

Ashland School Board Regular Meeting Minutes
Heffernan Media Center, Ashland Elementary School
December 3, 2019
6:30 PM

Members Present: Ms. Deborah Boyer; Ms. Sandra Coleman; Mr. Stephen Heath

Members Absent: Mr. Glenn Dion; Mr. Jamie Lyford (with notice)

Administrators Present: Mrs. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent; Dr. Shannon Bartlett,
Ashland Elementary School Principal

Others Present: David Ruell

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Boyer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Members and guests participated in the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting, November 5, 2019

Ms. Coleman moved, second by Mr. Heath, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 5, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

B. School Board Budget Work Session, November 8, 2019

Mr. Heath moved, second by Ms. Coleman, to approve the minutes of the School Board Budget Work Session of November 8, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR #1 None

COMMUNICATIONS None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Principal's Report

Dr. Shannon Bartlett reported enrollment is at 162 one less student in grade 3.

Dr. Bartlett shared an overview of activities and events throughout the month of December. Wreath making with Team Respect happened today with support from the Ashland Garden Club, always a great event. The wreaths were delivered after school to the local businesses as a thanks for their community support to AES. The Winter Rec program has 49 skiers, 88 skaters and 6 on-campus; we are all looking forward to the first day of the program in January.

Staff of the Month are Joanne Bickford and Kiki Abdul-Jabbar. Ms. Bickford, as always put on a fantastic and very successful Book Fair. Her planning and prep work for events and activities is key to student's success and reading goals. Ms. Abdul-Jabar is extremely flexible; she is willing to jump in where ever needed without hesitation. Her presence within the school helps things stay consistent, even when there is change – she is wonderful.

Special thanks were extended to Sandy Allain and the Ashland Women's Club for the Project Week donation in the amount of \$50.

The Attendance Goal for Trimester 1 was met at 88% (students with 4 or less absences); we are all very excited about that.

B. Financial Report

Mrs. Moriarty reported that there is still approximately \$58,000 due to the General Fund from grants including Title 1 and IDEA which would bring the available general fund balance to approximately \$45,000. Factors impacting the budget are unbudgeted long term substitutes, main building heating system, increased special education needs complicated by a reduction in IDEA funds (Speech), and Homeless Transportation. We will be monitoring this budget very closely and looking for efficiencies. We may need to look to withdrawing from the Special Education Expendable Trust as well as the School Safety, Security & Facilities Maintenance Expendable Trust.

A General Fund Revenue Report is also included. It is early yet in the year to forecast revenues. Medicaid reimbursements are a concern as the new rules are still being implemented. Kindergarten aid was eliminated and the funding for it funneled into the adequacy monies. The state adequacy aid for Ashland elementary increased by \$102,438, kindergarten aid lost was \$26,350 for a net gain of state funding of \$76,088 compared to last year's revenues. We are unsure at this time how the changes in Medicaid law will effect revenues however Mrs. Dodge is working to ensure we are able to come into compliance with the new regulations.

C. Facilities Committee Update

Ongoing projects and work to be done over the December recess were reviewed (see Principal's Report attached).

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD None

BUSINESS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. General Operating Expenses

Mr. Heath moved, second by Ms. Coleman, that the Board approve the payment of bills, as presented in manifest #2009. The motion carried unanimously.

POLICY

A. Policy for Second Reading

Ms. Coleman moved, second by Mr. Heath, to approve second reading of Policy DJB, Purchasing Procedure, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Policy for First Reading

1. Policy DN, Disposition of Books, Supplies & Equipment

Ms. Coleman moved, second by Mr. Heath, to approve first reading of Policy DN, Disposition of Books, Supplies and Equipment, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Policy EBBC, Emergency Care and First Aid

Ms. Coleman moved, second by Mr. Heath, to approve first reading of Policy EBCC, Emergency Care and First Aid, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Policy GBCD, Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check

Mr. Heath moved, second by Ms. Coleman, to approve first reading of Policy GBCD, Background Investigation and Criminal History Records Check, as amended.

Mrs. Moriarty will contact Barret Christina at NHSBA regarding Criminal History Record Check requirements for School Board members.

The motion on the floor carried unanimously.

4. Policy IKE, Promotion (Non-Promotion)

Ms. Coleman moved, second by Mr. Heath, to approve first reading of Policy IKE, Promotion (Non-Promotion), as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Policy JH, Attendance/Tuancy

Ms. Coleman moved, second by Ms. Boyer, to approve first reading of Policy JH, Attendance/Tuancy, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Memorandum of Understanding with Town of Ashland DPW

Mr. Heath moved, second by Ms. Boyer, to approve the Ashland School District and Town of Ashland DPW Memorandum of Understanding. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Moriarty noted that the revised MOU has the requirements of the School Department and Department of Public Works parallel. With the Board's approval the MOU will be moved forward to the Town Manager.

B. 2020-2021 Budget and Draft Warrant Articles

Mrs. Moriarty reviewed the draft Warrants; we are awaiting legal counsel's advice in regards to staggering elections in Article 2. Warrants will be brought forward to the next meeting for approval; possibly at a Special Meeting following the SAU #2 Board meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the possible purchase of a District truck; how would the MOU impact that request. Consensus was to have other Board members weigh in before a final decision is made.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR #2 None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Tuesday, December 17, 2019

SAU #2 Board Special Meeting@ Ashland Elementary School - Cafeteria

- Budget Public Hearing & Board Approval – **6:00 p.m.**

Ashland Special School Board Meeting – Immediately following the SAU #2 Meeting

B. Monday, December 23, 2019

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

- Special School Board Meeting – **5:30 p.m.**
- Presentation to the Budget Committee – **6:00 p.m.**

C. Tuesday, January 7, 2020

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School - Cafeteria

- School Board Meeting – **6:30 p.m.**

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Heath moved, second by Ms. Coleman, to adjourn at 7:04 p.m. The motion to adjourn carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn G. Martell
Recording Secretary