

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

November 18, 2020

The Regular Board Meeting of the Avella Area School District Board of Education was held at the Avella Area School District on Wednesday, November 18, 2020. Ms. Leslie Cunningham, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:18 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, Jeffrey Devenney, James Gagich, Corey McConn, Summer Miller, Emanuel Paris, Leslie Thames-via phone, Scott Willyerd
Absent: Melissa Dryer

ADMINISTRATION: Cyril Walther, Superintendent
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 November Students of the Month:
Aidan Riley – Senior
Virginia Smith – 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 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the October 2020 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 October and November 2020 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Accounts Payable for the October and November 2020 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

- a. **Summer Miller, Independence Township - Resignation**
Moved by Mr. Willyerd, seconded by Mr. McConn, to regretfully accept the resignation of Summer Miller, Avella Area School District Independence Township Board Member, effective December 1, 2020.

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.

1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE & EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- a. **Winter Guard Dance Line Instructors**
Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the following Winter Guard Dance Line Instructors for the 2020-2021 school year:
Cheryl Rush – Head Winter Guard Dance Line Instructor
Kelley Defilippis – Assistant Winter Guard Dance Line Instructor

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. **The Athletic Committee Meeting will schedule a meeting to review a coaching request, per Attachment Athletic "A".**

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

- a. **A meeting is scheduled on 12/17/2020 @ 1:00 p.m. at the Cross Creek Municipal Building with PA American Water Company to discuss options for getting public water along Route 50 to the Avella Area School District.**

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. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

4. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

- a. **Leslie Cunningham, Board President, reported the Welding Department of the Western Area Career & Technology Center is working on certifications.**

- b. **Inventory Control**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve Lynn Clarchick, School Librarian's request to remove outdated books/materials from the library, 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. **Remote Learning**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Willyerd, to approve the District to begin remote learning due to the increase in Covid cases, effective December 1 – 11, 2020. The administration will reevaluate if the District should remain in remote learning in two weeks.

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**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Resolution authorizing the participation and appointment of representatives to the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program, per Attachment Finance "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.

- b. **Attorney-Client Fee Contract**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Attorney-Client Fee Contract with Frantz Law Group to represent the District in the JUUL and Electronic Cigarette litigation, per Attachment Finance "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.

B. NEW BUSINESS

5. FINANCE COMMITTEE

c. Resolution – Charter School Funding Reform

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Resolution Calling Charter School Funding Reform by the Board of Directors of the Avella Area School District, per Attachment Finance “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.

6. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

7. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

a. Posting - Tutor Position

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the posting (advertisement if necessary) for a Tutor for an elementary student.

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. School Volunteer

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Victoria Clarchick to the School Volunteer List for the 2020-2021 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.

8. POLICIES – No Report

9. SAFETY COMMITTEE

a. Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled December 4, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

10. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No Report

11. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

a. GG&C Bus/Van Driver List

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the following driver to the GG&C Bus/Van Driver List for the 2020-2021 school year.

Charles Frederick – Van Driver

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. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Willyerd, to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 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