

PENN

# BOARD REPORT

CAMBRIA

Volume 46 No. 6
January 2025

This report summarizes the actions taken by the Penn Cambria Board of Education at its regular meeting, January 15, 2025. Routine business, such as approval of agenda, minutes, treasurer’s report, financial reports, and payment of bills was accomplished. The Board also took the following actions and approved the following resolutions:

- I. **ANNOUNCEMENT** - 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 several 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.

- II. **SPOTLIGHT ON ACHIEVEMENTS**

Congratulations to Lucas Gaida, Vocational Technical student, who was one of three Pennsylvania students awarded an internship with Trane HVAC.

Congratulations to the following student-athletes:

Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference all-conference teams:

Football

First team

Offense: Matthew Eckenrode, Preston Farabaugh, Gavin Harrold, Derek Hite, and Logan Price

Defense: Jack Eckenrode, Gavin Harrold, Derek Hite, and Mason Mento

Second team

Offense: Brock Fredack, Gavin Harrold, Brady Jones, and Dayne Summerville

Defense: Marcus Eckenrode, Preston Farabaugh, and Thomas Plunkett

Honorable mention

Offense: Thomas Plunkett

Defense: Brock Fredack, Blake Nadolsky, and Corbin Vinglish

Marcus Eckenrode and Gavin Harrold were also named to the AAA All State Team.

Boys soccer

First team: Duncan Gongloff, Cayden Helsel, and Nicholas Marshall

Second team: Carter Panick and Jackson Rice

Honorable mention: Seth Conrad

Girls soccer

First team: Meghan Andersen and Danielle Farabaugh

Second team: Chloe Karabinos

Girls volleyball

Second team: Sophia Rabatin and Loren Stipanovich

Honorable mention: Addison Hite

District VI AA All District Volleyball team: Loren Stipanovich

All-State Football team: Preston Farabaugh and Gavin Harrold

Football Player of the Year in both the Altoona Mirror and Tribune Democrat: Gavin Harrold

Congratulations to Nicholas Felus who was named Coach of the Year in both the Altoona Mirror and Tribune Democrat.

### III. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

#### REVISION TO TAX WORKBOOKS

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Education authorize the payment to local tax collectors of \$1.00 (one dollar) for each addition, deletion, or address change to the tax workbooks. The district's Business Office will validate all changes prior to payment.

#### ANNUAL DONATIONS

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Education authorize the Business Administrator to continue past practice of making donations to local fire companies and libraries.

### IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

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

#### A. Personnel

1. Accept Resignations
  - a. Kristen Eger, Cresson, Nonpublic Title 1 Substitute Teacher, effective January 10, 2025
  - b. Katlin Little, Gallitzin, Volunteer Golf Coach, effective immediately
2. Approve Appointments
  - a. William Delaney, Windber, Scholastic Quiz Advisor, effective with the start of the 2025-2026 school year
  - b. Erika Link, Patton, Intermediate School Substitute Teacher, retroactive to November 25, 2024 through January 3, 2025
  - c. Bethany Vinglas, Loretto, Health Room Assistant, retroactive to January 2, 2025
3. Approve Appointments, effective pending documentation
  - a. Alana Berry, Cresson, Aide, location to be determined
  - b. Richard China, Lilly, Head Varsity Boys Soccer Coach, at a stipend of \$3958.00
  - c. Patrick Hanlon, Gallitzin, Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach, at a stipend of \$1689.80
  - d. Lakeyn Hogue, Cresson, Aide, location to be determined
  - e. Christine Nugent, Sidman, Substitute Nurse
  - f. Emilie Walker, Johnstown, Substitute Teacher
  - g. Samantha Wertz, Dysart, Substitute Nurse

#### 4. Approve Fitness Center Coordinator:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Travis Schlupe	May 1, 2025 - August 1, 2025	\$1500

#### 5. Approve Mentors for the 2024-2025 school year, stipend per PCEA contract:

<u>Professional Staff</u>	<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Lori Long	Amanda Smorto	\$250
Courtney Johnson	Jenny Damin	\$500/year for 2 years (pro-rated)

### V. NEW BUSINESS

#### GESA CONTRACT AMENDMENT 3 – HIGH SCHOOL MEP IMPROVEMENTS WITH PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT SCOPE

**RESOLVED:** The Board of Directors hereby approve an Amendment to the Guaranteed Energy Savings Act (GESA) contract with SitelogIQ for classroom and cafeteria HVAC renovations, electrical system upgrades, and plumbing system improvements at the High School. Scope items associated with the Public School Facility Improvement Grant at the High School are included within this project. The total value of the GESA Amendment is \$6,535,239.

