

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

September 18, 2024

The Regular Board Meeting of the Avella Area School District Board of Education was held in the Avella Jr. Sr. High School Library on Wednesday, September 18, 2024. Mr. Scott Willyerd, Board Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. An Executive Session was held prior to and continued after the meeting regarding personnel matters and policies. Dana Davis, Board Secretary, held roll call and the following board members were present:

BOARD MEMBERS: Phoebe Armstrong, Suzanne Colilla, Melissa Dryer, Beth Dunmore, Terry Jacobs, Tia Shore (via phone), Scott Willyerd
Absent: Emanuel Paris

ADMINISTRATION: Cyril Walther, Superintendent
John Galvin, Business Manager
Heather Zalar, JSHS Principal
Carrie Graff, Elementary Principal
Dana Davis, Board Secretary

OTHERS: Rachel Lozosky, District Solicitor
Christian Sesek, Peacock & Keller Associate

A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations/Recognitions

1. PSBA recognizes and presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Scott Willyerd, School Director, for his 5 years of school board service.
2. Congratulations to Avella High School for being selected as a T-Mobile Friday Night 5G Lights 5K Sweepstakes Winner
3. Congratulations to Tristan Davis on his 2nd place finish in the WPIAL 2A Individual Sectional Qualifier on Monday, September 16, 2024. He will advance onto Round 1 of the WPIAL 2A Individual Championships on Monday, September 23, 2024.

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 August 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Ms. Colilla, seconded by Ms. Dunmore to approve the June 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

2. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE **ATTACHMENT "B"**

Board Members have been furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the August and September 2024 General Fund.

Moved by Ms., Colilla, seconded by Ms. Dunmore to approve the Accounts Payable for the July and August 2024 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

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

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC & ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

a. Mike Macik, Assistant 7th/8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach – Resignation

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Mr. Jacobs to accept the resignation of Mike Macik as Assistant 7th & 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach for the 2024-2025 school year, effective August 20, 2024.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

b. Assistant 7th & 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach

Moved by Ms. Dryer seconded by Mr. Jacobs to approve Curtis J. Norman as the Assistant 7th & 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach for the 2024-2025 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

c. Amy Hott, Assistant Varsity Tennis Coach – Resignation

Moved by Ms. Colilla, seconded by Ms. Dryer to accept the resignation of Amy Hott as Assistant Varsity Tennis Coach, effective August 21, 2024.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

d. Assistant Varsity Tennis Coach

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Dunmore to ratify Jody Morgan as the Assistant Varsity Tennis Coach, effective August 24, 2024.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC & ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

e. Sophomore Class Sponsor

Moved by Ms. Colilla, seconded by Ms. Armstrong to approve Christina Musser as the Sophomore Class Sponsor for the 2024-2025 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

f. Assistant Band Director (Other)

Moved by Ms. Dunmore, seconded by Ms. Dryer to approve Julianne Rush as Assistant Band Director (Other) for the 2024-2025 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

g. Homecoming Events

Oct. 17 @ 6:30 p.m.	Homecoming Parade followed by Bonfire
Oct. 18 @ 6:30 p.m.	Pregame: Avella Marching Band
@ 7:00 p.m.	Kickoff
@ Halftime	Crowning
@ After Game	Halftime show: Avella Marching Band
Oct. 19 @ 7:00 p.m.	Homecoming Dance @ Railyard Shed

2. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

a. Discussion Item: Teacher and Staff Survey resolutions-TIME

3. CURRICULUM & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

a. Western Area Career & Technology Center Update

Ms. Dryer noted that Western Area Career & Technology Center is seeking custodial staff. Construction will begin on a new building to house the Auto Mechanics and Diesel Technology programs.

