

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

September 16, 2020

The Regular Board Meeting of the Avella Area School District Board of Education was held at the Avella Area School District on Wednesday, September 16, 2020. Ms. Leslie Thames, Board Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 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: Jeffrey Devenney, Melissa Dryer, James Gagich, Corey McConn, Summer Miller, Emanuel Paris, Leslie Thames
Absent: Leslie Cunningham, Scott Willyerd

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

OTHERS: Barbara Graham, District Solicitor

A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations/Recognitions- None

Request to Speak at the Board Meeting – None

Visitor's Request to Speak on Agenda Items

1. Marcia Jaworowski, 396 Cooke Road, Avella, PA, thanked the Board for allowing the students to participate in the fall sports and for parents being able to attend the games.

GENERAL PROCEDURE ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ATTACHMENT "A"

Board Members were furnished copies of the August 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the August 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Devenney, 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 August and September 2020 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Accounts Payable for the August and September 2020 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Devenney, 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"

5. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Board created a Communications Committee. Members include Scott Willyerd as Chairman, Melissa Dryer and Corey McConn.

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE & EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

a. Volleyball Volunteer

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve Bess Lengauer as a volunteer to the Volleyball Team for the 2020-2021 school year.

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

b. Dave Niekum, Head 7th/8th Grade Girls' Softball Coach - Resignation

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to accept the resignation of Dave Niekum as the Head 7th/8th Grade Girls' Softball Coach, effective immediately.

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

c. Head 7th/8th Grade Girls' Softball Coach - Posting

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve the posting (advertisement, if needed) for a Head 7th/8th Grade Girls' Softball Coach for the 2020-2021 school year.

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE – No Report

3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

a. Mr. Cyril Walther, Superintendent, reported he will be attending the Western Area Career & Technology Center meeting.

b. Updated Health & Safety Plan

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to authorize the Superintendent to update the Health & Safety Plan with the required face coverings revisions.

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

c. Flexible Instruction Days Application

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to authorize the Superintendent to apply for the Flexible Instruction Days for the 2020-2021 school year.

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

d. Vision to Learn

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Avella Area School District and Vision to Learn, per Attachment Curriculum “A” to Revised Agenda.

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

e. Senior Night/Homecoming

October 14, 2020 – Senior Night/Homecoming
October 21, 2020 – Rain Date

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE – No Report

5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

a. Resolution

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the Resolution regarding quarantining of staff, per Attachment Negotiations “A” to Revised Agenda.

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

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

a. Full Time Secretary Position – Posting/Advertisement

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to post (advertise if necessary) a full time secretary position, due to the retirement of Carmelita McEndree.

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

b. Sunnie Kopko, Part-Time Vocational Agricultural Teacher

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to accept the resignation of Sunnie Kopko, part-time Vocational Agricultural Teacher, effective date will be determined by the Superintendent.

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

c. Part-Time Special Education Teacher – Posting/Advertisement

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to ratify a posting/advertisement for a Part-Time Special Education Teacher, due to Kara Ruffalo moving into the full time Vocational Agricultural Teacher position.

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

d. Kelly Jo Miller, Part-Time Cafeteria Worker

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to accept the resignation of Kelly Jo Miller, part-time cafeteria worker, effective August 27, 2020.

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

e. Substitute Teacher List

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve Gary Fonner to the Substitute Teacher List for the 2020-2021 school year:

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

f. School Volunteer List

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the following to the School Volunteer List for the 2020-2021 school year:

Jack Conn
Marcia Jaworowski
William Maidment
Tami Samol

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

7. POLICIES

a. PSBA Policies

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the adoption/revisions to the following policies recommended by PSBA, per Attachment Policies "A":

B. NEW BUSINESS

7. POLICIES

a. PSBA Policies - Continued

PSBA News Network - Volume V

111 Lesson Plans
203 Immunizations and Communicable Diseases
209 Health Examinations/Screenings
314 Physical Examination
318 Attendance and Tardiness
331 Job Related Expenses
332 Working Periods
334 Sick Leave
340 Responsibility for Student Welfare
705 Facilities and Workplace Safety
803 School Calendar
904 Public Attendance at School Events
907 School Visitors

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

8. SAFETY COMMITTEE

a. A Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled October 9, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No Report

10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

a. GG&C Bus/Van Driver List

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the following drivers to the GG&C Bus/Van Driver List for the 2020-2021 school year.
Barry Bebout – Sub Van Driver
Denise Wise – Sub Van Driver

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

b. Jake Schneider Bus/Van Driver List

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the following van drivers to the Jake Schneider Bus/Van Driver List for the 2020-2021 school year.
Roy Baker
William Diamond
Phillis Romain
Allison Stevens

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

C. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Devenney, 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