ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HEFFERNAN MEDIA CENTER
ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ASHLAND
January 5, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT                  Dr. Davis, Mr. Dion, Ms. Liebert, Mr. Lyford, Ms. Ulricson
MEMBERS ABSENT                   None
ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT           Ms. Ormond, Ms. Temperino, Mr. DiCecca, Ms. Bartlett
ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT            None
OTHERS PRESENT                    David Ruell, Media
                                    Sandra Coleman, School District Moderator
                                    Norm DeWolfe, Selectman
                                    12 Citizens, AES Students and Staff Members

CALL TO ORDER                    At 6:30 p.m., Chairman Dion called the meeting to order. The Pledge
                                    of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES                            Ms. Ulricson moved, Dr. Davis seconded, to approve the minutes
A.  Regular Meeting,            of the regular meeting of December 1, 2015, with the following
    December 1, 2015         correction: on page 1, under Communications of the Superintendent
                                    of Schools, it should read Ms. Ormond.
                                    The vote on the minutes, as corrected, was 4 in favor; Ms. Liebert
                                    abstained.

B.  Special Meeting,            Dr. Davis moved, Ms. Ulricson seconded, to approve the minutes
    December 9, 2015          of the special meeting of December 9, 2015, as printed and
distributed.  The vote was 4 in favor; Ms. Liebert abstained.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR #1         Mr. Wolfe inquired about the status of the fireworks issue. It was
                                    noted that the topic is on the agenda for later in the meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS                   Ms. Ormond noted that a communication she received will be taken
A.  Superintendent of Schools    up in non-public session.
B.  Board Secretary              None.
C.  Board Members                None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS           Ms. Bartlett reported that the enrollment currently stands at 145
A.  Enrollment                    students.
B.  Principal’s Report            Ms. Bartlett reviewed upcoming events, which are included with the
                                    archive agenda.  She also provided updates on project week plans.
                                    She distributed copies of recent newspaper articles featuring Ashland
                                    Elementary School, including a donation of dictionaries to the
B. Principal’s Report (cont’d.)  

Ms. Bartlett announced staff-members-of-the-month Mr. Wenhart and Mr. Brent. Both are incredible assets to the building. Mr. Wenhart brings ideas and perspectives from higher education and encourages team teaching. Mr. Brent has spent a lot of time making technology work more efficiently for the school.

Ms. Bartlett noted that the Winter Recreation Program starts Thursday and she commented on the planned activities.

With regard to the Title IIA grant, Ms. Bartlett stated that the amount was reduced this year; thus, there was not enough to fund another staff member as has been done in the past. She asked the staff for their input as to how the money should be spent, and the thought was to put it toward staff development. Therefore, half of the grant will be used to bring in a trainer. The other half will be used to fund staff attendance at national conferences. She reviewed the selection process for conference attendees, which also involved the staff. Eight staff members will attend the February 1-3 conference. Ms. Bartlett noted that the Ashland Deliberative Session is scheduled for February 2nd, so the Board may decide that she should not attend the conference. Ms. Ormond strongly supported allowing Ms. Bartlett to attend the national conference and offered to “fill in” for her at the school during those days.

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

Mr. Dion reported that the annual NHSBA Delegate Assembly will be held on January 16th, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. As the Board’s designated representative, Mr. Lyford was given the information relative to the proposed resolutions to be discussed/acted on at the assembly.

BUSINESS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. General Operating Expenses  

Ms. Ulricson moved, Dr. Davis seconded, that the Board approve the payment of bills, as presented, including manifests #2015 (checks #24078 through #24080 in the amount of $4,366.50) and #2016 (checks #24100 through #24150 in the amount of $123,924.89).

Ms. Ulricson requested clarification on a few payments to which Ms. Temperino replied.

The vote on the motion to approve the payment of the bills was unanimously in favor.

B. Special Education Report  

Mr. DiCecca referred to his written report included with the agenda packet and noted the parent survey results from last spring. They had a 66 percent agreement rate, which is higher than last year. He also noted that the special education section of the website has been updated to include support group contact information for parents.


Ms. Temperino referred to the financial reports which were included with the agenda, and spoke to them. She noted that the district received $5,590 in catastrophic aid, an amount which was prorated by the state.
BUSINESS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT (cont’d.)


The district also received additional Medicaid reimbursement. An additional $9,800 has been spent down or encumbered since last month, resulting in 91.6 percent of the budget being allocated. With regard to the electricity usage and charge, Ms. Temperino stated that the company came and looked at the issues mentioned; specifically, that the school shows an increase of kilowatt hours usage of 73 percent from last year. They will be coming back since it does not look correct. Mr. Dion suggested using a thermal imaging gun which would read the temperature and determine if a piece of equipment is running too hot.

Mrs. Coleman noted that she had spoken to the electric company representative since this has been occurring for a few months. She offered to follow up with the representative.

Ms. Temperino noted that the district is “on target” with regard to oil usage this year. A price of $1.85 per gallon for oil next year has been locked in.

Mr. Lyford noted that he had spoken to Ms. Temperino regarding leasing iPads over three years, i.e., turning them in to get new ones instead of holding onto old ones. He asked if the Board thought this should be looked into. Ms. Bartlett commented that it is not cost effective to lease since they would have to return the iPads. Purchasing allows students to take them with them when they leave. Some discussion ensued. Mr. Lyford feels too much is spent on purchasing iPads vs. leasing them. Mr. Dion asked that the administration investigate, and report back to the Board, on the cost difference between leasing and purchasing iPads.

