

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

June 24, 2020

The Regular Board Meeting of the Avella Area School District Board of Education was held at the Avella Area School District on Wednesday, June 24, 2020. 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 and contracts. Debra Bentz, Board Secretary, held roll call and the following board members were present:

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

The Board interviewed Janet Miller and Scott Willyerd for the Hopewell Township board member vacancy created by the resignation of Sharon Hixenbaugh.

Motion to appoint Ms. Janet Miller or Mr. Scott Willyerd to the Hopewell Township Board Member position created by the resignation of Sharon Hixenbaugh, effective June 24, 2020 – December 2021.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames voted for Mr. Willyerd by voice vote. Mr. McConn and Ms. Miller voted for Ms. Miller by voice vote. Majority vote for Mr. Willyerd as Hopewell Township Board Member, motion carried 5-2.

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 May 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the May 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

2. **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE** **ATTACHMENT "B"**
Board Members were furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the May and June 2020 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Accounts Payable for the May and June 2020 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

3. **FINANCIAL/BUDGET REPORTS** **ATTACHMENT "C"**
4. **SOLICITOR'S REPORT** **ATTACHMENT "D"**

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. **ATHLETIC COMMITTEE & EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

- a. **Football Volunteers**
Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Miller, to approve the following football volunteers for the 2020-2021 school year, pending clearances.
Brandon Miller
Curtis Norman
Kendall Rush
Clinton Varner
Joseph Yates

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

2. **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

- a. **Mr. McConn, Board Member, reported the Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting completed a walkthrough of the buildings on June 10, 2020, and addressed areas of concern.**

3. **CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

- a. **Western Area Career & Technology Center Update - No Report**
- b. **Mr. Walther, Superintendent, reported the Comprehensive Planning Committee will meet in mid-July.**

B. NEW BUSINESS

3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

- c. Mr. Walther, Superintendent, reported the Health & Safety School Plan will be submitted to the School Board at the July 15, 2020 Regular Board Meeting for review and approval.**

d. Teaching Assignments

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the tentative teaching assignments for the JSHS and Elementary School for the 2020-2021 school year, per Attachment Curriculum "A" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

e. Steel City Therapy, LLC

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Contract between Steel City Therapy, LLC and Avella Area School District, to provide Occupational Therapy services, effective September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021, per Attachment Curriculum "B".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

f. Outside In

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Letter of Agreement between the Avella Area School District and Outside In for the 2020-2021 school year, per Attachment Curriculum "C".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

g. Resocialization of Sports Recommendations

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Resocialization of Sports Recommendations, per Attachment Curriculum "D" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

h. Use of School Facilities

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the following Use of School Facilities:

NAME: Avella Youth Cheerleading
PURPOSE: Cheer Camp
PLACE: Outside
DATE: July 7-10, 2020

NAME: Avella Youth Cheerleading
PURPOSE: Cheerleading Practices
PLACE: Outside
DATE: July 13 – November 5, 2020

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

i. Student Re-Admittance

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to readmit Student MK to the regular education program of the Avella Area School District, pending receipt of all required documents.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

j. Student Re-Admittance

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to readmit Student SC to the regular education program of the Avella Area School District, pending receipt of all required documents.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. Resolution for the Bond Refunding

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve the Resolution for the Bond Refunding Issue, per Attachment Finance "A", setting the minimum net savings at \$120,000.00, or 2% of the principal amount of prior notes being refunded.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

b. Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve the insurance proposal between Avella Area School District and Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, effective July 1, 2020.

- Commercial Package and Umbrella in the amount of \$30,327
- Worker's Compensation in the amount of \$30,060
- Cyber Liability in the amount of \$3,066
- Educators & EPL in the amount of \$5,021
- Business Auto in the amount of \$2,112

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

c. 2020-2021 General Fund Budget

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the General Fund Budget totaling \$11,444,060.00, be finally adopted for the fiscal year 2020-2021, beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, with millage set at 11.1397 mills (.3662 mill increase) on real estate, \$5.00 per capita tax under Section 679; \$5.00 per capita tax, and one-half of one percent (1/2%) on all earned income, under Act 511. Attachment Finance "B" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE

d. Homestead and Farmstead Resolution

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to adopt the Resolution authorizing the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Real Estate Tax Assessment Reductions for the 2020-2021 school year, per Attachment Finance "C".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

a. Contracted Medical/Dental Personnel List

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Contracted Medical/Dental Personnel List for the 2020-2021 school year, per Attachment Personnel "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

b. Greg Wargo, Network Administrator

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Contract of Employment of Greg Wargo, Network Administrator, effective July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2023, per Attachment Personnel "B".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

c. Yvonne Federouch - Retirement

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to accept Yvonne Federouch, Elementary Guidance Counselor's request for retirement, effective June 30, 2021.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

d. Carmelita McEndree - Retirement

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to accept Carmelita McEndree, Elementary Secretary's request for retirement, effective June 30, 2021.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

7. POLICIES – No Report

8. SAFETY COMMITTEE

a. A Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled July 2, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

B. NEW BUSINESS

9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

a. Inventory Control

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded Ms. Dryer, to approve Greg Wargo, Network Administrator's request to recycle/dispose of outdated items, per Attachment Technology "A"

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

b. A Technology Committee Meeting is scheduled July 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – No Report

C. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, moved by Ms. Thames, seconded by Mr. McConn, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Paris and Ms. Thames said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Bentz
Board Secretary