

**Ashland School Board Meeting & Budget Work Session**  
**Public Participation remote access @ <https://www.youtube.com/user/AshlandES>**  
**Physical Location: Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center**  
**Ashland, NH**  
**November 17, 2020**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Ms. Sandra Coleman, Vice-Chair; Mr. Stephen Felton\*;  
Ms. Jennifer Foote; Ms. Leigh Sharps

**Members Absent:** Mr. Stephen Heath (with notice)

**Administrators Present:** Mrs. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent; Mrs. Trish Temperino,  
Assistant Superintendent; Ms. Elaine Dodge, Director of Student  
Services; Mr. Stephen Guyer, AES Interim Principal; Mrs. Kelly  
Avery, AES Associate Principal

**Others Present:** Mr. Lester Brent, Technology Coordinator; Mr. Tim Paquette,  
Custodial Supervisor; Public & Press via Livestream  
*\*Attended remotely.*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair Coleman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Members and those present participated in the pledge of allegiance.

Ms. Coleman called for a motion to enter Non-Public Session before commencing with the public portion of the School Board Meeting.

**NON-PUBLIC**

Ms. Sharps moved, second by Ms. Foote, to enter Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (a)(c) at 5:03 p.m. Superintendent Moriarty called a roll call vote as follows:

YES: Ms. Sharps, Mr. Felton, Ms. Foote, Ms. Coleman      NO: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Session**

Ms. Sharps moved, second by Ms. Coleman, to enter public session at 5:13 p.m.

Ms. Sharps moved, second by Ms. Foote, to approve the request for additional sick days for the employee as presented. Ms. Coleman called a roll call vote as follows:

YES: Ms. Sharps, Mr. Felton, Ms. Foote, Ms. Coleman      NO: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**MINUTES**

**A. Regular Meeting – October 6, 2020**

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2020 School Board Meeting with corrections as noted. Ms. Coleman called a roll call vote as follows:

YES: Ms. Sharps, Mr. Felton, Ms. Foote, Ms Coleman      NO: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR #1**     None

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. Moriarty stated that the School Board meeting was open to the public via LiveStream with all members physically present. The remote access URL had been posted on the website and Agenda. If members of the public have a problem accessing the meeting they should call Marilyn Martell at 279-7947 or email [marilyn.martell@interlakes.org](mailto:marilyn.martell@interlakes.org) for support.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**A. Principal's Report – Opening Update/Enrollment**

Mrs. Avery, Associate Principal reported enrollment is at 164. Staff of the month is Jacqui McGettigan and Lester Brent, this dynamic duo has provided so much support throughout the summer, their support to the administration during the transition, the time an energy to enable a smooth school opening, and everything they do on a daily basis. They are an amazing asset to Ashland Elementary School.

The modified Annual Halloween Parade was a great success; thanks to all contributing businesses that made the day special for students and families. The generosity of the community was unbelievable.

A virtual open house is being developed and will be available on the District Website; there is an online book fair until November 20<sup>th</sup>; the National Junior Honor Society inducted two new members Anna Boyer and Sam Liebert – congratulations. Virtual parent conference information has been sent out, parents have begun to sign up.

The COVID-19 Team meets weekly to look at needs at AES. Meeting details will be reviewed in more depth later on the Agenda.

Ms. Sharps extended thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Avery and Ms. Merrifield for attending all the Soccer Games; it was noticed.

Mr. Guyer noted that the AES Staff is amazing, they work very well together with a can do attitude about almost everything. The Community of Ashland is very lucky to have the people they have in this school.

**B. Financial Report**

Mrs. Temperino reviewed Financial Report (handout) to date; reporting that 92.7% of budget has been spent. Moving forward we will continue to review and refine encumbrances; an updated Revenue Report will be provided at the next School Board Meeting. Mrs. Temperino indicated that the Ashland Tax Rate was set today; a calculation and comparison worksheet will be presented at the next meeting.

**BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**     None

**BUSINESS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

**A. General Operating Expenses**

Ms. Coleman moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to approve the payment of bills, manifest #2007.

Clarification of two items were provided by Ms. Temperino; 17 air purifiers were purchased using CARES funds.

Ms. Coleman called a roll call vote as follows:

YES: Ms. Sharps, Mr. Felton, Ms. Foote, Ms Coleman                      NO: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**     None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. COVID-19 Committee Updates and Recommendations**

Mr. Guyer noted that the Team meets weekly; representation on the Committee include Ashland Police & Fire Departments, Nurse Rubbe, Mr. Brent, Mrs. McGettigan, Mrs. Avery, Mr. Guyer, and Mrs. Temperino. The Committee has recently been considering playing basketball, the committee has looked at it and are trying to evaluate if basketball should be offered. Discussion ensued regarding the decision making process and evaluation of how SAU #48 is responding to fall sports.

