

ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center
Tuesday, January 2, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.
Policy Review Committee-Cancelled

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER 6:00 p.m.

RECORD ROLL

Members Present:

Mr. Stephen Heath, Chair
Mrs. Sandra Coleman, Vice-Chair
Mr. Jesse Farris
Mrs. Jennifer Foote

Administrators Present:

Mrs. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Ashley Dolloff, Business Administrator
Mr. Guy Donnelly, Principal

Members Absent:

Mr. Stephen Felton (with notice)

Others Present:

Mr. David Ruell

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC HEARING – Withdrawal from Special Education Expendable Trust Fund

Chair Heath opened the Public Hearing at 6:04 p.m.

A. Withdrawal from Special Education Expendable Trust Fund

Mrs. Moriarty provided an overview regarding the request to withdraw funds in the amount of \$96,077 from the Special Education Expendable Trust. Presently, there is \$251,910 in the Special Education Expendable Trust. If the withdrawal of \$96,077 is approved, there will be \$155,833 remaining in the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund. Additional funds may be needed next year from the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund as there are potentially special education expenses that were not budgeted for in the proposed 24/25 budget as part of the effort to limit the overall budget increase. There was no public input provided.

Chair Heath closed the Public Hearing at 6:03 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Opened at 6:04 p.m.

MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting of December 5, 2023

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Farris, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 5, 2023 with edits.

The motion carried 3-0-1.

B. Special Meeting of December 19, 2023

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Farris, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 19, 2023.

The motion carried 4-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

Current Bills Payable

A. **General Operating Expenses.**

Mrs. Coleman moved, seconded by Mrs. Foote, to approve the payment of bills, manifests #2009.

The motion carried 4-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

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

Mr. Donnelly provided an update for enrollment as of January 2 is 153. The winter program for Ashland starts Thursday, January 4. The school will have winter NWEA testing, which will take place over the next few weeks. These tests allow us to get a good measurement on our progress for the mid-year point. The PTO will be doing a winter movie night on January 26. This will be located in the cafeteria. This week the basketball teams are back in action Vs. Plymouth and Holderness. Due to staff illness, the PSU Tiger program has been rescheduled to February 23. We received the program of studies from the Plymouth High School and staff will be working with the 8th graders over the next several weeks on course selections. Staff training will be occurring on January 19th. This is an in-service early release, stop the bleed training will be a part of the safety training being conducted. The LL Bean gear has arrived. We will be helping 60 students to receive coats, snow pants, or both. We are in the process of distributing them to the families.

B. **Year-to-Date Financial Report**

Mrs. Dolloff provided the School Board the year-to-date Financial Report. There were no questions.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. **Employee Safety Program**

Mrs. Moriarty provided an overview of the Employee Safety Program and shared that the Department of Labor views the Employee Safety Program as part of the School District's Joint Loss Management Committee; thus, it makes sense to provide the JLMC with the ability to make changes without needing School Board approval. The proposed change provides JLMC with the discretion to make changes. Discussion ensued and the consensus was that the School Board will be notified when there are changes made.

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Farris, to approve the Employee Safety Program as presented.

The motion carried 4-0.

B. Warrant Articles

Mrs. Dolloff presented draft warrant articles for discussion. Discussion ensued which concluded with only two articles being presented from the School Board salaries for district officers (Article 2) and the operating budget (Article 3).

Mr. Farris moved, seconded by Mrs. Foote, to approve Warrant Article 2 and Warrant Article 3 as presented.

The motion carried 4-0.

C. Donation

Mrs. Coleman moved, seconded by Mrs. Foote, to approve with gratitude the donation from Meredith Landing Real Estate in the amount of \$1,203.75 to cover costs for nine students to participate in the winter recreation program.

The motion carried 4-0.

Policy**A. First Readings**

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Farris, to approve following policies:

- ACN (New) – Nursing Mothers Accommodation
- EBCC – False Alarms, Bomb, Active Shooter, and Other Such Threats
- JCA – Change of Class or School Assignment, Best Interests, and Manifest Hardship
- JEB – Age of Entrance
- JIH – Student Searches and Their Property
- JKAA- Use of Restraint and Seclusion
- KCD – Public Gifts/Donations

The motion carried 4-0.

B. Rescind

The Board agreed to move JEC-Manifest Educational Hardship to a future meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – *Closed at 6:37 p.m.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS**A. Thursday, January 4, 2024**

Ashland Budget Committee @ Ashland Elementary School-Heffernan Media Center

- Budget Committee Meeting with Ashland School Board-6:00 p.m.

B. Thursday, January 11, 2024

Ashland Budget Committee @ Ashland Elementary School Cafeteria

- Ashland Budget Committee Public Hearing-6:00 p.m.

C. Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School Cafeteria

- First Deliberative Session-6:00 p.m.
- Ashland School Board Regular Meeting-*Immediately following Deliberative Session.*

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mrs. Coleman, to adjourn meeting at 6:38 p.m.

The motion carried 4-0.