

**Avonworth School District**  
**258 Josephs Lane**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15237**  
**Avonworth Board of School Directors**  
**Minutes – Work Session/General Purpose Meeting – October 1, 2018**  
**Avonworth School District – Board Room**  
**7:30 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

*Board President, David Oberdick, called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.*

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Mr. Beau Blaser, Ms. Sandra Bolain, 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. Lauren Zivic, Teacher**  
**Ms. Kathy Reichart, Teacher**  
**Mr. Antonio Misiti, PNC Capital Markets**  
**Mr. Chris Brewer, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP**  
**Ms. Nancy White, *The Citizen***  
**Mr. Joseph Szalinski, *The Citizen***  
**Ms. Cindy Donovan, Board Secretary**

**RECESS**

**Motion:** J. Carraway; **Second:** B. Blaser; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous Voice Vote to recess the Work Session/General Purpose Meeting to an Executive Session at 7:33 P.M. to discuss personnel and student affairs.

**RECONVENE**

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 7:40 PM.

**Visitors' Comments**

*No Visitor comments.*

*Mr. Christopher Brewer of Dinsmore & Shohl LLP (Bond counsel) and Mr. Tony Misiti (PNC Capital Markets underwriter) discussed the Series 2013 Bond refinancing. Mr. Misiti said the refinancing is still on track. He said there was a little bit of an off-tick over the summer. In August there was an influx demand for fixed income. In September it gradually ticked back to July. The market has moved just over 20 basis points due to Federal Reserve rates. Plan on another rate increase in December of 25 basis points and a slow rate of increase going into 2019. Savings analysis – 3 ways to save: 1) taking it in equal increments; 2) Take savings in the closest years possible; 3) If the District would like to fund a project account. Mr. Brewer said can go 90 days before the allowable call date which would be December 18. Would be in the market in November with a locked-in rate. Mr. Waters said between now and December we need to get the disclosure statement completed for the Standards & Poor's rating.*

*The Board agreed to move two Athletics & Activities items forward for vote:*

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

**Motion:** D. Oberdick; **Second:** J. Carraway; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous voice vote to approve items 1 and 2:

1. To approve **Ms. Rachel Sebolt, Ms. Molly Chester, and Ms. Michelle George** as shared Grade 12 Class Sponsors for the 2018-2019 School Year, with a stipend according to the current AEA contract. *Gr 12 Sponsors*
  
2. To approve **Ms. Tara Wahl and Ms. Lucy Negron** as shared Grade 11 Class Sponsors for the 2018-2019 School Year, with a shared stipend according to the current AEA contract. *Gr 11 Sponsors*

The following items were discussed for placement on the agenda of the Regular Meeting to be held Monday, October 8, 2018:

*Approval of the Minutes of the September 4, 2018 Work Session/General Purpose Meeting and the September 10, 2018 Regular Meeting. (Voice Vote)*

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

- 1.1 Ratify payment of General Fund bills for September, 2018, beginning with Check # \_\_\_\_\_ and ending with Check # \_\_\_\_\_ in the total amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.2 Ratify the September, 2018 payroll in the amount of \$1,125,593.76.
- 1.3 Treasurer’s Report for August, 2018.
- 1.4 Approve Capital Project Fund payments in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.5 Ratify payment of Athletic Fund checks for September, 2018, beginning with Check # \_\_\_\_\_ and ending with Check # \_\_\_\_\_ in the total amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.6 Ratify payment of Food Service Fund checks for September, 2018, beginning with Check # \_\_\_\_\_ and ending with Check # \_\_\_\_\_ in the total amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
  
2. To approve \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the ELA Symposium Learning Leadership Series 2018 in Nashville, TN, October 14-16, 2018. All expenses are paid by McGraw-Hill Education.
  
3. To approve \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the “Champions for Equity” ASCD Conference in Nashville, TN November 2-4, 2018 at a cost not to exceed \$1,510.
  
4. To approve \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the MTSS Conference in Harrisburg, PA October 16-18, 2018 related to implementation of a Multi-Tiered System of Support at the Primary Center and Elementary School at a cost not to exceed \$550.00.
  