**CLOSURE OF PENN CAMBRIA PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors hereby directs that the Penn Cambria Primary School located at 400 Main St. Lilly, Pennsylvania be permanently closed effective at the close of the 2024-2025 school year, pursuant to Section 13-1311 and in accordance with Section 5-524 and Section 7-780 of the Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949, as amended.

**SCHOOL RECONFIGURATION**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors hereby approve the reconfiguration of the following Penn Cambria buildings, effective July 1, 2025:

- Penn Cambria High School - grades 7 through 12
- Penn Cambria Middle School - grades 4 through 6
- Penn Cambria Intermediate School - grades 2 through 3
- Penn Cambria Pre-Primary School - grades Pre-K through 1

This change is necessary due to the closure of Penn Cambria Primary School.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RE-ASSIGNMENTS**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve the following Administrative re-assignments effective July 1, 2025:

- Mr. Ben Watt, Principal grades 7-12
- Mr. Dane Harrold, Principal grades 4-6
- Dr. Joseph Smorto, Principal grades Pre-K-3
- Mrs. Kristen Blackburn, Assistant Principal grades 7-12
- Mr. Justin Wheeler, Assistant Principal grades 2-3

**BOYS VOLLEYBALL CO-OP WITH BISHOP GUILFOYLE**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve a co-op agreement for Boys Volleyball with Bishop Guilfoyle to take effect with the start of the 2025-2026 school year. Parents of students participating will be responsible for transportation to Bishop Guilfoyle.

**CONSULTING SERVICES**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve entering into an agreement with Food Facilities Concepts, Inc, Carnegie, PA, to provide professional consulting services for Penn Cambria School District.

**RESOLUTION IN LIEU OF PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors, in lieu of adopting a preliminary budget, will not raise the rate of any tax for the support of public schools for the 2025-2026 fiscal year by more than its index (5.7%).

**OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve Penn Cambria Band students to attend an out of state field trip to Walt Disney World and Universal Studios, FL in February of 2026, cost will be funded by the PC Band Boosters.

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

- A. 610 - Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation
- B. 611 - Purchases Budgeted
- C. 626 Attachment - Procurement – Federal Programs
- D. 823 - Opioid Antagonist

**VII. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- A. First Reading of the 2025-2026 School Calendar

**VIII. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

Katlin Little, Athletic Director, shared highlights from the Athletic Department with the Board of Directors that included fall sports, 5g T-Mobile giveaway, online platform, and upcoming events.

Ms. Little began by thanking the board members and administration for giving her the opportunity to serve as the Athletic Director at Penn Cambria. It has been a fun Extending her appreciation to Mr. Hartline, Mr. Watt, Mr. Harrold, Mrs. Blackburn, Scott Sherry, Jackie Mento, and Mrs. Francisco.

Katlin continued with Fall sport highlights that included: boys soccer team placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the District VI Championship; girls' volleyball securing their 1<sup>st</sup> playoff win in four years and ending with a 11-7 regular season record; football winning Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference for the first time since 1989, securing their first and second state playoff wins, and ending the season as a PIAA 3A Final Four finalist with a record of 14-1; Gavin Harrold and Preston Farabaugh receiving All-State Honors in football; Gavin Harrold winning Player of the year for the Altoona Mirror and Tribune Democrat; Coach Felus receiving two major awards as well - Coach of the year for both Altoona Mirror and Tribune Democrat; and Gavin Harrold and Marcus Eckenrode being named to PFN Class 3A All-State Football Team.

Ms. Little also expressed her pride for the community for their involvement and dedication in the 5g T-Mobile giveaway, where Penn Cambria School District advanced through the first round and won five thousand dollars. This competition was a win-win situation, it brought the community together and made Ms. Little immensely proud of the community's dedication and hard work.

This coming spring, the athletic department will launch an online platform called Student Central through Big teams, to be made active next Fall 2025. The platform will contain sport physicals, paperwork, and all the forms that are needed for student athletes. It will be an adjustment at first, however, it will be beneficial in the long run.

This week is Officials Appreciate Week, where officials will be recognized through special announcements, gifts, etc. in order to thank them for their incredible work and dedication. Also scheduled this week is Teacher appreciation night that will take place at Friday night's boys' and girls' basketball double header against Bishop Guilfoyle.