

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

(IT IS REQUESTED THAT ALL VISITORS WEAR A MASK)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

9/7/2021 as Recessed & Reconvened on 9/9/2021

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER.....Corey McConn, Board President
ROLL CALL.....Debra Bentz, Board Secretary

Leslie Cunningham	_____	Corey McConn	_____
Jeffrey Devenney	_____	Janet Miller	_____
Melissa Dryer	_____	Emanuel Paris	_____
James Gagich	_____	Leslie Thames	_____
		Scott Willyerd	_____

ADMINISTRATION

Cyril Walther, Superintendent
Laura Shola, Business Manager
Sheryl Wright-Brown, JSHS Principal
Carrie Graff, Elementary Principal
Debra L. Bentz, Board Secretary

A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS - None

REQUEST TO SPEAK AT THE BOARD MEETING

1. Georgann Miller requests to speak.

VISITORS REQUEST TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEM

B. NEW BUSINESS

- a.** The Board directs the Solicitor to communicate with counsel for the Plaintiffs, in the matter pending in the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania at docket no. 294 MD 2021, that the Avella Area Board of School Directors also objects to the August 31, 2021 Order of the Acting Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Directing Face Coverings in School Entities, on the basis that imposition of a face covering mandate, if any, should rest in the discretion of each local duly elected school board, and to request that Plaintiffs' counsel communicate the same to the Court.

Motion:	_____	Second:	_____	Ms. Dryer:	_____
Roll Call: Ms. Cunningham:	_____	Mr. Devenney:	_____	Ms. Miller:	_____
Mr. Gagich:	_____	Mr. McConn:	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____
Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Thames:	_____		

- b. The Board directs the Superintendent to communicate with the members of the Pennsylvania Legislature which represent the District's constituents, of its support for legislation which would override the August 31, 2021 Order of the Acting Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health directing face coverings in school entities, and/or which would preclude further Executive Orders of this nature in the future, on the basis that imposition of a face covering mandate, if any, should rest in the discretion of each local duly elected school board.

Motion:	_____	Second:	_____	Ms. Dryer:	_____
Roll Call: Ms. Cunningham:	_____	Mr. Devenney:	_____	Ms. Miller:	_____
Mr. Gagich:	_____	Mr. McConn:	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____
Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Thames:	_____		

- c. The Board approves the revised form, by which Avella Area School District parents/guardians, and/or District students age 18 or over, may request an exception from the face covering mandate set forth in the August 31, 2021 Order of the Acting Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Motion:	_____	Second:	_____	Ms. Dryer:	_____
Roll Call: Ms. Cunningham:	_____	Mr. Devenney:	_____	Ms. Miller:	_____
Mr. Gagich:	_____	Mr. McConn:	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____
Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Thames:	_____		

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:	_____	Second:	_____	ADJOURNMENT TIME:	_____
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Motion:	_____	Second:	_____	Ms. Dryer:	_____
Roll Call: Ms. Cunningham:	_____	Mr. Devenney:	_____	Ms. Miller:	_____
Mr. Gagich:	_____	Mr. McConn:	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____
Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Thames:	_____		