

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

November 20, 2019

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, November 20, 2019. 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. 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, Leslie Thames
Absent: 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. November Students of the Month
Bess Lengauer – Senior
Kaylee Greely – 6th Grade Student
2. PSBA recognized and presented Certificates of Appreciation to Jeffrey Devenney for 12 years of school board service and Alex Paris for 8 years of school board service.
3. The Administration presented the PSSA/Keystone Results to the Board.

Request to Speak at the Board Meeting - None

Visitor's Request to Speak on Agenda Items - None

Matter of Record

The Board makes a matter of record the support of the entire Board of School Directors and the Avella Area School District staff, of the District Administration.

GENERAL PROCEDURE ITEMS

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** **ATTACHMENT "A"**
Board Members were furnished copies of the October 2019 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to approve the October 2019 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

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

- 2. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE** **ATTACHMENT "B"**
Board Members were furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the October and November 2019 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Accounts Payable for the October and November 2019 General Fund.

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

- 3. FINANCIAL/BUDGET REPORTS** **ATTACHMENT "C"**
- 4. SOLICITOR'S REPORT** **ATTACHMENT "D"**
- 5. BOARD INSURANCE REPORT** **ATTACHMENT "E"**
- 6. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORT** **ATTACHMENT "F"**

B. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE & EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

- a. Michael Drazich, Head Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach**
Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to ratify Michael Drazich as the Head Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year.

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

- b. Kathleen Margaria, Assistant Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach**
Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to ratify Kathleen Margaria as the Assistant Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year.

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

- c. Winter Guard Dance Line Handbook**
Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Winter Guard Dance Line Handbook, per Attachment Athletic "A".

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

a. Use of School Facilities

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

NAME: Boys' Varsity Basketball Boosters
PURPOSE: Holiday Tournament
PLACE: JSHS
DATE: December 27, 28, 30, 2019

NAME: Avella Athletics Boys' Youth Basketball
PURPOSE: Youth 3 on 3 Tournament
PLACE: JSHS Gym
DATE: January 4 -5, 2020

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

3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

a. Mr. Walther, Superintendent, reported Mr. Westfall's electrical shop class at Western Area Career & Technology Center will assist in the electrical wiring and installation of our greenhouse.

b. Rebecca Ocker, Burgettstown Tuition Student

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to ratify Rebecca Ocker, 9th grade Burgettstown student, to enroll in the Avella Area School District's vocational agricultural course of study as a tuition student for the 2019-2020 school year.

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

c. Vision to Learn

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Avella Area School District and Vision to Learn, per Attachment Curriculum "A" to Revised Agenda.

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

d. Winter Concerts – JSHS Gymnasium

JSHS: December 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
Elementary: December 19, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

e. Mr. Walther, Superintendent, reported the District applied for the PCCD Safety Grant.

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE – No Report

5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

B. NEW BUSINESS

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

a. Homebound Instructor Posting

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to ratify a posting for a Homebound Instructor for an 11th Grade Student.

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

b. Joelle Cooper, Homebound Instructor

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to ratify Joelle Cooper as a Homebound Instructor for an 11th Grade Student.

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

c. School Volunteer List

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve the following to the School Volunteer List for the 2019-2020 school year:

Kelli Briggs
Amber Davis
Shana Rae Eckels-Boles
Jim Gagich
Mackenna Hargis
Stephanie Hill
Caitlynne Spencer

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Ms. Thames said “aye”. Mr. Gagich abstained. Motion carried 7-0-1.

d. Substitute Support Personnel List

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve Kathleen Doak to the Substitute Support Personnel List for the 2019-2020 school year.

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

7. POLICIES

a. PSBA Comprehensive Review – 600 Section-Finances

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the adoption/revision to the first phase of PSBA's Comprehensive Review of the *600 Policy Section – Finances*, per email Attachment Policies “A

- 601 Fiscal Objectives
- 602 Budget Planning
- 603 Budget Preparation
- 604 Budget Adoption
- 605 Tax Levy
- 606 Tax Collection
- 607 Tuition Income
- 608 Bank Accounts
- 610 Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation
- 611 Purchases Budgeted
- 612 Purchases Not Budgeted
- 613 Cooperative Purchasing

B. NEW BUSINESS

7. POLICIES

a. PSBA Comprehensive Review – 600 Section-Finances - Continued

- 614 Payroll Authorization
- 615 Payroll Deductions
- 616 Payment of Bills
- 617 Petty Cash
- 618 Student Activity Funds
- 619 District Audit
- 620 Fund Balance
- 621 Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights
- 622 GASB Statement 34
- 624 Taxable Fringe Benefits
- 625 Procurement Cards
- 626 Federal Fiscal Compliance
- 626.1 Travel Reimbursement

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

8. SAFETY COMMITTEE

a. A Safety Committee meeting is scheduled December 5, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

a. Technology Inventory

Moved by Ms. Birdsall, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the following monitors to be donated to Mr. Shaffer’s manufacturing class for the students to make smart mirrors. The monitors were going to be recycled but Mr. Shaffer’s class has a need for them.

(Serial Numbers: T7CJ57AA00836, T7CJ57AA00613, T7CJ57AA00853 J8877CA001873, T7CJ57AA00884, T7CJ57AA00601)

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

10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – No Report

C. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Thames, to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Bentz
Board Secretary