

**AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
1000 AVELLA ROAD
AVELLA, PA 15312**

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

June 20, 2018

The Regular Board Meeting of the Avella Area School District Board of Education was held in the Avella Jr. Sr. High School Library on Wednesday, June 20, 2018. Ms. Leslie Cunningham, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting regarding personnel and contracts. Debra Bentz, Board Secretary, held roll call and the following board members were present:

BOARD MEMBERS: Karen Birdsall, Kim Cassidy, Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, Melissa Dryer, James Gagich, Sharon Hixenbaugh, Corey McConn, Alex Paris

ADMINISTRATION: Cyril Walther, Superintendent
Laura Shola, Business Manager
Sheryl Wright-Brown, JSBS Principal
Zachary Zebrasky, Elementary Principal
Debra L. Bentz, Board Secretary

OTHERS: Barbara Graham, District Solicitor

A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations/Recognitions

1. Case|Sabatini, District Auditors, presented the Auditor's Report for the 2016-17 year.

Request to Speak at the Board Meeting - None

Visitor's Request to Speak on Agenda Items - None

GENERAL PROCEDURE ITEMS

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** **ATTACHMENT "A"**
Board Members were furnished copies of the May 2018 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the May 2018 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

2. **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE** **ATTACHMENT "B"**
Board Members were furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the May and June 2018 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Accounts Payable for the May and June 2018 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

3. **FINANCIAL/BUDGET REPORTS** **ATTACHMENT "C"**
4. **SOLICITOR'S REPORT** **ATTACHMENT "D"**
5. **BOARD INSURANCE REPORT** **No Revisions**

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

a. 2018-19 School Year Coaches

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the following coaches for the 2018-19 school year, per AEA Contract:

Varsity Girls' Basketball
Jack Conn – Head Coach
Mike Drazich – Assistant Coach

Rifle
Jim Mounts – Head Rifle Coach

7th/8th Grade Girls' Volleyball
Dennis O'Neil – Head Coach
Joelle Cooper – Assistant Coach

Baseball
Jason Fogg, Head Coach
James Morris, Assistant Coach
Ryan Kinzler, Junior Varsity Baseball Coach

Softball
Dave Marx, Head Coach
Joshua Chambers, Assistant Coach
Dave Niekum, 7th/8th Grade Head Coach
Dana Gatewood, 7th/8th Grade Assistant Coach

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

a. 2018-19 School Year Coaches - Continued

7th/8th Grade Football

Brad Rankin - Assistant Coach

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

b. Jim Matalik, 2017-18 Junior Varsity Baseball Coach - Resignation

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to retroactively approve the resignation of Jim Matalik as Junior Varsity Baseball Coach for the 2017-18 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

c. Ryan Kinzler, 2017-18 Junior Varsity Baseball Coach

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to retroactively approve Ryan Kinzler as the Junior Varsity Baseball Coach for the 2017-18 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

d. NovaCare – Athletic Trainer Services

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve a contract between the Avella Area School District and NovaCare, in the amount of \$40,000, for Athletic Trainer services for the 2018-19 school year, pending solicitors review of Contract. Attachment Athletic "A"

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

e. Cheerleading Uniform Inventory

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve Susan Kubacka, Head Varsity Cheerleading Coach's request to donate/discard the old cheerleading uniforms no longer used.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

a. Use of School Facilities

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to approve the following Use of School Facilities:

NAME: Avella Athletics
PURPOSE: Youth Football Practice and Games
PLACE: Football Field
DATE: 2018-19 Season

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

a. Use of School Facilities - Continued

NAME: Avella Little League Cheerleaders
PURPOSE: Cheerleading Camp and Practice
PLACE: Elementary Gym and Outside
DATE: 2018-19 Season

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

a. Teaching Assignments

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the tentative teaching assignments for the JSHS and Elementary School for the 2018-19 school term, per Attachment Curriculum "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

b. Costa Rica Trip 2020

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Honors Biology, Biology II, and Spanish students to travel to Costa Rica with EF Educational Tours in the spring of 2020, per Attachment Curriculum "B".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

c. My College Options

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Authorization Form for My College Options for the 2018-19 school year, per Attachment Curriculum "C".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

d. SPHS C.A.R.E. Center

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Referral Service Agreement Contract between the Avella Area School District and SPHS C.A.R.E. Center for the 2018-19 school year, per Attachment Curriculum "D" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

e. Robbie West – Eagle Scout Project

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve Robbie West to complete his Eagle Scout project working on the nature trail and placing signs to identify plants and trees.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Mr. Devenney exited the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

f. Greenhouse

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to purchase a used greenhouse, potting soil and related materials from the Hothouse Greenhouse in 84, PA, for use by the Vo-Ag students, at an estimated cost of \$1,000, and to authorize the District staff, as designated by the Superintendent, to deconstruct and transport the hothouse, and related items, during the summer of 2018.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

g. Mr. Walther, Superintendent, reviewed the Elementary playground equipment that will be donated by the grant received from Community Action Southwest's Pre-K Counts Program.

h. Ms. Cassidy requested a section be added to the Regular Board Meeting Agenda for Western Area Career & Technology Center.

