AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

1000 AVELLA ROAD

**AVELLA, PA 15312**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**January 15, 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, January 15, 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. 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

Thomas Graham, JSHS Principal

Cyril Walther, Elementary Principal

Debra L. Bentz, Board Secretary

**OTHERS**: Rachel Lazosky, District Solicitor

5 Visitors

#### A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION

1. The following students were recognized as the January Students of the Month:

Cole Unger – 6th Grade Student

Amy Horr – 6th Grade Student

Rachel Heckathorne – Senior

Shawn Carl - Senior

2. Board Members were recognized during the month of January for volunteering their time for the betterment of public education in our community from the staff, students, and Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

3. Dr. Logue-Belden, Superintendent, presented the January Progress Report to the Board.

4. Mr. Thomas Graham, JSHS Principal, and Mr. Cyril Walther, Elementary Principal, presented their Principal’s Report.

**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 December 2013 Reorganization and Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the December 2013 Reorganization and 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 December 2013 and January 2014 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve the Accounts Payable for the December 2013 and January 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. 2014-15 Fall Sport Coaches**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the following coaches for the 2014-15 school year:

7th/8th Girls Basketball

Gilbert Cutruzzula, Head Coach

Mike Drazich, Assistant Coach

Cross Country

Joelle Yamber, Head Coach

Jessica Davis, Assistant Coach

Football

Ryan Cecchini, Head Coach

Dominic Frank, Assistant Coach

Zach Zebrasky, Assistant Coach

Tennis

Charles McGinnis, Head Coach

Katelyn Wargo, Assistant Coach

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE**

**a. 2014-15 Fall Sport Coaches - Continued**

Volleyball

Stephanie Woodruff, Head Coach

Meghan Brownlee, Assistant Coach

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. Carmen Liggett, Head Varsity Cheerleading Coach - Resignation**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Paris, to accept the resignation of Carmen Liggett as Head Varsity Cheerleading Coach, effective end of 2013-14 cheerleading season.

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. Posting – Head Varsity Cheerleading Coach**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve a posting for the Head Varsity Cheerleading Coach position 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.

**d. Dance Team - Competition**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Dance Team to attend a competition in Wildwood, New Jersey, from April 30 – May 4, 2014, 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.

**2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**a. Use of Facilities**

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

NAME: Avella Boys Basketball Team & Boosters

PURPOSE: Christmas Tournament

PLACE: High School Gym and Cafeteria

DATES: December 29 & 30, 2014

NAME: Avella Athletics

PURPOSE: Wrestling TournamentPLACE: High School Gym/Cafeteria/Kitchen

DATES: February 7-9, 2014

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**a. Use of Facilities - Continued**

Pending receipt of insurance waiver:

NAME: Avella Boys Basketball Boosters

PURPOSE: Pro Wrestling Fund Raising EventPLACE: High School Gym and Cafeteria

DATES: March 9, 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.

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**a. 2013-14 School Calendar**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the following revisions to the 2013-14 school calendar:

Snow Day: 1/7/2014

Makeup Snow Day: 2/17/2014

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.

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**a. Washington County Alternative School – Consortium Agreement**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve the Consortium Agreement for the Washington County Alternative Education School, Board Resolution, and Enrollment-Slots Agreement for the 2014-2017 school years, 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. Adoption of Resolution – Act 1**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Underwood, 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 “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 - Continued**

**c. Hickory Telephone Company – Application for Service Contract**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve the Application for Service Contract with Hickory Telephone Company, effective July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015, 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.

**d. Dishwasher**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve the purchase of a dishwasher for the elementary kitchen in the amount of $21,416.48 from Curran Taylor, to be fully paid out of the Cafeteria Fund. Quote is priced as per State Contract Number: Insinger 4400004581, per Attachment Finance “D”.

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. New Band Uniforms**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the purchase of 55 band uniforms from Fred J. Miller, Inc., at a total cost of $17,723.75, per quote dated 6/24/13 as Attachment Finance “E”. (Mr. Deutsch will show samples of band uniforms.)

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. Negotiation Committee Meetings are scheduled January 21, 2014 at 5:45 p.m. and January 27, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**a. 2013-14 School Volunteers**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve the following volunteers for the 2013-14 school year. All clearances are on file.

Jill Brownlee – Dance Team

Kevin Brownlee – Dance Team

Olivia English - JSHS

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**

**7. POLICIES**

**a. The Board held first readings of the following policies:**

* **FMLA Policy**
* **Records Retention Policy**

**8. SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**a.** **A Safety Committee meeting is scheduled February 6, 2014 at 7:45 a.m.**

**9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

**a. Dr. Logue-Belden presented a Network Administrator job description for the Board to review. Mr. McConn requested this item to be added to the February agenda.**

**10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – No Report**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. McConn called an Executive Session at 7:43 p.m. regarding personnel, with no further voting to occur.

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 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