

ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center
Tuesday, January 6, 2026
6:00 p.m. Regular School Board Meeting

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. RECORD ROLL

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Administrators Present:

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

Others Present:

Mr. David Ruell, Press
Brian Eaton, Management Analyst @ NHED
Michelle Roloff, Ashland Budget Committee Member
Jennie Angell, Ashland Budget Committee Member

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – *Opened at 6:01 p.m.*

V. PRESENTATION

Mr. Eaton, Management Analyst with the New Hampshire Department of Education, presented the SFY 2027 (State Fiscal Year 2027) Ashland Adequacy Formula to the School Board. The presentation included an overview of how the state fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30 and how the adequacy formula is used to calculate state education funding.

VI. MINUTES

A. Regular School Board Meeting of December 4, 2025

Mr. Felton moved, seconded by Mrs. Foote, to approve the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting of December 4, 2025.

The motion carried 4 – 0 – 1. Mr. Farris abstained.

B. Special School Board Meeting of December 9, 2025

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve the minutes of the Special School Board meeting of December 9, 2025.

The motion carried 4 – 0 – 1. Mr. Farris abstained.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**A. Enrollment/Principal's Report**

Mr. Donnelly, Principal, reported that current student enrollment stands at 152 and provided the School Board with an update on several school activities and initiatives. He shared that students are excited to begin winter recreation starting this Thursday. NWEA testing will resume for the school from January 12th through January 23rd. Prior to the break, students enjoyed a successful literacy day filled with fun and engaging activities. The Student Council will sponsor Cancer Awareness Week from January 12th through January 16th. Additionally, the James Foley Project has begun in Middle Tier Social Studies; the project honors Kingswood graduate Jim Foley and focuses on the theme of moral courage, highlighting how ordinary people can become ordinary heroes. The school has partnered with KRHS on this project for the past two years. Mr. Donnelly also reported that the boys' basketball team remains undefeated, and the girls' team has shown significant improvement throughout the season.

B. Year-to-Date Financial Report

Mrs. Dolloff presented the year-to-date financial report to the School Board.

VIII. CURRENT BILLS PAYABLE**A. General Operating Expenses**

Mrs. Dolloff presented to the School Board Manifest numbers 2009 and 2010.

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to approve the payment of bills, manifest numbers 2009 and 2010.

The motion carried 5 – 0.

IX. NEW BUSINESS**A. Default Budget**

Mrs. Moriarty and Mrs. Dolloff reviewed the Default Budget with the School Board.

Mr. Farris moved, seconded by Mrs. Coleman, to approve the Default Budget as presented.

The motion carried 5 – 0.

B. Lakes Region Coalition Public Charter School

Mrs. Moriarty presented to the School Board the Lakes Region Coalition Public Charter School.

C. Warrant Articles

Mrs. Moriarty and Mrs. Dolloff presented to the School Board the warrant articles.

Mr. Farris moved, seconded by Mrs. Foote, to approve Warrant Articles as presented through 1 to 3.

The motion carried 5 – 0.

D. 2026/2027 Principal – Hiring Update

Mrs. Moriarty presented to the School Board the 2026/2027 Principal Hiring Update.

E. Enrollment Projection Study

Mrs. Moriarty presented to the School Board the enrollment projection study.

X. DONATION**A. Donations**

Mr. Felton moved, seconded by Mr. Farris, to accept the following donations as presented with gratitude:

- Donation from Meredith Landing Real Estate in the amount of \$1,000 to be used to support the cost of Winter Recreation.
- Donation from Marko Mayo and Michelle Brown in the amount of \$500 to be applied to unpaid lunch balances.

The motion carried 5 – 0.

XI. NON-PUBLIC SESSION**A. Non-Public Session**

R.S.A. 91-A:3, II(c): This includes matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this Board, unless such a person requests an open meeting.

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to enter Non-Public Session at 6:54 p.m. Mr. Heath called the roll.

YES: Mr. Heath, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Farris, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Foote
NO: --

The motion passed unanimously. The Board entered Non-Public Session at 6:54 p.m.

B. Public Session

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to re-enter Public Session at 7:30 p.m.
Mr. Heath called the roll.

YES: Mr. Heath, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Farris, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Foote
NO: --

The motion passed unanimously. The Board re-entered Public Session at 7:30 p.m.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT – *Closed at 7:57 p.m.*

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Wednesday, January 7, 2026

Ashland Budget Committee @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

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

B. Monday, January 12, 2025

- Ashland Budget Committee Meeting – Location TBD - 6:00 p.m.

C. Wednesday, January 14, 2026

Ashland Budget Committee @ Ashland Elementary School – *Cafeteria*

- Ashland Budget Committee Public Hearing – **6:00 p.m.**
- **Note:** School budget will be presented first, followed by town budget.

D. Monday February 2, 2026

Ashland School Board @ Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center

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

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mr. Felton, to adjourn meeting at 7:58 p.m.

The motion carried 5 – 0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Briggs, Recording Secretary*

CONFIDENTIAL

NONPUBLIC SESSION

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

R.S.A. 91-A:3 II(c): This includes matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this Board, unless such a person requests an open meeting.

Members Present:

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

Administrators Present:

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

Members Absent:

Others Present:

I. NEW BUSINESS (6:54 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.)

A. Personnel Update (Information Item) Mrs. Moriarty

Mrs. Moriarty gave an update to the School Board regarding the Principal opening.

B. Personnel Update (Information Item) Mrs. Moriarty

Mrs. Moriarty gave an update to the School Board regarding staffing.

C. Legal Update (Information Item) Mrs. Moriarty

Mrs. Moriarty shared legal opinion from Attorney Laughman.

D. Student Update

Mrs. Moriarty shared with the School Board an update regarding a student and parent matter.