

ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Physical Location: Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

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

April 8, 2021

DRAFT

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent Moriarty called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

REMOTE MEETING INFORMATION / ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs. Moriarty read the following statement regarding electronic meetings of the Board:

As Superintendent of the Ashland School District I will announce that due to Covid-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, the Board is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note there is no physical location for the meeting for the public remote access has been made available. Additionally, in accordance with the Emergency Order, this is to confirm that we are:

- a) *Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means;*

We are utilizing the YouTube link for this electronic meeting for public access. All School Board Members have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through Google Meet platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen/participate to this meeting by contacting Marilyn Martell at 279-7947 for details.

- b) *Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting;*

We previously gave notice to the public of how to access the meeting through notice on the Ashland School District website.

- c) *Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access;*

If anybody has a problem, please call Marilyn Martell at 279-7947; leave a message it will go directly to email for follow-up.

- d) *Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting.*

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, we will adjourn the meeting and have it rescheduled at that time.

Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by a Roll Call vote.

RECORD ROLL

Members Present:

Mr. Stephen Heath, Chair
Ms. Sandra Coleman, Vice-Chair
Mr. Stephen Felton
Ms. Jennifer Foote*
Ms. Leigh Sharps

Members Absent:

None

**Remote attendance*

Administrators Present:

Mrs. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent
Mrs. Trish Temperino, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Steve Guyer, Interim Principal
Mrs. Kelly Avery, Associate Principal

Others Present:

Mr. Lester Brent, Technology Coordinator
Mr. Tim Paquette, Custodial Supervisor
Public & Press*

DRAFT

REORGANIZATION OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

A. School Board Chair

Mrs. Moriarty entertained nominations for Chair of the School Board.

Mr. Felton moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to nominate Mr. Heath as Chair of the School Board. There being no further nominations, Mr. Heath was elected Chair by a unanimous vote in favor; roll call vote as follows:

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

Mrs. Moriarty turned the meeting over to Mr. Heath.

B. School Board Vice-Chair

Mr. Heath entertained nominations for Vice-Chair of the School Board.

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to nominate Ms. Coleman as Vice-Chair of the School Board. There, being no further nominations, Ms. Coleman was elected as Vice-Chair by a unanimous vote in favor; roll call vote as follows:

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

C. School Board Secretary

Ms. Sharp called for a consensus of the Board to eliminate the School Board Secretary position. Mr. Heath suggested leaving the position unfilled as in previous years versus eliminating it. The consensus of the Board was to not fill the School Board Secretary position at this time.

D. Committee Assignments:

The following Committee assignments were approved by consensus of the Board:

- ♦ Policy Review Committee—Mr. Felton and Ms. Foote
- ♦ Budget Committee – Ms. Coleman; Ms. Foote, Alternate
- ♦ NHSBA Delegate – Ms. Sharps
- ♦ Wellness Committee – Ms. Coleman
- ♦ Facilities/Building Committee – Mr. Heath
- ♦ Safety Committee – Mr. Heath

Mr. Felton asked if Strategic Planning would be a specific committee. Mrs. Moriarty responded that Strategic Planning would involve the whole School Board. A work session could be held in August, to plan the components and development of community/stakeholder involvement. A meeting in the fall could be held inviting designated stakeholders.

MINUTES

A. Regular Board Meeting of February 2, 2021

Ms. Coleman moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2021 Regular Board Meeting as corrected.

Mr. Heath called the roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

B. Regular Meeting of March 2, 2021

DRAFT

Ms. Coleman moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2021 Regular Board Meeting with corrections as suggested by Ms. Sharps.

Mr. Heath called the roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

C. Special Meeting of March 11, 2021

Ms. Coleman moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2021 Special Meeting with corrections as suggested by Ms. Sharps.

Mr. Heath called the roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR #1 None

COMMUNICATIONS

Superintendent Moriarty shared a thank you note addressed to the School Board from Dianna Johnson.

Superintendent Moriarty shared a communication from the attorney who is working with Con-Val, Mascenic, Monadnock and Winchester School Districts relative to a lawsuit against the State of NH regarding funding of an adequate education. Discussion ensued regarding the reduction in adequacy funding; the criteria that determines funding was reviewed. No action was taken.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Enrollment/Principal's Report

Mrs. Avery, Associate Principal reported that there are currently 171 students enrolled; 138 in person 33 remote; with 3 students planning to return to in person learning next week.

Staff members of the month are: Jenn Lyford, Kristin Demas, Kiki Abdul-Jabbar, Jackie Chapman, Kent Chapman, Kary Decosta, and Lori Perry. These staff members stepped up when AES experienced the first case of COVID-19 and had to quarantine staff members; they never questioned when request to fill-in was made, they filled in wherever and whenever needed without hesitation. Also, special recognition to Jacqui McGettigan during this time for coordinating daily schedules during the time of staff absences.

AES experienced the first case of COVID-19 on March 15th; all necessary steps were completed and school reopened on March 16th. A checklist has been established to follow from this first experience in the event of another positive case at school. The COVID-19 Team continues to meet weekly to assess the needs of AES.

Mrs. Avery provided a review of happenings at AES to include: Student Council completed a food drive for the local food pantry; Former AES student Alycia Poitras did a dental presentation to the Kindergarten class; Math Family Game Night was a success; and we are moving forward with baseball and softball.

