



Minutes of the Board of Education  
Averill Park High School – *LGI*

February 25, 2014  
Presiding: Chris Foster

Members Present: Chris Foster  
Jennie Glasser  
Shawn Morgan  
Stuart Nippes  
Dori Salisbury  
Peter Schaefer  
Jessica Zweig

Others Present: Superintendent of Schools: Dr. James D. Hoffman  
Assistant Superintendent of Schools: Sharon Lawrence  
Assistant Superintendent for Business: Michael Ouimet  
Community members

A meeting of the Board of Education was held at the Averill Park High School – *LGI* on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

I. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance Chris Foster

II. Superintendent's Report  
▪ Statement from Board President Regarding Veterans' Exemption

“We have been gathering information on the alternative Veteran’s exemption. We want nothing more than to acknowledge the veterans who live amongst us here in Averill Park and take this responsibility seriously. However, there is insufficient information at this time to fully analyze the potential impact of adopting the exemption within the March 1st timeframe required for it to be effective for the '14-'15 budget. Given this short timeline and the amount of information that needs to be better understood, it is not reasonable to make an informed decision in time for this year. We will continue to examine the tax impact on the taxpayers impacted by the adoption of this exemption who are not entitled to the exemption and how the assessments will change to calculate the total impact. We would also welcome the opportunity to meet with Senator Marchione and Assemblyman McLaughlin to better understand this bill and promise our district residents to have a plan in place by March 1, 2015.”

III. Public comment limited to topics on this evenings’ agenda. Those wishing to address the Board were asked to complete the request form and submit it to the Board in order to be recognized by the Board of Education President. Comments were limited to three minutes per speaker.

IV. Consent agenda - move to approve the consent agenda as listed A-E  
Although Board action is required, it is generally unnecessary to hold discussion on these items. With the consent of all members, they are therefore grouped and approval is given in one motion. In the event a Board member wants to discuss any item, it is moved to an appropriate place on the agenda.

A. RESOLVED, to approve the Board minutes of February 11, 2014.

B. Financial Recommendations

FINANCIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. RESOLVED, to approve to accept the Audit Committee Minutes of January 28, 2014.
2. RESOLVED, to approve to accept the revenue status reports for February 2014.
3. RESOLVED, to approve to accept the budget status reports for February 2014.
4. RESOLVED, to approve to accept a donation from Averill Park Youth Lacrosse in the amount of \$6,000 for the purpose of funding JV Lacrosse for the 2013-14 season and increase the General Fund budget (A2855150006000) by this amount.
5. RESOLVED, to approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$16,134.56 from the EBALR and increase the General Fund budget (A2110157000000) for retiree contractual payments due for accumulated sick, personal and vacation time per the District’s collective bargaining agreements.
6. RESOLVED, to approve budget transfers as presented for ordinary contingent expenditures necessary to maintain the educational program or necessary to preserve property or ensure the health and safety of students or staff.
7. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Averill Park Central School District hereby approves the request for withdrawal of the following bid for the \$12.9M EXCEL Phase II Capital Improvement Projects: 43-13-02-06-0-017-006, 43-13-02-06-0-010-006, 43-13-02-06-0-004-006, 43-13-02-06-5-016-004 and 43-13-02-06-0-006-008 on the recommendation of the Owner’s Representative, Architect and the Superintendent:

**Contract**

**Contractor**

|                 |                               |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Contract No. 06 | Electrical Construction (EC): | Brownell Electric |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|

8. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Averill Park Central School District hereby awards the following contracts and authorizes Chris Foster, Board President, to execute contracts between the District and the following contractors for the \$12.9M EXCEL Phase II Capital Improvement Projects: 43-13-02-06-0-017-006, 43-13-02-06-0-010-006, 43-13-02-06-0-004-006, 43-13-02-06-5-016-004 and 43-13-02-06-0-006-008 on the recommendation of the Owner’s Representative, Architect and the Superintendent:

| <b>Contract</b>               | <b>Contractor</b>               | <b>Amount</b>           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| General Construction (GC):    |                                 |                         |
| Contract No. 03               | Titan Roofing, Inc.             | Base Bid \$1,064,900.00 |
| Plumbing Construction (PC):   |                                 |                         |
| Contract No. 04               | Merit Plumbing & Heating, LLC   | Base Bid \$45,700.00    |
| Mechanical Construction (MC): |                                 |                         |
| Contract No. 05               | Family Danz Heating and Cooling | Base Bid \$60,869.00    |

|                               |                       |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Electrical Construction (EC): |                       |                       |
| Contract No. 06               | Harold R. Clune, Inc. | \$14,900.00           |
|                               |                       | Base Bid              |
| <b>Total Bids Awarded</b>     |                       | <b>\$1,186,369.00</b> |

