

ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Physical Location: Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center
January 4, 2022

MINUTES

DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Heath called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

RECORD ROLL

Members Present:

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

Administrators Present:

Mrs. Moriarty, Superintendent
Mrs. Kelly Avery, Principal

Others Present:

Mr. David Ruell

Members Absent:

Ms. Sandra Coleman (with notice)

Minutes

A. Regular Meeting of December 7, 2021

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 7, 2021 as corrected. The motion carried 4-0.

B. Special Meeting of December 16, 2021

M2. Sharps moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve the minutes of Special Meeting of December 16, 2021. The motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT #1

None

COMMUNICATIONS

None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Principal's Report

Mrs. Avery reported that enrollment as of January 1st is at 162; 158 in-person learners and 4 VLACS students. Welcome to Kylie Cormick, Long-Term Substitute in Team Honesty. Staff members of the month are Erin Guinan and Sarah Lindberg. Erin's flexibility and willingness to fill in and deliver services wherever there are needs provides great support throughout AES. Sarah always puts AES and our students first; she was instrumental in putting the Winter Recreation Program together. Their commitment to AES is invaluable.

Thanks to Team Caring, Team Honesty, Heidi Niles, and Jen Lyford for the holiday decorations sent to the NH Veterans Home.

Mrs. Avery reported that AES received a Robotics Grant from the NH Department of Education in the amount of \$4,385 to establish a Robotics Competition Club. Diana Paul headed these efforts.

Basketball season is in full swing; the Winter Rec Program kicks off this week with skiing at Waterville Valley, skating at PSU Ice Arena, and on-campus outdoor activities. The program runs 5 Thursday afternoons starting on January 6th. The Squam Lake Science Center will start their program the end of January for Team Caring, Honesty, and Integrity.

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B. Financial Report

Mrs. Moriarty provided an overview of current finances including that 96.07% of the budget has been spent and encumbered. Mrs. Moriarty reminded the Board that the District is still awaiting funds from State related grants, the delay in receipt of funds impacts the current cash flow.

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

Ms. Sharps provided an update regarding the approved solar light project. Mr. Paquette has been in conversation with the Public Works regarding a design for lighting for the driveway entrance that will work better than solar. The addition of painted arrows on the driveway is also being considered for enhanced safety. The design presentation and proposed addition of directional arrows will be brought forward to the School Board for review and approval.

BUSINESS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. General Operating Expenses

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, to approve the payment of bills, manifest #2008, #2009, and #2010 as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

A. COVID-19 Team Updates

Mrs. Avery reported that the COVID-19 Team met today to assess how things were after the break. As of January 1st, there are 2 positive cases and 5 isolations due to family members testing positive. There is limited illness at school. The Covid Team continues to meet to review data, the Team has chosen to stay the course with isolation/quarantining requirements. While students are out of school they are provided with work and activities. The Team will have the regularly scheduled meeting on Friday.

B. 2022-2023 Default Budget

Mrs. Moriarty reported that the Default Budget is \$8,191 less than the proposed Operating Budget. No questions were brought forward by Board members

Mr. Felton moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to approve the 2022-2023 Default Budget as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

C. Warrant Articles

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve Warrant Article #2 as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve Warrant Article #3 as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to approve Warrant Article #4 as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Sharps moved, second by Mr. Felton, to approve Warrant Article #5 as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve Warrant Article #6 as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Felton moved, seconded by Ms. Sharps, to approve Warrant Article #7 as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, to approve Warrant Article #8 as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

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NEW BUSINESS

A. Format for Budget Hearing and Deliberative Session

Mrs. Moriarty discussed issues with the acoustics in the gymnasium; the suggestion was brought forward to hold the Budget Hearing and Deliberative Sessions in the Cafeteria with Livestream available in another part of the building for individuals not wearing masks. Board members supported use of the cafeteria space with Livestream option.

Mrs. Moriarty reported that a request had been received from the Town for use of the gymnasium for their Deliberative Session on February 5th and voting in March. The same protocols used last year will be in place. Board members supported use of the gymnasium as requested by the Town.

POLICY

No action required.

PUBLIC COMMENT #2

Mr. Ruell suggested verification of Warrant Article #1 regarding the term for Moderator. The Town Clerk has the vacancy for a two-year term not three.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Thursday, January 13, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. (Snow Date: January 14, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.) **Budget Committee Public Budget Hearing**

Ashland Elementary School – Cafeteria (masks required)

Special accommodations will be provided for those not wearing masks

B. Tuesday, February 1, 2022

- **First Deliberative Session – 6:00 p.m.**

- **School Board Meeting – Immediately following the Deliberative Session**

Ashland Elementary School – Cafeteria (masks required)

Special accommodations will be provided for those not wearing masks

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

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

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to enter Non-Public Session at 6:34 p.m. in accordance with R.S.A. 91-A:3 II (c) 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. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried 4-0.

Public Session

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, to enter Public Session at 7:16 p.m. The Chair called for a roll call vote as follows:

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

The motion carried 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Sharps moved, seconded by Ms. Foote, to adjourn at 7:17 p.m. Motion passed 4-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn G. Martell
Recording Secretary