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. McLean Architects – Application and Certification for Payment

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to East West Manufacturing & Supply in the amount of \$86,743.36, per Attachment Finance "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

b. Western Area Career & Technology Center

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the 2018-19 Western Area Career & Technology Center's proposed budget totaling \$6,105,036.00, per letter dated May 24, 2018 from Dennis McCarthy, Ph.D., Director of Vocational Education, per Attachment Finance "B".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

c. McLean Architects – Change Order

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve McLean Architect's request for Change Order for East West Manufacturing & Supply, dated May 29, 2018, in the amount of \$3,125.00, per Attachment Finance "C".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE

d. McLean Architects – Invoice

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve McLean Architects' invoice in the amount of \$15,614.64 for Project #MA 1720-2, per Attachment Finance "D".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

e. Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the insurance proposal between Avella Area School District and Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, effective July 1, 2018.

- Commercial Package and Umbrella in the amount of \$22,352
- Worker's Compensation in the amount of \$29,555
- Cyber Liability in the amount of \$2,920
- Educators & EPL in the amount of \$4,738
- Business Auto in the amount of \$2,163

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

f. 2018-2019 General Fund Budget

Moved by Ms. Birdsall, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the General Fund Budget totaling \$10,825,243.00, be finally adopted for the fiscal year 2018-2019, beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019, with millage set at 10.526 mills (.165 mill increase) on real estate, \$5.00 per capita tax under Section 679; \$5.00 per capita tax, and one-half of one percent (1/2%) on all earned income, under Act 511. Attachment Finance "E" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Mr. Gagich said "nay". Motion carried 7-1.

g. Homestead and Farmstead Resolution

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to adopt the Resolution authorizing the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Real Estate Tax Assessment Reductions for the 2018-19 school year, per Attachment Finance "F".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

h. Budget Transfers to the 2017-18 Budget

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the budget transfers to the 2017-18 budget, per Attachment Finance "G" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

B. NEW BUSINESS

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

a. Southwest Training Services, Inc.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to ratify the Worksite Agreement for the Summer Youth Program between Southwest Training Services, Inc. and the Avella Area School District, per Attachment Personnel "A" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

b. Margaret Swanson, CRNP

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Agreement between Avella Area School District and Margaret Swanson, CRNP, to provide Physician Authorization Services for the 2018-19 school year, per Attachment Personnel "B".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

c. Trudy Roney Photography, LLC

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Independent Contractor Agreement between the Avella Area School District and Trudy Roney Photography, LLC, for the 2018-2020 school year, per Attachment Personnel "C".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

d. Brian Smitsky, Facilities Manager

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Agreement between Avella Area School District and Brian Smitsky, Facilities Manager, effective July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2021, per Attachment Personnel "D".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Mr. Gagich abstained. Motion carried 7-0-1.

e. Vicki Capone, Food Service Director

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Contract for Employment of Food Service Director between the Avella Area School District and Vicki Capone, effective July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2021, per Attachment Personnel "E" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

f. Posting – Cyber School Administrator

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to ratify the posting for a Cyber School Administrator (16 hours).

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

g. Lori Lochran, Cyber School Administrator

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Lori Lochran as the Cyber School Administrator (16 hours), effective Summer 2018.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

h. Posting – Cyber School English Instructor

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to ratify the posting for a Cyber School English Instructor (11 hours – 1 hour per week).

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

i. Renee Worst, Cyber School English Instructor

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Renee Worst as the Cyber School English Instructor (11 hours – 1 hour per week), effective Summer 2018.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

j. Posting – Cyber School Math Instructor

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to ratify the posting for a Cyber School Math Instructor (6 hours – 1 hour per week).

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

k. Joelle Cooper, Cyber School Math Instructor

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Joelle Cooper as the Cyber School Math Instructor (6 hours – 1 hour per week), effective Summer 2018.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

l. Annalisse Scammell - Retirement

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to accept Annalisse Scammell, JSHS Family Consumer Science Teacher's request for retirement, effective the last day of the 2019-2020 school year (two year notice).

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

7. POLICIES – No Report

8. SAFETY COMMITTEE

a. Safety Committee meeting scheduled July 5, 2018 at 8:00 a.m.

B. NEW BUSINESS

9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No Report

10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – No Report

C. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Bentz
Board Secretary