AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
1000 AVELLA ROAD
AVELLA, PA 15312

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

November 16, 2022

The Regular Board Meeting of the Avella Area School District Board of Education was held at the Avella Area School District on Wednesday, November 16, 2022. Mr. Corey McConn, 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. Debra Bentz, Board Secretary, held roll call and the following board members were present:

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

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

OTHERS: Barbara Graham, District Solicitor

A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations/Recognitions

1. The following students were recognized as the November Students of the Month:
Dexter Greene – Senior
Gabby Dolanch - 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 October 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Ms. Colilla, to approve the October 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

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

Board Members were furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the October and November 2022 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Accounts Payable for the October and November 2022 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

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

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

5. COMMITTEE LIST REVIEW ***ATTACHMENT "E"***

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC & EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

a. Coaching Resignations

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Mr. Paris, to accept the following coaching resignations, effective immediately:
Jamie Scears, Head Varsity Softball Coach
Joelle Cooper, Head Varsity Volleyball Coach
Dennis O'Neil, Assistant Varsity Volleyball Coach
Dennis O'Neil, Head 7th/8th Grade Volleyball Coach
Joelle Cooper, Assistant 7th/8th Grade Volleyball Coach
Kaycee Szymanski, Head Rifle Coach

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

b. Coaching Positions - Postings/Advertisements

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Mr. Paris, to ratify a posting/advertisement for the following coaching positions:
Head Varsity Softball Coach
Head Varsity Volleyball Coach
Head 7th/8th Grade Volleyball Coach
Head Rifle Coach

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC & EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

c. Coaching Positions
Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the following coaches for the 2022-2023 school year, pending receipt of clearances and employment documentation:
Nikki Knopp – Head Rifle Coach
Brenden Kosey – Assistant Rifle Coach
Dana Gatewood – Head 7th/8th Grade Volleyball Coach

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

d. Inventory Control
Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve disposing the outdated volleyball uniforms that are no longer used.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE – No Report

3. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

4. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

a. Western Area Career & Technology Center Report – No Report

b. A discussion was held regarding Range Resources/FFA Agreement.

c. Local Advisory Committee
Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve Kim Spencer as a member to the Local Advisory Committee of the Avella Area School District.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

5. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. Act 20 Resolution
Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Act 20 Resolution establishing attorney costs of collection for delinquent real estate taxes, per Attachment Finance "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

b. Keystone Collections Group
Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the agreement to appoint Keystone Collections Group as the District's contractor to collect delinquent real estate taxes, per Attachment Finance "B".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

6. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

7. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

a. School Volunteer List

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Colilla, to approve the following to the School Volunteer List for the 2022-2023 school year:
Paul El-Tahch
Elissa Gamrod
Shawn Kearns
Aidan Riley
Kyle Winland

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

b. Band Volunteer

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Colilla, to approve Patrick Patrene as a band volunteer for the band trip during the 2022-2023 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

c. Posting – Professional Staff

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Colilla, to approve a posting (advertisement if necessary) for the following AEA position:
School Nurse

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

d. HR Manager, Central Administration Office - Advertisement

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Colilla, to approve an advertisement for a full time Human Resource Manager.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

e. Substitute School Nurse

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Colilla, to approve Jodi Smitsky as a Substitute School Nurse for the 2022-2023 school year, pending receipt of clearances and required employment documentation.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

f. Added Motions

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to add the following motions to the Regular Board Meeting Agenda of November 16, 2022:

Elimination of Full Time Social Studies Teacher Position
Motion to approve eliminating a full time Social Studies Teacher position, effective at the end of the first semester, due to a resignation.

B. NEW BUSINESS

7. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

f. Added Motions - Continued

Part-Time Social Studies Teacher Position
Motion to approve creating a part-time Social Studies Teacher position, effective at the beginning of the second semester, and to post and advertise the position.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

g. Elimination of Full Time Social Studies Teacher Position
Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Colilla, to approve eliminating a full time Social Studies Teacher position, effective at the end of the first semester, due to a resignation.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

h. Part-Time Social Studies Teacher Position
Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve creating a part-time Social Studies Teacher position, effective at the beginning of the second semester, and to post and advertise the position.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

8. POLICY COMMITTEE – No Report

9. SAFETY COMMITTEE

a. Safety Committee meeting is scheduled December 1, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.

b. Health & Safety Plan
Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Devenney, to approve the revised Health & Safety Plan for the 2022-2023 school year, per Attachment Safety "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

10. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No Report

11. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

a. School Transportation Agreement
Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the School Transportation Agreement between Ms. Misty Kozak and the Avella Area School District to transport student to and from Avella Area School District for the 2022-2023 school year, per Attachment Transportation "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

11. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

b. A discussion was held regarding the Clean Bus Program Grant.

C. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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Debra L. Bentz
Board Secretary