

PENN CAMBRIA SCHOOL DISTRICT
201 6TH STREET
CRESSON, PENNSYLVANIA 16630

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
March 18, 2025

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

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, March 18, 2025, in the Library of the Penn Cambria High School.

ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Caleb Drenning
Mr. Anthony Dziabo
Mr. Rudy McCarthy
Mr. Guy Monica
Mr. Michael Sheehan
Mrs. Cindy Sheehan-Westrick
Mr. Jeffrey Stohon
TOTAL. 7

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dr. Jennifer Gmuca
Mr. Matthew Kearney
TOTAL. 2
QUORUM PRESENT.

AMONG OTHERS PRESENT:

Jaime Hartline, Superintendent	Lewis Hale, Director of Technology
Ronald Repak, Solicitor	Jane Burkholder, School Psychologist
Jeanette Black, Assistant to the Superintendent	Katlin Little, Athletic Director
Jill Francisco, Business Administrator	Jacquelyn Mento, Recording Secretary
Scott Sherry, Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Maintenance	Kerry Nileski, Teacher
Benjamin Watt, High School Principal	Robbin Lappi, PCESPA President
Kristen Blackburn, Assistant High School Principal	Adam Clevenger, PCEA President
Dane Harrold, Middle School Principal	Kristin Baudoux, Mainliner Reporter
Justin Wheeler, Assistant Principal Grades PK-8	Jamie Inferrera, Dinsmore Associate
Joseph Smorto, Elementary Principal	

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

APPROVE THE AGENDA

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

RESOLVED: The Board of Directors approve the agenda as presented.

SPOTLIGHT ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Nicholas Felus who was named Coach of the Year by the Pennsylvania Scholastic Football Coaches Association (PSFCA) District VI, Tribune Democrat, Altoona Mirror, Southern Alleghenies Football Coaches Association (SAFCA), and Central PA Football Coaches Association (CPFCA).

Congratulations to the Varsity Girls Basketball Team who took second place at P.I.A.A. District VI Basketball Tournament: Meghan Andersen, Kaydynce Baney, Sophia Beard, Isabella Bianconi, Makayla Bianconi, Eden Davison, Kate Eckenrode, Rachel Fisher, Lily Gergely, Addison Hite, Avayah LeMaster, Avery LeMaster, Katie Marana, Tagen McConnell, Makenna McCoy, Peyton Rabatin, Aubree Rickens, Reagan Ronan, Ava Saleme, and Megyn Stipanovich.

Congratulations to Loren Stipanovich who took second place at the P.I.A.A. District VI Swimming and Diving Championships.

Congratulations to Bethany Watt on her District V/VI/IX Wrestling Championship and for being the first ever Girls Wrestling District Champion at Penn Cambria.

Congratulations to the forensics team who won the District Title. Individual winners were: (*state qualifier)

Extemporaneous: 2nd Zachary Zupon*, 1st Gabrielle Lynch*

Commentary: 2nd Haelyn Singer*, 1st Caleb Pisczek*

Informative: 2nd Brian Wu*, 1st Lauren Riley*

Persuasive: 3rd Addyson Ehredt, 2nd Harlie Racz*

Dramatic Interp: 1st Belle Eckenrode*

Humorous Interp: 3rd Sydney Lee* (qualified in storytelling), 1st Lily Gergely*

Prose: 1st Matthew Ronan*

Program of Oral Interp: 2nd Rachel Fisher*, 1st Sienna Nagle*

Oratorical Declamation: 1st Gia Ricupero (not a state qualifying event)

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

MINUTES

A motion was offered by Mrs. Sheehan-Westrick, 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 February 18, 2025 be approved as recorded in the copies mailed to the Board prior to this meeting.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was offered by Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Drenning, 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 REPORTS

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

RESOLVED: That the Treasurer's Reports for January and February 2025, 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. Monica, seconded by Mr. Stohon, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

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"*)