Upcoming events include: Mr. Gagnon is planning a school-wide Science Fair to be held outside in June; I Love to Read and Write Week with visiting authors Marek Bennett and Marty Kelley; Earth Day Celebration on April 22nd; and April Break.

DRAFT

Mr. Guyer commended the staff's response to providing support and coverage without complaint or concern when a number of staff members were out of school to quarantine. The way the Board respects the staff lends to the "can do" attitude throughout the school.

B. Financial Report

Mrs. Temperino reported that \$29,433 has been spend or encumbered since the last report. Final date for new purchase orders is April 15th; open purchase orders will be reviewed after that date to determine what can be closed and what funds are needed for year-end activities.

The MS-22 (report of Appropriations Actually Voted) is ready for School Board members signatures prior to uploading the document to the Department of Revenue site.

C. Food Service Update

Mrs. Temperino informed the Board that she met with Bill VanZandt from Fresh Picks Café in March to review Ashland's end of year projections. We may have deficit based on the reduction in numbers of meals that have been provided this year, this is a nationwide problem. An analysis will be provided at the May meeting.

D. Facilities Update and Recommendation Regarding Additional Air Filtration Temporary Solutions

Mrs. Temperino brought forward the recommendation of the committee to purchase additional air purification systems for areas without sufficient ventilation. Larger systems would be purchased for the gymnasium and cafeteria; and units would also be placed in restrooms, well as restrooms.

The walk-in freezer that the Board approved purchasing will be installed over April vacation.

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve the recommendation for additional air filtration temporary solutions as presented.

Mr. Heath called the roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

E. Voting Results – Warrant Articles

Mrs. Moriarty reported that all Warrant Articles passed. Results can be found on the Town of Ashland's website.

F. COVID-19 Committee Updates and Recommendations

Mr. Guyer reported that the Committee met and reviewed the updated DHHS protocols regarding quarantining. The decision was made, and is supported by the Teachers' Association to request School Board approve AES following the Division of Health and Human Services protocols regarding quarantining. Mrs. Avery noted that approving AES following DHHS guidelines will align with the direction taken by Plymouth Regional HS.

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Sharps, to support the AES COVID-19 Committee recommendation to adopt the NH Department of Health and Human Services Guideline #38 pertaining to close contact quarantine period and travel guidelines. Moving forward, the Ashland School District will use the DHHS guidelines as a minimum standard when reviewing protocols within the school building and will have the ability to implement these protocols immediately.

Discussion ensued regarding the importance of following DHHS guidelines.

DRAFT

The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carries 5-0

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

A. Ashland School Board Meeting Schedule for 2021-2022

Mrs. Moriarty reviewed the schedule as presented; confirming the meeting time as 6:00 p.m. with Policy Review Committee at 5:00 p.m.

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Coleman, to approve the School Board Meeting Schedule for 2021-2022 as presented.

The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carries 5-0

Ms. Sharps asked if consensus of the Board was in order to change the terminology on the Agenda from Privilege of the Floor to Public Comment; to be in step with other Boards and Committees in town. Board members were comfortable with changing the wording, it does not change intent; a vote was not required.

BUSINESS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. General Operating Expenses

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve the payment of manifest #2015.

The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion on the floor, as follows:

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

Motion carries 5-0

Mrs. Temperino provided clarification regarding % of Budget Used on the Ashland General Fund Report.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Mechanical Ventilation for External Air Exchange

Mrs. Moriarty reported that the Request for Proposals advertisement has been in Laconia Daily Sun and Record Enterprise and contact has been made with organizations to see if they have any interest. Mr. Paquette indicated that there are two upcoming walkthroughs scheduled.

Discussion ensued regarding having a School Board member or Facilities Committee representative be part of the walkthrough. Mrs. Moriarty cautioned that if a quorum of the School Board was present a posting would need to be done.

School Board members were interested in doing a walkthrough of the building; on the May Agenda it will be noted that at 6:00 p.m. a tour of AES will be conducted prior to other business of the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Nomination of Professional Teaching Staff

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve the Professional Teaching Staff as nominated by the Superintendent.

DRAFT

The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carries 5-0

B. 2021-2022 School Year Calendar Draft

Mrs. Moriarty reviewed the draft calendar. No concerns were brought forward.

C. 2020-2021 End of Year Calendar

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Coleman, to approve the end of year calendar adjustment waiving the two snow days and one COVID-19 closure and upon condition of the necessity of revisiting if a COVID case occurs or there is an emergency; paying paraeducators for the waived days.

The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carries 5-0

POLICY No Action Required

PUBLIC COMMENT None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Tuesday, May 4, 2021

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center
(Public Participation via Remote Only)

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

B. Tuesday, June 1, 2021

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center
(Public Participation via Remote Only)

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

NON-PUBLIC - R.S.A. 91-A:3 II (d)

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to enter Non-Public Session at 7:15 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (d).

The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carries 5-0

Public Session

Ms. Coleman moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to enter Public Session at 7:27 p.m.

The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carries 5-0

DRAFT

Ms. Coleman brought forward information regarding the Town of Ashland July 4th Celebration, including a parade and fireworks. The Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Ashland approving use of school property for fireworks will be brought forward to the May meeting for review and consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Coleman to adjourn at 7:32 p.m.

The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion on the floor, as follows:

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

The motion to adjourn carries 5-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn G. Martell
Recording Secretary