

Avonworth School District
258 Josephs Lane
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
Avonworth Board of School Directors
Minutes – Regular Meeting – Tuesday, December 3, 2019
Avonworth School District – Primary Center K-LGI Room
7:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Beau Blaser, Ms. Sandra Bolain, Mr. John Brandt, Ms. Vicki Carlson, Ms. Yu-Ling Cheng, Ms. Kathryn Monti, Ms. Kristin Thompson, Ms. Danielle White

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Patrick Stewart

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Thomas Ralston, Superintendent	Mr. Jon White, Student
Dr. Jeff Hadley, Assistant Superintendent	Mr. Jay White, Student
Mr. Brad Waters, Director, Fiscal Management	Mr. Ed Sarver, Visitor
Mr. James Berent, Esq., Andrews & Price LLC	Ms. Lorraine Sarver, Visitor
Ms. Melissa Reagle, Teacher	Ms. Catheryn Behr, Student
Ms. Maureen Frew, Teacher	Ms. Caroline Behr, Student
Dr. Scott Miller, Primary Center Principal	Mr. Gregg Behr, Resident
Ms. Kyra Carlson, Student Council Representative	Mr. Jared Quinn, Resident
Mr. Jeremy White, Student	Ms. Nancy White, <i>The Citizen</i>
Mr. Brian White, Resident	Ms. Cindy Donovan, Board Secretary

Call to Order

Board President, Mr. Beau Blaser, called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:51P.M.

Visitors' Comments

No Visitor comments.

Dr. Scott Miller and Ms. Maureen Frew gave a presentation on their recent trip to Helsinki, Finland for the HundrED Conference. They are thinking of ways they can successfully continue to scale #Bethekindkid with service learning opportunities for students. Dr. Miller and Ms. Frew told of a "speed school" that teaches three years in one because they're never certain there will be school the following year; and of a village where children collect cooking oil in town to bring back in order to fuel the school bus so they can get to school. Dr. Ralston thanks the Grable Foundation for their support. He also said #Bethekindkid will be featured on Kidsburgh with Kristine Sorensen.

Mr. Blaser reported that the Curriculum Committee met this evening at 6:30 PM in the Primary Center K-LGI Room to discuss curriculum matters.

Report of the Student Council Representative – Ms. Kyra Carlson

Ms. Carlson reported the high school Student Council is finishing up their Salvation Army and DoorWay drives. They are planning a Sadie Hawkins dance in February.

Minutes – Regular Meeting Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Mr. Brandt asked Kyra Carlson how students felt about the Flexible Instruction Days (FID). Ms. Carlson said some students like the idea but other don't because they would have to do work on a snow day.

Report of Administration – Dr. Thomas Ralston, Superintendent

Dr. Ralston said Ms. Dwulit is working on FID instruction at the secondary level and Ms. Murray is working with the elementary campus. They should have a plan ready by mid-January. Dr. Ralston also our football team is playing in the state championship this Friday. Mr. Giel was able to book busses from a company in Murrysville. The team will head to Hershey Thursday morning, the cheerleaders Thursday evening and the band Friday morning. Two fan busses have been booked. Students at the secondary campus can watch the game at school. Dr. Ralston noted the fall play “Midwinter Night’s Dream” had a great run. It was so popular that the Director added a Sunday matinee. Kyra Carlson, who was in the play, said there was so much growth happening due to seniors graduating last year. Dr. Ralston said PPG has invited Grades 3-5 to participate in a paint research study. Students will select a paint color for their classrooms. PPG will look at the impact of color in the classroom. Some classrooms will be painted over the winter break, others over the summer. Our application for a Studio A grant was approved again this year. Studio A will be held in July.

Report of the Assistant Superintendent – Dr. Jeff Hadley

Dr. Hadley will be taking a team of teachers from Grades K-12 to the AIU for the CSforAll SCRIPT Workshop. SCRIPT is designed to help do an analysis of our current computer science programming/pathway K-12. Dr. Hadley is applying for the PAsmart Targeted Computer Science and STEAM grant. The SCRIPT Workshop is a requirement of the grant if received. Attending this workshop ahead of finalizing the writing of the grant will help us identify what areas we will want to focus on in the grant.

