AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

1000 AVELLA ROAD

**AVELLA, PA 15312**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**June 20, 2012**

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, June 20, 2012. 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 and contracts. 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

Timothy Beck, Jr. Sr. High School Principal

Joel Kirsch, Elementary Principal

Debra L. Bentz, Board Secretary

**OTHERS**: Barbara Graham, District Solicitor

16 Visitors

#### A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION

1. Dr. Janell Logue-Belden, Superintendent, presented the State of the District Report.

**REQUEST TO SPEAK AT THE BOARD MEETING**

1. Shellie Kelley, 1277 Cross Creek Road, Burgettstown, PA, requested to speak regarding the Jr. High Football Program.

**VISITORS REQUEST TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEM**

1. The following requested to speak regarding the Girls’ Basketball Program:

Donna Christopher, 67 Clark Avenue, Avella, PA

Mary Craig, 42 Craig Lane, Avella, PA

John Doaks, 257 Cross Creek Road, Avella, PA

Mike Drazich, 91 Lynn Portal Road, Avella, PA

Peggy Drazich, 91 Lynn Portal Road, Avella, PA

John Liggett, 243 Washington Pike, Avella, PA

Carmen Liggett, 243 Washington Pike, Avella, PA

Samuel Mitchell, 39 Gwen Haley Road, Burgettstown, PA

2. Lori Ragan, 34 Ferguson Street, Avella, PA requested to speak regarding the status of the second grade teaching position vacancy.

**GENERAL PROCEDURE ITEMS**

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES *ATTACHMENT “A”***

Board Members were furnished copies of the Board Minutes for the May 2012 Regular Board Meeting.

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the May 2012 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 Accounts Payable for the May and June 2012 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the Accounts Payable for the May and June 2012 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 *No Revisions***

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE**

**a. 2012-13 Coaches**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve the following coaches for the 2012-13 school year:

**Baseball**

Jason Fogg – Head Varsity Baseball Coach

James Morris – Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach

James Matalik – Junior Varsity Baseball Coach

**Softball**

Gary Yaquinto – Head Varsity Softball Coach

Tammy West – Assistant Softball Coach

**Track**

Clara Zatta – Head Track Coach

Lynn Clarchick – Assistant Track Coach

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Mr. Muhr said “nay”. Motion carried 8-1.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE - Continued**

**b. 2012-13 Girls’ Basketball Coaches**

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve the following Girls’ Basketball Coaches for the 2012-13 school year:

**Girls’ Basketball**

James Matalik – Head Varsity Girls’ Basketball Coach

James Morris – Assistant Varsity Girls’ Basketball Coach

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Ms. Cunningham said “nay”. Motion carried 8-1.

c. Additional Assistant Softball Coach Position - 2012-13 Season

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve an additional Assistant Softball Coach for the 2012-13 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. Lauren Yaquinto – Assistant Softball Coach

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve Lauren Yaquinto as an additional Assistant Softball Coach for the 2012-13 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. Football Volunteer**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve Gary Rankin as a volunteer to the football program for the 2012-13 school year. All clearances are on file.

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. Purchase of Football Uniforms**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve the purchase of new football uniforms in the amount of $5,691.70 from Sols Store of Ambridge, the lowest quote.

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**

**2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**a.** A discussion was held regarding the status of the tennis courts.

**b.** A discussion was held regarding the status of the sound system.

**c. Inventory Control**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the disposal/selling of the outdated book versions listed on Attachment B&G “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.

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**a. Teaching Assignments**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the tentative teaching assignments for the JSHS and Elementary School for the 2012-13 school term. 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. AP Mathematics Textbooks/Materials**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the purchase of AP Mathematics Books/Materials from Pearson, per Attachment Curriculum “B”. Amount has been budgeted for the 2012-13 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.

**c. Bethany College Student Teachers**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the County and Institution of Higher Education Articles of Agreement for College Pre-Service and Student Teachers with Bethany College, per Attachment Curriculum “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. Duquesne University Student Teachers**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the Affiliation Agreement for Student Teachers with Duquesne University, per Attachment Curriculum “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.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE - Continued**

**e. Dustin Henke – Tuition Student**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve Dustin Henke to attend Ft. Cherry School District’s agricultural course of study for the 2012-13 school year. Dustin Henke will be in the 10th grade for the 2012-13 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. Brandon Jay DeGarmo – Tuition Student**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve Brandon Jay DeGarmo to attend McGuffey School District’s agricultural course of study for the 2012-13 school year. Brandon Jay DeGarmo will be in the 9th grade for the 2012-13 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.

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**a. 2012-2013 General Fund Budget**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the General Fund Budget totaling $9,641,291.00, be finally adopted for the fiscal year 2012-2013, beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013, with millage set at 120.88 mills (0 mill increase) on real estate, $5.00 per capita tax under Section 679; $5.00 per capita tax, and one-half of one percent (1/2%) on all earned income, under Act 511. 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. Homestead and Farmstead Resolution**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to adopt the Resolution authorizing the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Real Estate Tax Assessment Reductions for the 2012-13 school year, 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. The Gleason Agency, Inc.**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the insurance proposal between Avella Area School District and The Gleason Agency, Inc., effective July 1, 2012, per Attachment Finance “C”.

