

**AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
1000 AVELLA ROAD
AVELLA, PA 15312**

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

May 16, 2018

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, May 16, 2018. Ms. Karen Birdsall, Board Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 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: Karen Birdsall, Jeffrey Devenney, Melissa Dryer, James Gagich, Sharon Hixenbaugh, Corey McConn, Alex Paris
Absent: Kim Cassidy, Leslie Cunningham

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

The following students were recognized as the May Students of the Month:
Jasmine Amaya Diaz – 6th Grade Student
Ryan Mundorff – 6th Grade Student
Sarah Fox – Senior
Austin Dever - Senior

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 April 2018 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the April 2018 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, 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 April and May 2018 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the Accounts Payable for the April and May 2018 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, 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 **No Revisions**

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

a. Allegheny Medical – Student Athlete Physicals

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve Allegheny Medical Integrated Health Services to complete the student sport physicals for the 2018-19 school year. (Physicals are scheduled in June in JSHS Gym)

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

b. Michael Maltony – Head Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve Michael Maltony as the Head Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach for the 2018-19 school year, pending receipt of required employment documentation.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

c. Michael Macik – Assistant Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve Michael Macik as the Assistant Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach for the 2018-19 school year, pending receipt of required employment documentation.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

a. Use of School Facilities

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

NAME: Cross Creek Board of Elections
PURPOSE: Polls for Voting
PLACE: JSHS Building
DATE: May 15, 2018

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

b. Electrical Construction Work for the Addition to Avella JSHS

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Ms. Hixenbaugh, to award the Electrical Construction Work for the Addition to Avella JSHS to Westmoreland Electric Services, in the amount of \$45,800.00, per McLean Architects' letter dated April 9, 2018 as Attachment B&G "A". Contract amount of \$45,800 to be paid from Capital Projects Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

a. Merakey Behavioral Health

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Letter of Collaborative Agreement between Avella Area School District and the Merakey Behavioral Health (formerly NHS Human Services) for the 2018-19 school year, per Attachment Curriculum "A".

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

b. River Pediatric Therapies

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Agreement between Avella Area School District and the River Pediatric Therapies for the 2018-19 school year, per Attachment Curriculum "B" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

c. PA Pre-K Counts

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Lease Agreement and Meal Service Agreement between the Avella Area School District and Blueprints Early Learning Head Start and Pre-K Counts, effective 2018-19 school year, per Attachment Curriculum "C" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

d. Arrival/Departure Time Schedule Changes

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the student arrival/departure time schedule changes for the 2018-19 school year, per Curriculum "D" to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

e. Discussion Items:

- Mr. Walther, Superintendent, reported a Lowe's Grant was received to purchase new appliances (4 microwaves, refrigerator, 4 food processors, dishwasher, 4 self-cleaning stove/ovens)
- A discussion was held regarding available scholarships and the lack of student participation.

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. Scheduled Finance Committee Meetings:

June 6, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m.
June 20, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m.

b. Business Manager – Renewal Bond

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the renewal bond of Laura Shola, Business Manager, setting bond at \$100,000, to begin July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, according to PA School Code Section 404.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

c. Board Treasurer – Renewal Bond

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to appoint Corey McConn as Board Treasurer for one year beginning July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, according to PA School Code Section 404, setting bond at \$50,000.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

d. Board Secretary – Renewal Bond

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to renew the bond for Debra Bentz as Board Secretary, at \$50,000, to begin July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, according to PA School Code Section 404.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said "aye". Motion carried 7-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE

e. Range Resources - Division Order

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Division Order between the Avella Area School District and Range Resources – Appalachia LLC, dated 4/30/2018, per Attachment Finance “A”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

f. 2018-2019 Proposed Budget

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the proposed budget in the amount of \$10,773,267.00, for the fiscal year 2018-2019 and set the millage at 10.6085 mills, a .2475 mill increase. Attachment Finance “B” to Revised Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said “aye” Mr. Gagich and Ms. Hixenbaugh said “nay”. Motion carried 5-2.

5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

a. Intermediate Unit 1 - Emergency Substitute Program

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Commitment Form for the Emergency Substitute Program coordinated by the Intermediate Unit 1 for the 2018-19 school year, per Attachment Personnel “A”.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

b. Ashley Fedak, Family/Medical Leave

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve Ashley Fedak’s request for intermittent Family Medical Leave, effective April 30, 2018.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

7. POLICIES

a. PSBA Policies

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Ms. Dryer, to approve the adoption/revisions to the following policies, effective May 16, 2018.

- #808 Food Service Policy with Attachment (First reading held 4/18/18)
- Policy #916 School Volunteers with Attachment – Attachment Policies “A” to Revised Agenda (Board is suspending the requirement of 2 readings in order to expedite processing for upcoming school year)

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

8. SAFETY COMMITTEE

- a. Safety Committee meeting scheduled June 7, 2018 at 8:00 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. Paris, to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Mr. Devenney, Ms. Dryer, Mr. Gagich, Ms. Hixenbaugh, Mr. McConn, and Mr. Paris said “aye”. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Bentz
Board Secretary