

AVON BOARD OF EDUCATION
Meeting of October 9, 2024
MINUTES

President Bing called the meeting of the Avon Board of Education to order at 7:02 p.m.

President's Statement: This meeting has been advertised as a regular business meeting in the Asbury Park Press on June 29, 2024 and the Coast Star on June 27, 2024. Copies of the notice have been forwarded to the Avon Borough Office, the Avon Public Library, the Avon Post Office, has been posted in the Avon School, and is posted on the Avon Elementary School website. This is in compliance with the requirements of Chapter 231 of the "Open Public Meetings Law" of Public Laws of 1975.

The Board will entertain questions and/or discussion on any open session agenda item before voting on same, if requested.

Public Comment: Members of the public wishing to address the Board of Education on both agenda and non-agenda items must state their name, address, and are requested to limit their comments to five (5) minutes when it appears the public comment portion of the meeting may exceed thirty minutes in duration.

The Board will hear all participants but may not always be prepared to discuss an issue when presented; however, the President or Superintendent will advise what action will be taken, if necessary, to address the concern.

Roll Call: **Present:** Evans, Losinger, Rehbein, Requa, Scrabis-Fletcher, Szczepaniak, Bing.
Others: 2 visitors and a member of the Coast Star Newspaper

Communications: None

Superintendent's Update:

Dr. Herits reported on the following:

- Enrollment Report – is the same as the previous month and currently at 115 students
- Safety and Security Drill Report – the report and drills held were reviewed
- There was one report of HIB investigated and was founded. The consequences were reviewed.
- Back to School Night went very well; the staff was spectacular
- Boys Soccer Club is up and running – thank you to Mr. Trapani and the AEA for making it happen
- October 11th is picture day
- October 18th will be the fire prevention program with the Avon Fire Department

Recognition: Superintendent Russo was excited to recognize the following students and staff:

- Several students were recognized as they were "caught" being respectful, caring, and responsible; Above and Beyond recognition. The students each received a school coin as well.
- Mrs. Berta was recognized for going above and beyond.

Standardized Assessment Data Review

Mrs. MacDonald reviewed NJSLA test results from the Spring of 2024. The Education Excellence Committee reviewed the data at their committee meeting last week. Mrs. MacDonald reviewed the connected action roadmap; the district's plan to support students.

The assessments that the students participate in were reviewed as well as score data and performance highlights in i-Ready and NJSLA were reviewed by subject areas as well as the areas of district focus.

Mrs. Rehbein inquired about the differences between i-Ready and NJSLA in 3rd & 4TH Grades. Mrs. MacDonald reviewed the matter.

Mrs. Losinger inquired about the i-Ready 8th grade assessment. Mrs. MacDonald reviewed the program and assessment data. The assessment and testing windows were discussed.

The data and presentation will be available on the district's website and in the newsletter. □

WIDA access

Mrs. MacDonald reviewed the test results. Less than 10 students in the district participate in this assessment so the data cannot be reviewed, however, the English Language Services program was reviewed. Areas of highlight and focus were also reviewed. Additionally, the sheltered English instruction program was reviewed by Mrs. MacDonald as requested by President Bing. How the teachers use the data to plan for instruction and program needs were also reviewed.

Mr. Szczepaniak inquired if there are any other assessments that students take. Mrs. MacDonald reviewed the programs and other informal evaluations that occur. The Board discussed the matter. The Link It program was discussed.

Lastly, the categories of test results were discussed.

Superintendent Russo and the Board thanked Mrs. MacDonald for the information and presentation.

Committee Reports:

- Educational Excellence Committee – The committee met twice and created the Board goal action plan assigned to their committee. They shared the calendar with Administration and will meet more often. The committee discussed community engagement as well as the Wingman Program. At the second meeting, the committee discussed the test results and the LLD Program and benefits. The action plan was shared with the BOE.
- The other committees were reminded to complete their action plans for approval at the November meeting.

Board Secretary Certification

I, Amy Lerner, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary certifies that as of August 31, 2024, no line item has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Amy S. Lerner

School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Agenda Review:

The agenda motions were reviewed in detail by the Board.

Mrs. Rehbein inquired if the program agendas items 1-3 were in line with the budget. Mrs. Lerner reviewed that items 2 and 3 were as per the budget, however, item number 1 was not in the budget. The programs and the budget were discussed.

The revisions to the Grades 6-8 health curriculum were discussed. The revision if for a new mandate to include grief.

The School Self -Assessment for Determining Grades for school year 2023-2024 was reviewed; the report is required for compliance with the HIB policy. Mrs. Requa inquired about the assessment and several scores as well as what steps are being taken to improve. Superintendent Russo reviewed the rationale for the scores and adjustments that are being made.

Mrs. Lerner reviewed the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan report.

It was moved by Bing and seconded by Scrabis-Fletcher to close the work session and open the regular business meeting. Voice vote was all in favor and the work session adjourned and opened to the regular business meeting at 8:11 pm.

Public Session on Agenda items only: None

Personnel:

It was moved by Scrabis-Fletcher and seconded by Rehbein to approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following resolutions:

Mary Dugan for 9 hours per week for up to 14 weeks as Extended School Day teacher at the rate of \$47 per hour as per the agreement with the AEA (to be paid for with the NJ High-Impact Tutoring grant).

Sharon Cumiskey for 6.5 hours per week for up to 24 weeks as Extended School Day teacher at the rate of \$47 per hour as per the agreement with the AEA (to be paid for with ESEA Title I funds pending grant amendment approval).

Matthew Brown as a Part-time Custodian for the 2024-2025 school year, (pending criminal history review) at the rate of \$15.13 per hour.

