

**Avonworth School District**  
**258 Josephs Lane**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15237**  
**Avonworth Board of School Directors**  
**Minutes – Work Session/General Purpose Meeting – October 2, 2017**  
**Avonworth School District – Board Room**  
**7:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Mr. Beau Blaser, Mr. John Brandt, Ms. Vicki Carlson, Mr. Jeff Carraway, Ms. Kathryn Monti, Mr. David Oberdick, Ms. Kristin Thompson**

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Mr. Patrick Stewart, Mr. Eric Templin**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

**Dr. Thomas Ralston, Superintendent**  
**Dr. Ken Lockette, Assistant Superintendent**  
**Mr. Brad Waters, Director of Fiscal Management**  
**Ms. Jessica Taylor, Director of Student Services**  
**Ms. Keera Dwulit, High School Principal**  
**Nancy White, *The Citizen***  
**Ms. Cindy Donovan, Board Secretary**

**Call to Order**

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

The Board held a moment of silence in honor of the people killed and injured in Las Vegas and for the victims of the recent hurricanes.

**Visitors' Comments**

*No visitor comments.*

*Mrs. Dwulit gave the Board an update on the upcoming Homecoming dance. She will meet with students in grades 10-12 to review the dance and drug and alcohol policies. Before purchasing a homecoming ticket, students and parents must sign off on the dance forms indicating they have reviewed the policy. Guests must also sign a form. The Ohio Township Police will train Ms. Dwulit on how to use a breathalyzer. Dr. Ralston spoke with the police. An Ohio Township officer will be present at the dance. Chaperones signed a contract that explains their role as a chaperone.*

*Ms. Dwulit discussed a new club idea, Strings & Things that juniors, Marion Haney and Gabriella Walko would like to start. The two students learned how to play the ukulele over the summer and have made a video about their idea for the club to present to the Board. Ms. Dwulit will share the video with Board members and the juniors will attend an upcoming Board meeting to play for the Board members.*

*Mr. Oberdick read the following: The Athletic Committee met this evening at 6:30 PM in the Board Room to discuss athletic matters.*

**The following items were discussed for placement on the agenda of the Regular Meeting to be held Monday, October 9, 2017:**

*Approval of the Minutes of the Work Session of September 5, 2017 and the Regular Meeting of September 11, 2017 (Voice Vote)*

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

- 1.1 Ratify payment of General Fund bills for September, 2017, beginning with Check #42478 and ending with Check #42726 in the total amount of \$7,504,024.60. *Note: includes \$7 million check to PSDLAF for District investment.*
- 1.2 Ratify the September, 2017 payroll in the amount of \$1,074,568.96.
- 1.3 Treasurer's Report for August, 2017.
- 1.4 Ratify payment of Food Service Fund bills for August, 2017, beginning with Check #2484 and ending with Check #2490 in the total amount of \$17,849.78.
- 1.5 Approval of Capital Project Fund payments in the amount of \$58,029.36.
- 1.6 Approval of Year-end 2016-2017 Budget transfers as attached.
  
2. To approve \_\_\_\_\_ to write a Studio A 2018: Designing Creative PBL Regional Teacher Summer Institute foundation grant in the amount of \$58,590 retroactive to September 25, 2017 and payment of \$115.00 to \_\_\_\_\_ for writing the grant.
  
3. To approve application for alternative education for disruptive youth program placement with Community School West for the next two school years and a non-refundable application fee of \$400, retroactive to September 25, 2017.
  
4. To approve \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the League of Innovative Schools Fall Meeting and EdSurge Fusion Conference in South San Francisco, CA October 31-November 3, 2017 at a cost not to exceed \$3,100.00. A portion of the expense will be reimbursed by the League of Innovative Schools.
  