Dr. Hadley has also applied for a Teacher in the Workforce grant. This grant, if received, will help us create experiences over the summer that will provide teachers with an opportunity to gain experience in the workplace. Our goal is to provide teachers with valuable, real-world experience in the workplace that they will be able to share with students through their curriculum, but also through certain roles, such as Pathway Leaders.

Report of the Solicitor – Mr. James Berent, Esq.

No report at this time.

Beattie Key Notes/AIU News – Ms. Kate Monti

No report at this time. Ms. Monti noted the invitations provided for Board members to attend the AWBCC Joint Operating Committee Holiday dinner and meeting on December 12.

Motion: J. Brandt; **Second:** K. Thompson; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous voice vote to approve the Minutes of the November 4, 2019 Work Session/General Purpose Meeting and the November 11, 2019 Regular Meeting. (Voice Vote)

Minutes

FINANCE – J. Carraway/P. Stewart, Co-Chairs

Motion: B. Blaser; **Second:** K. Monti; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous voice vote to approve Items 1.1-1.5 and Items 2-3:

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1.1 | Ratify payment of General Fund bills for November, 2019, beginning with Check #47852 and ending with Check #48027 in the total amount of \$664,058.15. | <i>General Fund</i> |
| 1.2 | Ratify the November, 2019 payroll in the amount of \$1,207,710.64. | <i>Payroll</i> |
| 1.3 | Treasurer’s Report for October, 2019. | <i>Treasurer’s Rpt.</i> |
| 1.4 | Ratify payment of Food Service Fund checks for October, 2019, beginning with Check #2687 and ending with Check #2694 in the total amount of \$27,660.11. | <i>Fd. Svc. Fund</i> |
| 1.5 | Approve the capital project payment in the amount of \$27,105.00. | <i>Capital Project</i> |
| 2. | To approve the following EITC letters retroactive to November 18, 2019:
A. Fern Hollow
B. Phipps Conservatory
C. The Bradley Center
D. The Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation | <i>EITC</i> |
| 3. | RESOLUTION #120319: To continue membership in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit’s Joint Purchasing Program as attached. | <i>AIU Joint Purch. Agreement</i> |

PERSONNEL – K. Thompson/D. Oberdick, Co-Chairs

Motion: K. Thompson; **Second:** K. Monti; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous voice vote to approve Items 1-6:

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------|
| 1. | To accept the resignation of custodian, Ms. Toni Reagan , retroactive to November 19, 2019. | <i>Resignation</i> |
| 2. | To approve a \$3,000 salary adjustment for Mr. Mike Hall due to his duties as the School Safety Coordinator effective with the 2019-2020 School Year. | <i>Salary Adjustment</i> |

ADDENDUM ITEMS (4)

- | | | |
|----|--|-----------------------------|
| 3. | To approve Ms. Marissa Timko as a substitute Paraprofessional retroactive to November 25, 2019, at a rate of \$14.25/hour. Her clearances are on file in the District Office. | <i>Sub Para</i> |
| 4. | To approve the request of Ms. Rene Mills for FMLA from March 3, 2020 through May 26, 2020 | <i>FMLA</i> |
| 5. | To create a permanent paraprofessional position, pursuant to the current AESPA contract, to be assigned to multiple students in Kindergarten for the 2019-2020 School Year. | <i>Create Para Position</i> |

Personnel, continued

6. To approve **Ms. Jodi Walsh** as a half day Day-to-Day Substitute Art Teacher, effective December 3, 2019 through January 14, 2020 at \$70/day with no benefits, pending requirements of the District. *Half Day DTD
Art Sub*

CURRICULUM – J. Brandt/V. Carlson, Co-Chairs

Motion: J. Brandt; **Second:** K. Thompson; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous voice vote to approve Items 1-2:

1. To approve the Level One curriculum document written by **Ms. Sheila Applegate** and **Ms. Sarah Flower** for ELA World Cultures and payment of \$962.00 to each for writing the equivalent of a full year course according to the current AEA contract. *Curriculum Approval*

ADDENDUM ITEM

2. To approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Head Start/Pre-K Counts Program and the Avonworth School District to support kindergarten transition initiatives. *MOU with AIU*

