

**ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center**  
**Tuesday, March 7, 2023 @ 6:00 PM**  
*No Policy Review Committee Meeting*

**MINUTES**

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

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

II. **RECORD ROLL**

**Members Present:**

Mr. Stephen Heath, Chair  
Mr. Jesse Farris  
Mr. Stephen Felton  
Ms. Jennifer Foote

**Administrators Present:**

Mrs. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent  
Mrs. Kelly Avery, Principal

**Members Absent:**

Ms. Sandra Coleman, Vice-Chair  
*\*with notice*

**Others Present:**

Mr. David Ruell  
Heather Bullimore, Recording Secretary

III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE**

IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Open at 6:03 p.m.

V. **DEPARTMENT OF REVNUUE ADMINSTRATION PRESENTATION**

Due to Ms. Coleman’s absence, this item was postponed until Thursday, April 6, 2023.

VI. **MINUTES**

A. **Regular Meeting of February 7, 2023**

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 7, 2023, with edits. The motion carried 4-0.

VII. **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. Moriarty reported to the School Board that she spoke to Mr. Bemis. The concept paper was returned with a rating of “Discouraged”. Mr. Bemis is continuing to look at other possible avenues. He will still go through the process just in case. There may also be congressional money available. Mr. Bemis met with someone from Senator Shaheen’s office, who seemed very encouraged by his ideas. He is working on submitting proposal on behalf of Ashland for potential congressional funding Mr. Bemis is also trying to develop a consortium group with UNH that would potentially help fund this type of project. Mr. Heath noted that Mr. Bemis submitted a letter to Senator Shaheen, and has already received acknowledgement that the office received the letter.

VIII. **ADMINSTRATIVE REPORTS**

A. **Enrollment / Principal’s Report**

Mrs. Avery provided the School Board with the enrollment report and principal’s report.

As of March 1st, enrollment is steady at 160. Staff members of the month are Kristin Demas. As a 1-on-1 paraprofessional, Ms. Demas handles challenging situations and does it with a smile. Ms. Abdul-Jabbar's flexibility as in-house sub is highly appreciated. Thank you, Ms. Demas and Ms. Abdul-Jabbar. The Winter Rec Program ended in February. Thank you to Sarah Lindberg and Jacqui McGettigan for all of their collaboration and making this happen. The Winter 2023 Warrior Awards ceremony was held in the cafeteria today. Annabelle Francis is the Primary recipient, Kendrick MacKay is the Intermediate recipient and Foster, "Fim" Whitworth is the Middle Tier Recipient. Mathalon season is in full swing with Mr. Gagnon advising our Middle Tier students during the competitions. AES has received a ClIF Grant for this school year. Mrs. Bickford was instrumental in obtaining this grant and is working to schedule a guest author (Marty Kelley) in April as well as planning fun literacy activities. The Squam Lakes Science Center is continuing to provide programming for K-3 students, utilizing the outdoors. Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Monday, March 20th from 3:00-6:30pm. Sign-up Genius will be available on the AES website March 8th. Cultural Arts night at PRHS and PES is scheduled for March 16th. K-5 will take place at PES and 6-12 will take place at PRHS. PRHS Move Up Night is scheduled for Tuesday, April 4th. 8th grade students and families are invited to PRHS for presentations and meet/greet.

**B. Financial Report**

Mrs. Moriarty provided the Board with a financial report of the Ashland General Fund. There is \$181,000 available.

Mr. Farris noted that on page 10 under Other Professional Services, the voted budget was \$1300, but it says \$6900 was actually used. Mrs. Moriarty will have to research and will send out an email.

**C. Ventilation Project Update**

Mrs. Moriarty reported that the structural work to hold the units on the building was completed over February break. The District is grateful to the contractor for all the hard work. The duct work in the cafeteria and music room was also done over break. Hopefully, at least one rooftop unit will be placed over April Break. The goal is to have the project complete by the end of July. There will be a meeting on Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> to check in. In April, the District may bring forward a proposal to waive some of the snow day make-up days in order to get the contractors in sooner, depending on how many more snow days there are this school year.

**IX. BUSINESS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

**A. General Operating Expenses**

Ms. Foote expressed uncertainty regarding line 30886 - \$634.15 for out-of-district transportation expenses. Mrs. Moriarty will look into this item and inform the Board members what it is, and put it on a separate manifest.

Farris moved, seconded by Felton, to approve the payment of bills, manifest #2017, minus Line 30886 - \$634.15 for out-of-district transportation expenses. The motion carried 4-0.

X. **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

XI. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Staffing Update**

Mrs. Moriarty shared that Mr. and Mrs. Chapman will be retiring to spend more time with their grandchildren.

Mrs. Moriarty reported to the Board that the School District has hired a new Director of Student Services, Lisa Holiday, who will be starting on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. The District is very fortunate to have Ms. Holiday join the team, and there will be a meet-and-greet with staff and parents in the near future.

XII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. **Tuesday, March 14, 2023 – Town Elections / Voting**

B. **Thursday, April 6, 2023**

Policy Committee @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

- Policy Committee Meeting – **5:00 p.m.**

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

- School Board Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**

C. **Tuesday, May 2, 2023**

Policy Committee @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

- Policy Committee Meeting – **5:00 p.m.**

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

- School Board Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**

XIII. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Closed at 6:33 p.m.

XIV. **NON-PUBLIC SESSION** – RSA 91-A:3 II(c) This includes discussion of matters which would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body holding the meeting.

Mr. Felton moved, seconded by Mr. Foote, to enter nonpublic session at 6:34 p.m. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Heath called the roll call.

YES: Mr. Felton, Ms. Foote, Mr. Heath, Mr. Farris

NO: --

The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Session**

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Farris, to reenter public session at 6:48. Mr. Heath called the roll call vote.

YES: Mr. Felton, Ms. Foote, Mr. Heath, Mr. Farris

NO: --

The motion carried unanimously.

XV. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Closed at: \_\_\_\_\_

XVI. **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Farris, to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. The motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Bullimore