SOLICITOR'S REPORT - Ronald Repak updated the Board of Directors on continued litigation related to executive orders and how the courts are responding. Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) removed the transgender policy from their Policy and Procedures Manual, keeping the policy in alignment with President Trump's Executive Order 14201 "Keeping Men Out of Women's Sports." Subsequently, a lawsuit was filed stating that they cannot discriminate simply based on the executive order. Previously, determinations whether transgender individuals were permitted to participate in sports aligned with their gender identity were up to the school principals. One thing is clear through this litigation; there is a loophole. The solicitor's office will continue to keep the Board updated on how to move forward.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

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

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

A. Personnel

1. Accept Resignations
 - a. Alana Berry, Cresson, Aide, retroactive to January 15, 2025
 - b. Maura Buck, Gallitzin, Middle School Special Education Teacher, effective date to be determined
 - c. Kassandra Ferdinand, Cresson, IU08 Substitute Teacher, effective immediately
 - d. Nicholas Felus, Altoona, Head Varsity Football Coach, retroactive to March 12, 2025
 - e. Devin Lawhead, Cresson, Head 9th Grade Football Coach, retroactive to February 24, 2025
 - f. Joshua Stringent, Gallitzin, Head 7th and 8th Grade Football Coach, retroactive to March 12, 2025
2. Remove Volunteer Coaches, effective immediately
 - a. Ian Casher, Cresson, Baseball
 - b. Nicholas Brugh, Johnstown, Baseball
 - c. Bryan Marra, Cresson, Baseball
 - d. Alyssa Martinazzi, Cresson, Track and Field

NEW BUSINESS

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

AGREEMENT WITH WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors enter into an affiliation agreement with Western Governors University, to accept Western Governors University students completing field experiences.

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

AUDIOLOGY SERVICE AGREEMENT

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors approve an agreement with Westmoreland Intermediate Unit to provide audiology services to Penn Cambria School District, during the 2024-2025 school year.

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

GENERAL FUND BUDGET OF IU08 2025-2026

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors approve the 2025-2026 General Fund Budget for IU08 including a total contribution of \$173,000 from thirty-five participating school districts; Penn Cambria's share estimate at \$4,924.88.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	YES:	Mr. Dziabo, Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Monica, Mrs. Sheehan-Westrick, Mr. Stohon, Mr. Drenning, Mr. Sheehan
	NO:	0

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

CAFETERIA POINT-OF-SALE SOFTWARE/HARDWARE

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors approve the purchase of PrimeroEdge as the cafeteria point-of-sale software, effective with the start of the 2025-2026 school year, at a cost of \$3,180 per year plus a one-time fee of \$1,995 for implementation and training, in addition to the initial hardware upgrade necessary in the amount of \$8,750.

MOVING SERVICES

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors approve entering into an agreement with On-Point Movers, Johnstown, PA, to provide professional moving services for Penn Cambria School District, at a cost not to exceed \$13,568.

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

HVAC SERVICES

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors approve entering into an agreement with Beers Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling, LLC, Altoona, PA, to provide the installation of a Mitsubishi hyper heat ductless split system with two indoor cassettes for the Pre-Primary Conference Room and the office of the Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Maintenance, at a cost not to exceed \$9,575.70. The agreement does not include the installation of electrical power to the outdoor single unit.

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

ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATIONS BONDS, SERIES OF 2025

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors adopt a resolution, as presented by Bond Counsel, authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, in an amount not to exceed \$12,000,000, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Unit Debt Act, for the purpose of providing funds for capital improvements to School District facilities. (*See addendum “D”*)

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Monica, Mrs. Sheehan-
Westrick, Mr. Stohon, Mr. Drenning, Mr. Dziabo, Mr. Sheehan
NO: 0

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

NEW ACCOUNT FOR BOND PROCEEDS

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors authorize the opening of an account with The Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT) for purposes of investing the proceeds of the General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2025, in accordance with Policy 609 and Section 440.1 of the Public School Code of 1949 as amended and supplemented by Act 10 of 2016 and the Local Government Unit Debt Act.

