

**ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**Physical Location: Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center**  
**February 1, 2022**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**RECORD ROLL**

**Members Present:**

Mr. Stephen Heath, Chair  
Ms. Jennifer Foote  
Mr. Stephen Felton  
Mrs. Leigh Sharps

**Members Absent:**

Ms. Sandra Coleman (w/notice)

**Administrators Present:**

Mrs. Moriarty, Superintendent  
Mrs. Trish Temperino, Assistant Superintendent  
Mrs. Kelly Avery, Principal

**Others Present:**

Mr. David Ruell  
Mr. Kendall Hughes

**Minutes**

**A. Regular Meeting of January 4, 2022**

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 4, 2022 as written. The motion carried 4-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT #1**

Mr. Kendall Hughes, Chairman of the Ashland 4<sup>th</sup> July Committee informed the School Board that Mrs. Kelly Avery was nominated for, and accepted the 2022 Mary Ruell Award. Mr. Hughes shared that the Mary Ruell Award is given to a member of the community or an individual who has made noteworthy contributions to the Town of Ashland. Mary was also an educator, the nomination this year is special. A plaque with Mrs. Avery's name engraved will be on display at the Library forevermore.

Mrs. Avery was congratulated for her well-deserved recognition; her place in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Ashland Parade has been reserved.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

A card from the Ashland Support Staff expressing gratitude to the School Board for extra days of pay, was shared.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**A. Principal's Report**

Mrs. Avery reported that enrollment as of January 31<sup>st</sup> at 162; 158 in-person learners and 4 VLACS students.

Staff members of the month are Dianna Johnson and Sue Rubbe. Dianna fields so many calls and provides assistant and support every day. Nurse Rubbe, has been instrumental in keeping us going through the pandemic.

Mrs. Avery also recognized Jacqui McGettigan for her continually going above and beyond on a daily basis supporting the entire AES community.

The Winter Program ends this week; Basketball season has ended; and we are in the process of planning Winter Carnival (February 21-25); Winter Warrior Awards will take place in the Cafeteria; and Squam Lakes Science Center will start their program February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Mrs. Avery asked if the Board would approve going forward with a bonfire again at the end of Winter Carnival. It was a great event for everyone last year; it would be held on February 25<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. Consensus of School Board members was to support the request for a bonfire on Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup> (a fire permit will be issued by the Fire Department).

## **B. Financial Report**

Mrs. Temperino provided an overview of current finances including that 94.5% of the budget has been spent and encumbered. Revenue year-to-date is behind due to Medicaid reimbursement going slow; Mrs. Dodge is working to ensure that the reimbursement process keeps moving along. The District's financial position has improved since last month, mainly due to reimbursement from Title I and other grant funds that have started to come through.

## **BUSINESS OF THE BOARD** - None

## **BUSINESS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

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

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve the payment of bills, manifest #2011 as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. AES COVID-19 Mitigation & Response Plan 2021-2022 (Opening Plan) Review and Proposed Revisions**

Mrs. Moriarty reviewed the proposed mitigation revisions (highlighted in red on attached plan) to the AES COVID-19 Mitigation & Response Plan 2021-2022. It was determined on slide #8 under Athletics/Co-Curricular Activities to add "the COVID-Team has the authority to act if community transmission is "orange" or "red"; this action was previously approved by the School Board.

Mrs. Moriarty explained that part of the requirements to receive ESSER funding requires bringing the plan back to School Board with revisions for approval. The proposed revisions were shared with families and staff; two emails from parents were received and staff supported revisions.

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve the proposed revisions to the AES COVID-19 Mitigation & Response Plan as reviewed. The motion carried 4-0.

### **B. COVID Team Update**

Mrs. Avery reported that there are currently 9 positive COVID cases; as of today there two clusters in the building (the classes do not mix with remainder of the student population). DHHS has no additional mitigation recommendations, just keep doing what we are doing. Staffing experienced a little strain, but we are holding up well.

Mrs. Moriarty commended the high degree of resilience at AES, it is definitely shining through at this time.

## **NEW BUSINESS** None

## **POLICY**

No action required.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT #2** None

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **A. Wednesday, February 9, 13, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.**

- **First Deliberative Session**

Ashland Elementary School – Cafeteria (masks required)

Special accommodations will be provided for those not wearing masks

### **B. Tuesday, March 1, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.**

- **School Board Meeting**

Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

### **C. Tuesday, March 8, 2022 – Town Elections / Voting**

Mr. Heath indicated that the Town may want to move Town Elections from the Gymnasium to the Cafeteria; the Board previously approved use of the gymnasium. Discussion ensued regarding what would be most practical location for staff that will have to sanitize the facility. If Mr. Paquette is not concerned with moving elections to the Cafeteria there is no need for School Board action.

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

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps , to enter Non-Public Session at 6:27 p.m. in accordance with R.S.A. 91-A:3 II (c)(d) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting; and consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried 4-0.

## **Public Session**

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to enter Public Session at 6:57 p.m. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried 4-0.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Felton moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, to adjourn at 6:59 p.m. The motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn G. Martell  
Recording Secretary