

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

July 18, 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, July 18, 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, Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, Melissa Dryer, James Gagich, Sharon Hixenbaugh, Corey McConn, Alex Paris
Absent; Kim Cassidy

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

OTHERS: Rachel Lozosky, District Solicitor

A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations/Recognitions

Request to Speak at the Board Meeting - None

Visitor's Request to Speak on Agenda Items

1. The following individuals requested to speak regarding the Jr High wrestling team entering into a co-op arrangement with Ft. Cherry School District:
Dan Moore, 40 Three Cross Lane, Avella, PA
Bernice Kidwell, 2287 Avella Road, Avella PA
Jennifer Jennings, 57 West Main Street, PO Box 41, West Middletown, PA

GENERAL PROCEDURE ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES **ATTACHMENT "A"**

Board Members were furnished copies of the June 2018 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Ms. Hixenbaugh, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the June 2018 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

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

2. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE **ATTACHMENT "B"**

Board Members were furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the June and July 2018 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to approve the Accounts Payable for the June and July 2018 General Fund.

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

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. Jr. High Wrestling – Co-op Agreements

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to enter into co-op arrangements with Ft. Cherry School District for the following:

Avella Area School District JSHS students to participate on the Ft. Cherry wrestling team starting with the 2018-19 school year; and

Ft. Cherry School District JSHS students to participate on the Avella Area School District Rifle Team starting with the 2018-19 school year,

Subject to preparation of agreements pertaining to each of the above programs, and approval of said agreements by the Avella Area School District and the Ft. Cherry School District.

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

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

a. A Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting is scheduled August 7, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

B. NEW BUSINESS

3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

a. Western Career & Technology Center Update

Ms. Leslie Cunningham, Board President, stated there were no updates to report regarding Western Career & Technology Center.

b. River School Therapies

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to approve the Proposal for Provision of Special Education Therapy Services (School Psychologist) between Avella Area School District and the River School Therapies for the 2018-19 school year, per Solicitor's recommendations/approval of Attachment Curriculum "A".

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

c. Memorandum of Agreement - Dual Enrollment

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to approve the Memorandum of Agreement for Dual Enrollment between the Avella Area School District and Community College of Allegheny County, per Attachment Curriculum "B" to Revised Agenda.

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

d. Discussion Item

➤ Mr. Walther, Superintendent, informed the Board of teaching assignment changes to close the achievement gaps of PSSA Math scores for the 7th grade students.

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. McLean Architects – Invoice

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve McLean Architects' invoice in the amount of \$592.75 for Project #MA 1720-3, per Attachment Finance "A".

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

b. McLean Architects – Application and Certification for Payment

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to Swede Construction Group in the amount of \$17,234.10, per Attachment Finance "B".

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

a. AEA - Tuition Students

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the following students to be enrolled as tuition students in the Avella Area School District for the 2018-19 school year, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Avella Area School District and Avella Education Association.

Cole Davidson – Grade 9

Rachel Lazzarotti - Kindergarten

Alexis Minch – Grade 7

Kaitlyn Minch – Grade 4

Ashlyn Ripley McDougan – Grade 2

Henry Frabell – Grade 2

Tommy Frabell – Grade 1

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

b. Business Manager – Tuition Students

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve Scarlett and Quincy Shola to be enrolled as tuition students in the Avella Area School District for the 2018-19 school year, in accordance with the employment agreement between the District and Laura Shola, Business Manager. Scarlett Shola will be in the 5th grade and Quincy Shola will be in 1st Grade for the 2018-19 school year.

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

c. School Police Officer – Tuition Student

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve David Watts to be enrolled as a tuition student in the Avella Area School District for the 2018-19 school year, in accordance with the employment agreement between the District and David Watts, School Police Officer. David Watts will be in the 3rd grade for the 2018-19 school year.

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

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

a. Bethany College Student Teachers

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the County and Institution of Higher Education Articles of Agreement for College Pre-Service and Student Teachers with Bethany College for the 2018-19 school year, per Attachment Personnel “A”. (Clearances must be provided to the District before the student teacher begins.)

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

b. Security Personnel

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Donald Voytek as security personnel for the 2018-19 school year, per Attachment Personnel "B".

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

c. Contracted Medical/Dental Personnel List

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Contracted Medical/Dental Personnel List for the 2018-19 school year, per Attachment Personnel "C".

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

d. Administration Raises

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Administrative personnel raises as per contracts, effective July 1, 2018, listed on Attachment Personnel "D". Amounts have been budgeted and Performance Evaluations completed.

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

e. Non-Union Staff Raises

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve all non-union personnel raises, effective July 1, 2018, as per Attachment Personnel "E". Amounts have been budgeted and Performance Evaluations completed.

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

f. STAT Staff Agreement – Substitute School Nurses

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Staffing Agreement between the Avella Area School District and STAT Staffing Medical Services, Inc., for the 2018-19 school year, per Attachment Personnel "F" to Revised Agenda.

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

g. 2018-19 School Volunteer List

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the School Volunteer List for the 2018-19 school year, per Attachment Personnel "G" to Revised Agenda.

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

h. Vicki Capone, Food Service Director - Resignation

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to accept the resignation of Vicki Capone, Food Service Director, effective June 30, 2018.

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

i. Food Service Director - Advertisement

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to ratify the advertisement for a Food Service Director.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, 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 is scheduled August 2, 2018 at 8:00 a.m.

9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No Report

10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

a. Parent Transportation Agreement

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the Parent Transportation Agreement between Mrs. Joy Kowcheck and the Avella Area School District to transport student to and from the ESY Program, per Attachment Transportation "A."

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

C. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Bentz
Board Secretary