AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

1000 AVELLA ROAD

**AVELLA, PA 15312**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**August 20, 2014**

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, August 20, 2014. Mr. Corey McConn, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting regarding personnel, contracts and a student matter. Debra Bentz, Board Secretary, held roll call and the following board members were present:

**BOARD MEMBERS**: James Cassidy, Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, Corey McConn, Michael Muhr, Jennifer Newman, Donald Underwood

Absent: Kevin Geresti, Alex Paris

**ADMINISTRATION**: Dr. Janell Logue-Belden, Superintendent

Laura Shola, Business Manager

Cyril Walther, JSHS Principal

Bobbi-Ann Barnes, Elementary Principal

Debra L. Bentz, Board Secretary

**OTHERS**: Rachel Lozosky, District Solicitor

8 Visitors

#### A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION - None

**REQUEST TO SPEAK AT THE BOARD MEETING - None**

**VISITORS REQUEST TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEM - None**

**GENERAL PROCEDURE ITEMS**

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES *ATTACHMENT “A”***

Board Members were furnished copies of the July 2014 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the July 2014 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Muhr and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**GENERAL PROCEDURE ITEMS**

**2. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE *ATTACHMENT “B”***

Board Members were furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the July and August 2014 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the Accounts Payable for the July and August 2014 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**3. FINANCIAL/BUDGET REPORTS *ATTACHMENT “C”***

**4. SOLICITOR’S REPORT *ATTACHMENT “D”***

**5. BOARD INSURANCE REPORT *ATTACHMENT “E”***

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE**

**a. Zane Zebrasky, Assistant Varsity Football Coach**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to ratify Zane Zebrasky as an Assistant Varsity Football Coach for the 2014-15 school year, per AEA Contract.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**b. Steven Wright, Volunteer Football Coach**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve Steven Wright as a Volunteer Football Coach for the 2014-15 school year.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**c. Katelyn Wargo – Assistant Tennis Coach Resignation**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to accept the resignation of Katelyn Wargo as an Assistant Tennis Coach, effective immediately.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**d.** Mr. Jason Fogg, Athletic Director, informed the WPIAL that Avella will not be able to field a tennis team for the 2014-15 season.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**a. Inventory Control**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the disposal of the following items:

* Tech Room - #04260, 04273, 04340, 04390, 04078, 04300, 04453, 04408, JSHS Snap Machine

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**b.** A discussion was heldregarding Elementary students reading to therapy dogs**,** per Attachment B&G “A”

**c. Rescind Motion – AIS Commercial Parts & Service**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to rescind the following motion passed July 16, 2014:

**AIS Commercial Parts & Service**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the AIS Commercial Parts & Service’s quote in the amount of $12,904.69 to purchase two refrigeration packages for the Elementary School.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Muhr and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**d. Allegheny Refrigeration Sales, Inc.**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to ratify Allegheny Refrigeration Sales, Inc.’s quote in the amount of $12,790.00 to purchase two refrigeration packages for the Elementary School, per Attachment B&G “B”.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**e.** The Board agreed to the Class of 1964’s request to tour the JSHS Building and have lunch on September 12, 2014, before their reunion.

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**a. Western Area Career & Technology Center Students**Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the 2014-15 Western Area Career & Technology Center list of students, per Attachment Curriculum “A”.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**b. Washington Community Human Services, Inc.**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the Letters of Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding for Student Assistant (SAP) services between Avella Area School District and the Washington Community Human Services, Inc., per Attachment Curriculum “B”.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**c. Kennywood Day – 2014-15 School Year**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the Avella Area School District’s school picnic at Kennywood Park on June 15, 2015, per Agreement attached as Curriculum “C”. (Date has already been approved and is noted on 2014-15 school calendar.)

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**d. The Meadows Psychiatric Center**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the Letter of Agreement between Avella Area School District and The Meadows Psychiatric Center for the 2014-15 school year, per Attachment Curriculum “D”.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**e. Tuition Students**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the following students to be enrolled as tuition students in the Avella Area School District for the 2014-15 school year, in accordance with the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement between the District and the Avella Area Education Association.

