

**Avonworth School District
258 Josephs Lane
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
Avonworth Board of School Directors
Minutes – Regular Meeting – September 10, 2018
Avonworth School District – Board Room
7:30 P.M.**

Call to Order

Board President, David Oberdick, called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:50 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**Mr. Beau Blaser, Ms. Sandra Bolain (*left 9:25 PM*), Mr. John Brandt, Ms. Vicki Carlson,
Mr. Jeff Carraway, Ms. Kathryn Monti, Mr. David Oberdick, Mr. Patrick Stewart,
Ms. Kristin Thompson**

OTHERS PRESENT

**Dr. Thomas Ralston, Superintendent
Dr. Jeff Hadley, Asst. Superintendent
Mr. Brad Waters, Director of Fiscal Management
Ms. Jessica Taylor, Director of Student Services
Ms. Keera Dwulit, High School Principal
Ms. Kaitlin Remenski, Assistant MS/HS Principal
Ms. Laurie Parker, Teacher
Ms. Kristen Buttenfield, Teacher
Ms. Kelly Walbush, AEA President (*8:00-8:05 PM*)
Mr. Doug Haskins, AEA Vice President (*8:00-8:05 PM*)
Ms. Samantha Gray, Parent
Mr. Brian Willis, Parent
Ms. Gretchen Etter, Parent
Mr. Charles Linhart, Parent
Mr. Troy Robinson, Parent
Ms. Nicole Doring, American Heart Association
Mr. William Andrews, Esquire, Andrews & Price
Ms. Nancy White, *The Citizen*
Mr. Joseph Szalinski, *The Citizen*
Ms. Cindy Donovan, Board Secretary**

Visitors' Comments

Ms. Nicole Doring, Youth Market Director of the American Heart Association, presented Ms. Laurie Parker and Ms. Kristen Buttenfield, Elementary P. E. teachers, with a certificate and thanked them for their fundraising efforts. In the past four years a total of \$70,000 has been raised, with the Primary Center raising \$40,000 and the Elementary School raising \$25,000. Dr. Ralston also presented Ms. Parker and Ms. Buttenfield with a certificate as a thank you on behalf of the school district.

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AEA President, Ms. Kelly Walbush, and Vice President, Mr. Doug Haskins, reported the AEA members had unanimously ratified the new contract and thanked the Board and Administration. The Board agreed to move Personnel Item #9 forward for vote:

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

Motion: K. Thompson; **Second:** P. Stewart; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous voice vote to approve item 9:

9. To approve the five year Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Avonworth School District and the Avonworth Education Association (AEA) for the years July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2023 as attached.

AEA Contract

Mr. Waters thanked the AEA for their efforts and felt there was a very fair and balanced result.

RECESS

Motion: P. Stewart; **Second:** J. Brandt; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous Voice Vote to recess the Regular Meeting to an Executive Session at 8:00 P.M. to discuss student matters.

RECONVENE

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 9:40 PM.

Report of Administration – Dr. Thomas Ralston, Superintendent

No report at this time.

Report of the Assistant Superintendent – Dr. Jeff Hadley

Dr. Hadley noted there have been 4,020 views to date of the newsletter released August 17. The next newsletter will be released September 25. There is a link on our website to #bethekindkid that is a link to JAM Enterprises' new online store where #bethekindkid shirts may be purchased. There is a glitch in the app where people who have the app on their phone cannot receive emails from SchoolRush or GoEdustar. He is working with the company to correct this and is doing a data cleanup. He will communicate to parents that the old app should no longer be used.

Report of the Solicitor – Mr. William Andrews, Esq.

No report at this time.

Beattie Key Notes/AIU News – Mr. Jeff Carraway/Mr. Beau Blaser

Mr. Blaser reported enrollment at AWBCC has increased from 817 to 821 as of September 3. Mr. Blaser discussed the Green Building Alliance innovation event on September 20 where all projects are "green" certified.

Mr. Oberdick reported the Athletic and Curriculum Committees were to have a joint meeting this evening at 6:30 PM to discuss athletic and curriculum matters but the Curriculum Meeting will be held at another time.

Motion: P. Stewart; **Second:** J. Carraway; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous voice vote to approve the Minutes of the August 6, 2018 Regular Meeting and the August 13, 2018 General Purpose Meeting. (Voice Vote)

Motion: P. Stewart; **Second:** B. Blaser; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous voice vote to move all items on the Agenda and Addendum with the exception of the PSBA item under Public Relations.