Be it further resolved that the school district administration, owner's representative, architect and legal counsel are directed to draft and execute necessary documents to commence construction on the Project.

9. **Resolved**, that the Averill Park Central School District Board of Education calls upon the New York State Legislature to **immediately** exempt State Aid for education from the calculation of the Gap Elimination Adjustment;

**Whereas:** The NYS Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) was implemented in 2010 as a one-time reduction in education aid to help NYS balance its budget and the GEA has continued in every budget since then;

**Whereas:** The GEA since its inception has reduced state aid to the Averill Park Central School District by \$13.56M;

**Whereas:** This reduction in aid has resulted in a cost shift to the local property taxpayers in the Averill Park Central School District; and

**Whereas:** This cost shift has resulted in unsustainable measures to balance the Averill Park Central School District budgets, including the reduction and elimination of school programs, personnel, and services, and the reduction of school district fund reserves;

**Whereas:** Efforts by the Averill Park Central School District to sustain programs and services and contain budget are simultaneously constrained by Property Tax Levy Cap Legislation, unfunded and underfunded mandates, and increases in pension, health care costs; and mandated implementation of Common Core Learning Standards and teacher/principal performance reviews; and

**Whereas:** Adequate State funding is constitutionally mandated and essential to meet all mandates and obligations and to maintain the quality of education in the Averill Park Central School District; and

**Whereas:** New York State, through its Gap Elimination Adjustment, has systematically reduced K-12 funding since 2010-2011; and

**Whereas:** New York State touts recent aid increases as generous support to schools, although overall, school districts are receiving less State Aid than 2008-2009.

C. Routine Personnel Actions

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board took action on routine resignations, appointments, leaves and terminations.

1. **RESOLVED**, to approve to accept the resignation of David Huth as Junior Varsity Boys' Tennis Coach, effective February 14, 2014.

2. RESOLVED, to approve to accept the resignation of Patrick Kenney as custodial worker, effective February 17, 2014.
3. RESOLVED, to approve an unpaid leave of absence for Jenna Ferracane as school bus driver, effective February 20, 2014 through February 19, 2015.
4. RESOLVED, to approve a leave of absence for John Bishop from his teacher position in the Special Education tenure area in order to continue the probationary appointment as Assistant Principal/Athletic Director with a stipend of \$5,000, effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.
5. WHEREAS, the Board of Education has been provided evidence that the following administrator has completed training which meets the requirements of 8 NYCRR 30-2.9 and the Averill Park Central School District Annual Professional Performance Review Plan for certification as a Lead Evaluator of teachers, therefore;

RESOLVED, that, upon recommendation of the superintendent of schools, Michael Marcelle be certified as a Lead Evaluator of teachers at a rate of \$250 per evaluation.

6. RESOLVED, to approve the appointment of Emily Brown as PASS Instructor (3 hours per day as needed), effective February 24, 2014 through June 16, 2014.
  7. RESOLVED, to approve the appointment of David Linden-Darrow as a Home Instructor, effective February 25, 2014 through June 30, 2014.
  8. RESOLVED, to approve the following individuals as coaches for the Spring 2014 Sports season as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement Article 21, Section 1.
- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Varsity Boys' Baseball                  | James Kahler       |
| Assistant Varsity Boys' Baseball        | Matt Duff          |
| Junior Varsity Boys' Baseball           | Peter Ross         |
| Modified Boys' Baseball                 | Eric Brown         |
| Varsity Girls' Softball                 | Kenneth Bailey     |
| Assistant Varsity Girls' Softball       | AnnMarie Medici    |
| Junior Varsity Girls' Softball          | Molly Lindley      |
| Modified Girls' Softball                | Kevin Earl         |
| Varsity Boys' Track                     | Scott Galinski     |
| Assistant Varsity Boys' Track           | Scott Keegan       |
| Varsity Girls' Track                    | Nathan Luskin      |
| Assistant Varsity Girls' Track          | Richard Abbatiello |
| Assistant Varsity Girls' Track          | Wendy Glunk        |
| Assistant Varsity Girls' Track          | Emily Brown        |
| Varsity Girls' Lacrosse                 | Scott Reynolds     |
| Assistant Varsity Girls Lacrosse        | Joshua Gela        |
| Junior Varsity Girls' Lacrosse          | Derek Minkler      |
| Modified Lacrosse                       | Michael Cavotta    |
| Junior Varsity Boys' Lacrosse           | James McPartlin    |
| Assistant Junior Varsity Boys' Lacrosse | David Huth*        |
| Varsity Boys' Tennis                    | Vincent Gaetani    |
| Junior Varsity Boys' Tennis             | Evan Thorpe*       |