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

ADDENDUM TO ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors approve an addendum to the original professional services agreement for construction management services dated October 8, 2024 between Penn Cambria School District and Reynolds Construction, LLC dba SitelogIQ Construction Management (“SitelogIQ”). This addendum alters the original agreement only to approve the compensation for construction phase services of \$757,786 and close-out services of \$22,308, otherwise the original agreement remains in effect. (*See addendum “E”*)

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

ADDENDUM TO LAND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors approve an addendum to the original land development services agreement between Penn Cambria School District and Collier's Engineering & Design, Inc, Pittsburgh, PA dated November 19, 2024. This addendum alters the original agreement with the following additional items: second bus lane and parking changes in the rear of the school, parking lot improvements and relocated playground near sports fields, additional geotechnical work, and a retaining wall design. The additional items will add a fee of \$47,000 to the previously approved fees under the original contract.

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

SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF NEW, REVISED, OR BOARD POLICIES FOR REVIEW:

- A. 217 - Graduation
- B. 218 - Student Discipline
- C. 218.1 - Weapons
- D. 218.2 - Terroristic Threats
- E. 222 - Tobacco and Vaping Products
- F. 800 - Records Management
- G. 803 - School Calendar

(See addendum “F”)

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

- A. 005 - Organization
- B. 323 - Tobacco and Vaping Products
- C. 351 - Controlled Substances
- D. 707 - Use of School Facilities
- E. 805 - Emergency Preparedness and Response
- F. 806 - Child Abuse
- G. 904 - Attendance at School Events
(See addendum "G")

INFORMATION ITEM

A. CORRECTION FOR BOYS' VOLLEYBALL CO-OP WITH BISHOP GUILFOYLE

The co-op agreement for Boys Volleyball with Bishop Guilfoyle will take effect with the Spring of 2025.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Jane Burkholder, School Psychologist, provided a summary of her first year at Penn Cambria. Last March, Jane officially became a Penn Cambria Panther. Though the first year has been very busy, it has been professionally and personally very rewarding. When stopping to think about what to share, Jane realized that many aspects of her job are confidential and cannot be shared. With that being said, what she feels is a huge part of her job, that she does every single day, and has the most impact on the school system, is being a collaborator and part of a team. That involves working along with parents, community members, outside providers for students with mental health or behavioral needs, teachers, and many others. She was very fortunate to come to Penn Cambria, which has a strong system and framework of teams in place, one of which is the Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS). Any parent, teacher, or staff member that has concerns about a child, their ability to learn, or their emotional or behavioral status, can fill out a referral form. The MTSS team reviews that data and collaborates together to produce the best plan for that child. Whether it be something as simple as changing the reading intervention or changing seats, or something more serious that requires a special education evaluation. Part of her job is to help collaborate with team members. That was actually one of the selling points for her taking a job at Penn Cambria, was knowing that the MTSS process was in place. Jane has also been a part of SAP, a student assistance program for students with emotional and behavioral needs. The team works together to figure out what services might be able to assist the child. Sometimes that involves working with administrators, a school counselor reaching out for parent permission, and guiding them to community resources. Jane is also very involved in IEP teams, 504 teams, and gifted education programs; she sits on those teams and helps collaborate to produce targeted intervention programs for students. After 20 years of being in this position, Jane has learned that strong teams prove that when working together, students succeed and have success. She feels very fortunate to be a Penn Cambria Panther where everyone works together as a team and a very strong framework is in place.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - The Board of Directors entered Executive Session to discuss personnel at 7:24 P.M. on a motion by Mr. Stohon, seconded by Mr. McCarthy.

Regular meeting reconvened at 7:35 P.M. on a motion by Mr. Dziabo, seconded by Mr. Stohon.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by Mrs. Sheehan-Westrick, 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 7:35 P.M.