

PENN
BOARD REPORT
CAMBRIA

Volume 45 No. 7 January 2024

This report summarizes the actions taken by the Penn Cambria Board of Education at its regular meeting, January 16, 2024. Routine business, such as approval of minutes, treasurer’s reports, payment of bills, and financial reports was accomplished. The Board also took the following actions:

- I. HEARING OF VISITORS - Questions, concerns, comments, related to school business.
 - A. Attorney Ronald Repak stated the rules for public comment, informed the Board on the process for which the invited Board Candidates will be addressing the Board, and described the procedures to be followed to appoint a new Board Director.
 - B. Kasey Bradley (Cresson), Russell Driskel (Ashville), Anthony Tomaselli (Cresson), Dr. Jennifer Gmuca (Cresson), Chris Marana (Lilly), and David Myers (Lilly) addressed the Board of Directors on the reasons they are the best candidates for the open Board vacancy.
 - C. The Board of Directors expressed their individual selections as the strongest candidates.

II. Appointed Dr. Jennifer Gmuca to fill the vacancy in membership of the Board through December 2025.

III. Louann Hoffman, Notary Public, administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected board member.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENT

A. A Special Board of Education meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2024 in the Penn Cambria High School Library at 7:00 P.M.

B. Please join us in thanking our Penn Cambria school directors for their hard work and dedication during January, which is School Director Recognition Month. They make our students’ success their priority.

Pennsylvania school directors are locally elected officials who voluntarily devote an average of twenty (20) hours per month to school board business.

The Penn Cambria School Board advocates on behalf of our school, students, and community. We salute them for their volunteer investment of time and effort for the good of our children.

V. SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the following student-athletes who have been named to the Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference All-Conference Team for the 2023 fall sports season:

- Girls Golf: Kiya Thomas
- Girls Soccer: Second Team Defense - Leah Shoemaker
- Boys Soccer: First Team Offense - Andrew Dillon
Honorable Mention Defense - Jake Zurich
- Football: First Team Defense - Preston Farabaugh and Derek Hite
First Team Offense - Preston Farabaugh and Gavin Harrold
Second Team Defense - Mason Mento, Gavin Harrold, Marcus Lilly, Carter McDermott, and Gabriel Irving
Second Team Offense - Derek Hite
Honorable Mention Defense - Nikolajis Heil
Honorable Mention Offense - Eli Summerville, Carter McDermott, and Thomas Plunkett

Congratulations to the following student-athletes who have been named to All-State Teams:
First Team Defense - Gavin Harrold and Second Team Defense - Derek Hite

- VI. Authorized the payment to local tax collectors of \$1.00 (one dollar) for each addition, deletion, or address change to the tax workbooks. The district will provide guidelines for this compensation to the local tax collectors at the time new tax workbooks are distributed. The district's Business Office will validate all changes prior to payment.
- VII. Authorized the Business Administrator to continue past practice of making donations to local fire companies and libraries.
- VIII. Approved the Superintendent's recommendations as follows:
 - A. PERSONNEL ACTIONS
 1. Accept Retirement
 - a. Deborah Baker, Cresson, Pre-Primary School Teacher, effective at the close of the 2023-2024 school year, after 20 years of service
 2. Accept Resignations
 - a. Lori Heldibridle, Lilly, Intermediate School Health Room Assistant, effective December 29, 2023
 - b. Kaitlyn Kalwanaski, Patton, High School Principal, effective January 16, 2024
 - c. Nicole Lundberg, Lilly, IU08 Substitute Teacher, effective immediately
 3. Approve Appointments
 - a. Leigh Casher, Cresson, Elementary Substitute Teacher, effective on or about January 10, 2024 through on or about February 16, 2024
 - b. Hannah Ernest, Portage, Intermediate Substitute Teacher, effective on or about January 22, 2024 through on or about March 5, 2024
 - c. Ashley Galovich, Cresson, Volunteer Softball Coach, effective pending documentation
 - d. Christina Plouse, Cresson, Intermediate School Health Room Assistant, effective pending documentation
 - e. Michael Noel, Dysart, High School 2nd Shift Custodian, effective pending documentation
 - f. Christine Trexler, Cresson, Middle School Science Substitute Teacher, effective January 16, 2024 through the end of the 2023-2024 school year
 - g. Benjamin Watt, Ashville, from 205-day Assistant Middle School Principal to 260-day High School Principal, at an annual salary of \$83,000 (prorated for days worked in 2023-24), effective January 17, 2024
 - h. Justin Wheeler, Gallitzin, from Science Teacher to 205-day Assistant Middle School Principal, at an annual salary of \$76,512 (prorated for days worked in 2023-24), effective January 17, 2024
 4. Award Tenure
 - a. Brittany Mogollon
 5. Approve McIlwain School Bus Lines, Inc. Driver, effective pending documentation
 - a. Thomas Schettig, Cresson
- IX. Appointed Anthony Dziabo as first alternate representative to the Admiral Peary Area Vocational Technical School Joint Operating Committee.
- X. Authorized CORE Architects, LLC, to provide professional Architectural and Engineering Services for the District-wide Consolidation and Renovation Project, in accordance with their Proposal, dated January 12, 2024, and pending execution, subject to review by the District Solicitor, of an Amendment to the Architectural Master Services Agreement, dated December 1, 2022.
- XI. INFORMATION ITEMS
 - A. First Reading of New, Revised, or Board Policies for Review:
 1. 610 - Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation
 2. 611 - Purchases Budgeted
 3. 626 Attachment - Procurement – Federal Programs