*\*new appointment*

9. RESOLVED, to approve the following substitutes, contingent upon Section 87 Commissioner of Education regulation on fingerprint clearance:  
Nathaniel Martin – teacher aide  
Tracy Oakes – food service helper, school monitor, teacher aide

D. Special Education Recommendations SPECIAL EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS  
RESOLVED, to approve to accept the recommendations made by the Committee on Special Education at their meetings on January 30, February 3, 4, 10 and 11, 2014 and the recommendations made by the Committee on Preschool Special Education as a result of their meeting on February 4, 2014.

2014-2015 HIGH SCHOOL COURSES OFFERED

- E. RESOLVED, to approve the following High School courses to be offered beginning in the 2014-2015 school year:  
PATHWAYS: Career Exploration - ½ year - ½ credit  
College in the High School Drawing and Painting - full year – 1 credit  
Exploring Robotics - ½ year – ½ credit

On a motion by Mrs. Salisbury, seconded by Ms. Zweig, to approve consent agenda items A-E.

YES: 7

NO: 0

*Motion Carried*

2014-2015 SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR APPROVED

- V. RESOLVED, to approve the School District Calendar for the 2014-2015 school year.

On a motion by Mrs. Glasser, seconded by Ms. Zweig, to approve the School District Calendar for the 2014-2015 school year.

YES: 7

NO: 0

*Motion Carried*

- VI. Policy Review  
Donation and Fundraising Policy 1815 (Third Reading) *Table to next meeting*

- VII. Presentations  
1. Review of BOCES Services and Employee Benefits Budgets

- VIII. Board Member Reports

- IX. Visitor Comments  
Visitors were invited to make brief comments or direct questions to the Board. Those wishing to address the Board are asked to complete the top portion of the request form and submit it to the Clerk in order to be recognized by the Board of Education President. Comments were limited to three minutes per speaker.  
*(No speaker forms submitted)*

Visitors wishing to ask questions were asked to complete the bottom portion of the request form and submit it to the Clerk. The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee will research the question and contact the individual who submitted the request. When possible, questions will be answered immediately.

Anyone wishing to ask questions is always encouraged to send their question to the Board of Education or Superintendent via our school website.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Ms. Zweig, seconded by Mr. Morgan, to move to go into Executive Session at 8:27 p.m., in accordance with the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 5111, Article 7 and Subdivision E & F of the Laws of 1977 and Formal Opinion of Counsel No. 239, Paragraph B to discuss the following checked items:

YES: 7

NO: 0

*Motion Carried*

X. Executive Session

Recommended an executive session to discuss:

  X   proposed, pending or current litigation;

  X   collective negotiations under the Taylor Law;

  X   the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation;

       matters leading to the appointment, employment discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation;

  X   the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property;

       other [specify] \_\_\_\_\_

On a motion by Ms. Zweig, seconded by Mrs. Salisbury, to return to regular session at 9:07 p.m.

YES: 7

NO: 0

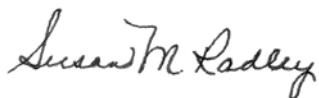
*Motion Carried*

On a motion by Mr. Schaefer, seconded by Mr. Morgan, to adjourn meeting at 9:08 p.m.

YES: 7

NO: 0

*Motion Carried*



---

Susan M. Radley, District Clerk