

AVON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting of September 13, 2023

MINUTES

President Bing called the meeting of the Avon Board of Education to order at 7:03 p.m.

President's Statement: This meeting has been advertised as a regular business meeting in the Asbury Park Press on Jul 9, 2023 and the Coast Star on July 13, 2023. 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 (arrived at 7:12pm), Requa, Scrabis-Fletcher, and Bing.
Absent: Johnson, and Rehbein
Others: The Coast Star Newspaper and approximately 5 visitors

Communications: None.

Superintendent's Update:

Recognition: Superintendent Herits thanked the facility team for getting the building ready for the school opening. He wished Mr. Cavanaugh the best in retirement, he was a great employee and wonderful to work with.

The school opening went great and thanked Mrs. MacDonald for the inclusion assembly.

Superintendent Herits reported on the following:

- Enrollment Report – currently at 120 students
- Safety and Security Drill Report – reviewed the report
- Review of building projects
- Preparing for QSAC in January
- **Curriculum Update**

Mrs. MacDonald reviewed the connected action roadmap, which highlighted curriculum development over the summer. The curriculum revision process at Avon was reviewed. The current revisions are due to new standards.

- Science
Mr. Plunkett, Science Teacher, reviewed with the Board the science program 6-8 and the changes to it. The district will be implementing a new program and the scope and sequence aligns with the NJSLA and state standards. The Board discussed the current science program compared to the new one.
- STEM
Mr. Maginnis, Technology Teacher, reviewed with the Board the STEAM curriculum grades K-8 and the changes. The focus was on 21st Century Skills, robotics, engineering, and digital citizenship.
- World Language
Ms. Segal, World Language Teacher K-8, reviewed with the Board the changes to the curriculum for the world language program due to revisions to the standards.

Board Secretary Certification

I, Amy Lerner, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary certifies that as of July 31, 2023, 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

Committee Reports:

- Communications Committee – Marny Requa – The newsletters were distributed. She thanked the NJHS for their assistance. The Board discussed any feedback received and possible changes for next year.
- Educational Excellence Committee – Kristin Scrabis-Fletcher – The committee met and reviewed the curriculum updates and also met about their BOE goal and action plan. Mrs. MacDonald reviewed the new programs and updates for 23-24 as well as the professional development goals. The NJ Acceleration Program grant and requirements were reviewed.

Public Session:

None.

Agenda Review:

The agenda motions were reviewed in detail by the Board.

Mrs. Requa inquired about the technology coordinator stipend position. Mrs. Lerner reviewed the position.

Mrs. Requa inquired about the sheltered English Instructor. Mrs. MacDoanld reviewed the position.

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Mr. Evans inquired about the transportation agreements. Mrs. Lerner reviewed the Board policy and the agreements.

Mrs. Requa inquired if there would be buses for the sports teams and Dr. Herits responded that there would not be.

It was moved by Scrabis-Fletcher and seconded by Bing 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 7:35 pm.

Personnel:

It was moved by Losinger and seconded by Evans to approve the following resolutions:

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, Carol Cantor as a substitute nurse for the 2023-2024 school year at a rate of \$150.00 per day.

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, Danielle Price as an Early Morning Supervisor for the 2023-2024 school year at the rate of \$1,249 as per the Agreement with the AEA.

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, Scott Pauciello as the Student Council Advisor for the 2023-2024 school year at the rate of \$1,249 as per the Agreement with the AEA.

To accept, with regret and as recommended by the Superintendent, the retirement of Michael Cavanaugh, part time custodian, as of August 16, 2023.

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, Matthew McMahon as a part time custodian for the 2023-2024 school year, effective August 16, 2023 at the rate of \$15 per hour for up to 20 hours per week.

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, Leslie Dettlinger as a Paraprofessional for the 2023-2024 school year, effective September 18, 2023, at a salary of \$23,200 (to be pro-rated for period of employment).

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, a revised contract for Erin Blaney from a salary of \$64,025 (Step 6, MA, 1.0 FTE) to a salary of \$66,025 (Step 6, MA +30, 1.0 FTE) effective September 1, 2023.

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, that the following 2023-2024 salaries be paid using funds from the ARP-ESSERIII grant funding:

Mary Dugan	\$32,350	(100%)
Jessica Yori	\$60,875	(100%)

To rescind the contract, as recommended by the Superintendent, with Lauren Sachs as a paraprofessional for the 2023-2024 school year.

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the revised Enrichment Teacher – Beyond the School Day job description.

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To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, Kristin McGowan as Beyond the School Day Enrichment Teacher for the "Gardening Club" during the 2023-2024 school year, for up to 15 hours, on the dates below at a rate of \$45 per hour (as per the Agreement with the AEA) to be funded with Title IV funds.

- Thu 21 Sep 2023, 3:15-4:15 pm
- Thu 05 Oct 2023, 3:15-4:15 pm
- Thu 19 Oct 2023, 3:15-4:15 pm
- Thu 02 Nov 2023, 3:15-4:15 pm
- Thu 16 Nov 2023, 3:15-4:15 pm

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

Finance:

It was moved by Requa and seconded by Scrabis-Fletcher to approve the following resolutions:
To approve the payroll for September 2023 totaling \$224,608.30.

To approve the payment of bills presented for the 2023-2024 budget totaling \$129,766.13.

To approve the transfers to the 2023-2024 budget in the amount of \$15,292 for the month of July 2023.