Melissa Berta as the Girls Softball Coach for the 2024-2025 school at the stipend of \$2,998 per the Agreement with the AEA.

Brian Trapani as the Boys Baseball Coach for the 2024-2025 school at the stipend of \$2,998 per the Agreement with the AEA.

Erin Blaney to complete her 150 hour practicum experience (for Principal Certification at Monmouth University) under the supervision of the Superintendent/Principal throughout the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year.

Roll call vote was all in favor, motions carried unanimously.

It was moved by Scrabis-Fletcher and seconded by Rehbein to approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, Nancy Nakovick as a Substitute Teacher at a rate of \$125 per day for the 2024-2025 school year, effective September 27, 2025.

Roll call vote was in favor, Szczepaniak abstained, motion carried.

Finance:

It was moved by Evans and seconded by Rehbein to approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following resolutions:

The payroll for October 2024 totaling \$219,589.87.

The payment of bills presented for the 2024-2025 budget totaling \$192,214.01.

Transfer in the 2024-2025 budget in the amount of \$2,300 for the month of August 2024.

The Budget Status Report for August 2024 and the certification by the Board Secretary that there are no over expenditures in the major funds and accounts of the 2024-2025 budget; further, that sufficient funds are currently available to meet the district's current financial obligations for the 2024-2025 school year.

The Financial Reports of the Treasurer and Board Secretary for the month of August 2024.

The attached staff travel expenses for various training and business related trips as budgeted for in the 2024-2025 budget.

The submission of an amendment to ESEA Application, fiscal year 2025, due to carry-over funds from the 2023-24 fiscal year, as follows:

Title I, Part A	\$34,676
Title II	\$ 548
Title IV	\$ 936

The shared service agreement with the Roosevelt Board of Education for Teacher Services (.40 FTE) for the 2024-2025 school year, effective October 10, 2024 at a contracted rate of \$36,292.

Revised contract with Atlantic Behavior Analysis LLC for Child Study Team (BCBA) services for the 2024-2025 school year for an additional 25 hours at the rate of \$145 per hour.

Roll call vote was all in favor, motions carried unanimously.

Program:

It was moved by Bing and seconded by Losinger to approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following resolutions:

The contract with the Manasquan Board of Education for one (1) Avon resident student for extraordinary services for the 2024-2025 school year at the rate of \$47,941.47.

The tuition contract with the Red Bank Regional High School Board of Education for one (1) Avon resident for the 2024-2025 school year at an annual tuition rate of \$17,340.00

The tuition contract with the Monmouth County Vocational School District Board of Education for four (4) Avon residents for the 2024-2025 school year at an annual tuition rate of \$7,374.00.

Revisions to the Grades 6-8 Health Curriculum.

Roll call vote was all in favor, motions carried unanimously.

Other Business:

It was moved by Requa and seconded by Szczepaniak to approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following resolutions:

The following field trips for the 2024-2025 school year:

- o Grade 8
- o Kindergarten
- o Grades 5 & 7

The attached Emergency Drill report for September 2024.

The Winter Sports Schedules.

The district's Nursing Service Plan.

The School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades for school year 2023-2024.

Roll call vote was all in favor, motions carried unanimously.

It was moved by Requa and seconded by Szczepaniak to approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the minutes of the regular business and executive session meetings held on September 11, 2024.

Roll call vote was in favor, Losinger abstained, motion carried.

Facilities and Transportation:

It was moved by Bing and seconded by Scrabis-Fletcher to approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following resolutions:

Approval of the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan

WHEREAS, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting “required maintenance activities” for each of its public school facilities, and

WHEREAS, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the school facilities of the Avon Board of Education are consistent with these requirements, and

WHEREAS, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Avon Board of Education hereby authorizes the School Business Administrator to submit the attached Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the years 2022- 2025 for the Avon Board of Education in compliance with the Department of Education requirements.

Roll call vote was all in favor, motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

The Board tabled the following until the September meeting:

- School/District and Board Action Plan for 2024-2025 was reviewed by Superintendent Russo. The Board discussed the action plans status. The committees should complete the plans for approval as the November meeting.
- District Strategic Plan Review – Superintendent Russo recommended that this remains on the agenda to discuss monthly.
- The Management Committee inquired about the wellness check on the policy that is on the Board calendar. Superintendent Russo reviewed the matter.

New Business:

- November BOE Meeting – Mrs. Lerner inquired about changing the date of the November meeting as she will be unable to attend the currently scheduled meeting. The Board discussed the matter and agreed to move the meeting to November 20th.

Public Session:

Mr. Szczepaniak inquired if there had been any expenses or costs to the district related to the health notice that had been received by parents. Superintendent Russo stated that there were not.

Motion to adjourn to executive session:

It was moved by Bing and seconded by Szczepaniak to approve the following resolution:

For the Avon Board of Education to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that such circumstances exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Avon-by-the-Sea Board of Education, in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of any actions upon the hereinafter-specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows; Legal (Agreement with AEA) and Personnel (Superintendent Position).

Meeting: October 9, 2024

3. The Board will not take action following closed executive session.
4. It is anticipated that the closed executive session will last approximately thirty (30) minutes.
5. It is anticipated at this time the above stated subject matter will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.
6. This Resolution shall become effective immediately.

Voice vote was all in favor, motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned into executive session at 8:15 pm.

It was moved by Bing and seconded by Losinger to adjourn executive session and reopen the meeting to the public. Voice vote was all in favor, motion passed unanimously. The meeting was re-opened to the public at 9:11 pm.

Motion to adjourn:

There being no further business before the Board, it was moved by Bing and seconded by Scrabis-Fletcher to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote was all in favor, motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy S Lerner

Amy S. Lerner, Board Secretary