

HAMBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Hamburg, Berks County, PA 19526-0401
August 24, 2026

The Board Meeting was called to order by Board President, Mr. Ryan Gebely, at 6:35pm. This meeting was held in the James A. Gilmartin Community Room of Hamburg Area School District

A roll call of directors followed, and following directors were present:

Carson Adams, Thomas DeAngelo, Steven Gilbert, Tonia Krick, Laura “Lolly” Leshner, Daniel Sarna, Birgit White, Ryan Gebely

Absent: Toni McFadden

There were 8 directors in person when roll call was taken.

OTHERS PRESENT

Christopher Beissel, Superintendent; Michele Zimmerman, Business Manager; Teresa Freiwald, Chief Learning Officer; Ryan McGinley, High School Principal; Kristen Missimer, Assistant High School Principal; Timothy Easter, Middle School Principal; John Henne, Middle School Assistant Principal; Andrea Berger, Elementary Principal; Alyssa Fink, Elementary Principal; Robert Marra, Student Services and Special Education Director; Margaret Scheerer, Director of Transportation and Child Accounting; Carlie Cole, Director of Human Resources; Shawn Gravish, Director of Operations; Aaron Menapace, Athletic Director; Elaine Ruppert, Director of Facilities; Andrew Diehl, Director of Information Technology; Jillian Bergman, Director of Food Services; Lena Gebely, Student Representative; James Mancuso, District Solicitor; Nicolette Hoover, Board Secretary; Visitors – Marcy Donatelli, Betsy Stickler, Susan Deisemann, Teresa McCarthy, Andrea Heckman

Mr. Gebely opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag.

The Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss personnel.

IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – July 27th and August 10th , 2026

A motion was made by Laura “Lolly” Leshner, seconded by Daniel Sarna to approve the minutes as written.

A roll call voice vote was taken as follows:

Yes- Carson Adams, Thomas DeAngelo, Steven Gilbert, Tonia Krick, Laura “Lolly” Leshner, Daniel Sarna, Birgit White, Ryan Gebely

No- None

Motion carried with eight directors voting yes.

- V. Public Comments- Mr. Gebely asked if there were any public comments, there were none.
- VI. Board Reports
 - A. Berks E.I.T. Committee – Ms. Zimmerman – nothing to report at this time.
 - B. Joint Operating Committee – Mr. DeAngelo – nothing to report at this time, they meet this week.
 - C. Committee of Legislative Action – Mrs. McFadden – not present
 - D. Intermediate Unit – Mr. Gebely – met last Thursday, nothing major to report at this time, back to school business as usual.
 - E. Student Council – Miss Lena Gebely – not present at this time.
 - F. President – Mr. Gebely – met in executive session prior to this evenings meeting to discuss contracts and Superintendent evaluation. Congratulated Dr. Beissel on his Distinguished rating.
- VII. Report of the Business Manager
 - A. Recommend approval of 2026-2027 Food Service Budget in the amount of \$1,981,390 (See Exhibit XXVIj – 38)

A motion was made by Carson Adams, seconded by Birgit White to approve the 2026-2027 Food Service Budget in the amount of \$1,981,390 as presented.

A roll call voice vote was taken as follows:

Yes- Thomas DeAngelo, Steven Gilbert, Tonia Krick, Laura “Lolly” Leshner, Daniel Sarna, Birgit White, Carson Adams, Ryan Gebely

No- None

Motion carried with eight directors voting yes.

- B. Acknowledgement of 2025-2026 Investment Program Review (See Exhibit XXVIj – 39)
- VIII. Report of the Superintendent
 - A. High School Renovation Project Updates – Dr. Beissel, AEM, and Consolidated Engineers - Presentation by AEM included budget updates, breakdown of new

construction, renovation, sitework, and athletics construction. As well as projected cost and next steps.