* Commercial Package, including School Board Liability, in the amount of $39,885
* Commercial Umbrella in the amount of $5,901
* Worker’s Compensation in the amount of $34,227

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. Site Lighting Installation (MA 1207)**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to award the Site Lighting Installation (MA 1207) Contract to Plavchak Construction in the amount of $29,800, per letter from McLean Architects LLC dated June 13, 2012 as Attachment Finance “D”. Contract amount of $29,800 to be paid from Capital Reserve 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.

**e. Roof Replacement at Avella Elementary Center (MA 1208)**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to award the Roof Replacement at Avella Elementary Center Contract to Ramp Construction in the amount of $72,000, per letter from McLean Architects LLC dated June 13, 2012 as Attachment Finance “E”. Contract amount of $72,000 to be paid from Capital Reserve 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.

**f. Construction Project Invoices**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve payment of the following invoices from the Capital Reserve Fund, per Attachment Finance “F”:

Star Lighting Installation

* McLean Architects $3,216.66
* Modern Reproductions, Inc. $166.66

Roof Replacement at Avella Elementary Center

* McLean Architects $4,786.24
* Modern Reproductions, Inc. $177.09

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE - Continued**

**g. McLean Architects LLC - Agreement**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the Architectural Agreement for Miscellaneous Projects between McLean Architects LLC and the Avella Area School District, per Attachment Finance “G”.

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.

**h. RanchWorks’ Cost Quote**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve RanchWorks’ cost quote for installing a roof structure over the salt storage bin in the amount of $3,850, per Attachment Finance “H”.

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.

**i. Drinking Water Pump – CS&E**

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the purchase of a drinking water pump from CS&E not to exceed $5,900 (COSTARS Contract), to be paid with Capital Reserve money.

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.

**j. Drinking Water Control Panel – CS&E**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the purchase of a drinking water control panel form CS&E not to exceed $4,000 (COSTARS Contract), to be paid with Capital Reserve money.

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.

**k.** A discussion was held regarding Act 88 of 2010.

**5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**a. Brian Smitsky, Facilities Manager**

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Agreement between Brian Smitsky, Facilities Manager, and the Avella Area School District, effective July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015, per Attachment Negotiations “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. NEW BUSINESS**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**a. Jesse Rhoades**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to ratify Jesse Rhoades as Drum Line Instructor for the 2012-13 school year, per AEA Contract. All clearances on file.

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. Elementary Volunteers**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the Elementary School Volunteer List for the 2012-13 school year, per Attachment Personnel “A”. All clearances on file.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Geresti, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, Ms. Newman, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood said “aye”. Ms. Cunningham and Mr. Devenney abstained. Motion carried 6-0-2.

**c. Volunteers**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the following volunteers for the 2012-13 school year. All clearances on file.

Susan Carl – Band

Scott Deutsch – Band

Tina Deutsch - Band

Marcy Dunkle – Band

Bernadette Dayak – High School

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. Katie Crawley – Title 1 Elementary Teacher**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve Katie Crawley to transfer to the Title I Elementary Teacher position, effective the first day of the 2012-13 school year. (Position vacant due to Laurie Frank’s retirement)

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. Zachary Zebrasky – JSHS Teacher**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve Zachary Zebrasky as a full time JSHS Social Studies/Science Teacher, full time temporary professional employee, effective August 20, 2012, the first day of the 2012-13 school year, per AEA Contract. (Position vacant due to John Jaros’ retirement)

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. Adopted/Revised Policies**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to adopt/revise the following policies, effective immediately:

* #217 Graduation Requirements
* #253 Student Enrollment in Non-Avella Area School District Courses

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 first reading was held of the Facilities Manager’s Job Description.**

**c. A first reading was held of the following policies:**

* #200 – Enrollment of Students
* #202 – Eligibility of Non-Resident Students
* #205 – Post-Graduate Students
* #254 – Enrollment of Students Disciplined by Other School Entities
* #255 – Tuition Students
* #201 – Admission of Students to Kindergarten and First Grade
* #251 – Homeless Students

**8. SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**a.** A Safety Committee meeting is scheduled July 10, 2012 at 7:45 a.m.

**9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No Report**

**10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**a. Parent Transportation Contracts**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve the following Parent Transportation Agreements:

1. Joan Stough and the Avella Area School District to transport student to and from D.T. Watson School for the 2012-2013 school year, $145 per day.

2. Cheri Boris and the Avella Area School District to transport student to and from the Summer 2012 Extended School Year Program, $8.88 per day.

3. Summer Runyon and the Avella Area School District to transport student to and from the Summer 2012 Extended School Year Program, no cost to the District.

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.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. McConn called an Executive Session to discuss contracts at 8:22 p.m., with no further voting to occur.

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 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