

ASHLAND SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Physical Location: Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

Public Remote Access: <https://www.youtube.com/user/AshlandES/live>

September 7, 2021

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Coleman called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

RECORD ROLL

Members Present:

Ms. Sandra Coleman, Vice-Chair

Ms. Jennifer Foote

Ms. Leigh Sharps

Mr. Stephen Heath (arr 6:12 pm)

Members Absent:

Mr. Stephen Felton*

*(*with notice)*

Administrators Present:

Mrs. Trish Temperino, Assist. Superintendent

Mrs. Kelly Avery, Principal

Others Present:

Mr. Lester Brent

Ms. Carrie Sanborn

Mr. Tim Paquette

Mr. Stephen Guyer

Mr. David Ruell Public *(remote access)*

MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting of August 4, 2021

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of August 4, 2021 as amended. The motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT #1 None

COMMUNICATIONS None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Principal's Report

Mrs. Avery reported that enrollment as of today is 161 in-person learners, 9 VLACS for a total enrollment of 170. We welcomed new staff members Lori Perry, Erin Guinan, Gina Tryder and Courtney Busnach.

Mrs. Avery extended thanks on behalf of the Ashland School Community to Wicked Eats food truck for staff breakfast on the 24th; Renee Liebert and her crew from Joyful Earth Gardening for taking care of our gardens; Stacy Lucas, Veggie Art Girl for the new school-wide theme signs; and thank you to Mid-State Health Center for the donation of student masks.

September 2nd AES held a family BBQ – that was a great success thanks to donations from: Jeremy Hiltz Excavating Inc.; Hannafords, Merrimack Valley Savings Bank; Dunkin Donuts; and Sky Bright. Thank you for the donations and showing great community support of AES.

The first day of school went smoothly and continues to do so. There are 17 students playing soccer and now have 8 students interested in volleyball. The first soccer game is September 9th.

Staff members of the month are Jacqui McGettigan and Lester Brent. These two people work diligently behind the scenes to make sure we are ready to go, not just on the first day of school, but every day.

There are currently 2 positive confirmed cases of Covid-19 within school community.

Consensus of the Board was to change the order of the Agenda; moving one item from New Business and then moving into Non-Public Session prior to Business of the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

B. Suicide Prevention Plan

Ms. Carrie Sanborn, AES Guidance Counselor provided an in-depth review of the Ashland Elementary School Suicide Prevention Plan.

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, to approve the Ashland Elementary School Suicide Prevention Plan as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

Mrs. Temperino thanked Ms. Sanborn for taking the lead on developing the Suicide Prevention Plan and attending the meeting to review the document with the School Board.

Non-Public Session

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to enter Non-Public Session at 6:22 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (d) (e) For consideration of acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property, which, if discussed in public, would like benefit a party or parties whose interests are averse to those of the general community; and negotiations. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

YES: Ms. Sharps, Ms. Foote, Ms. Coleman, Mr. Heath NO: --

The motion carried 4-0.

Public Session

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to enter Public Session at 6:41 p.m. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

YES: Ms. Sharps, Ms. Foote, Ms. Coleman, Mr. Heath NO: --

The motion carried 4-0.

C. DOE-25 Signatures

Mrs. Temperino reported that the Annual Department of Education Financial Form 25 (DOE-25) has been completed and uploaded. The unassigned fund balance that will be used to reduce the school assessment amount is \$85,354. At the October meeting a presentation will be provided on our financial position for last school year.

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

Ms. Sharps indicated that she will be attending the NHSBA Delegate Assembly in October. The proposed resolutions that will be voted on at the Assembly will be brought forward to the next meeting for review and consideration. The resolutions will be emailed to Board members this week for review.

Ms. Coleman asked about the status of open Paraprofessional positions. Mrs. Avery responded that one person was interviewed today and a new application was received; it is anticipated that these positions will be filled.

BUSINESS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. General Operating Expenses

Mr. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Coleman, to approve the payment of bills, manifests #2003 as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS**A. Opening Plan - 2021-2022 Ashland School District Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service**

Mrs. Temperino reviewed updates made by the COVID-19 Team (*Agenda Attachment #3*). Updates include: sources for data and guidance; physical distancing, spacing from 6 feet to 3 feet apart; parent/guardian self-monitoring their student(s) before arriving at school; and mask requirements within the four levels of mitigation responses. For the readers reference, all updates are in red.

The recommended changes came before the start of the school year. Mrs. Avery reported that the opening has been going well, students are used to masks inside and enjoy taking them off when outside. Masks breaks are done outside and happen often.

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, to approve updates to the Opening Plan – 2021-2022 Ashland School District Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service as presented. The motion carried 3-0-1; with Ms. Coleman abstaining.

Discussion ensued regarding the process for notifying families of any changes to the Opening Plan; families are kept updated with any changes updates or confirmed cases.

NEW BUSINESS**A. Nomination of Professional Teaching Staff**

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Coleman, to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Regina Tryder, English Language Arts Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year. The motion carried 4-0.

POLICY**A. August 4, 2021 Policy Review Committee Minutes** – No action required.**B. Second Reading**

Ms. Coleman moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, the Board approve second reading of the following policies, as amended:

- Policy DGA, Authorized Signatures
- Policy DID, Fixed Assets Management
- Policy DK, Payments, Checks and Manifests
- Policy EEAA, Video and Audio Surveillance on School Property
- Policy EEAB, Video and Audio Recording in School and Classrooms
- Policy EHAC, Electronic/Digital Records and Signatures
- Policy EHB, Data/Records Retention Schedule
- Policy GBEC, Drug-Free Workplace

The motion carried 4-0.

C. First Reading

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, the Board approve first reading of Policy ACE, Procedural Safeguards: Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Handicap/Disability, as amended. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, the Board approve first reading of Policy GBEA, Staff Ethics, as amended. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, the Board approve first reading of Policy GCF, Recruitment, Selection, and Hiring as amended. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, the Board approve first reading of Policy GCG, Substitute Teachers, as amended. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, the Board approve first reading of Policy JCA, Change of Class or School Assignment Best Interests and Manifest Educational Hardship as amended. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Coleman moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, the Board approve first reading of Policy JIC, Student Conduct as amended. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Coleman moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, the Board approve first reading of Policy JICD, Student Discipline and Due Process as amended. The motion carried 4-0.

D. Rescind

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, the Board approve rescinding Policy JEC, Manifest Educational Hardships as recommended. The motion carried 4-0.

E. Policies Reviewed August 4, 2021 – No action required

PUBLIC COMMENT #2 None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Tuesday, October 5, 2021

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

- Policy Review Committee – **5:00 p.m.**
- School Board Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**

B. Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

- Policy Review Committee – **5:00 p.m.**
- School Board Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to adjourn at 7:05 p.m.

The motion to adjourn carried 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn G. Martell
Recording Secretary