AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

1000 AVELLA ROAD

**AVELLA, PA 15312**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**September 9, 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, September 9, 2015. Mr. Jeffrey Devenney, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:21 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**: James Cassidy, Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, Corey McConn, Michael Muhr, Jennifer Newman, Alex Paris

Absent: Kevin Geresti, Donald Underwood

**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

No Visitors

**A. GENERAL PROCEDURES**

##### Roll Call

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Presentations/Recognitions - None**

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 August 2015 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the August 2015 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, 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 August and September 2015 General Fund, excluding check #29857.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the Accounts Payable for the August and September 2015 General Fund, excluding check #29857.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, 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 *NONE***

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE**

**a. Coaches 2015-16 School Year**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the following coaches for the 2015-16 school year.

Ryan Kinzler – Assistant Cross Country Coach

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

Dean Simonelli – Varsity Wrestling Coach

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

**b. Amanda Leonard - Volleyball Volunteer**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve Amanda Leonard as a volunteer to the volleyball team for the 2015-16 school year. All clearances are on file.

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

**2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE – No Report**

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**a. Keystone Educational Group, LLC**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the Agreement between the Avella Area School District and Keystone Educational Group, LLC, for the 2015-16 school year, per Attachment Curriculum “A”.

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

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

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the Intermediate Unit’s Title I Nonpublic School Services Form for the 2015-16 school year, per Attachment Curriculum “B”.

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

**c. A discussion was held regarding moving the prom from a Friday to Thursday to reduce costs.**

**d. School Calendar**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the following revisions to the 2015-16 School Calendar, per Attachment Curriculum “D” to Revised Agenda.

March 30, 2016 – Makeup Day for August 31, 2015

March 31, 2016 – Makeup Day for September 1, 2015

April 1, 2016 - Makeup Day for September 2, 2015

Feb. 19, 2016 – Act 80 Day to School Day due to change in prom date

May 13, 2016 – School Day to Act 80 Day due to change in prom date

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

**e. Student Activity Fund**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the 7th Grade Class of 2021’s request to establish a Student Activity Account.

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

**f. Cornerstone Care Mobile Dental**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve Cornerstone Care Mobile Dental to conduct dental exams for the 2015-16 school year, pending receipt of acceptable proof of insurance.

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**a. Hickory Telephone Company**

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve Hickory Telephone Co.’s Maintenance Agreement, effective 10/1/15 – 9/30/16, per Attachment Finance “A”.

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

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

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to A-1 Electric, Inc., in the amount of $21,060.00, per Attachment Finance “B”.

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

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

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to First American Industries, Inc., in the amount of $15,935.00, per Attachment Finance “C”.

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

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

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to First American Industries, Inc., in the amount of $45,313.00, per Attachment Finance “D”.

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

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

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to First American Industries, Inc., in the amount of $30,055.00, per Attachment Finance “E”.

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

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

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to First American Industries, Inc., in the amount of $50,337.00, per Attachment Finance “F”.

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

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to McRandal Company Inc., in the amount of $134,100.00, per Attachment Finance “G”.

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE - Continued**

**h. McLean Architects - Invoice**

Motion held.

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

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to Commercial Appliance Contracts, Inc., in the amount of $8,456.25, per Attachment Finance “I” to Revised Agenda.

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

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

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment to Commercial Appliance Contracts, Inc., in the amount of $28,346.40, per Attachment Finance “J” to Revised Agenda.

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

**5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**a. MOU – AEA Tuition Students**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Avella Area School District and the Avella Education Association regarding tuition students, per Attachment Negotiations “A”.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Mr. McConn said “nay. Motion carried 6-1.

**b. AEA Tuition Students**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the following students to be enrolled as tuition students in the Avella Area School District for the 2015-16 school year, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Avella Area School District and Avella Education Association.

Alexis Minch – Grade 4

Kaitlyn Minch – Grade 1

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

**c. Laura Shola, Business Manager Contract**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Business Manager Contract between Laura A. Shola, Business Manager, and Avella Area School District, effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2020, per Attachment Negotiations “B” to Revised Agenda.

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**a. Substitute Teacher List**

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

Anastasia Barr

Gary Fonner

Caitlin Kelly

Brittany Zalaznik

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

**b. 2015-16 Volunteer List**

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

* Kathy Adams
* Mary Chechuck
* Karen Cooke
* Amanda Frank
* Joyce Mankey
* Kristin Painter
* Charity Porbin
* Edward Powers
* Tina Powers
* Michelle Rankin
* Michelle Richards
* Jennifer Scott
* Leslie Thames

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

**c. Posting – Homebound Instructor for an 11th Grade Student**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the posting for a Homebound Instructor for an 11th Grade Student.

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

**d. Lauren Baker, Elementary Reading Specialist**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to ratify hiring Lauren Baker to the position of Elementary Reading Specialist, temporary professional employee, Step 1, per AEA Contract, effective September 8, 2015.

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**e. AEA Extra Curricular Activities**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the following positions for the 2015-16 school year, per AEA Contract.

Carrie Struth – Student Council

Laura Lazzarotti – Newspaper

Lesa Scammell – Yearbook

Jessica Miller – Art Club

Evelyn Breitigan – Community Service

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

**f. Comprehensive Planning Committee**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to appoint Sharon Hixenbaugh to serve on the Comprehensive Planning Committee as a parent representative.

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

**7. POLICIES**

1. **Board members were in agreement to concession stand volunteers not obtaining clearances.**

**8. SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**a.** **Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled October 1, 2015 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 Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Debra L. Bentz

Board Secretary