

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

April 19, 2023

The Regular Board Meeting of the Avella Area School District Board of Education was held at the Western Area Career and Technology Center, 688 Western Avenue, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, in the Multi-Purpose Room on Wednesday, April 19, 2023. Mr. Corey McConn, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 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: Phoebe Armstrong, Suzanne Colilla, Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, Melissa Dryer, James Gagich, Corey McConn, Emanuel Paris and Scott Willyerd

ADMINISTRATION: Cyril Walther, Superintendent
Laura Shola, Business Manager
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 April Students of the Month:
Samantha Stritzinger – Senior
Emma Day – 6th Grade

Request to Speak at the Board Meeting

Visitor's Request to Speak on Agenda Items

GENERAL PROCEDURE ITEMS

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** **ATTACHMENT "A"**
Board Members were furnished copies of the March 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the March 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

- 2. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE** **ATTACHMENT "B"**
Board Members were furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for March and April 2023 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Ms. Colilla, to approve the Accounts Payable for the March and April 2023 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

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

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC & ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

- a. 2023-2024 School Year - JSHS Extra-Curricular Activities**
Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve the following to the JSHS Extra-Curricular Activities for the 2023-2024 school year, per AEA Contract:
- Nicholas Deutsch – Band Director
 - Alexander Light – Assistant Band Director (Elem Music Teacher)
 - Jesse Rhoades – Assistant Band Director (Drum Line)
 - Cheryl Rush – Assistant Band Director (Color Guard)
 - Vacant – Assistant Band Director (Other)
 - Julianna Rush – Winter Guard Dance Line Instructor
 - Cheryl Rush – Assistant Winter Guard Dance Line Instructor
 - Nicholas Deutsch - Choral Director
 - Alexander Light – Choral Director
 - Vacant - Musical Producer/Play Producer
 - Vacant – Musical Producer/Play Producer
 - Nicholas Deutsch – Senior Class Sponsor
 - Samantha Jacobs – Junior Class Sponsor
 - Joelle Cooper – Sophomore Class Sponsor
 - Evelyn Breitigan – Freshman Class Sponsor
 - Clara Zatta – 7th/8th Grade Class Sponsor
 - Carrie Struth – Student Council Sponsor
 - Lynn Akins – National Honor Society Sponsor
 - Joelle Cooper – Newspaper Sponsor
 - Lauren Markish – Yearbook Sponsor
 - Erika Minch – SADD Sponsor
 - Jessica Miller – Art Club Sponsor

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC & ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

a. 2023-2024 School Year - JSHS Extra-Curricular Activities

- Evelyn Breitigan – Community Service Sponsor
- Evelyn Breitigan – Science Club
- Susan Kubacka – Head Varsity Cheerleading Coach
- Carol Morgan – Assistant Varsity Cheerleading Coach
- JT Mylan – Weight Room Coordinator
- Kara Ruffalo – Vo-Ag Instructor

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

2. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

- a. A Communications Committee meeting will be scheduled at the May 17, 2023 meeting to review the District’s communication systems.**

3. CURRICULUM & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

- a. Michael Milanovich, Executive Director and James Purtell, Principal provided a tour of the Western Area Career & Technology Center to the Board.**

b. Student Discipline - RJ

Moved by Mr. Gagich, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Waiver of Informal Hearing and Agreement between the Avella Area School District and Student RJ, and direct and authorize the Administration to implement it.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

c. Student Discipline - AH

Moved by Mr. Gagich, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Waiver of Informal Hearing and Agreement between the Avella Area School District and Student AH, and direct and authorize the Administration to implement it.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

d. Technology – Inventory Control

Moved by Mr. Gagich, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve Greg Wargo, Network Administrator’s request to discard the outdated technology equipment listed on Attachment Curriculum & Technology “A”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

4. FACILITIES & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – No Report

B. NEW BUSINESS

5. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. Finance Committee Meetings:

May 4, 2023 @ 5:00 p.m.

May 17, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

June 21, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

b. Western Area Career & Technology Center

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the 2023-2024 Western Area Career & Technology Center's proposed budget totaling \$5,906,473.00, per letter dated March 23, 2023 from Michael Milanovich, Executive Director of Vocational Education, per Attachment Finance & Transportation "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

6. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

a. Guidance Counselor - MOU

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Avella Area School District and the Avella Education Association PSEA/NEA, regarding the Elementary Guidance Counselor, per Negotiations "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

7. PERSONNEL & POLICY COMMITTEE

a. School Volunteer List

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Willyerd, to approve the following to the School Volunteer List for the 2022-2023 school year, pending receipt of required clearances:
Thomas Repole

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

b. JSHS Principal Position

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Willyerd, to assign responsibility for, and oversight of, the duties of the High School Principal position, to the District Superintendent, retroactive to April 14, 2023 and until further notice.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

7. PERSONNEL & POLICY COMMITTEE

c. Business Manager Position

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Willyerd, to appoint Jamie O'Donnell as the Business Manager of the Avella Area School District, effective date to be determined, at an annual salary of \$100,000.00. This appointment shall be contingent upon the parties' execution of a mutually acceptable agreement.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

d. Bonita Browne, Part-Time Cafeteria Worker

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Willyerd, to approve Bonita Browne as a part-time cafeteria worker, 4 hours per day/180 days per year, effective April 25, 2023.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

8. SAFETY COMMITTEE

a. A Safety Committee meeting is scheduled May 4, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McConn, Board President called an Executive Session at 7:52 p.m. regarding personnel with no further voting to occur.

C. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Paris and Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Bentz
Board Secretary