. By brainstorming and working together, we were able to find the best approach to help these students reach success in the classroom.

Dr. Smorto reviewed the Multi-Tiered System of Supports, or MTSS, process with you during his recent Board report. As our elementary MTSS team developed, I determined that the benefits of this process could also be implemented at the middle school. I approached Mr. Harrold and he agreed that it would be a great idea to try a similar MTSS model. When structuring the MTSS team at the middle school, we included myself, Renee Myers, Dane Harrold, and Kayla Galebach, who met monthly to review student cases. With the utilization of teachers for extra tutoring, working with students on homework, etc. this model at the middle school increased communication significantly and helped certain students by offering some creative accommodations. These small changes helped decrease referrals, promoted student growth, and we saw overall improvement in students. Some students achieved success without the need to complete an evaluation for special education eligibility.

Moving into 2023-2024 school year, I have already reached out to Mrs. Kalwanaski to start an MTSS team at the high school. This team will run in the same format that we are currently using at the middle school. Not only do I believe that these changes have helped improve education for our students that are struggling, but it has also helped to make sure that the principals and special education staff are on the same page.”