b. Washington Drug and Alcohol Commission

Moved by Mr. Jacobs, seconded by Ms. Colilla to approve the Letter of Agreement between the Avella Area School District and Washington Drug & Alcohol Commission, Inc. for SAP services for the 2024-2025 school year, per Attachment Curriculum & Technology "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

c. Keystone Education Consulting Group – Special Education Consulting

Moved by Mr. Jacobs, seconded by Ms. Dunmore to approve the Agreement between the Avella Area School District and Keystone Educational Consulting Group, to provide special education consulting for the 2024-2025 school year, per Attachment Curriculum & Technology "B".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. CURRICULUM & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

d. Bradley Center Agreement

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Mr. Willyerd to approve the added attachments F & G to the Agreement between Avella Area School District and the Bradley Center, originally board approved on April 17, 2024, per Attachment Curriculum & Technology "C".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

e. 2024-2025 School Calendar Revision

Moved by Ms. Dunmore, seconded by Mr. Jacobs to approve the following revisions to the school calendar for the 2024-2025 school year, per Attachment Curriculum & Technology "D".

- 2-hour early dismissal on October 28, 2024
- 2-hour early dismissal on November 15, 2024
- 2-hour early dismissal on January 10, 2025
- The Act 80 Day on January 20, 2024 will become a NO SCHOOL Day.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

f. Inventory Control – Library Books

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Armstrong to approve District Librarian, Lynn Clarchick's request to discard damaged or uncirculated books, per Attachment Curriculum & Technology "E".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

4. FACILITIES & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

a. New Construction – Western Area Career and Technical Center

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Armstrong to authorize Michael Milanovich, Executive Director for the Western Area Career and Technology Center approving construction of new building to facilitate the Auto Mechanics and Diesel Technology programs.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Mr. Gagich said, "nay". Motion carried 7-1.

b. Discussion Item: Use of School Parking Lot

5. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. ACCESS Services Agreement – IU 1 – Based Staff

Moved by Mr. Willyerd, seconded by Ms. Dryer to approve the ACCESS Services Agreement between the Avella Area School District and Intermediate Unit 1, per attachment Finance "A".

6. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

B. NEW BUSINESS

7. PERSONNEL & POLICY COMMITTEE

a. Part-Time Special Education Aide Position

Moved by Ms. Colilla, seconded by Ms. Dryer to create a part time (4 hour) Special Education Aide position and to authorize the administration to post the position, and if necessary to advertise.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

b. Substitute Teacher

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Mr. Willyerd to ratify Geanna Samol as a Substitute Teacher for the 2024-2025 school year, effective September 6, 2024.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

c. Homebound Instruction (12th Grade Student) Posting

Moved by Mr. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Dunmore to approve a posting (advertisement if necessary) for a Homebound Instructor for a 12th grade student.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

d. Homebound Instruction (8th Grade Student) Posting

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Mr. Willyerd to approve a posting (advertisement if necessary) for a Homebound Instructor for an 8th grade student.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

e. Substitute Cafeteria Employee

Moved by Mr. Dryer, seconded by Mr. Willyerd to approve Hannah Mull as a Substitute Cafeteria Employee for the 2024-2025 school year, pending receipt of clearances and required employment documentation.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

f. Matter of Record

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Dunmore to approve and make a matter of record the fact that Genia Mundorff's separation from employment with the Avella Area School District, as approved by the Board at the June 19, 2024 Regular Board meeting, is in the nature of a retirement and not a resignation.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

g. Volunteer List

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Ms. Colilla to approve the updated School Volunteer List for the 2024-2025 school year, per attachment Personnel & Policy "A".

e. First Reading of Policy 329 Hiring for Professional Positions – Attachment Personnel & Policy Attachment "B".

B. NEW BUSINESS

8. SAFETY COMMITTEE

- a. Safety Committee meeting scheduled October 3, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

C. ADJOURNMENT

With nor further business before the Board, moved by Mr. Jacobs, seconded by Ms. Dryer to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Gagich, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd said "aye". Motion carried 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana M. Davis, Board Secretary