AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

1000 AVELLA ROAD

**AVELLA, PA 15312**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**September 20, 2017**

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 20, 2017. 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**: Karen Birdsall via speaker phone, Kim Cassidy, Jeffrey Devenney, James Gagich, Corey McConn, Michael Muhr, Alex Paris

Absent: Leslie Cunningham, Jennifer Newman

**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 Administration provided a PowerPoint presentation to the Board to review the PSSA/Keystone results.

**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 2017 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the August 2017 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, 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 2017 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the Accounts Payable for the August and September 2017 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Birdsall, Ms. Cassidy, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Gagich, Mr. McConn, Mr. Muhr, 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”***

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE**

**a. Head Varsity Softball Coach - Posting**

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to post (advertise if necessary) for a Head Varsity Softball Coach for the 2017-18 school year.

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

**2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**a.** A discussion was held regarding the maintenance and custodial staff wearing uniforms. The Administration will provide additional information at the September meeting of the cost difference between purchasing and renting uniforms.

**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 2017-18 school year, per Attachment Curriculum “A”.

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**b. Washington Communities Human Services, Inc.**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Student Assistance Program (SAP) Services between Avella Area School District and the Washington Communities Human Services, Inc. for the 2017-18 school year, per Attachment Curriculum “B”.

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

**c. 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 2017-18 school year, per Attachment Curriculum “C”.

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

**d. Community Action Southwest**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the Lease Agreement and Meal Service Agreement between the Avella Area School District and Community Action Southwest, effective 2017-18 school year, per Attachment Curriculum “D”.

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

**e. Gettysburg Field Trip**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the JSHS students to travel to Gettysburg in March 2018 for an education field trip, per Attachment Curriculum “E”.

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

**f. Student Activity Fund**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the Class of 2023 (7th Grade) to establish a Student Activity Account.

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

**g. School Calendar Dates:**

**Open House Elementary - 9/27/17 @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**Open House JSHS - 9/28/17 @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**Homecoming – 10/6/17:**

**Pregame @ 6:30 p.m./Kickoff @ 7:00 p.m./Crowning @ Halftime**

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**a. McLean Architects – Change Order**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve McLean Architect’s request for Change Order for East West Manufacturing, Inc., dated August 15, 2017, $36,189.00, per Attachment Finance “A”.

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

**b. Hickory Telephone Company**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve Hickory Telephone Co.’s Maintenance Agreement, effective 10/1/17 – 9/30/18, per Attachment Finance “B”.

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

**c. Laurel Capital Corporation - ActivPanels**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve a Lease-Purchase Agreement with Laurel Capital Corporation for ActivPanels and accessories, providing for 60 monthly payments of $966.74, and authorizing the Business Manager to execute the Agreement and related documents.

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

**d. Laurel Capital Corporation – High Efficiency LED Lighting**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve a Lease-Purchase Agreement with Laurel Capital Corporation for the purchase of High Efficiency LED Lighting, providing for 120 monthly payments of $2,834.39, and authorizing the Business Manager to execute the Agreement and related documents.

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

**5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**a. Bethany College Student Teachers**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the County and Institution of Higher Education Articles of Agreement for College Pre-Service and Student Teachers with Bethany College for the 2017-18 school year, per Attachment Personnel “A”. Clearances are to be provided for all student teachers assigned to the District in accordance with this Agreement.

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**b. 2017-18 Substitute Teacher List**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the following to the Substitute Teacher List for the 2017-18 school year:

Paula Davies

Gary Fonner

Sara McGraw

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

**c. 2017-18 Substitute Support Staff List**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the following to the Substitute Support Staff List for the 2017-18 school year:

Renae Bell

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

**d. 2017-18 School Volunteer List**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve the following to the School Volunteer List for the 2017-18 school year:

Jennifer Bauduin

Amie Buel

Robert Campbell

Jodie Cowden

Paula Davies

Joe Frabell

Aaron Jennings

Nicole Kisner

Joyce Mankey

Jaime Margaria

Dacia Marker

Lori Terensky

Cassandra Throckmorton

Michael Throckmorton

Cassandra Ware

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

**e. Tonya Yuhas – 5 Hour Aide Position**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to ratify Tonya Yuhas to the position of 5 Hour Aide, effective August 28, 2017, per PSEA/NEA Contract.

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

**f. 4 Hour Aide Position**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to ratify a posting (advertisement if necessary) for a 4 hour aide position.

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**g. Barbara Humensky – 4 Hour Aide Position**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve Barbara Humensky to the position of 4 Hour Aide, effective September 21, 2017, per PSEA/NEA Contract.

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

**h. Jason Fogg, Use of School Facilities Coordinator**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve Jason Fogg as Use of School Facilities Coordinator, effective October 1, 2017.

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

**i. Summer Miller – Winter Guard Dance Line Instructor**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to approve Summer Miller to the position of Winter Guard Dance Line Instructor for the 2017-18 school year, per AEA Contract.

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

**j. Permanent Teacher Contract**

Moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to award the following Permanent Teacher Contract:

Bethany Songer, a Professional Employee Contract, following 3 years of satisfactory service with the District, effective September 11, 2017.

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

**k.** A discussion was held regarding a stipend amount for the Vo-Ag Teacher. The Board agreed for the stipend to be $3,000 for the 2017-18 school year.

**7. POLICIES – No Report**

**8. SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**a. Safety Committee meeting is scheduled October 5, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.**

**9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No Report**

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**a. Parent Transportation Contract**

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. McConn, to approve the Parent Transportation Agreement between Mrs. Joan McEachern and the Avella Area School District to transport student to and from D.T. Watson for the 2017-18 school year, per Attachment Transportation “A”.

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

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. McConn, seconded by Mr. Muhr, to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Debra L. Bentz

Board Secretary