5. To accept the proposal from Neopost for the renewal of the 5 year lease agreement for the District mail machines (a total of 4) at a cost of \$376.45/month. *(See web folder)*

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

1. To approve the transfer of 22 sick days for \_\_\_\_\_ which were accumulated during her employment with the South Butler County School District. *(See web folder)*
  
2. To approve the request of \_\_\_\_\_ for FMLA from December 11, 2017, through January 22, 2018.
  
3. To approve a change in assignment for \_\_\_\_\_, Elementary School Food Service Worker from 9:00 A.M. – 1:15 P.M. (4.5 hours/day) 7:45 A.M. – 1:15 P.M. (5.5 hours/day), retro- active to August 22, 2017.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS – P. Stewart/K. 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 *Radium Girls* by D. W. Gregory, on Tuesday, November 14, 2017.

**ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES – D. Oberdick/E. Templin, Co-Chairs**

1. To approve the following winter sports coaches for the 2017-2018 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' Senior Wrestling Assistant Coach – \_\_\_\_\_  
Boys' Middle School Wrestling Assistant Coach – \_\_\_\_\_  
Boys' Senior Weightlifting Head Coach (Shared) – \_\_\_\_\_
2. To approve \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as shared sponsors of the Unified Club for the 2017-2018 School Year.
3. To approve \_\_\_\_\_ as PM Bus Duty monitor retroactive to October 4, 2017.

*Mr. Oberdick noted we are looking for a Middle School Head Wrestling Coach at this time.*

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – E. Templin/B. Blaser, Co-Chairs**

1. To declare the following Food Service Fund supplies as obsolete and unusable and that they be disposed of:
  - a. 111 Pyrex dinner plates
  - b. 21 Pyrex 10 oz. bowls
  - c. 112 Pyrex saucers
  - d. Two Pyrex tea cups
  - e. 354 Pyrex bread plates
  - f. 25 Pyrex 5 oz. bowls
  - g. One cookie machine
  - h. Two boxes of paper pie boxes
  - i. One box of paper chef hats
  - j. Two boxes of misc. silverware
  - k. Two countertop warmers – inoperable
  - l. One portable warmer – inoperable
  - m. Two 6-foot tables

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

1. To approve an overnight field trip for the sixth grade to Washington D.C. May 7 and 8, 2018. Trip will be chaperoned by teachers and paraprofessionals. Staff and students will miss two days of school. Transportation via Lenzner Coach Lines. The number of substitutes for the two days is to be determined.
2. To approve an overnight Band field trip for approximately 60 Middle/High School students, four teachers and ten parent chaperones to Chicago, IL departing Friday, April 27, and returning Monday, April 30, 2018. Staff and students will miss one day of school. Transportation via Lenzner Coach Lines. Four substitutes will be needed for one day. *(Note: Friday, April 27 is a Reserved Snow Make-Up Day – schools are closed unless needed as a snow make-up day.)*

*Ms. Carlson noted that the informational meeting held for the sixth grade trip to Washington DC was very nicely done by both staff and students. Dr. Ralston said the trip ties in with PBL and the human center design activities.*

**Old Business**

*Dr. Ralston met with Ms. Dwulit, Ms. Remensky, and Mr. Giel regarding research for recommendations regarding potential drug testing next year. Dr. Ralston hopes to present recommendations to the Board in January.*

*Ms. Thompson asked Ms. Taylor to provide an update on in-house mental health services and how it's working. Ms. Taylor said Mercy Behavioral has undergone restructuring over the summer. She is working with a new agency, HSAO, which does screenings. Ms. Taylor noted that Assistant Principal, Ms. Remensky, will take over running the Student Assistance Program.*

**New Business**

*Mr. Waters discussed a letter he received from a resident asking for the Board to allow her to pay her tax bill at a discounted rate even though she paid it after the discount due date because she had not received the bill in time. She paid Ohio Township the discounted price. Mr. Oberdick suggested Mr. Waters discuss with our solicitor to confirm the Board does not have the authority to do so.*

**Adjournment**

**Motion:** J. Carraway; **Second:** J. Brandt; **Motion Carried:** Unanimous Voice Vote to adjourn the Work Session at 8:00 P.M. to an Executive Session to discuss personnel and student discipline matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy S. F. Donovan,  
Board Secretary