To approve the Budget Status Report for July 2023 and the certification by the Board Secretary that there are no over expenditures in the major funds and accounts of the 2023-2024 budget; further, that sufficient funds are currently available to meet the district's current financial obligations for the 2023-2024 school year.

To approve the Financial Reports of the Treasurer and Board Secretary for the months of July 2023.

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

“RESOLVED, that Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (A), I, Amy S. Lerner, Board Secretary, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, that as of July 31, 2023 no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures (contracted orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the District Board of Education which would be in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (A). Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-9 and 18A:17-36; that the district's financial accounts have been reconciled and are in balance.”

Through the adoption of this resolution, we, the Avon-by-the-Sea Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (b), certify that as of July 31, 2023 and after review of the Secretary's and Treasurer's monthly financial reports (appropriation section) and upon consultation with the Business Administrator and other appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the attached staff travel expenses for various training and business related trips as budgeted for in the 2023-2024 budget.

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To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the application for the New Jersey Learning Acceleration Program High Impact Tutoring Competitive Grant for the 2023-2024 school year.

To approve the contract for continuing disclosure professional financial services with NW Financial Group, LLC for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$1,500.

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

Other Business:

It was moved by Requa and seconded by Bing to approve the following resolutions:

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following field trips for the 2023-2024 school year:

1. Preschool
2. Grade K & 1
3. Grades 3, 4, 5

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the 2023-2024 District Professional Development Plan.

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the 2023-2024 District Mentoring Plan.

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

It was moved by Requa and seconded by Bing to approve the minutes of the regular business and executive session meetings held on August 10, 2023.

Roll call in favor, Evans abstained, motion carried.

Facilities and Transportation:

It was moved by Bing and seconded by Losinger to approve the following resolutions:

To approve the attached Emergency Drill report for August 2023.

To approve the Transportation Agreement between the Avon Board of Education and Mary Jane Russell for the 2023-2024 school year for transportation to Manasquan High School at an approximate rate of \$900 per student.

To approve the Transportation Agreement between the Avon Board of Education and Kendall Saunders for the 2023-2024 school year for transportation to Manasquan High School at an approximate rate of \$900 per student.

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the use of the Avon Elementary School by the Avon Home & School Association as per the building use policy for an Imaginative Play Program in Room 010 on the following Tuesdays: Sept 26; October 3, 10, 17, 24; and November 14, 21, 28, 2023.

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the use of the Avon Elementary School by the Avon Home & School Association as per the building use policy for a Story and Craft Hour

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Program in Room 011 on the following dates: September 21, 25; October 4, 11, 26; and November 1, 16, 20, 2023.

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the use of the Avon Elementary School by the Avon Home & School Association as per the building use policy for Cooking and Decorating Program in the Cafetorium (Room 208) on the following Thursdays: October 5, 12, 19, 26; November 2, 16, 30; and December 7, 2023.

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the use of the Avon Elementary School by the Avon Home & School Association as per the building use policy for a Kickball Fun Program on the playground on the following dates: September 25; October 2, 16, 23, 30; and November 1, 2023.

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

Programs:

It was moved by Scrabis-Fletcher and seconded by Evans to approve the following resolutions:

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the contract with Drop the Beet Farms for a 32 plant movable aquaponics unit at a cost of \$3,500 to be paid for with ESSER funds.

To approve, as recommended by the Superintendent, the curricular revisions and new curricula adoption for the following content areas:

- Curricular Revisions:
 - Comprehensive Health/PE
 - English Language Arts
 - Integrated Preschool
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - Social Studies
 - Social-Emotional Learning
 - Visual and Performing Arts
- New Curricula for Adoption:
 - Science (Grades 6-8)
 - STEAM (Grades K-8)
 - World Language (Grades K-8)

To approve the tuition contract with Red Bank Regional High School for the 2023-2024 school year for (1) Avon resident student at an annual tuition rate of \$16,836 per student for a contract total of \$16,836.

To approve the tuition contract with Monmouth County Vocational School District for the 2023-2024 school year for (3) Avon resident students at an annual tuition rate of \$7,374 per student for a contract total of \$22,122.

To approve the tuition contract with Manasquan Board of Education for the 2023-2024 school year for (17) Avon resident students at an annual tuition rate of \$19,540 per student for a contract total of \$332,180.

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

Policy

It was moved by Requa and seconded by Evans to approve the following resolutions:

To approve the **first reading** of the following **new policy** of the Avon Board of Education:

1642.01 Sick Leave

To approve the **first reading** of the following **revised policy** of the Avon Board of Education:

2419 School Threat Assessment Teams

To approve the **first reading** of the following **new regulations** of the Avon Board of Education:

1642.01 Sick Leave
2419 School Threat Assessment Teams

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

Unfinished Business:

- BOE Goals and action plans – Dr. Scrabis-Fletcher reported that the Educational Excellence Committee had finished their action plan for their goal and tied it to the strategic plan. She would email the Board for their feedback. The Board reviewed the student achievement goal.

The Communications committee stated that they would meet.

President Bing asked Mr. Evans to have a committee meeting to develop an action plan for their goal.

The Board discussed the process.

- BOE calendar – was assigned to the Management Committee to complete
- Operations Committee – Architect Interviews – the committee discussed setting up interviews for 9/27. Mrs. Lerner will contact the firms.

New Business: None

Public Session:

Mrs. Price stated that the Association would be sending out a letter to the Board to begin negotiations. They are looking forward to working together.

Motion to adjourn:

There being no further business before the Board, it was moved by Bing and seconded by Evans to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote was all in favor, motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy S Lerner

Amy S. Lerner, Board Secretary