- B. Recommend approval of 2026 – 2027 Superintendent Objective Performance Goals (See Exhibit XXVIj – 40)

A motion was made by Laura “Lolly” Leshner, seconded by Daniel Sarna to approve the 2026 – 2027 Superintendent Objective Performance Goals as presented.

A roll call voice vote was taken as follows:

Yes- Steven Gilbert, Tonia Krick, Laura “Lolly” Leshner, Daniel Sarna, Birgit White, Carson Adams, Thomas DeAngelo, Ryan Gebley

No- None

Motion carried with eight directors voting yes.

- C. Recommend approval of 2026 – 2027 Title I Letter of Agreement between Hamburg Area School District and Berks County Intermediate Unit to provide services to HASD non-public students who qualify for the Title I services. (See Exhibit XXVIj – 41)

A motion was made by Daniel Sarna, seconded by Carson Adams to approve the 2026 – 2027 Title I Letter of Agreement between Hamburg Area School District and Berks County Intermediate Unit to provide services to HASD non-public students who qualify for the Title I services as presented.

A roll call voice vote was taken as follows:

Yes- Tonia Krick, Laura “Lolly” Leshner, Daniel Sarna, Birgit White, Carson Adams, Thomas DeAngelo, Steven Gilbert, Ryan Gebley

No- None

Motion carried with eight directors voting yes.

- D. Recommend approval of 2026 – 2027 Swiss Premium Dairy Milk Vendor Contract

A motion was made by Tonia Krick, seconded by Birgit White to approve the 2026 – 2027 Swiss Premium Dairy Milk Vendor Contract.

A roll call voice vote was taken as follows:

Yes- Laura “Lolly” Leshner, Daniel Sarna, Birgit White, Carson Adams, Thomas DeAngelo, Steven Gilbert, Tonia Krick, Ryan Gebley

No- None

Motion carried with eight directors voting yes.

E. Recommend approval of the financial reports:

1. General Fund Treasurer's Report (See Exhibit XXVIj – 43)
2. General Fund Invoices submitted for payment (See Exhibit XXVIj – 44)
3. Food Service Profit & Loss Statement and invoices submitted for payment (See Exhibit XXVIj – 45)
4. Capital Reserve Treasurer's Report and invoices submitted for payment (See Exhibit XXVIj – 46)
5. Debt Services Treasurer's Report (See Exhibit XXVIj – 47)
6. High School & Middle School Activity Funds Treasurer's Reports and invoices submitted for payment (See Exhibit XXVIj – 48)
7. Disposal Items as presented (See Exhibit XXVIj – 49)

A motion was made by Laura "Lolly" Leshner, seconded by Daniel Sarna to approve the General Fund Treasurer's Report; and Invoices in the amount of \$1,794,275.80(check nos 0000083618-0000083702 and D001005585-D001005671); Food Service Profit and Loss Report and invoices \$79,810.99(0000088869 - 0000088876 and D000001018-D000001033); Capital Reserve Treasurer Report; Debt Service Treasurer Report; High School Activity Fund and checks in the amount of \$3,152.84(check nos. 0000014061-0000014062); Middle School Activity Fund Treasurer Report and disposal items as presented

A roll call voice vote was taken as follows:

Yes –Birgit White, Carson Adams, Thomas DeAngelo, Steven Gilbert, Tonia Krick, Laura "Lolly" Leshner, Daniel Sarna, Ryan Gebley

No - None

Motion carried with eight directors voting yes.

F. Recommend approval of Food Service Stipend Positions effective 09/01/2026 – 06/30/2027 (prorated for term of employment):

1. Kitchen Manager
 - a. High School - \$808.64. Assigned to Lisa Eisenhower through 10/09/2026.
 - b. Middle School - \$2500. Assigned to Robin Epting
 - c. Tilden - \$2500. Assigned to Susan Deisemann
 - d. Perry - \$2000. Assigned to Sherrie Krick
2. Back-up Kitchen Manager

- a. High School - \$500. Assigned to Tara Ulrich
- b. Middle School - \$500. Assigned to Jami Folk
- c. Tilden - \$500. Assigned to Angela Yost
- d. Perry - \$500. Assigned to Amy Dissinger

A motion was made by Tonia Krick, seconded by Carson Adams to approve the Food Service Stipend Positions effective 09/01/2026 – 06/30/2027 (prorated for term of employment) as presented.