5. To approve Resolution 100818 to authorize the refinancing of the Series 2013 bonds.

*Mr. Waters discussed the Capital Project Fund and the Construction Fund. \$700,000 was transferred from the 2018-2019 Budget as planned. There is a projected balance of \$1,500,000 left. Mr. Waters noted the roof replacement may wait until the summer of 2020.*

*Mr. Brandt asked about the LGI floor. Mr. Waters said it was on the punch list and will be fixed.*

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

1. To move to record in the Minutes of this meeting that \_\_\_\_\_ has attained Professional Employee status and will be issued a Professional Employee contract as per PA School Code #1108 and #1121
2. To approve the transfer of 24.5 sick days for \_\_\_\_\_ which were accumulated during her employment with the Bellwood Antis School District.
3. To approve a change in assignment for \_\_\_\_\_, Food Service Worker from 4 hours/day (9:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.) in the Middle/High School to 3.75 hours/day at the Elementary School retroactive to August 27, 2018. Clearances are on file in the District office.
4. To approve a change in assignment for \_\_\_\_\_ from Substitute Food Service Worker to Part-Time Foodservice worker for 4 hours/day (9:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.) in the Middle/High School retroactive to August 27, 2018. Clearances are on file in the District office.
5. To approve \_\_\_\_\_ as a substitute secretary on an as-needed basis, at a rate of \$9.50/hour, with no benefits, pending requirements of the District.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS – K. MONTI//KRISTIN THOMPSON, Co-Chairs**

1. The amount of \$800 to cover the cost of meals and transportation for the Senior Citizen dress rehearsal of the Fall play on Tuesday, November 13, 2018. The name of the Fall play will be determined after auditions take place on October 5.

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

1. To approve \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ as shared Grade 12 Class Sponsors for the 2018-2019 School Year, with a stipend according to the current AEA contract.
2. To approve \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as shared Grade 11 Class Sponsors for the 2018-2019 School Year, with a shared stipend according to the current AEA contract.
3. To approve \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as Interim shared Sponsors of the Student United Nations Club for the first semester of the 2018-2019 School Year with a shared stipend according to the current AEA contract.

**Athletics & Activities, continued**

4. To approve \_\_\_\_\_ as a sponsor of the Girls on the Run Club for the 2018-2019 School Year retroactive to September 17, 2018, with a stipend according to the current AEA contract.
5. To approve \_\_\_\_\_ as the Grade 8 Grade Level Chair for the 2018-2019 School Year with a stipend according to the current AEA contract.
6. To approve the following winter sports coaches for the 2018-2019 School Year:
  - Girls’ Senior Basketball Head Coach – \_\_\_\_\_
  - Girls’ Senior/JV Basketball Assistant Coach – \_\_\_\_\_
  - Boys’ Senior Basketball Head Coach – \_\_\_\_\_
  - Boys’ Senior Basketball Assistant Coach – \_\_\_\_\_
  - Boys’ 8<sup>th</sup> grade Basketball Coach – \_\_\_\_\_
  - Boys’ Senior Wrestling Head Coach – \_\_\_\_\_
  - Boys’ Middle School Wrestling Assistant Coach – \_\_\_\_\_
  - Boys’ Senior Weightlifting Head Coach (Shared) – \_\_\_\_\_
  - Boys’ Senior Weightlifting Head Coach (Shared) – \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. To approve a one-day field trip for 35-40 Grade 12 students to New York City on Saturday, December 1, 2018. The trip is organized by students and includes four teacher/Administrator chaperones. The trip will be for approximately 30 hours and includes sightseeing, a museum tour, and a show “Come From Away.” Departure time is 11:00 PM on Friday, November 30, 2018 and return time is approximately 6:00 A.M. on Sunday, December 2, 2018.
2. To approve the application for a Chinese Club as a Provisional Club in the High School beginning with the 2018-2019 School Year, with a stipend according to Policy 122.4. Sponsor for this club will be \_\_\_\_\_. Meetings will be held monthly after school and open to students in grades 9-12.
3. To approve \_\_\_\_\_ request for studying the makerspace learning environment as part of her dissertation research at the Avonworth Primary Center during the Fall of 2018. Research does not include any student data collection.

**Old Business**

*No Old Business.*

**New Business**

*Dr. Ralston discussed the creation of a Hall of Distinction. He would like to highlight the Hall of Distinction in the upcoming Annual Report which is mailed to everyone in our District. The Board liked the idea and told Dr. Ralston to proceed.*

*Mr. Oberdick read a note from the Wooden Ladder PreSchool thanking the Board for donating iPads for their students.*

*Dr. Ralston said a demographic study was done in 2006 by Dr. Shelby Stewman. We have exceeded the estimates of growth from that study. He and Mr. Waters met with Dr. Stewman, a professor at CMU, and he gave them a proposal for another demographic study with a three month timeframe. Mr. Stewart asked if they felt we should get proposals from anyone else. Mr. Waters said they hadn't reached out to anyone else but could. Mr. Oberdick suggested asking other districts of the cost of their recent demographic studies. Mr. Waters will reach out to other business managers.*

*Dr. Ralston said a group from CMU visited the high school today to sit in on Ms. Shumaker's computer science class to see the program we are piloting. We have the second highest student enrollment in the Python program language. We are looking to add the second part of the class.*

**Adjournment**

**Motion:** P. Stewart; **Second:** J. Carraway; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous Voice Vote to adjourn to an Executive Session at 8:30 P.M. to discuss contract and student affairs.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy S. F. Donovan,  
Board Secretary