AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

1000 AVELLA ROAD

**AVELLA, PA 15312**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**October 21, 2015**

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, October 21, 2015. Mr. Jeffrey Devenney, 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**: Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, Corey McConn, Jennifer Newman, Alex Paris, Donald Underwood

Absent: James Cassidy, Kevin Geresti, Michael Muhr

**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

8 Visitors

**A. GENERAL PROCEDURES**

##### Roll Call

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Presentations/Recognitions**

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

Jack Felber – 6th Grade Student

Melanie Dubich – 6th Grade Student

Jenna Laudermilt – Senior

Zachary Kagle - Senior

Request to Speak at the Board Meeting

1. Zachary Zebrasky, Elementary Principal, requested to speak to the Board regarding Junior Achievement.

1. Melissa Best, 106 Highland Avenue, Avella, PA and Kristy Rankin, 88 Highland Avenue, Avella, PA, requested to speak regarding safety concerns related to students transported from school on October 14, 2015, due to road closures.

**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 September 2015 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the September 2015 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

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

Board Members were furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the September and October 2015 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Accounts Payable for the September and October 2015 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**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. Baseball Team - Washington Wild Things**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve the Agreement for the Avella High School and River High School Varsity Boys’ Baseball Teams to play at the Washington Wild Things during the spring of 2016 and 2017. Avella Baseball Boosters will pay for the field rental for 2016 and River High School will pay for 2017. Attachment Athletic “A”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**b. John Mylan - 7th/8th Grade Girls’ Volleyball Coach**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve John Mylan as the 7th/8th Grade Girls’ Volleyball Coach for the 2015-16 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**a. Use of Facilities**

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

NAME: Cub Scout Pack 1365

PURPOSE: Sign Up Night

PLACE: Gym or Cafeteria

DATES: 9/24/15

NAME: Art Club

PURPOSE: Halloween & Fall Festival

PLACE: JSHS Cafeteria/Hall

DATES: 10/21/15

NAME: 7th/8th Grade Girls’ Basketball

PURPOSE: 7th/8th Grade Girls’ Basketball Tournament

PLACE: JSHS Gym/Cafeteria

DATES: 10/31/15, 11/1/15

NAME: Elementary Girls’ Intramural Basketball

PURPOSE: Practice/Games

PLACE: Elementary Gym

DATES: 11/2015 – 05/2016

NAME: Elections Voting Board – Cross Creek Township

PURPOSE: Voting

PLACE: JSHS Gym

DATES: 11/3/15

NAME: Avella Music Boosters

PURPOSE: Princess n’ Pirates Tea

PLACE: JSHS Cafeteria

DATES: 12/12/15

NAME: Boys’ Basketball Boosters

PURPOSE: Boys’ Basketball Christmas Tournament

PLACE: JSHS Gym/Cafeteria

DATES: 12/26-29/2015

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**b. Inventory Control**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve removal/disposal of the outdated items listed on Attachment B&G “A”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**a. Steel City Therapy, LLC**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Contract between Steel City Therapy, LLC and Avella Area School District, to provide Occupational Therapy services, effective September 1, 2015 through August 31, 2016, per Attachment Curriculum “A”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**b. Kennywood Day – 2015-16 School Year**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Avella Area School District’s school picnic at Kennywood Park on June 20, 2016, per Agreement attached as Curriculum “B”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**c. Intermediate Unit 1 - Agreement**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Agreement regarding the Intermediate Unit 1 providing Title 1 supplemental education services to students of Avella Area School District attending nonpublic schools for the 2015-16 school year, per Attachment Curriculum “C”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**d. 7th Grade NASA Trip**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the 7th Grade NASA Trip to Wheeling Jesuit University on April 29, 2016.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**e. Comprehensive Plan**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Avella Area School District’s Comprehensive Plan, effective July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2019.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**a. McLean Architects – Application and Certification for Payment**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to Commercial Appliance Contracts, Inc., in the amount of $5,216.45, per Attachment Finance “A”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**b. McLean Architects – Application and Certification for Payment**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to First American Industries, Inc., in the amount of $16,293.30, per Attachment Finance “B”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**c. McLean Architects – Application and Certification for Payment**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to Liokareas Construction, in the amount of $176,224.88, per Attachment Finance “C”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**d. McLean Architects – Application and Certification for Payment**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to McRandal Company Inc., in the amount of $46,700.00, per Attachment Finance “D”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**e. McLean Architects - Invoice**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve payment of McLean Architects’ invoice in the amount of $49,000.00 for Project MA 1504-3, per Attachment Finance “E”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**f. TRAN**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to accept the attached Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note proposal submitted by Washington Financial Bank for a loan in the amount of two million dollars ($2,000,000.00) and to approve the Business Manager’s actions moving forward with this loan in order to achieve an anticipated closing date of 11/20/15. Attachment Finance “F”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report**

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**a. Substitute Teacher List**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the following to the Substitute Teacher List for the 2015-16 school year:

Bonnie Midler

Ariana Duff

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**b. Substitute Support Personnel List**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the following to the Substitute Support Personnel List for the 2015-16 school year:

Jodie Cowden

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**c. 2015-16 Volunteer List**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the following to the Volunteer List for the 2015-16 school year. All clearances are on file.

* Penny Bongiorni
* Michelle Bower
* Susan Carl
* Valerie Champion
* Alyssa Cilia
* Tina Clegg
* Suzanne Colilla
* LuAnn Craig
* Dana Davis
* Amy Heckman
* Barbara Humensky
* Stephen Jackson
* Marcy Jaworoski
* Terri Jeffers
* Jaime Margaria
* Carol Morgan
* Crystal Pfeifer
* Tami Samol
* Kelly Stritzinger
* Lori Terensky
* Melissa Torboli-Fuller
* Marcy Ullom
* Christopher Unger
* Marsha Walther
* Corrie Warner
* Shauntae Westfall
* Natalie Wooldridge
* Jessica Wright

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**d. Kristina Kocher – Dance Line Instructor**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Kristina Kocher as the Dance Line Instructor for the 2015-16 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**e. Nick Deutsch – Assistant Dance Line Instructor**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Nick Deutsch as the Assistant Dance Line Instructor for the 2015-16 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**f. School Play**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Lynn Maidment-Clarchick as the Play Producer and Debora Descutner as the Play Director for the school play for the 2015-16 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**g. Homebound Instructor for an 11th Grade Student**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to ratify Kristen Jakiel to the position Homebound Instructor for an 11th Grade Student.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**h. David Watts, School Police Officer**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to hire David Watts to the position of School Police Officer, effective November 2, 2015, or the date approved by the Common Pleas Court, whichever is earlier, through the end of the 2016-17 school year, pending receipt of mutually agreed upon and signed employment contract and all necessary clearances, at a salary not to exceed $38,000 per year, prorated for the 2015-16 school year. Attachment Personnel “A”

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**i. Yvonne Federouch, Elementary Guidance Counselor - FMLA**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Yvonne Federouch’s request for FMLA, effective on or about October 26, 2015.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

**7. POLICIES – No Report**

**8. SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**a.** **Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled November 5, 2015 at 7:45 a.m.**

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No Report**

**10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – No Report**

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Paris, to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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Debra L. Bentz

Board Secretary