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

- 1.1 Ratify payment of General Fund bills for August, 2018, beginning with Check #44746 and ending with Check #44890 in the total amount of \$6,161,141.27. *General Fund*
- 1.2 Ratify the August, 2018 payroll in the amount of \$912,052.72. *Payroll*
- 1.3 Treasurer’s Report for July, 2018. *Treasurer’s Rpt.*
- 1.4 Approve Capital Project Fund payments in the amount of \$212,398.45. *Capital Projects*
- 1.5 Approve year-end Budget Transfers as attached. *Budget Transfers*
- 1.6 Ratify payment of Athletic Fund checks for August, 2018, beginning with Check #8521 and ending with Check #8540 in the total amount of \$1,405.00. *Athletic Fund*
- 1.7 Ratify payment of Food Service Fund checks for August, 2018, beginning with Check #2569 and ending with Check #2572 in the total amount of \$1,083.84. *Fd. Svc. Fund*
- 2. To approve **Dr. Thomas Ralston** and **Dr. Jeff Hadley** to attend the League of Innovative Schools Fall 2018 Meeting in Salt Lake City, UT from October 9-12, 2018 at a cost not to exceed \$1,200.00 each. A portion of the expense will be reimbursed by the League of Innovative Schools. *League of Innov. Schools Meeting*
- 3. To approve **Dr. Thomas Ralston** to attend the Superintendent’s Professional Development Program October 3-5, 2018 in Bedford Springs, PA, at no cost to the District. *Supt. Prof. Dev.*
- 4. To approve the Title I Non-Public Agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for non-public services during the 2018-2019 School Year at a cost of \$2,982.00 (to be paid using allocated Title I funds). (*Annual contract for services of students who reside in our district but attend non-public schools.*) *Title I*
- 5. To approve the Title IIA Non-Public Agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for non-public services during the 2018-2019 School Year at a cost of \$2,035.00 (to be paid using allocated Title II funds). (*Annual contract for services of students who reside in our district but attend non-public schools.*) *Title IIA*
- 6. To approve the Kennywood School Picnic Agreement for Saturday, May 11, 2019. *Kennywood*
- 7. To approve the following newspapers of record for the 2018-2019 School Year: *Newspapers*

The Citizen

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The Pittsburgh Tribune Review

The New Pittsburgh Courier
- 8. District petty cash funds for the 2018-2019 School Year as follows: *Petty Cash*

Business Office - \$200

Athletic Dept. - \$1,000 (*ticket booth operation*)

Food Service Dept. - \$500

Life Skills/Special Education - \$200

Finance, continued

9. To approve the Student Teacher Agreement with the University of Pittsburgh for the years 2018-2019 through 2022-2023, retroactive to August 23, 2018. *PITT Student Teacher Agreement*

ADDENDUM ITEM

10. To approve **Ms. Katy Tarasi** to attend the Fall (October 9-11, 2018) and Spring (dates TBD) Pennsylvania Institute of Instructional Coaching Conference at a cost of \$600 plus mileage to be paid from Title IV Professional Development Funds. *Conference*

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

1. To rescind the motion of August 13, 2018 granting Professional Employee status and the issuance of a Professional Employee contract for **Ms. Julia Udovich** and **Ms. Jana Stahl**. (*Tenure will be issued at a later date*) *Rescind Motion*
2. To move to record in the Minutes of this meeting that **Ms. Sarah Flower** has attained Professional Employee status and will be issued a Professional Employee contract as per PA School Code #1108 and #1121 *Prof. Employee Status*
3. To accept the resignation of **Ms. Alana Donnelly**, Paraprofessional retroactive to August 16, 2018. *Resignation*
4. To accept the resignation of **Ms. Robin Leiss**, Food Service worker retroactive to July 18, 2018. *Resignation*
5. To approve the request of **Ms. James Funderwhite**, Food Service worker, for a leave of absence from August 27, 2018 through January 1, 2019. *Leave of Absence*
6. To approve the following as Paraprofessionals commencing August 24, 2018, according to the current AESPA contract, pending requirements of the District. *Hire Paras*
- a) **Mr. Jeremy Campbell**
 - b) **Mr. Katharine Mihalik**
7. To approve **Dr. Jay Micucci, DDS** continue as School Dentist for the 2018-2019 School Year at a rate of \$10.00 per student exam. *Dentist*

ADDENDUM ITEMS (4)

8. To approve a \$3,500 merit pay bonus for **Mr. Brant Colamarino**, in the role of Interim Building & Grounds Supervisor for the period June 11, 2018 through August 31, 2018. *Merit Bonus*

Personnel, continued

MOVED FOR APPROVAL AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING

~~9. To approve the five year Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Avonworth School District and the Avonworth Education Association (AEA) for the years July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2023 as attached.~~

10. To renew the contract with Pittsburgh Behavioral Services for the first semester of the 2018-2019 School Year to continue building staff capacity in dealing with student behavioral concerns.

Pgh. Behavioral Svcs.

11. To approve **Ms. Joanne Wible** and **Ms. Andrea Salapow** as substitute Paraprofessionals for the 2018-2019 School Year, effective September 11, 2018, at a rate of \$11.43/hour, pending requirements of the District.

