AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
1000 AVELLA ROAD
AVELLA, PA 15312

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

September 17, 2025

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 17, 2025. Mr. Scott Willyerd, Board Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m. An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting regarding personnel and discipline. 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, Scott Willyerd
Absent: James, Gagich, Emanuel Paris

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

OTHERS: Rachel Lozosky, District Solicitor
Robert Vernon, of Counsel

A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations/Recognitions

1. PSBA recognizes and presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Emanuel Paris, School Board Director, in recognition of his ongoing school board service.

2. The following students are recognized as the September Students of the Month:
Brayden Fuller – Senior
Emma Siersdale – 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 were furnished copies of the August 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Jacobs, seconded by Ms. Colilla, to approve the August 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

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

Board Members were furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the August and September 2025 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. Jacobs, seconded by Ms. Colilla, to approve the Accounts Payable for the August and September 2025 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

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

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC & ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

a. 2025-2026 7/8 Grade Combined Class Sponsor

Moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded Ms. Armstrong to approve Sarah Maidment as the 7/8 Grade Combined Class Sponsor for the 2025-2026 school year, per AEA contract.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

b. Wonsettler Physical Therapy Addendum

Moved by Ms. Shore, seconded by Ms. Dunmore, to approve the Addendum to the Athletic Training Services Agreement between Wonsettler Physical Therapy and the Avella Area School District, per Attachment Athletic and Activities, "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

c. Homecoming Events

Thursday, October 2, 2025

6:30 pm	Homecoming Parade on Main Street (Campbell Street), followed by Bonfire at Avella Fire Department

Friday, October 3, 2025

6:30 pm	Pregame: Avella Marching Band
7:00 pm	Kickoff: Avella vs. Mapletown
After 1st quarter	Recognition of Alumni Football Players
Halftime	Crowning of Homecoming King/Queen
After Game	Avella Marching Band Halftime Show Performance

Saturday, October 4, 2025

7:00 pm	Homecoming Dance @ Railyard Shed

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

3. CURRICULUM & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

a. Western Area Career & Technology Center Update – No update, Ms. Dryer reports that there has not been a meeting.

b. Washington County Probation Services - MOU
Moved by Ms. Colilla, seconded by Ms. Shore, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Avella Area School District and Washington County Juvenile Probation to provide services for the Student Assistance Program (SAP) for the 2025-2026 school year, per Attachment Curriculum & Technology "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

c. IU1 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Title I Agreement
Moved by Ms. Colilla, seconded by Ms. Shore, to approve the Agreement between the Avella Area School District and IU1 to provide Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Title I supplemental education services for the 2025-2026 school year, per Attachment Curriculum & Technology "B".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

4. FACILITIES & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

a. GG&C's Bus/Van Driver List
Moved by Mr. Jacobs, seconded by Ms. Dunmore, 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.)

- Alva Colazo – Substitute Driver
- Edward Kania – Substitute Driver
- James Sullivan – Substitute Driver
- Courtney Wolanski – Regular Route Driver (Green Bus)

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

5. FINANCE COMMITTEE

6. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

7. PERSONNEL & POLICY COMMITTEE

a. **Amy Hott, Elementary Special Education Teacher - Resignation**
Moved by Ms. Dunmore, seconded by Mr. Jacobs, to accept the resignation of Amy Hott, Elementary Special Education Teacher, effective Monday, October 6, 2025.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

7. PERSONNEL & POLICY COMMITTEE, continued

b. **Elementary Special Education Teacher – Posting**
Moved by Ms. Dunmore, seconded by Ms. Colila, to ratify the posting for an Elementary Special Education Teacher, Special Education Certification Required, preferred to also have Elementary K-4 or Intermediate 5-8.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

c. Jeanie Lloyd, Part-Time Cafeteria Employee
Moved by Ms. Dunmore, seconded by Ms. Dunmore, to ratify Jeannie Lloyd as a part-time cafeteria employee, 5.5 hours per day/180 days per year, effective September 2, 2025.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

d. Shelby Brown, Part-Time Cafeteria Employee
Moved by Ms. Colilla, seconded by Ms. Dryer to approve Shelby Brown as a part-time cafeteria employee, 5 hours per day/180 days per year, effective immediately.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

e. Stephanie Burris, Cafeteria Substitute
Moved by Mr. Jacobs, seconded by Ms. Colilla, to approve Stephanie Burris as a substitute for the cafeteria, pending receipt of employment paperwork and clearances.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

f. School Volunteer List
Moved by Mr. Jacobs, seconded by Ms. Dunmore, to approve the updated School Volunteer List for the 2025-2026 school year, per Attachment Personnel & Policy "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

8. SAFETY COMMITTEE

a. A Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2025 at 9 am.

C. ADJOURNMENT
With no further business before the Board, moved by Ms. Dryer, seconded by Mr. Jacobs, to adjourn the meeting 7:27 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Colilla, Ms. Dryer, Ms. Dunmore, Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Shore, Mr. Willyerd, said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dana M. Davis
Board Secretary