AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
1000 AVELLA ROAD
AVELLA, PA 15312

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

October 18, 2017

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, October 18, 2017. Mr. Jeffrey Devenney, 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. Corey McConn, Board Member, held roll call and the following board members were present:

BOARD MEMBERS: Karen Birdsall, Kim Cassidy, Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, James Gagich, Corey McConn, Michael Muhr, Jennifer Newman
Absent: Alex Paris

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

OTHERS: Jonathan Higgie, District Solicitor

A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations/Recognitions

1. The following students were recognized as the October Students of the Month:
Anne Marie Kisner – 6th Grade Student
Cameron Schofield – 6th Grade Student
Emily Adams – Senior
Zachary Cannon - Senior

2. The Board of Education thanked and recognized Barbara Graham, Peacock, Keller & Ecker, LLP, District Solicitor, for the $200 donation in memory of Mrs. Walther for the Vo-Ag Program, and $200 donation in memory of Mr. Devenney for the band program.

3. The Board of Education thanked and recognized Hickory Telephone Company for their $1,214.50 donation to assist in buying a MacBook for the video program.

4. Vicki Capone, Food Service Director, presented follow-up information from the August Regular Board Meeting.

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 September 2017 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. Muhr, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the September 2017 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

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

Board Members were furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the September and October 2017 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to approve the Accounts Payable for the September and October 2017 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

3. FINANCIAL/BUDGET REPORTS ***ATTACHMENT "C"***

4. SOLICITOR'S REPORT ***ATTACHMENT "D"***

5. BOARD INSURANCE REPORT ***ATTACHMENT "E"***

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

a. Head Varsity Softball Coach

Moved by Ms. Birdsall, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve Dave Marx as the Head Varsity Softball Coach for the 2017-18 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Mr. Muhr said "nay". Motion carried 7-1.

b. 7th/8th Grade Boys' Basketball Coaches

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Gagich, to approve the following 7th/8th Grade Boys' Basketball Coaches for the 2017-18 school year, pending receipt of all clearances and required paperwork.
Robert Laick – Head 7th/8th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach
Frank Papson – Assistant 7th/8th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

a. A discussion was held regarding uniforms for the maintenance/custodial staff.

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

b. Use of School Facilities

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

NAME:	Girls' Basketball Boosters
PURPOSE:	Basketball Tournament
PLACE:	Gym/Cafeteria
DATE:	October 28-29, 2017

NAME:	Cross Creek Board of Elections
PURPOSE:	Voting
PLACE:	JSHS Room #100
DATE:	November 7, 2017

NAME:	Knights of Columbus Council #3440
PURPOSE:	Free Throw Championship
PLACE:	Elementary Gym
DATE:	January 20, 2018

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

c. Inventory Control

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to approve Mr. Nick Deutsch, Music Teacher's request to donate/dispose of the following outdated items from the music room:

- 71 pants and tops from auxiliary uniforms
- 18 color guard vests
- 12 majorette uniforms (tops, skirts, & gauntlets)
- 20 sequin black and white color guard jackets

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

a. Discussion Items:

- A discussion was held regarding the costs of the Wheeling Jesuit University Field Trip.
- The Administration presented an attachment to the Board with the PSSA updates.

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. McLean Architects – Application and Certification for Payment

Moved by Mr. Muhr, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to Merit Electrical Group, Inc. in the amount of $32,509.12, per Attachment Finance "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

a. Erin Ross, Winter Guard Dance Line Assistant
Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve Erin Ross as the Assistant Winter Guard Dance Line Instructor for the 2017-18 school year, pending receipt of clearances.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

b. 2017-18 School Volunteer List
Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the following to the School Volunteer List for the 2017-18 school year:
Maggie Amaismeier
Terri Jeffers
Joyce Mankey
Beth Strope
Holly Tropeck

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

c. Laura Lazzarotti, Newspaper Advisor - Resignation
Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. McConn, to accept the resignation of Laura Lazzarotti as Newspaper Advisor for the 2017-18 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

d. Newspaper Advisor - Posting
Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. McConn, to ratify a posting (advertisement if necessary) for a Newspaper Advisor for the 2017-18 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

e. Joelle Cooper, Newspaper Advisor
Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve Joelle Cooper at the Newspaper Advisor for the 2017-18 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

f. Homebound Instructor - Posting
Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. McConn, to ratify a posting (advertisement if necessary) for a Homebound Instructor for an 11th Grade Student.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

g. Evy Breitigan, Homebound Instructor
Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve Evy Breitigan as a Homebound Instructor for an 11th Grade Student.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

h. Jodi Partozoti, Part-Time CAO Secretary - Resignation
Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. McConn, to accept the resignation of Jodi Partozoti as a part-time secretary in the Central Administration Office, effective October 26, 2017.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

i. Part-Time CAO Secretary - Advertisement
Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve an advertisement, if needed, for a Part-Time Central Administration Office Secretary.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
Mr. Devenney called an Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. to discuss student personnel. The Board returned to regular session at 7:45 p.m.

Further action taken by the Board:

7. POLICIES

a. Facilities Manager - Job Description
Moved by Ms. Cassidy, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the revised Facilities Manager's job description, per Attachment Policies "A" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

b. First Reading was held of the revisions to the Dress and Grooming Policy #525 – Attachment Policies "B" to Revised Agenda

8. SAFETY COMMITTEE

a. Safety Committee meeting scheduled November 2, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No Report

10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – No Report

C. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, and Ms. Newman said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

_____

Debra L. Bentz
Board Secretary