AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

1000 AVELLA ROAD

**AVELLA, PA 15312**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**March 19, 2014**

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, March 19, 2014. Mr. Corey McConn, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting regarding personnel, negotiations and a student issue. Debra Bentz, Board Secretary, held roll call and the following board members were present:

**BOARD MEMBERS**: Leslie Cunningham, Jeffrey Devenney, Kevin Geresti, Corey McConn, Michael Muhr, Jennifer Newman, Alex Paris

Absent: James Cassidy, Donald Underwood

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

Laura Shola, Business Manager

Thomas Graham, JSHS Principal - Absent

Cyril Walther, Elementary Principal

Debra L. Bentz, Board Secretary

**OTHERS**: Barbara Graham, District Solicitor

7 Visitors

#### A. GENERAL PROCEDURES

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION

1. The following students were recognized as the March Students of the Month:

Bess Lengauer – 6th Grade Student

Shane Davis – 6th Grade Student

Kira Doaks – Senior

Jake Temple - Senior

**REQUEST TO SPEAK AT THE BOARD MEETING**

1. Ed Gardner, Case|Sabatini, District Auditors, presented the Auditor’s Report for the 2012-13 year.

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

**GENERAL PROCEDURE ITEMS**

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

Board Members were furnished copies of the February Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the February Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, 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 February and March General Fund.

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve the Accounts Payable for the February and March General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Devenney, Mr. Geresti, 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 *ATTACHMENT “E”***

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE**

**a. Additional Assistant Varsity Girls’ Basketball Coach**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve an additional Assistant Varsity Girls’ Basketball Coach for the 2014-15 school year.

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

**b. 2014-15 Coaches**

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve the following coaches for the 2014-15 school year:

**Boys’ Varsity Basketball**

Joseph Hough – Head Varsity Boys’ Basketball Coach

Jack Conn – Assistant Varsity Boys’ Basketball Coach

**Boys’ 7th/8th Grade Basketball**

Zachary Zebrasky – Head 7th/8th Grade Boys’ Basketball Coach

Darren Shaffer – Assistant 7th/8th Grade Boys’ Basketball Coach

**Girls’ Varsity Basketball**

James Matalik – Head Varsity Girls’ Basketball Coach

James Morris – Assistant Varsity Girls’ Basketball Coach

Michael Drazich – Assistant Varsity Girls’ Basketball Coach

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. ATHLETIC COMMITTEE**

**b. 2014-15 Coaches - Continued**

**Rifle**

Jim Mounts – Head Rifle Coach

**Volleyball – 7th/8th Grade Girls’**

Zachary Zebrasky – Head 7th/8th Grade Girls’ Volleyball Coach

Meghan Brownlee – Assistant 7th/8th Grade Girls’ Volleyball Coach

**Wrestling**

Jeremy Allen – Head Varsity Wrestling Coach

Jeff Kusich – Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach

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

**c. Intramural Jr. High Cheerleading Program**

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve an Intramural Junior High Cheerleading Program for the 2014-15 school year, per Attachment Athletic “A”. The Board approves Tami Samol and Samantha Jacobs as volunteer coaches.

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

**d. Intramural Elementary Dance Team**

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve an Intramural Elementary Dance Team for the 2014-15 school year, per Attachment Athletic “B”. The Board approves the requested volunteer coaches pending receipt of volunteer form and clearances.

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

**2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**a. Inventory Control**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve disposal of the items listed on Attachment B&G “A”.

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

**b. Republic Services Cancellation**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Paris, to cancel the Trash Service Agreement with Republic Services at the conclusion of the 36 month agreement on April 15, 2014.

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**2. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**c. Fayette Waste, LLC**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the 36 month Trash Service Agreement with Fayette Waste, LLC, commencing April 15, 2014, per Attachment B&G “B”.

