

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

October 15, 2025

**VISITORS'
REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Phoebe Armstrong	_____	Terry Jacobs	_____
Suzanne Colilla	_____	Emanuel Paris	_____
Melissa Dryer	_____	Tia Shore	_____
Beth Dunmore	_____	Scott Willyerd	_____
James Gagich	_____		

ADMINISTRATION

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

A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

1. The following students are recognized as the September Students of the Month:
Kamden Jeffers – Senior
Heather Strohmeier – 6th Grade Student

REQUEST TO SPEAK AT THE BOARD MEETING

VISITORS REQUEST TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEM – None

GENERAL PROCEDURE ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ATTACHMENT "A"

Board Members have been furnished copies of the Board Minutes for the September 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

2. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

ATTACHMENT "B"

Board Members have been furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the September and October 2025 General Fund.

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

3. FINANCIAL/BUDGET REPORTS

ATTACHMENT "C"

4. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

ATTACHMENT "D"

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC & ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

a. Scott Willyerd, Independent Swim Coach

Motion to approve Scott Willyerd as the Coach for Quinn Willyerd who will represent Avella Area School District as an independent swimmer in cooperation with Canon-McMillan High School, per Attachment Athletic & Activities "A".

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

b. Assistant 7th/8th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach

Motion to approve William McKee as the 7th/8th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach for the 2025-2026 school year.

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

c. Rifle Coaches – Resignation

Motion to accept the resignation of the following Rifle Coaches for the 2025-2026 season:

- Nikki Knopp – Head Coach
- Branden Kosey – Assistant Coach

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

d. Rifle Coach – Posting

Motion to approve the posting for a Varsity Rifle Coach for the 2025-2026 season.

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

e. Rifle Coaches

Motion to approve the following rifle coaches for the 2025-2026 season, pending receipt of clearances and required employment paperwork.

- Rebecca Spencer, Head Coach
- John Scott Cooper, Assistant Coach

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

f. Wildwood, NJ – Winterguard Students

Motion to approve the Winterguard to travel to Wildwood, NJ from April 29 - May 4, 2026 for the 2026 TIA Atlantic Coach Championships, per Attachment Athletics & Activities “B”. Students are responsible for all costs.

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

2. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

3. CURRICULUM & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

a. Western Area Career & Technology Center Update

b. Student Discipline – DR

Motion to approve the Waiver of a Formal Hearing and Agreement between the Avella Area School District and Student DR, and direct and authorize the Administration to implement it.

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

c. JSHS After-School Tutoring Program

Motion to implement an after-school tutoring program at the Junior-Senior High School to increase student proficiency in mathematics as measured by PA state assessments, beginning the Week of October 20, 2025.

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

d. Elementary After-School Tutoring Program

Motion to implement an after-school tutoring program at the Elementary Center to increase student proficiency in mathematics beginning the week of November 3, 2025.

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

e. Elementary & JSHS Handbooks – Child Find

Motion to add information about Pennsylvania Child Find, as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) to the 2025-2026 Elementary and JSHS Handbooks, per Attachment Curriculum & Technology “A”.

Roll Call:	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

4. FACILITIES & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

a. GG&C’s Bus/Van Driver List

Motion to approve the following to GG&C’s Bus/Van Driver List for the 2025-2026 school year, (GG&C is responsible for updating bus/van driver documentation on list with CAO before driving.)

- John Bruno
- Harry Fisher
- Amanda Lettich
- Clayton Mounts

Roll Call:	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

5. FINANCE COMMITTEE

6. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

a. Memorandum of Understanding – Dean of Discipline

Motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Avella Area School District and the Avella Area Education Association, PSEA/NEA, regarding the need for a short-term Dean of Discipline for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year, per Attachment Negotiations “A”.

Roll Call:	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

b. Memorandum of Understanding – Teacher Evaluation Process

Motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Avella Area School District and the Avella Area Education Association, PSEA/NEA, regarding the Teacher Evaluation Process for teachers with more than eight years of experience, per Attachment Negotiations “B”.

