AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

1000 AVELLA ROAD

**AVELLA, PA 15312**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**September 10, 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, September 10, 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, Kevin Geresti, Corey McConn, Michael Muhr, Jennifer Newman, Alex Paris, Donald Underwood

**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**

1. Mrs. Sarah Tarolli requested to speak to the Board regarding concerns with the Dress Code Policy.

**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 2014 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

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

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

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

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

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

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood 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. Carrie Struth, Volunteer Tennis Coach**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Paris, to ratify Carrie Struth as a Volunteer Tennis Coach to accompany Brooke Burchianti to Keystone Oaks High School on September 10th for a tennis tournament, per Attachment Athletic “A”.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**b.** A discussion was held regarding the location of the homecoming parade and bonfire.

**2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**a. Use of Facilities**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the following Use of School Facilities:

NAME: Boy Scouts of America

PURPOSE: Signup night for new scouts

PLACE: Elementary Cafeteria

DATES: Sept. 16, 2014

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**a. Use of Facilities - Continued**

NAME: 6th Grade Boys’ Basketball

PURPOSE: Practice/Games

PLACE: Elementary Gym

DATES: Sept. 2014 – Feb. 2015 (Tues./Wed. 6-8 p.m.)

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**b. Fayette Waste – Cancel Agreement**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve cancelling the Agreement with Fayette Waste, effective September 11, 2014.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**c. Waste Management Service Agreement**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the Service Agreement with Waste Management for trash pickup effective immediately, per Attachment B&G “A” to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**a. Intermediate Unit 1 - Title I Nonpublic School Services**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the Intermediate Unit’s Title I Nonpublic School Services Form for the 2014-15 school year, per Attachment Curriculum “A”.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**b. Washington Drug & Alcohol Commission**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the Letter of Agreement for Student Assistant (SAP) services between Avella Area School District and the Washington Drug and Alcohol Commission for the 2014-15 school year, per Attachment Curriculum “B”.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**c. 2014-15 School Calendar**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the following revisions to the 2014-15 school calendar due to an additional in-service day added to AEA Contract:

In-Service Day: 1/19/2015

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**d. Student Activity Fund**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the 7th Grade Class of 2020’s request to establish a Student Activity Account.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**e. Keystone Educational Group, LLC**

Moved by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Agreement between the Avella Area School District and Keystone Educational Group, LLC, for the 2014-15 school year.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**f. PSAT Fees**

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve the District to pay for all students taking the PSAT Exam.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**a. Hickory Telephone Company**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Hickory Telephone Co.’s Maintenance Agreement, effective 10/1/14 – 9/30/15, per Attachment Finance “A”.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**b. McLean Architects, LLC - Invoice**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Application and Certification of Payment for Maffei Strayer Furnishings in the amount of $51,535.00, per Attachment Finance “B”.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**c. Resolution**

Moved by Mr. Geresti, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve the Resolution relating to the 2015 Construction Bond, per Attachment Finance “C”.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**a. Amendment to Business Manger Contract**

Moved by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Amendment to the Business Manager’s Contract per Attachment Negotiations “A” to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**a. Part-Time Elementary Music Teacher**

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to hire Bethany Songer to the position of part-time Elementary Music Teacher, temporary professional employee, per AEA Contract, effective September 11, 2014.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**b. Substitute Teacher List**

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

Kevin Gnegy

Caitlin Kelly

Herman Steeber

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**c. 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.

Michelle Bower – Elementary School

Tina Powers – JSHS Band

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**d. Substitute Custodians Advertisement**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to ratify an advertisement for Substitute Custodians for the 2014-15 school year.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**e. Homebound Instructor Posting**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to ratify a posting for a Homebound Instructor for a 9th grade special education student.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**f. Kristin Jakiel - Homebound Instructor Posting**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve Kristin Jakiel as a Homebound Instructor for a 9th grade special education student, effective immediately.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

**7. POLICIES**

**a. A Policy Committee Meeting is scheduled October 15, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the Attendance Policy.**

**b. A Board Retreat is scheduled Sept. 18, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at the Union Grill in Washington, PA.**

**8. SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**a.** **Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled October 2, 2014 at 7:45 a.m.**

**9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No Report**

**10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**a. Mr. McConn requested for a discussion item to be listed on the October Board Agenda for the Transportation Committee.**

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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Debra L. Bentz

Board Secretary