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

**d. Use of Facilities**

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

NAME: Avella Eagles Connection

PURPOSE: 4th – 6th Grade Dance

PLACE: Elementary Gym

DATES: March 28, 2014

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

**e. Right-of-Way Agreement**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the Right-of-Way Agreement between Avella Area School District and West Penn Power, per Attachment B&G “C”.

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

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**a. Band Disney Trip**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve the band to travel to Disney World, Orlando, Florida, from April 7 – 12, 2015, per Attachment Curriculum “A”.

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

**b. 2014-15 School Calendar**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Paris, to approve the following revisions to the 2014-15 school calendar:

1. Remove New Teacher Orientation Day on 8/18/14

2. Change the 2 hour early dismissal on 12/23/14 to 11/26/14

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**3. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**c. Elementary Fun Day**

Moved by Mr. Muhr, seconded by Mr. Paris, to make a matter of record the Agreement between the Avella Area PTA, Inc., a/k/a Avella Eagles Connection, and E.L.F. Entertainment, Inc., relative to Fun Day to be held on the District property on May 27, 2014, per Attachment Curriculum “B”.

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

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**a. Western Area Career & Technology Center**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the 2014-2015 Western Area Career & Technology Center’s proposed budget totaling $6,138,192, per letter dated February 27, 2014 from Dennis McCarthy, Ph.D., Director of Vocational Education. Attachment Finance “A”

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

**b. Approved Plan Vendor List**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the updated Plan Vendor List for the District’s 403(b) Plan, per Attachment Finance “B”.

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

**c. TowerMetriX**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve the Proposal for Services with TowerMetriX, 3 year contract, beginning 7/1/2014, per Attachment Finance “C”.

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

**d. JSHS Bleachers - Advertisement**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to retroactively approve the advertisement for bids for the replacement of the JSHS gymnasium bleachers. The first advertisement ran February 28, 2014.

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

**e. JSHS Bleachers - Contract**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to award the gym bleacher contract for the Avella Area Junior Senior High School to Maffei Strayer Furnishings in the amount of $57,261.00, per McLean Architects’ letter dated March 18, 2014 as Attachment Finance “D”. Contract amount of $57,261.00 to be paid from Capital Projects Fund.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**4. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**e. JSHS Bleachers – Contract - Continued**

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

**f. McLean Architects - Invoice**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to approve McLean Architects’ invoice in the amount of $3,886.38 for Project #MA 1332-1, Gymnasium Bleacher Replacement, per Attachment Finance “E”

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

**g. Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled April 16, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.**

**5. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**a. Retirement Plan for Central Administrative Office Employees**

Moved by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the Retirement Plan for Four Central Administration Office Employees, effective March 19, 2014, per Attachment Negotiations “A”. (First Reading was held 2/19/14)

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

**b. A Negotiations Committee Meeting is scheduled on March 24, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**a. 2013-14 School Volunteers**

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

Julie Fischer – Elementary School

Tami Samol – Dance Team

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

**b. Substitute List**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve Charmaine Wright as a Substitute Custodian for the 2013-14 school year. All clearances are on file.

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - Continued**

**c. Substitute Teacher List**

Moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Geresti, to approve the following to the 2013-14 Substitute Teacher List. All clearances are on file.

Jason Young

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

**7. POLICIES**

**a. Adopt/Revise Policies**

Moved by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Devenney, to adopt/revise the following policies, effective February 19, 2014. (First reading held February 19, 2014)

* #913- Nonschool Organizations/Groups/Individuals
* #220-Student Expression/Distribution and Posting of Materials

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

**8. SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**a.** **Safety Committee meeting is scheduled April 3, 2014 at 7:45 a.m.**

**9. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

**a. Interviews for the Network Administrator are scheduled March 25, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.**

**10. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – No Report**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. McConn called an Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. to discuss personnel. The Board returned to regular session at 8:15 p.m.

Further action taken by the Board:

A Special Meeting will be held on March 25, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. for personnel and other general issues.

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, moved by Ms. Newman, seconded by Mr. Paris, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Debra L. Bentz

Board Secretary