Roll Call:	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

7. PERSONNEL & POLICY COMMITTEE

a. JSHS Principal – Military Leave

Motion to make a matter of record the Full-Time National Guard Duty-Operational Support Orders for Ms. Heather Zalar, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, beginning August 25, 2025.

Roll Call:	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

b. Proven Educational Consulting, LLC Agreement

Motion to approve the agreement for building level consultation services between the Avella rea School District and Proven Educational Consulting, LLC, attachment beginning October 20, 2025, until the conclusion of the current military leave and legally permitted return to duty period of the Junior-Senior High School Principal, Heather Zalar, per Attachment Personnel & Policy "B".

	MOTION:		SECOND:		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong		Ms. Colilla		Ms. Dryer
	Ms. Dunmore		Mr. Gagich		Mr. Jacobs
	Mr. Paris		Ms. Shore		Mr. Willyerd

c. Posting – Dean of Discipline

Motion to ratify the posting for a Dean of Discipline at the Junior-Senior High School for the 2025-2026 school year.

	MOTION:		SECOND:		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong		Ms. Colilla		Ms. Dryer
	Ms. Dunmore		Mr. Gagich		Mr. Jacobs
	Mr. Paris		Ms. Shore		Mr. Willyerd

d. Darren Shaffer – Dean of Discipline

Motion to approve Darren Shaffer as the Dean of Discipline for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year according to the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding listed under *Negotiations: A* above.

	MOTION:		SECOND:		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong		Ms. Colilla		Ms. Dryer
	Ms. Dunmore		Mr. Gagich		Mr. Jacobs
	Mr. Paris		Ms. Shore		Mr. Willyerd

e. Geanna Samol, Elementary Special Education Teacher

Motion to approve Geanna Samol to the position of Elementary Special Education Teacher, full-time temporary professional employee, Step 1, per AEA Contract, pending completion of required coursework/certification, effective October 30, 2025.

	MOTION:		SECOND:		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong		Ms. Colilla		Ms. Dryer
	Ms. Dunmore		Mr. Gagich		Mr. Jacobs
	Mr. Paris		Ms. Shore		Mr. Willyerd

f. Zackery Franks, JSHS School Mathematics Teacher - Resignation

Motion to accept the resignation of Zackery Franks, JSHS Mathematics Teacher, effective date to be determined.

	MOTION:		SECOND:		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong		Ms. Colilla		Ms. Dryer
	Ms. Dunmore		Mr. Gagich		Mr. Jacobs
	Mr. Paris		Ms. Shore		Mr. Willyerd

g. JSHS Mathematics Teacher – Posting

Motion to ratify the posting (advertisement if necessary) for a JSHS Mathematics Teacher, for the 2025-2026 school year.

	MOTION:		SECOND:		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong		Ms. Colilla		Ms. Dryer
	Ms. Dunmore		Mr. Gagich		Mr. Jacobs
	Mr. Paris		Ms. Shore		Mr. Willyerd

h. Shelby Brown, Part-Time Cafeteria Employee - Resignation

Motion to approve the resignation of Shelby Brown as a part-time cafeteria employee, effective October 1, 2025.

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

i. Stephanie Burris, Cafeteria Substitute

Motion to approve Stephanie Burris as a part-time cafeteria employee, 5 hours per day/180 days per year, effective October 3, 2025.

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

j. School Volunteer List

Motion to approve the following to the School Volunteer List for the 2025-2026 school year.

- Michael "Geno" Bongiorno
- Stacy Brandenburg
- Amanda Hammett
- Nitanna Jones
- Caitlin Loughry
- Jared Magon
- Aaron Margaria
- Faythe Mazza
- Hannah Mull
- Megan Paxton
- Christopher Peterson
- Alex Ramsey
- Lana Ramsey
- Hanna Welch
- Cody Welling
- Robin Welling

	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____

8. SAFETY COMMITTEE

c. A Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____	ADJOURNMENT TIME: _____
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	MOTION:	_____	SECOND:	_____		
Roll Call:	Ms. Armstrong	_____	Ms. Colilla	_____	Ms. Dryer	_____
	Ms. Dunmore	_____	Mr. Gagich	_____	Mr. Jacobs	_____
	Mr. Paris	_____	Ms. Shore	_____	Mr. Willyerd	_____