A roll call voice vote was taken as follows:

Yes- Daniel Sarna, Birgit White, Carson Adams, Thomas DeAngelo, Steven Gilbert, Tonia Krick, Laura “Lolly” Leshner, Ryan Gebley

No- None

Motion carried with eight directors voting yes.

G. Recommend approval of the following 2026- 2027 New Staff Mentors - \$500 stipend

New Staff	Mentor	Building	Year
Joseph Dunlap	Nicholas Adams	Middle School	Year 1

A motion was made by Daniel Sarna, seconded by Birgit White to approve the New Staff Mentors as presented.

A roll call voice vote was taken as follows:

Yes - Carson Adams, Thomas DeAngelo, Steven Gilbert, Tonia Krick, Laura “Lolly” Leshner, Daniel Sarna, Birgit White, Ryan Gebley

No – None

Motion carried with eight directors voting yes.

H. Recommend approval of the following personnel actions. All hiring actions are contingent upon receipt and acceptance of all required pre-employment documents:

Separations

Resignation:

1. Chandra Brown – Perry Elementary Emotional Support Paraeducator, effective 06/05/2026.

2. Alicia Merkel – Perry Elementary Autistic Support Paraeducator, effective 06/05/2026.
3. Stephen Haegele – Sophomore Class Advisor, effective 06/30/2027.

Retirement:

1. Connie Kissinger – Middle School Family & Consumer Science Teacher, effective 01/04/2027.
2. Deron Krammes – Middle School Science Teacher, effective 01/04/2027.

Assignments

Transfers:

1. Alina Holmes – from 4.25-hour Tilden Elementary Food Service employee to 5.25-hour Tilden Elementary Food Service employee, effective 08/24/2026.
2. Donna Horner – from Tilden Elementary Life Skills Paraeducator to Middle School Learning Support Paraeducator, effective 08/18/2026.

Temporary Professional Employees:

1. Stephanie Gechter – Middle School Life Schools Teacher, effective 08/18/2026. Annual Salary: \$53,163 (Bachelor / Step 1).

Support Employees:

1. Kendel Pentz – Tilden Elementary Life Skills Paraeducator, effective 08/25/2026. Hourly rate: \$16.34 / 7 hours per day.
2. Gabrielle Skipper – Perry Elementary Emotional Support Paraeducator, effective 09/03/2026. Hourly rate: \$16.34 / 7 hours per day.
3. Betsy Stickler – Tilden Elementary Food Service employee, effective 08/25/2026. Hourly rate: \$16.34 / 4.25 hours per day.

District Volunteers

Building level:

1. Abby Frey
2. Abby Salgado
3. Sherry Shaak

A motion was made by Tonia Krick, seconded by Thomas DeAngelo the following personnel actions as presented.

A roll call voice vote was taken as follows:

August 24, 2026

Page 7 of 7

Yes –Steven Gilbert, Tonia Krick, Laura “Lolly” Leshner, Daniel Sarna, Birgit White, Carson Adams, Thomas DeAngelo, Ryan Gebley

No – None

Motion carried with eight directors voting yes.

X. Information Items – included in your digital packets

XI. Dates to Remember

Month	Day	Event	Time
August	25	First Student Day Grades 1 – 12	
August	25 – 26	Staggered start for kindergarten	
September	4, 7	No – School Labor Day Holiday	
September	14	Committee Meeting	6:30pm

XII. New Business - none at this time

XIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Birgit White, seconded by Daniel Sarna to adjourn the meeting at 7:33pm. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED
September 28, 2026

RECORDED BY

Ryan J. Gebely

Nicolette A. Hoover