

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

February 17, 2021

The Regular Board Meeting of the Avella Area School District Board of Education was held at the Avella Area School District on Wednesday, February 17, 2021. Mr. Corey McConn, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting regarding potential litigation. Debra Bentz, Board Secretary, held roll call and the following board members were present:

BOARD MEMBERS: Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, James Gagich, Corey McConn, Janet Miller, Emanuel Paris, Leslie Thames, Scott Willyerd
Absent: Melissa Dryer

ADMINISTRATION: Cyril Walther, Superintendent – Via Phone Conference
Laura Shola, Business Manager
Sheryl Wright-Brown, JSHS 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

1. The following students were recognized as the February Students of the Month:
David Fox - Senior
Jacob Paradise – 6th Grade Student

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 January 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the January 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

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

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

Board Members were furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the January and February 2021 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Accounts Payable for the January and February 2021 General Fund.

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

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

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE & EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

a. Jason Fogg, Athletic Director

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve Jason Fogg as the Athletic Director for the 2021-2022 school year.

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

b. An Athletic Committee Meeting is scheduled February 24, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE – No Report

3. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

a. A Committee of the Whole Meeting was held on February 17, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. to review the student information systems.

4. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

a. Mrs. Cunningham reported Avella had 44 students in attendance at the Western Area Career & Technology Center, and teacher negotiations are currently taking place.

B. NEW BUSINESS

4. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

b. School Calendar 2021-2022

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Avella Area School District Calendar for the 2021-2022 school year, per Attachment Curriculum "A".

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

c. School Calendar 2020-2021

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the following revisions to the Avella Area School District Calendar for the 2020-2021 school year.

February 1, 2021 – Snow Day

March 15, 2021 – Makeup Snow Day

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

d. Allegheny Intermediate Unit – Services Agreement

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Service Agreement between the Avella Area School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for the 2020-2021 school year, per Attachment Curriculum "B".

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

e. Graduation Requirements

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the updated Graduation Requirements in Attachment Curriculum "C".

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

f. The Meadows Psychiatric Center

Moved by Ms. Thames, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Letter of Agreement between Avella Area School District and The Meadows Psychiatric Center for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years, per Attachment Curriculum "D".

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

5. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. Resolution – Intermediate Unit I

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the 2021-2022 Intermediate Unit I General Operational Budget. Section 914-A(6)(1) Act 102 of 1970, requires that the Intermediate Unit Budget be approved by at least a majority of the school districts comprising the Intermediate Unit. Attachment Finance "A".

B. NEW BUSINESS

5. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. Resolution – Intermediate Unit I - Continued

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

b. Finance Committee Meetings are scheduled March 17, April 21, May 19, June 23, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

6. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

7. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

a. Amy Rush – Family Medical Leave

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Amy Rush’s request for a Family Medical Leave, effective March 1, 2021.

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

b. Laura Lazzarotti – Family Medical Leave

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Laura Lazzarotti’s request for an intermittent Family Medical Leave, effective February 12, 2021.

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

c. School Volunteer List

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Ms. Paris, n to approve the following to the School Volunteer List for the 2020-2021 school year.
Jade Georgetti
Romney Schubenski

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

8. POLICIES – No Report

9. SAFETY COMMITTEE

a. Safety Committee meeting is scheduled March 4, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

10. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

a. A Technology Committee Meeting is scheduled March 17, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

B. NEW BUSINESS

11. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

a. GG&C Contract

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Willyerd, to approve the Transportation Agreement between the Avella Area School District and GG&C Bus Company, Inc., effective 2021-2022 school year to 2029-2030 school year, per Attachment Transportation "A".

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McConn, Board President, called an Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. regarding a student issue with no further voting to occur.

C. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Bentz
Board Secretary