Alexis Minch – Grade 3

Kaitlyn Minch - Kindergarten

Faye Olive Saunders – Kindergarten

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**f. Brendin McCullough – Tuition Student**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve Brendin McCullough to attend McGuffey School District’s agricultural course of study for the 2014-15 school year. Brendin McCullough will be in the 11th grade for the 2014-15 school year.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**a. Cornerstone Care Mobile Dental**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve Cornerstone Care Mobile Dental to conduct dental exams, pending receipt of acceptable proof of insurance.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**b. Insurance Renewal**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the following renewal policy through Campbell Insurance Associates:

* Student Accident from US Fire Insurance Co., effective 8/14/14 in the amount of $4,512.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**c. PA Educator.Net – Contract of Services**

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to renew the Contract of Services between Avella Area School District and PA Educator.Net for the 2014-15 school year, per Attachment Finance “A”.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**d. A discussion was held regarding Fundraiser Exemptions, per Attachment Finance “B”**

**e. Trudy Roney Photography**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve Trudy Roney Photography’s request of adjustment prices to school pictures, per Attachment Finance “C” to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**f. Breakfast/Lunch Meal Prices**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to accept the increased breakfast/lunch meal prices, effective October 1, 2014, per Attachment Finance “D”. The meals were last increased in 2009.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**a. Bobbi-Ann Barnes, Elementary Principal – Sick Days**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to amend, to 125, the number of sick days earned by Bobbi-Ann Barnes with her prior employer to be credited as a term of her hire by the Avella Area School District.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE - Continued**

**b. Memorandum of Understanding**

Motion to Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Avella Area School District and the Avella Area Education Support Professionals Association, to credit Lori Ragan vacation leave days for time served in a part-time position, per Attachment Negotiations “A” to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Mr. McConn said “nay”. Motion carried 6-1.

**c. Avella Education Association Contract**

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Newman, to ratify the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Avella Area Education Association and Avella Area School District for the years beginning September 1, 2014 and ending August 31, 2017, per Attachment Negotiations “B” to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**a.** NSA Security Forces, Inc. provided a list of officer duties and training for the Board to review as a follow-up to the July meeting.

**b. Permanent Teacher Contracts**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to award the following Permanent Teacher Contracts:

Nicole Brown-Deer

Nicole Brown-Deer, a Professional Employee Contract, following 3 years of satisfactory service with the District, effective August 22, 2014.

Rebecca Fox

Rebecca Fox, a Professional Employee Contract, following 3 years of satisfactory service with the District, effective August 22, 2014.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**c. Brady Amerson, Elementary Music Teacher - Resignation**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the resignation of Brady Amerson, part-time Elementary Music Teacher and Assistant Band Director, effective immediately. (AEA has agreed to waive the posting.)

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - Continued**

**d. Bethany Songer – Assistant Band Director**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to ratify Bethany Songer at the Assistant Band Director for the 2014-15 school year.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**e. Substitute Teacher List**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve/ratify the following to the Substitute Teacher List for the 2014-15 school year.

Roberta Alvarez

Christine Angelini

Anastasia Barr

Denise Burke

Ronnie Cooper

Stacy Dugas

Bethany Songer

Gary Uram

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**f. Substitute Support Personnel List**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the following to the Substitute Support Personnel List for the 2014-15 school year.

Marlene Andrews

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**g. Volunteers for 2014-15 School Year**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the following volunteers for the 2014-15 school year. All clearances are on file.

Dana Davis – Elementary

Ali Ruschel – JSHS and Band

Dana Taylor – JSHS

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**h. Geraldine Coffield, Custodian – Unpaid Medical Leave**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to ratify Geraldine Coffield’s request for an unpaid medical leave, effective August 14, 2014.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**7. POLICIES**

**a. 2014-15 Student Handbooks**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the Elementary Center and JSHS for the 2014-15 school year, per Attachment Policies “A” to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**8. SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**a.** Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled September 4, 2014 at 7:45 a.m.

**9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

**a.** A discussion was held regarding Chromebook distribution.

**10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**a. 2014-15 Bus/Van Driver List**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the Bus/Van Driver List for the 2014-15 school year. Attachment Transportation “A” to revised Agenda. (GG&C is responsible for updating bus/van driver documentation on list with CAO before driving.)

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**b. Parent Transportation Contracts**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the following Parent Transportation Agreement:

1. Mrs. Joan Stough and the Avella Area School District to transport student to and from D.T. Watson for the 2014-2015 school year, $145 per day.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**c.** A Transportation Committee Meeting is scheduled September 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. to review GG&C’s proposal.

**d.** A discussion was held regarding student parking permits. The Board was not in favor of charging a fee for student parking.

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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Debra L. Bentz

Board Secretary