AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

1000 AVELLA ROAD

**AVELLA, PA 15312**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**January 20, 2016**

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 20, 2016. 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, James Gagich, Tina Lengauer, Corey McConn, Jennifer Newman, Alex Paris

Absent: Karen Birdsall, 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

**A. GENERAL PROCEDURES**

##### Roll Call

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Presentations/Recognitions**

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

Paige Fino - 6th Grade Student

Lynsee Brown - 6th Grade Student

Olivia Kubacka - Senior

Michael Pasquale - Senior

1. 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.

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 2015 Reorganization and Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the December 2015 Reorganization and Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

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

Board Members were furnished copies of the Accounts Payable for the December 2015 and January 2016 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Accounts Payable for the December 2015 and January 2016 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

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

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

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Devenney called an Executive Session at 7:20 p.m. to discuss student discipline matters. The Board returned to regular session at 7:31 p.m.

Further action taken by the Board:

**STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

**a. Student Discipline - HM**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation for discipline of student H.M., who was in possession of a small penknife in school. The recommendation is to limit the discipline to 5 days out of school suspension based on the circumstances, the student’s age and the cooperation of the student’s family.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**b. Student Discipline - CB**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Dr. Lengauer, to approve the Agreement between the Avella Area School District and C.B. to resolve an outstanding disciplinary issue.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE**

**a. Tri-County Wrestling Tournament**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Newman, to ratify the Wrestling Team to attend the Tri-County Wrestling Tournament on January 8–9, 2016, at Albert Gallatin High School, per Attachment Athletic “A”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**b. Dance Team - Competition**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the Dance Team to attend a competition in Wildwood, New Jersey, from April 27 – May 1, 2016, per Attachment Athletic “B”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**c. Jason Fogg, Athletic Director**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve Jason Fogg as the Athletic Director for the 2016-17 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**d. 2016-17 Fall Sport Coaches**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the following coaches for the 2016-17 school year:

7th/8th Grade Girls’ Basketball

Gilbert Cutruzzula, Head Coach

Mike Drazich, Assistant Coach

7th/8th Grade Football

J.T. Mylan, Head Coach

Varsity Football

Ryan Cecchini, Head Coach

Zachary Zebrasky, Assistant Coach

Zane Zebrasky, Assistant Coach

Tennis

Dennis O’Neil, Head Coach

Natalie Frank, Assistant Coach

Volleyball

Joelle Cooper, Head Coach

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE - Continued**

**e. Fall Sport Coach Resignations**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Newman, to accept the following resignations at the end of the 2015-16 school year:

Sarah Bogan, Head Cross Country Coach

Ryan Kinzler, Assistant Cross Country Coach

Greg Wargo, Assistant 7th/8th Grade Football Coach

Lynn Clarchick, Assistant Volleyball Coach

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**f. Postings/Advertisements**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the posting (advertisement if necessary) of the following Fall Sport Coaches. (Head Coaches select their Assistant Coaches; therefore, Assistant Coach positions will not be posted/advertised.)

* Head Cross Country Coach

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**a. Inventory Control**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve Evy Breitigan, JSHS Science Teacher’s request to dispose of items listed on Attachment B&G “A”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**b. Use of School Facilities**

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

NAME: 7th/8th Grade Spring Fling Dance

PURPOSE: Class Dance

PLACE: JSHS Cafeteria

DATE: April 8, 2016

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**c. General Construction Project for Avella Area School District**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to award the contract for the General Construction Project for Avella Area School District to Gurtner Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of 634,400.00 (base bid only), to be paid from the Capital Projects Fund. In awarding this contract, the Board acknowledges the Contractor’s failure to accurately respond to one of the questions included in the bidder qualification statement include in the specifications. However, having determined that

this failure resulted from a misinterpretation of the question, and that the information not disclosed is not material to the Board’s decision, the Board declares this irregularity to be immaterial, and waives it, as the Board has determined that doing so advances the best interest of the District.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Mr. Gagich abstained. Motion carried 6-0-1.

**d. Mechanical Construction Project for Avella Area School District**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to award the contract for the Mechanical Construction Project for Avella Area School District to East West Manufacturing & Supply, in the amount of $1,815,000.00 (base bid and alternate), to be paid from the Capital Projects Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**e. Electrical Construction Project for Avella Area School District**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to award the contract for the Electrical Construction Project for Avella Area School District to the Merit Electrical Group, Inc., in the amount of $532,800.00 (base bid only), to be paid from the Capital Projects Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**f. Fire Alarm Construction Project for Avella Area School District**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to award the contract for the Fire Alarm General Construction Project for Avella Area School District to the Merit Electrical Group, Inc., in the amount of $80,800.00 (base bid only), to be paid from the Capital Projects Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**g. Roofing Construction Project for Avella Area School District**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to award the contract for the Roofing Construction Project for Avella Area School District to R.A.M.E., Inc., in the amount of $679,000.00, to be paid from the Capital Projects Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**a. Cedar Point Field Trip**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Gagich, to approve the JSHS Band and Senior Class to take a fieldtrip to Cedar Point on Saturday, May 14, 2016, per Attachment Curriculum “A”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE - Continued**

**b. Splash Lagoon Field Trip**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Gagich, to approve the 7th/8th Grade Class to take a class trip to Splash Lagoon in Erie, PA, on May 23, 2016, per Attachment Curriculum “B”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**c. Kennywood Park Education Days Field Trip**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Gagich, to approve the Physics and Calculus classes to attend Kennywood Park Educational Days on May 24, 2016, per Attachment Curriculum “C”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

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

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the Application for Service Contract with Hickory Telephone Company, effective July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017, per Attachment Finance “A”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**b. McLean Architects – Change Order**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve McLean Architects’ request for Change Order E-2 for A-1 Electric, Inc., dated December 10, 2015, per Attachment Finance “B”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**c. McLean Architects – Invoices**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve McLean Architects’ invoices in the amount of $124,037.10, for Project # MA 1504-5, per Attachment Finance “C”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

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

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to A-1 Electric, Inc., in the amount of $14,202.00, per Attachment Finance “D”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE - Continued**

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

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to A-1 Electric, Inc., in the amount of $15,138.00, per Attachment Finance “E”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

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

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to McRandal Company, Inc., in the amount of $20,200.00, per Attachment Finance “F”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

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

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to Liokareas Construction in the amount of $44,631.00, per Attachment Finance “G”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**a. A Negotiations Committee Meeting is scheduled February 3, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**a. 2015-16 School Volunteers**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the following to the School Volunteer List for the 2015-16 school year:

* Becky Narus
* Kristy Rankin

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

**7. POLICIES – No Report**

**8. SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**a. A Safety Committee meeting is scheduled February 4, 2016 at 7:45 a.m.**

**9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No Report**

**10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – No Report**

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Ms. Newman, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Dr. Lengauer, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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Debra L. Bentz

Board Secretary