D. Donation of $1,000 in Classroom Supplies from CITGO Fueling Good

Mr. Lyford moved, Dr. Davis seconded, to accept a donation in classroom supplies, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

E. Memorandum of Agreement between the Ashland School District and the Town of Ashland

Mr. Dion referred Board members to information in the agenda packet relative to a proposed memorandum of agreement (MOA) between the town and the school around the July 4th fireworks display on school property. He stated that he and Ms. Temperino have been working with the Fourth of July Committee. Mr. Dion suggested that the Board review the MOA and forward it to the town with the Board’s acceptance. Some discussion ensued regarding liability and what insurance coverage is needed for the school district since it would be on school property.

Mr. Dion moved, Mr. Lyford seconded, to approve the memorandum of agreement, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

F. Tuition Rates for 2015-16

Ms. Temperino referred Board members to information in the agenda packet regarding proposed tuition rates for 2015-2016. She stated that the rates are calculated based on a state formula.

Dr. Davis moved, Mr. Lyford seconded, to approve tuition rates for 2015-2016, as proposed. The vote was unanimously in favor.
BUSINESS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT (cont’d.)

G. Proposed 2016-2017 School Calendar

Ms. Ormond noted that the administration and staff are in the process of reviewing the proposed 2016-2017 calendar, including the need to add four additional workshop days. Ms. Ormond noted the comparisons between Ashland’s proposed calendar and Pemi-Baker’s calendar.

Ms. Ulricson stated that the proposed calendar should reflect September 5th as Labor Day, not 7th (as shown at the bottom of the calendar). September 2nd should also be a no school day. June 12, 13 and 14 should also show as snow days. Some discussion ensued regarding workshop days. No action was taken on the calendar.

H. Update on 2016-2017 Budget

Additional information was distributed to Board members. Ms. Ormond commented on the adjustments the Budget Committee made to the budget. This is the Board’s opportunity to look at the Budget Committee’s recommendations and decide if it wants to accept them, or stay with the Board’s budget recommendation. She noted that the reductions are fairly minor, and explained them. In response to Dr. Davis’s inquiry regarding the special education reduction, Ms. Ormond noted that they did not have to tap into the trust fund last year; it is felt that it could be used, if necessary, next year. Ms. Liebert requested and received clarification regarding the adjustment.

Mr. Dion spoke further regarding the savings from a locked-in fuel cost that was not yet known when the budget was developed by the Board. He also spoke to the technology reduction that was supported by the school.

Further discussion ensued regarding the reduction in special education as recommended by the Budget Committee and whether the Board wants to agree with it. Ms. Ormond spoke further regarding unanticipated costs.

Mr. Lyford moved, Mr. Dion seconded, to support a proposed 2016-2017 Ashland School District budget of $3,220,637. The vote was unanimously in favor.

POLICIES – SECOND READING

A. Policy #3545, Slip, Trip and Fall

Dr. Davis moved, Ms. Ulricson seconded, to approve a second reading of policy #3545, Slip, Trip and Fall, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

B. Policies #3720, #3725, and #3726

Ms. Ulricson moved, Dr. Davis seconded, to approve second readings of policies #3720, #3725, and #3726. The vote was unanimously in favor.

POLICIES – FIRST READING

A. Policies #3710, #3734, #3735, #3736, #3737, #3738, #3739, #3740, and #3741

Ms. Ulricson moved, Dr. Davis seconded, to approve first readings of policies #3710, #3734, #3735, #3736, #3737, #3738, #3739, #3740, and #3741. The vote was unanimously in favor.
PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR #2 None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
A. Last day to submit petition articles for school district warrant: Tuesday, January 12, 2016

   Wednesday, January 13, 2016, 7:00 p.m.
   Ashland Elementary School Cafeteria

C. Filing dates for school district officers:
   Wednesday, January 20, through Friday, January 29, 2016

D. Ashland School Board Regular Meeting and First Deliberative Session
   Tuesday, February 2, 2016, 7:00 p.m.
   Ashland Elementary School Cafeteria

   It was noted that the regular meeting of the Board will begin at 5:30 p.m.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

At 7:30 p.m., Mr. Lyford moved, Ms. Ulricson seconded, to move into non-public session under R.S.A. 91-A:3 for the purpose of discussing staff and student personnel. It was also noted that the Board will discuss negotiations. A unanimous roll call vote was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 7:50 p.m., upon a motion made by Ms. Ulricson, seconded by Dr. Davis, the meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote in favor.

NEGOTIATIONS

At 7:50 p.m., the board adjourned and then took up the matter of negotiations. Upon a motion made by Ms. Liebert, seconded by Dr. Davis, the board ratified the contract with the Ashland Teacher’s Association.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jodi Lamoureux
Recording Secretary
NON-PUBLIC SESSION I

**MEMBERS PRESENT**  Dr. Davis, Mr. Dion, Ms. Liebert, Mr. Lyford, Ms. Ulricson

**MEMBERS ABSENT**  None

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT**  Ms. Ormond, Ms. Temperino, Mr. DiCecca, Ms. Bartlett

**ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT**  None

At 7:30 p.m., the Board discussed a residency issue. Their decision was to not take action at this time.
NON-PUBLIC SESSION II

MEMBERS PRESENT
Dr. Davis, Mr. Dion, Ms. Liebert, Mr. Lyford, Ms. Ulricson

MEMBERS ABSENT
None

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT
Ms. Ormond, Ms. Temperino, Mr. DiCecca, Ms. Bartlett

ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT
None

At 7:47 p.m., Upon a motion by Mr. Lyford, seconded by Ms. Ulricson, the Board granted FMLA leave to a staff member. The vote was unanimously in favor.

At 7:50 p.m., Ms. Ulricson moved, Dr. Davis seconded, to return to public session. The vote was unanimously in favor.