Hire Sub Paras

PUBLIC RELATIONS – K. Monti/K. Thompson, Co-Chairs

Motion: P. Stewart; **Second:** J. Brandt; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous voice vote to elect and approve candidates in item 1 as follows: (Voice Vote)

PSBA Election of Officers

1. PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL BOARDS – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

For President-elect: Mr. Eric Wolfgang, Central York SD (York Co.)

Declare: Mr. Eric Wolfgang as the Avonworth School Board choice for President –elect of PSBA Board.

For Vice President: Mr. Art Levinowitz, Upper Dublin SD (Montgomery Co.)

Declare: Mr. Art Levinowitz as the Avonworth School Board choice for Vice President of PSBA Board.

PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL BOARDS – ELECTION OF PSBA INSURANCE TRUSTEES.

There are currently three seats open and three candidates. A school entity may vote for up to three individuals. (Term ends Dec. 31, 2021)

- Mr. William S. LaCoff (Owen J. Roberts SD), PSBA Past President
- Dr. Richard Frerichs (Penn Manor SD), PSBA Past President
- Mr. Nathan Mains, PSBA CEO

Declare: Mr. William S. LaCoff, Dr. Richard Frerichs, and Mr. Nathan Mains as the Avonworth School Board choices for PSBA Insurance Trustees.

Public Relations, continued

PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL BOARD SECRETARIES FORUM STEERING COMMITTEE.

Term ends Dec. 21, 2019. Choose up to three incumbents for a one year term.

- Mr. Brian Feick (Leighton Area SD)
- Ms. Lorraine Rocco (Freedom Area SD)
- Ms. Bethanne Zeigler (Shikellamy SD)

Declare: Mr. Brian Feick, Ms. Lorraine Rocco, and Ms. Bethanne Zeigler, as the Avonworth School Board choices for PSBA Secretaries Forum Steering Committee.

FORUM STEERING COMMITTEE. Term ends Dec. 31, 2020. Choose up to two candidates for a two year term.

- Mr. Peter Bard (Weatherly Area SD)
- Ms. Anita Kaseman (Quakertown Community SD)
- Ms. Denise LaPera (Lower Merion SD)

Declare: Ms. Denise LaPera as the Avonworth School Board choices for PSBA Insurance Trustee.

(The Board Secretary will cast the PSBA online vote on behalf of the Avonworth School Board vote after the Regular Meeting.)

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

1. To approve two additional Lunch Monitor positions at the Elementary School for the 2018-2019 School Year, with a stipend per the AEA contract. *Lunch Monitors*
2. To approve an additional PM Dismissal-Parent Pick Up supplemental position at the Elementary School for the 2018-2019 School Year. *Adtl. Bus Monitor*
3. To approve the following as Lunch Duty Monitors at the Primary Center for the 2018-2019 School Year, with a stipend per the AEA contract, pending requirements of the District: *Lunch Monitors*
 - a) **Ms. Susan Turk** as Kindergarten Lunch Duty Monitor
 - b) **Ms. Emily Hensh** and **Ms. Tina Marie Cicero** as Shared Kindergarten Lunch Duty Monitors
 - c) **Ms. Carrie Brady** as a Substitute Lunch Duty Monitor
4. To approve the Supplemental Sponsors for the 2018-2019 School Year as attached. *Supp. Sponsors*
5. To approve **Mr. Sean O'Brien** as a Volunteer Middle School Football Coach for the 2018-2019 School Year. Clearances are on file in the District Office. *Vol. Football Coach*

ADDITIONAL ITEMS ADDED FROM THE FLOOR:

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

Motion: D. Oberdick; **Second:** J. Carraway; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous voice vote to approve items 12 and 13:

12. To approve child care leave for **Ms. Molly Long** from September 17, 2018 through January 14, 2018, with no pay and no benefits and waive the 30 day notice contingent with the AEA to create no precedent.

Child Care Leave

13. To approve five days of summer hours for **Mr. Dave Como** and two days of summer hours for **Mr. Aaron Pellicano** relative to implementing the new master schedule.

Addl. Summer Hours

Old Business

Mr. Andrews checked with PSBA and reviewed the law regarding the legality of advertising in printed newspapers and digital newspapers. The law has not changed and Mr. Andrews said we should only advertise in printed newspapers at this time.

New Business

Mr. Waters has talked with Dr. Shelby Stewman who did the last demographics study for our District. He will meet with Dr. Stewman to discuss an updated demographics study.

Dr. Ralston will contact the Personnel Committee to provide upcoming goals. The Building & Grounds Committee will need to hold a meeting to look at plans for the future of our facilities.

Adjournment

Motion: P. Stewart; **Second:** K. Thompson; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous Voice Vote to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy S. F. Donovan,
Board Secretary