

Ashland School Board Emergency Meeting
Virtual/Remote Meeting
Physical Location: William J. Tirone Gymnasium, Ashland NH
April 21, 2020
6:00 PM
MINUTES

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

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Mrs. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent; Mrs. Trish Temperino, Assistant Superintendent*; Mrs. Ashley Dolloff, Human Resources Director*; Dr. Shannon Bartlett, Ashland Elementary School Principal*

Others Present: Mr. David Ruell; AES Staff Members*

*Participated remotely via Google Meet

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Liebert called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Members and guest participated in the pledge of allegiance.

ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL HIRING PROCESS

Mrs. Moriarty reviewed the Hiring Process/Schedule (*Agenda Attachment #1*); she noted that this process has been previously utilized and it ensures involvement of all stakeholders. The option to hire or look for Interim Principal was discussed with Ms. Liebert, Board Chair. The decision was made to begin advertising for the Principal position. The closing date for applications is May 15th.

Superintendent Moriarty noted that at this time there is a small pool of candidates for principalship. Ms. Dolloff reviewed the Inter-Lakes Principal Hiring Data handout.

Mrs. Moriarty reviewed certification requirements for the Principal position; a solid consideration is to hire someone with experience as a principal or assistant principal; and having a teaching background as well as being an administrator. The estimated salary would be \$95,000.

Mr. Heath expressed support for hiring an Interim Principal. He feels that this may not be the best time to hire a new administrator. Utilizing an interim would help make the hiring process run more smoothly - face to face meetings are important, he said.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of seeking an Interim Principal at this time. Ms. Liebert opened Privilege of the Floor #1 to allow input from staff members joining the meeting. Feedback from staff members supported the idea of an interim at this time to ensure the opportunity to eventually physically go to see a permanent candidate at their school, in their school environment.

Mrs. Moriarty summarized the discussion and input as being in favor of going with interim principal partly because of the state of affairs with the pandemic; and possibly an internal person could serve as an interim to ensure continuity.

Ms. Liebert clarified that the Principal would be hired with a one year contract, regardless if they are interim or hired as principal.

Mrs. Moriarty said that the Interim Principal position has worked well at ILES, there is a mourning period when there is a change of leadership, and small schools become families. She noted that an interim sometimes helps ease the challenges of the transition.

Mr. Felton asked if there was a process where there is an exit interview to get feedback to see what Dr. Bartlett thinks that we should focus on as we move forward. Mrs. Moriarty responded that is certainly something we can do.

Ms. Liebert stated that it appears that a majority of the Board supports having an interim principal at this time; consensus was to move forward with hiring an interim principal. Mrs. Moriarty will look at what process would look like and bring that information to the Board to determine how a recommendation will be brought forward

2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR - END OF YEAR SCHEDULE/PLANS

Mrs. Moriarty reviewed the proposed end of year schedule with the last day for students being June 2nd. Staff would be working June 3-10; Dr. Bartlett will establish the staff schedule for that last week.

Mr. Heath moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to approve the 2019-2020 End of Year Schedule as proposed. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Sharps asked if there were any plans yet for the 8th grade end of year field trip, activities, Graduation celebration.

Mrs. Moriarty responded that she and Dr. Bartlett have spoken about it; potentially in June there will be an opportunity to celebrate. Mrs. Moriarty said there is a lot of creativity at Ashland Elementary School to ensure kids will have their moment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School – TBD

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Heath moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to adjourn at 6:37 p.m. The motion to adjourn carried unanimously; roll call vote as follows:

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn G. Martell
Recording Secretary