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES – D. Oberdick/K. Thompson, Co-Chairs

Motion: K. Thompson; **Second:** V. Carlson; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous voice vote to approve Items 1-3:

1. To approve **Ms. Sheila Applegate** as sponsor of the Student Ambassador Club for the 2019-2020 School Year with a stipend as per the current AEA contract. *Ambassador
Club Sponsor*
2. To approve **Mr. Marino Barbabella** as a volunteer Assistant Middle School Wrestling Coach beginning with the 2019-2020 School Year, pending requirements of the District. *Vol. Coach*
3. To approve **Mr. Darion Trimmer** as an Assistant Middle School Wrestling Coach beginning with the 2019-2020 School Year, pending requirements of the District. *Asst. MS Wrestling
Coach*

POLICY – V. Carlson/K. Monti – Co-Chairs

Motion: V. Carlson; **Second:** K. Monti; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous voice vote to approve Item 1:

1. To approve **Ms. Denise Miles** as a school bus monitor and as a driver once she receives her CDL and has qualified under the laws and regulations as required by PA State Regulations. *Bus Monitor/Driver*

Old Business

Mr. Waters discussed the Resolution that will be on the January agenda regarding increasing the real estate tax rate for 2020-2021. The proposed Budget will be ready in May with the final Budget ready in June. Mr. Waters invited our new Board members to meet with him at their convenience to review the budget. The Allegheny North Tax Collection Committee, of which Mr. Waters serves as Secretary, was able to negotiate a lower rate with Keystone Collections.

Ms. Vicki Carlson asked about families renting musical instruments. Discussion followed about music stores renting/not renting instruments such as tubas.

Dr. Ralston reminded member of the Buildings & Grounds meeting scheduled for Monday, December 9.

Dr. Hadley discussed Esports and said if we move forward he will look for a sponsor. The Board feels we should explore this opportunity for the spring session and also include the middle school.

New Business

No new business.

Adjournment

Motion: J. Brandt; **Second:** K. Thompson; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous Voice Vote to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:08 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy S. F. Donovan,
Board Secretary

**RESOLUTION #120319 OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
OF THE AVONWORTH SCHOOL BOARD**

**AUTHORIZING THE PARTICIPATION IN AND APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE
ALLEGHENY INTERMEDIATE UNIT JOINT PURCHASING PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, savings in the cost of preparing specifications and advertising for bids for school materials, supplies, equipment and services, as well as bulk price advantages, may be obtained through joint purchasing arrangements entered into by a number of school entities in the same area; and an agreement entitled “Joint Purchasing Agreement,” in a form prepared by the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and as presented at this meeting, would afford the Avonworth School District (hereinafter “District/School”) an opportunity, if a Participant therein, to enjoy these possible joint purchasing benefits, without being required to participate in any bidding thereunder.

THEREFORE, in order to obtain the potential advantages of joint purchasing of school materials, supplies, equipment and services,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of School Directors of this District/School hereby approves said Joint Purchasing Agreement and authorizes its participation in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program; directs that a copy thereof be filed with the minutes of this meeting as part of this Resolution; directs its Secretary to certify to the Executive Director of the Allegheny Intermediate Unit the adoption of this Resolution and the appointment of primary and alternate representatives to the Joint Purchasing Program; and directs its proper officers to execute said Agreement on behalf of this District/School.

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION AND OF APPOINTEES

I, the undersigned, Cindy S. F. Donovan, Secretary of District/School, certify that the foregoing is a true copy of resolution adopted by said Board at a duly advertised public meeting thereof duly held on December 3, 2019, that the vote thereon was 8 in favor and 0 members against said resolution, and that a record showing each member’s vote thereon is set forth in the minutes.

I further certify that said Board of School Directors designates the following representatives to the Joint Purchasing Program referred to in said Resolution (conditioned upon said Agreement becoming effective):

Primary Representative

Name: Bradley T. Waters

Title: Director of Fiscal Mgmt.

E-mail: bwaters@avonworth.k12.pa.us

Alternate Representative

Name: Tracey Eck

Title: Payroll Specialist

E-mail: teck@avonworth.k12.pa.us

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of said District/School this 3rd day of December, 2019.

Board Secretary