Mrs. Avery has requested to be placed on the SAU 48 call list if there are any COVID-19 related issues to be prepared to address any concerns and allow time to plan accordingly.

There will be an alternative Winter Recreation Program this year; work is being done with the Leadership team to ensure students have an opportunity to participate in various outdoor activities in a safe manner.

**B. School Calendar Adjustment**

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Coleman, amend the 2020-21 School Calendar; making November 24, 2020 a full No School Day for Students. Ms. Coleman called a roll call vote as follows:

YES: Ms. Sharps, Mr. Felton, Ms. Foote, Ms Coleman                      NO: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**POLICY**

**A. Third/Final Reading**

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, to approve third and final reading of the following policies, as amended:

- Policy BBA, Board-Superintendent Duties
- Policy BBB-1, Number of Board Members
- Policy BBBC, Resignation

Ms. Coleman called a roll call vote as follows:

YES: Ms. Sharps, Mr. Felton, Ms. Foote, Ms Coleman                      NO: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**B. Policy Reviewed October 6, 2020**

(The policies below can be reviewed @ <http://www.sau2.k12.nh.us/ashland-policies.html> click on Section B)

- BCB, Board Member Conflict of Interest
- BDA, Regulations and Policies of the Ashland School Board
- BDF, Advisory Committee
- BEA, School Board Meetings

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR #2**     None

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **A. Monday, November 23, 2020 *(if needed)***

Ashland School Board @ Remote from Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center  
(Public Participation via Remote Livestream Only)

- Budget Work Session – **5:00 p.m.**

### **B. Tuesday, December 1, 2020**

Ashland School Board @ Remote from Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center  
(Public Participation via Remote Livestream Only)

- SAU #2 Board Meeting & Public Hearing – **6:00 p.m.**

Ms. Sharps suggested adding Board Member Items at the end of the Agenda to discuss items that may have missed the deadline for submission to the Regular Agenda. Ms. Sharps asked if it would be possible to put solar lighting at the bottom of the driveway; the entry and exit cannot be seen. Mrs. Temperino will bring the request forward to the Facilities Committee at the next meeting.

Vice-Chair Coleman called for a brief recess before beginning the Budget Work Session.

5:48 p.m. The School Board resumed the meeting.

## **BUDGET WORK SESSION**

### **A. Review of the Proposed 2021-2022 Budget**

Mrs. Moriarty stated that AES always works incredibly hard to bring forward a conservative budget. The proposed 2021-22 Budget has a \$42,452 increase over the current year's budget. Budget impacts such as NH Retirement, Technology Budget increases to build and sustain infrastructure, staffing to support smaller class sizes, reduction in entitlement grants due to reduction in Free & Reduced Meals completed application, and the unknown continuous impact of the pandemic.

Mrs. Temperino provided a detailed review of the Summary Report; the District meeting calendar outlining dates for the Budget Committee Meeting and Public Hearing was also reviewed.

Each section of the Special Education and Operation of Plant was reviewed with the School Board – no concerns were brought forward at this time.

Mrs. Dodge and Mr. Paquette were excused from the remainder of the meeting.

The Board recessed from 7:02 p.m. – 7:09 p.m.

Mrs. Moriarty commended Mr. Brent for his outstanding work and his ability to meet challenges with openness and positive attitude. Later in the meeting discussion will be held regarding Mr. Brent's salary; it is essential to look at the big picture and long-term plan – technology is a critical piece with planning. A detailed review of the Technology Budget lines ensued – no concerns were brought forward at this time.

Mrs. Moriarty and Mrs. Temperino continued to provide a detailed review of each section of the proposed budget.

Personnel – The Salary adjustment for non-bargaining staff was reviewed. The recommendation brought forward regarding Mr. Brent and Mrs. McGettigan was reviewed in detail. There were no concerns brought forward at this time with proposed recommendations.

Mrs. Temperino suggested, to level fund the budget the following: make a change in the gym flooring cost, there was a double entry within the budget – this would be a reduction; and

remove Phase 4 of the Playground from the Budget – using funds from this year’s budget or alternatively from the Expendable Trust to cover costs.

The School Board had no objections and supported the recommendations to level fund the budget. There is no need for the November 23 Budget Work Session; December 1 an updated budget will be presented along with draft Warrant Articles for review. Information relative to a ventilation study will be discussed at the December meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Foote to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. Ms. Coleman called a roll call vote as follows:

YES: Ms. Sharps, Mr. Felton, Ms. Foote, Ms. Coleman      NO: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn G. Martell  
Recording Secretary