

ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center
Tuesday, March 7, 2023 @ 6:00 PM
No Policy Review Committee Meeting

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Heath called the meeting to order 6:00 p.m.

II. RECORD ROLL

Members Present:

Mr. Stephen Heath, Chair
Mr. Jesse Farris
Mr. Stephen Felton
Ms. Jennifer Foote

Administrators Present:

Mrs. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent
Mrs. Kelly Avery, Principal

Members Absent:

Ms. Sandra Coleman, Vice-Chair
*with notice

Others Present:

Mr. David Ruell
Heather Bullimore, Recording Secretary

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – Open at 6:03 p.m.

V. DEPARTMENT OF REVNUUE ADMINISTRATION PRESENTATION

Due to Ms. Coleman's absence, this item was postponed until Thursday, April 6, 2023.

VI. MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting of February 7, 2023

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 7, 2023, with edits. The motion carried 4-0.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Moriarty reported to the School Board that she spoke to Mr. Bemis. The concept paper was returned with a rating of "Discouraged". Mr. Bemis is continuing to look at other possible avenues. He will still go through the process just in case. There may also be congressional money available. Mr. Bemis met with someone from Senator Shaheen's office, who seemed very encouraged by his ideas. He is working on submitting proposal on behalf of Ashland for potential congressional funding. Mr. Bemis is also trying to develop a consortium group with UNH that would potentially help fund this type of project. Mr. Heath noted that Mr. Bemis submitted a letter to Senator Shaheen, and has already received acknowledgement that the office received the letter.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Enrollment / Principal's Report

Mrs. Avery provided the School Board with the enrollment report and principal's report.

As of March 1st, enrollment is steady at 160. Staff members of the month are Kristin Demas. As a 1-on-1 paraprofessional, Ms. Demas handles challenging situations and does it with a smile. Ms. Abdul-Jabbar's flexibility as in-house sub is highly appreciated. Thank you, Ms. Demas and Ms. Abdul-Jabbar. The Winter Rec Program ended in February. Thank you to Sarah Lindberg and Jacqui McGettigan for all of their collaboration and making this happen. The Winter 2023 Warrior Awards ceremony was held in the cafeteria today. Annabelle Francis is the Primary recipient, Kendrick MacKay is the Intermediate recipient and Foster, "Fim" Whitworth is the Middle Tier Recipient. Mathalon season is in full swing with Mr. Gagnon advising our Middle Tier students during the competitions. AES has received a ClIF Grant for this school year. Mrs. Bickford was instrumental in obtaining this grant and is working to schedule a guest author (Marty Kelley) in April as well as planning fun literacy activities. The Squam Lakes Science Center is continuing to provide programming for K-3 students, utilizing the outdoors. Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Monday, March 20th from 3:00-6:30pm. Sign-up Genius will be available on the AES website March 8th. Cultural Arts night at PRHS and PES is scheduled for March 16th. K-5 will take place at PES and 6-12 will take place at PRHS. PRHS Move Up Night is scheduled for Tuesday, April 4th. 8th grade students and families are invited to PRHS for presentations and meet/greet.

B. Financial Report

Mrs. Moriarty provided the Board with a financial report of the Ashland General Fund. There is \$181,000 available.

Mr. Farris noted that on page 10 under Other Professional Services, the voted budget was \$1,300, but it says \$6,900 was actually used. Mrs. Moriarty will have to research and will send out an email.

C. Ventilation Project Update

Mrs. Moriarty reported that the structural work to hold the units on the building was completed over February break. The District is grateful to the contractor for all the hard work. The duct work in the cafeteria and music room was also done over break. Hopefully, at least one rooftop unit will be placed over April Break. The goal is to have the project complete by the end of July. There will be a meeting on Wednesday, March 9th to check in. In April, the District may bring forward a proposal to waive some of the snow day make-up days in order to get the contractors in sooner, depending on how many more snow days there are this school year.

IX. BUSINESS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**A. General Operating Expenses**

Ms. Foote expressed uncertainty regarding line 30886 - \$634.15 for out-of-district transportation expenses. Mrs. Moriarty will look into this item and inform the Board members what it is, and put it on a separate manifest.

Farris moved, seconded by Felton, to approve the payment of bills, manifest #2017, minus Line 30886 - \$634.15 for out-of-district transportation expenses. The motion carried 4-0.

X. **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

XI. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Staffing Update

Mrs. Moriarty shared that Mr. and Mrs. Chapman will be retiring.

Mrs. Moriarty reported to the Board that the School District has hired a new Director of Student Services, Lisa Holiday, who will be starting on July 1st, 2023. The District is very fortunate to have Ms. Holiday join the team, and there will be a meet-and-greet with staff and parents in the near future.

XII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Tuesday, March 14, 2023 – Town Elections / Voting

B. Thursday, April 6, 2023

Policy Committee @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

- Policy Committee Meeting – **5:00 p.m.**

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

- School Board Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**

C. Tuesday, May 2, 2023

Policy Committee @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

- Policy Committee Meeting – **5:00 p.m.**

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

- School Board Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**

XIII. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Closed at 6:33 p.m.

XIV. **NON-PUBLIC SESSION** – RSA 91-A:3 II(c) This includes discussion of matters which would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body holding the meeting.

Mr. Felton moved, seconded by Mr. Foote, to enter nonpublic session at 6:34 p.m. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Heath called the roll call.

YES: Mr. Felton, Ms. Foote, Mr. Heath, Mr. Farris

NO: --

The motion carried unanimously.

Public Session

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Farris, to reenter public session at 6:48. Mr. Heath called the roll call vote.

YES: Mr. Felton, Ms. Foote, Mr. Heath, Mr. Farris

NO: --

The motion carried unanimously.

XV. **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Farris, to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

The motion carried 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Bullimore