AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

1000 AVELLA ROAD

**AVELLA, PA 15312**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**September 11, 2013**

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 11, 2013. Mr. Jeffrey Devenney, Board Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting regarding personnel. Debra Bentz, Board Secretary, held roll call and the following board members were present:

**BOARD MEMBERS**: James Cassidy, Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, Kevin Geresti, Michael Muhr, Alex Paris, Donald Underwood

Absent: Corey McConn, Jennifer Newman

**ADMINISTRATION**: Dr. Janell Logue-Belden, Superintendent

Laura Shola, Business Manager

Thomas Graham, JSHS Principal

Cyril Walther, Elementary Principal

Debra L. Bentz, Board Secretary

**OTHERS**: Rachel Lozosky, District Solicitor

4 Visitors

#### A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION - None

**REQUEST TO SPEAK AT THE BOARD MEETING - None**

**VISITORS REQUEST TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEM – None**

**GENERAL PROCEDURE ITEMS**

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

Board Members were furnished copies of the Board Minutes for the August 2013 Special Meeting and Regular Board Meeting.

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the August 2013 Special Meeting and Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. Muhr, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood 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 2013 General Fund.

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the Accounts Payable for the August and September 2013 General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, Mr. Muhr, Mr. Paris and Mr. Underwood 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. The Athletic Committee held a meeting on August 27, 2013 to discuss the location of concession stands during home football games.

b. A discussion was held regarding scheduling a date to meet with Burgettstown School Board regarding the football program.

**c. Assistant 7th/8th Grade Boys’ Basketball Coach**

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve Darren Shaffer as the Assistant 7th/8th Grade Boys’ Basketball Coach for the 2013-14 school year, per AEA Contract.

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**a. Inventory Control**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve disposal of the items listed on Attachment B&G A, along with outdated and non-functional technical supplies and equipment found in the server room.

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

**b. Use of Facilities**

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve the following Use of School Facilities:

NAME: 6th Grade Girls’ Basketball

PURPOSE: Intramural Practice/GamesPLACE: Elementary Gym

DATES: September – November 2013 Season

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

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

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

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve the Letter of Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding between the Avella Area School District and Washington Communities Human Services, Inc., per Attachment Curriculum “A”.

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

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**a. Agreement – Margaret Swanson, CRNP**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the Agreement between Avella Area School District and Margaret Swanson, CRNP, to provide Physician Authorization Services for the 2013-14 school year, per Attachment Finance “A”.

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

**b. R.A.M.E. Inc. – Payment #4**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Application and Certification for payment #4 to R.A.M.E. Inc. in the amount of $29,826.00, per Attachment Finance “B” to Agenda.

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**a. 2013-14 Substitute Teacher List**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the following to the Substitute Teacher List for the 2013-14 school term. All clearances are on file.

Meghan Brownlee

Alisha Ruschel

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

**b. 2013-14 Substitute Custodial/Cafeteria/Aides/Secretarial List**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to approve the following to the Substitute Custodial/Cafeteria/Aides/Secretarial List for the 2013-14 school term. All clearances are on file.

Amanda Frank – Cafeteria Worker, Aide

Charmaine Wright – Cafeteria Worker

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

**c. 2013-14 School Volunteers**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Underwood, to approve the following volunteers for the 2013-14 school year. All clearances are on file.

Melissa Best – Elementary

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

**d. Kara Ruffalo, Special Education Teacher**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve hiring Kara Ruffalo to the position of Special Education Teacher, temporary professional employee, Step1, per AEA Contract. (Effective start date will be when updated clearances are received in the Central Administration Office.)

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

**e. Jennifer Markle, Part-Time Cafeteria Worker**

Moved by Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve Jennifer Markle as a part-time cafeteria worker (4 hours per day/180 days per year, effective September 12, 2013, per PSEA Contract. (Michele Richards’ position)

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**7. POLICIES**

**a. Attendance Policy #204**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Cassidy, to approve the revisions to the Attendance Policy #204, effective immediately.

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

**b. Discussion Items:**

* Add’l revisions to Attendance Policy
* Immunizations

**c. First readings were held of the following policies:**

* Policy #217 – Graduation Requirements
* Policy #253 – Student Enrollment in Non-Avella Courses
* Policy #823 – Chromebooks
* Policy #815 – Student Use of Internet
* Policy #815.1 – Use of Internet District Network

**8. SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**a.** Safety Committee meeting is scheduled October 3, 2013 at 7:45 a.m.

**b.** A discussion was held regarding the purchase of a new 15 passenger van.

**c.** A discussion was held regarding a cafeteria dishwasher not working in the Elementary School.

**9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

**a.** A Technology Committee Meeting will be scheduled to review the Chromebook procedures and policies.

**10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**a.** Dr. Logue-Belden, Superintendent, reported a meeting will be held with the Administration, GG&C, and transportation secretaries regarding busing concerns.

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, moved by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Ms. Cunningham, to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Debra L. Bentz

Board Secretary