

## **Ashland School Board Regular Meeting**

### *Virtual/Remote Meeting*

*Physical Location:* **William J. Tirone Gymnasium, Ashland Elementary School**

**April 7, 2020**

**6:30 PM**

### **MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Ms. Sandra Coleman; Mr. Stephen Heath; Ms. Renee Liebert\*; Ms. Leigh Sharps\*

**Members Absent:** None

**Administrators Present:** Mrs. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent; Mrs. Trish Temperino, Assistant Superintendent\*; Dr. Shannon Bartlett, Ashland Elementary School Principal\*

**Others Present:** Mr. Steve Felton\*; Mr. David Ruell\*

\*Participated remotely via Google Meet/Hangout

### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

Ms. Moriarty stated that as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board is following the established guidelines for stay at home orders and social distancing and would be conducting the meeting remotely; as a result, all votes must be taken via roll call.

### **Appointment of School Board Member**

Ms. Sharps moved, second by Mr. Heath, to appoint Mr. Steve Felton to fill the vacant School Board opening through March 31, 2021. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried unanimously.

### **May School Board Meeting**

Superintendent Moriarty suggested moving the May School Board meeting to later in the month (May 19<sup>th</sup>). At the request of a Board member, the consensus of the Board was to move the May 5, 2020 meeting to May 19, 2020.

### **Resignation**

Mrs. Moriarty stated that Dr. Bartlett's letter of resignation is a difficult letter to bring forward to the Board. It is a great opportunity for professional growth and learning for her.

Mr. Heath moved, seconded by Ms. Coleman, to accept the resignation of Dr. Shannon Bartlett effective the end of the 2019-2020 school year. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Board members extended appreciation for the outstanding work and commitment Dr. Bartlett has given to Ashland Elementary School.

## **MINUTES**

### **A. Regular Meeting of March 3, 2020**

Ms. Coleman moved, second by Mr. Heath, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 3, 2020. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

YES: Ms. Coleman, Mr. Heath, Ms. Liebert      NO: Leigh Sharps (abstained)

The motion carried by majority vote.

### **B. Emergency Meeting of April 1, 2020**

Ms. Coleman moved, second by Mr. Heath, to approve the minutes of the Emergency School Board Meeting of April 1, 2020.

Ms. Sharps noted that the motion related to the nomination of Vice-Chair should reflect Ms. Liebert made the motion and second by Mr. Heath; after the motion was withdrawn.

The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows to approve the Minutes as amended: By roll call vote of the Chair the motion carried unanimously.

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

The motion as amended carried unanimously.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR #1**      None

**COMMUNICATIONS**      None

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

### **A. Enrollment**

Dr. Bartlett reported that enrollment is accurately reflected on the report at 162 students.

### **B. Remote Learning Update**

Dr. Bartlett spoke about the transition to virtual class time reviewing the K-8 schedule that was developed to spread out core academics, social hangout and specials to ensure there was no overlapping. Paraeducators are also attached to Google Classrooms to provide support to students.

Dr. Bartlett reported: A virtual social lunch time is being offered; several students have participated. The lunch has been really nice for teachers and students, providing an opportunity to learn how to interact and share – and see friends. Classroom attendance is going really well, it is much higher than expected. The feedback has been positive from students and parents. Teachers are working incredibly hard to interact and respond. It's hard for them to disengage, there is no down time for teachers during the day. Teachers are working much longer hours than they normally would – making it okay for kids – shows how amazing the teachers are. Kerry Sanborn is checking on families and providing support and resources as needed.

Breakfast and lunch is delivered 3 days per week for a total of 10 meals per week; it is amazing how well the program is working.

Mrs. Moriarty indicated that April Break will remain as it is on the school calendar. The evaluation from the Governor is coming at the end of the month; at that time it will be known if remote learning will continue through the end of this school year.

The AES Team has been phenomenal; Dr. Bartlett done amazing work putting it all together.

### **C. Financial Report**

Assistant Superintendent Temperino reported that the available balance is just under \$72,000 at this time. The revenue report shows a shortfall \$12,841 due to Medicaid. Mrs. Dodge has been working diligently to work within the new Medicaid reimbursement guidelines and we should be seeing checks coming in soon. We are hopeful to meet the projected revenue for Medicaid.

Mrs. Temperino noted that funds are being moved around within the budget to cover the costs of replacing two stoves in the Family and Consumer Science classroom.

Ms. Coleman asked what the costs of the replacement units would be. Ms. Temperino responded the cost for both units is approximately \$1,200.

### **D. Voting Results**

Mrs. Moriarty confirmed that all Warrant Articles were approved as written. There was no further discussion.

## **BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

### **A. Ashland School Board Meeting Schedule for 2020-2021**

Mr. Heath moved, seconded by Ms. Coleman, the Board approve the School Board Meeting Schedule for 2020-2021 amending the May meeting to the 19<sup>th</sup>. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Moriarty noted that there is a planned two week black out/shutdown before school is open in the fall; so the August meeting location may need to be changed.

## **BUSINESS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

### **A. General Operating Expenses**

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Coleman, to approve the payment of bills, manifests #2014. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Sharps asked with remote meetings what will be the procedure for Board Members to sign the manifest. Mrs. Moriarty responded that with roll call vote approval is covered at this time; approved manifest will be brought to the first meeting of the Board when held in person to collect signatures as approved in the minutes. Typically for manifest in the summer it is a two person signature requirement.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Mrs. Temperino and Mrs. Moriarty explained that this would be the last withdrawal over a series of three years that the Board included in the budget process. The Board's intention was to draw down the Health Insurance Expendable Trust over 3 years with \$15,000 per year. This being the last year the amount is slightly higher. At the May meeting a motion will be brought forward to transfer remaining funds from the Health Insurance Expendable Trust.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. 2020-2021 School Year Calendar**

Mrs. Moriarty noted that input was collected from the administration and Ashland Teachers Association and incorporated into the calendar as presented to the Board.

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Coleman, to approve the 2020-2021 school year calendar as presented. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried unanimously.

## **POLICY**

No Action Required

## **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR #2**

Mrs. Jacqui McGettigan, AES Office Manager, said that it was both an honor and privilege to work with Dr. Bartlett. She has made more of an impact on students and families than anyone can imagine; she will be missed immensely by staff, students, families and the community.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **A. Tuesday, May 19, 2020**

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School – William J. Tirone Gymnasium

- Policy Review Committee – **5:45 p.m.**
- School Board Meeting – **6:30 p.m.**

### **Nomination of Professional Teaching Staff**

Mr. Heath moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to approve the Professional Teaching Staff as nominated by the Superintendent. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Sharps moved, second by Mr. Heath, to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. The motion to adjourn carried unanimously by a roll call vote.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn G. Martell  
Recording Secretary