

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

December 4, 2019

The Reorganization Meeting of the Avella Area School District Board of Education was held in the Avella Jr. Sr. High School Library on Wednesday, December 4, 2019. Ms. Leslie Cunningham, Board President, called the Reorganization Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Corey McConn, Board Treasurer, held roll call and the following board members were present:

BOARD MEMBERS: Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, Melissa Dryer, James Gagich, Corey McConn, Summer Miller, Emanuel Paris, Leslie Thames

Absent: Sharon Hixenbaugh

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

OTHERS: Barbara Graham, District Solicitor

A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations/Recognitions - None

Request to Speak at the Board Meeting - None

Visitor's Request to Speak on Agenda Items - None

B. REORGANIZATION

1. NOMINATIONS FOR TEMPORARY PRESIDENT

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to nominate Corey McConn as Temporary President for the purpose of reorganization.

No other nominations were made for Temporary President.

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to close the nominations and appoint Mr. McConn as Temporary President.

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

Mr. McConn takes the chair as Temporary President.

The Oath of Office was administered to Jeffrey Devenney, James Gagich, Summer Miller, Emanuel Paris and Leslie Thames.

B. REORGANIZATION

2. NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD PRESIDENT

Moved by Mr. Gagich, seconded by Mr. McConn, to nominate Ms. Cunningham as Board President.

Moved by Ms. Thames, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to nominate Mr. Devenney as Board President.

No other nominations were made for Board President.

Moved by Ms. Thames, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to close the nominations for Board President.

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

Roll call by voice vote for Board President:

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn Ms. Miller and Mr. Paris voted for Ms. Cunningham by voice vote. Mr. Devenney, and Ms. Thames voted for Mr. Devenney by voice vote. Majority vote for Ms. Cunningham as Board President, motion carried 6-2.

Ms. Leslie Cunningham takes over the chair as Board President.

3. NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD VICE-PRESIDENT

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Gagich, to nominate Leslie Thames as Board Vice-President.

No other nominations were made for Board Vice-President.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney to close the nominations for Board Vice-President.

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

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. McConn, to appoint Leslie Thames as Board Vice-President.

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

4. DISTRICT SOLICITOR

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve Barbara Graham, Law Offices of Peacock Keller, LLP, to continue as the District's Solicitor for the 2020 year, per attached proposal letter dated November 21, 2019. (Attachment "A")

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

B. REORGANIZATION

5. BOARD MEETINGS

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve a tentative list of the 2020 meeting dates with meeting times beginning at 7:00 p.m. All meetings are regular meetings. The committee meetings will be non-voting and meet as needed and advertised. (Attachment "B")

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

6. FACSIMILE SIGNATURES

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve permission for application to the Secretary of the Commonwealth to use facsimile signatures for the following bank accounts:

Cafeteria Fund Checks:	President and Secretary
General Fund Checks:	President, Treasurer and Secretary
Payroll Fund Checks:	Treasurer and Secretary

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

7. AUTHORIZATION FOR PAYMENTS

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve the Officers of the Board to be authorized to draw orders for payrolls and for payments of bonds, interest, utilities and other pertinent bills as they come due.

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

8. BOARD COMMITTEES

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Board Committee List for the 2020 year, per Attachment "C".

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

C. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to adjourn the Reorganization Meeting at 7:16 p.m. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Bentz
Board Secretary

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

December 4, 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, December 4, 2019. Ms. Leslie Cunningham, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m., following the Reorganization Meeting. Corey McConn, Board Treasurer, held roll call and the following board members were present:

BOARD MEMBERS: Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, Melissa Dryer, James Gagich, Corey McConn, Summer Miller, Emanuel Paris, Leslie Thames

Absent: Sharon Hixenbaugh

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

OTHERS: Barbara Graham, District Solicitor

A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations/Recognitions - None

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 November 2019 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the November 2019 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris 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 November and December 2019 General Fund.

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

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

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

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE**

- a. Kelly DeFillips, Assistant Winter Guard Dance Line Instructor**
Moved by Ms. Thames, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve Kelly DeFillips as the Assistant Winter Guard Dance Line Instructor for the 2019-2020 school year.

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

- 2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE – No Report**

- 3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

- a. Western Area Career & Technology Center Update – No Report**

- b. Vape Detectors**
Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Gagich, to proceed with the purchase and installation of vape detectors, as per the PCCD grant application. The estimated cost is not to exceed \$26,000.00.

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

c. SPHS C.A.R.E. Center

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Letter of Agreement between the Avella Area School District and SPHS C.A.R.E. Center, effective January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2021, per Attachment Curriculum “A”.

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

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. Adoption of Resolution – Act 1

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve the adoption of the Resolution, pursuant to Section 311(d)(1), indicating that the District will not raise the rate of any tax by more than its index, per Attachment Finance “A”.

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

b. AIU – Joint Purchasing Agreement

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Joint Purchasing Agreement between the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and the Avella Area School District, per Attachment Finance “B”.

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

5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

a. School Volunteer List

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Ashley Caltumo to the Volunteer List for the 2019-2020 school year.

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

7. POLICIES

a. PSBA Comprehensive Review – 600 Section-Finances

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve Policy #609 – Investment of District Funds of the first phase of PSBA's Comprehensive Review, per Attachment Policies “A”.

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

8. SAFETY COMMITTEE

a. Safety Committee meeting scheduled January 9, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No Report

B. NEW BUSINESS

10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – No Report

C. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. McConn, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Bentz
Board Secretary