

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

January 17, 2018

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, January 17, 2018. Ms. Leslie Cunningham, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting regarding personnel and contracts. Debra Bentz, Board Secretary, held roll call and the following board members were present:

BOARD MEMBERS: Karen Birdsall, Kim Cassidy, Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, Melissa Dryer, James Gagich, Sharon Hixenbaugh, Corey McConn, Alex Paris

ADMINISTRATION: Cyril Walther, Superintendent
Laura Shola, Business Manager
Sheryl Wright-Brown, JSHS Principal
Zachary Zebrasky, Elementary Principal
Debra L. Bentz, Board Secretary

OTHERS: Barbara Graham, District Solicitor

A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations/Recognitions

1. The following students were recognized as the January Students of the Month:
Abigail Stets – 6th Grade Student
Grant Kramer – 6th Grade Student
Madison Dubich – Senior
Matt Craig - Senior
2. Board Members were recognized for volunteering their time for the betterment of public education in our community from the staff, students, and the Pennsylvania School Boards Association.
3. The Board recognized the Kramer family for the donation of an American Flag from the Pentagon.

Request to Speak at the Board Meeting - None

Visitor's Request to Speak on Agenda Items - None

GENERAL PROCEDURE ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ATTACHMENT "A"

Board Members were furnished copies of the December 2017 Reorganization and Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the December 2017 Reorganization and Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

2. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ATTACHMENT "B"

Board Members were furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the December 2017 and January 2018 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Accounts Payable for the December 2017 and January 2018 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

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. Gregory Papson, Head Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach-Resignation

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to accept the resignation of Gregory Papson, Head Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach, effective December 20, 2017.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

b. Zachary Zebrasky, Head Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Zachary Zebrasky as the Head Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach, effective December 21, 2017.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

c. Darren Shaffer, Ass't Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Darren Shaffer as the Assistant Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach, effective January 5, 2018.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

d. JT Mylan, Head 7/8 Grade Football Coach-Resignation

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to accept the resignation of JT Mylan, Head 7/8 Grade Football Coach, effective end of 2017-18 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

e. Head 7/8 Grade Football Coach- Posting

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the posting (advertisement if necessary) for a Head 7/8 Grade Head Football Coach for the 2018-19 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

f. Greg Wargo, Assistant 7/8 Grade Football Coach-Resignation

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to accept the resignation of Greg Wargo, Assistant 7/8 Grade Football Coach, effective end of 2017-18 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

g. Lindsay Giles, Assistant Cross Country Coach-Resignation

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to accept the resignation of Lindsay Giles, Assistant Cross Country Coach, effective end of 2017-18 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

h. Derek Allen, Assistant Varsity Football Coach-Resignation

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to accept the resignation of Derek Allen as Assistant Varsity Football Coach, effective end of 2017-18 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

i. Jason Fogg, Athletic Director

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Jason Fogg as the Athletic Director for the 2018-19 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

j. 2018-19 Fall Sport Coaches

Motion tabled.

k. An Athletic Committee Meeting is scheduled Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

a. McLean Architects LLC – Attachment to Standard Form Agreement

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve McLean Architects, LLC's Attachment to Standard Form Agreement, dated December 13, 2017, for the Classroom Instruction/Storage Addition Project, per B&G Attachment "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

b. McLean Architects – Change Order

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve McLean Architect's request for Change Order for East West Manufacturing & Supply Co., Inc., dated 12/28/17 in the amount of \$1,424.89, per Attachment B&G "B" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

c. Use of School Facilities

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the following Use of School Facilities:

NAME: Avella Athletics
PURPOSE: Youth Wrestling Match
PLACE: JSHS Gym/Cafeteria
DATE: January 28, 2018

NAME: Avella Athletics
PURPOSE: Youth Wrestling Match
PLACE: JSHS Gym/Cafeteria
DATE: February 11, 2018

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

c. Use of School Facilities – Continued

NAME: Avella Athletics
PURPOSE: Youth Wrestling Match
PLACE: JSHS Gym/Cafeteria
DATE: March 9, 2018

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

a. 2017–18 School Calendar

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve the following revisions to the 2017-18 School Calendar, per Attachment Curriculum "A" to Revised Agenda.

January 5 and 12, 2018 – Snow Days
February 20, 2018 –Makeup Snow Day for 1/5/18 (Was "In-Service Day")
February 19, 2018 – Makeup In-Service Day (Was "No School Day")
April 6, 2018 – Makeup Snow Day for 1/12/18 (Was "No School Day")

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

b. 2017-18 Graduation Date

Moved by Mr. Devenney,seconded by Mr. Paris to revise the graduation date on the 2017-18 school calendar to Friday, June 1, 2018.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

c. The Pennsylvania FFA Association and the National FFA Organization officially reinstated the Avella FFA Chapter on January 8, 2018.

d. Band Trip – Disney World

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Hixenbaugh, to approve the Band to travel to Disney World from February 20-23, 2018.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

e. Student Re-Admittance

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to readmit Student HM to the regular education program of the Avella Area School District, pending receipt of all required documents.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. Adoption of Resolution – Act 1

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the adoption of the Resolution, pursuant to Section 311(d)(1), indicating that the District will not raise the rate of any tax by more than its index, per Attachment Finance "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

b. AIU – Resolution

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to adopt a Resolution authorizing the participation in and appointment of representatives to the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program, per Attachment Finance "B".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

c. AIU – Joint Purchasing Agreement

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Joint Purchasing Agreement between the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and the Avella Area School District, per Attachment Finance "C".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

a. MOU – Attire for Custodian and Cafeteria Workers

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Avella Area School District and the Support Professional Association regarding the attire for custodians and cafeteria workers, per Attachment Negotiations "A" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

a. Erin Ross, Assistant Winter Guard Instructor - Resignation

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to accept the resignation of Erin Ross, Assistant Winter Guard Instructor for the 2017-18 school year. (Never fulfilled position or completed paperwork)

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

b. Charity Porbin, Assistant Winter Guard Instructor

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to approve Charity Porbin as the Assistant Winter Guard Instructor for the 2017-18 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

c. 2017-18 Volunteer List

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to approve Keely Ann Dayak to the Volunteer List for the 2017-18 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

d. Rescind Motion – Colleen Jastrzebski, PT Special Ed Teacher

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to rescind the following motion approved by the Board on August 9, 2017:

Colleen Jastrzebski, Part-Time Special Education Teacher

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to approve Colleen Jastrzebski as a part-time Special Education Teacher, temporary professional employee, per AEA Contract, effective August 23, 2017.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

e. Colleen Jastrzebski, Part-Time Special Education Teacher

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to approve Colleen Jastrzebski as a part-time Special Education Teacher, part-time professional employee, retroactive to August 23, 2017, per AEA Contract.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

f. 2017-18 Substitute Teacher/Nurse List

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Birdsall, to approve Cassandra Hamilton to the Substitute Teacher/Nurse List for the 2017-18 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

7. POLICIES

a. A first reading was held of the Dress & Grooming Policy #525 – Attachment Policies "A"

8. SAFETY COMMITTEE

a. A Safety Committee meeting is scheduled February 1, 2018 at 8:00 a.m.

9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

a. Technology Inventory Control

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve Greg Wargo, Network Administrator's request, to dispose of the outdated item numbers listed on Attachment Technology "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

b. Mr. Greg Wargo, Network Administrator, prepared a Technology Summary Report for the Board's review– Attachment Technology "B" to Revised Agenda.

10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – No Report

C. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Bentz
Board Secretary