

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

March 17, 2021

The Regular Board Meeting of the Avella Area School District Board of Education was held at the Avella Area School District on Wednesday, March 17, 2021. Mr. Corey McConn, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting regarding personnel and potential litigation. Debra Bentz, Board Secretary, held roll call and the following board members were present:

BOARD MEMBERS: Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, Melissa Dryer (via conference call), James Gagich, Corey McConn, Janet Miller, Leslie Thames
Absent: Emanuel Paris, 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: Rachel Lozosky, District Solicitor

A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations/Recognitions

1. The following students were recognized as the March Students of the Month:
Jaylene Mundorff - Senior
Aaron Ruffalo – 6th Grade Student
2. FFA students were recognized for receiving their jackets and Keystone Degree.
3. Hannah Amaismeier was recognized for being selected to have her poem published in Once Upon a Dream.

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 February 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the February 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, 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 February and March 2021 General Fund.

Moved by Ms. Thames, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Accounts Payable for the February and March 2021 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Ms. Miller, 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. 2021-2022 Athletic Coaches

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the following athletic coaches for the 2021-2022 school year:

FALL SPORTS

Cross Country

Laura Lazzarotti, Head Coach

Zachery Franks, Assistant Coach

Football - 7th/8th Grade

James Gatewood, Head Coach

Brad Rankin, Assistant Coach

Football - Varsity

Ryan Cecchini, Head Coach

Zachary Zebrasky, Assistant Coach

JT Mylan, Assistant Coach

Softball – 7th/8th Grade Junior Varsity

Jamie Scears – Head Coach

Robert Dittrich – Assistant Coach

Tennis

Natalie Frank, Head Coach

Chelsea Craig, Assistant Coach

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE & EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

a. 2021-2022 Athletic Coaches - Continued

Volleyball

Joelle Cooper, Head Coach
Dennis O'Neil, Assistant Coach

WINTER SPORTS

Basketball – Boys' Varsity

Michael Maltory – Head Coach
Michael Macik – Assistant Coach

Basketball – Girls' Varsity

Mike Drazich – Head Coach
Kathleen Margaria – Assistant Coach

Basketball – 7th/8th Grade Boys

Michael Macik – Head Coach
Michael Maltory – Assistant Coach

Rifle

Jim Mounts – Head Rifle Coach

Volleyball – 7th/8th Grade Girls

Dennis O'Neil – Head Coach
Joelle Cooper – Assistant Coach

SPRING SPORTS

Baseball

Jason Fogg, Head Coach
James Morris, Assistant Coach

Baseball – Junior Varsity

Zachary Zebrasky, Head Coach

Basketball – 7th/8th Grade Girls

Gilbert Cutruzzola, Head Coach
Mike Drazich, Assistant Coach

Softball

Jamie Scears, Head Coach
Robert Dittrich, Assistant Coach

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

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE – No Report

3. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

B. NEW BUSINESS

4. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

- a. Ms. Cunningham, Board Vice-President, reported the Western Area Career & Technology Center was awarded \$528,272.00 in grants. Also, the students must wear masks while riding on the bus.**
- b. NOCTI/NIMS Waiver**
Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the NOCTI/NIMS Waiver for the Avella Area School District.

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

5. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- a. Finance Committee Meetings are scheduled:**
March 17, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.
April 21, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.
May 19, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.
June 23, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.

6. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

- a. Settlement Agreement and General Release**
Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Ms. Thames, to approve the Settlement Agreement and General Release resolving a special education dispute involving a specific Avella Area School District student.

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

7. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

- a. Extended School Year Program Teacher - Posting**
Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve a posting (advertisement if necessary) for an Elementary Extended School Year Program Teacher, effective Summer 2021.

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

- b. Extended School Year Program Special Education Aides - Posting**
Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve a posting (advertisement if necessary) for an Extended School Year Program Special Education Aides, effective Summer 2021.

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

- c. School Volunteer List**
Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the following to the School Volunteer List for the 2020-2021 school year:
Kasey Scears

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

7. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

d. Full Time Secretary Position

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve Marcia Jaworowski to the position of full time Secretary, effective date to be determined by administration, per PSEA/NEA Contract, due to the retirement of Carmelita McEndree.

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

8. POLICIES

a. PSBA Policies

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

PSBA News Network - Volume I

137.1 – Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students

150 – Title I – Comparability of Services

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

9. SAFETY COMMITTEE

a. A Safety Committee meeting is scheduled April 8, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

b. Fort Cherry School District – Memorandum of Understanding

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Ms. Thames, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding – Emergency Evacuation Cooperation Agreement, effective February 2021 – February 2024, per Attachment Safety "A".

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

10. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No Report

11. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – No Report

C. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Bentz
Board Secretary