ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HEFFERNAN MEDIA CENTER, ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
October 4, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT
Ms. Coleman, Mr. Dion, Ms. Liebert, Mr. Lyford

MEMBERS ABSENT
Dr. Davis, with notice

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

ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT
None

OTHERS PRESENT
David Ruel
Members of the Ashland School Staff
Members of the Public

CALL TO ORDER
Mr. Dion called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES
A. Regular Meeting, September 6, 2016
Ms. Coleman moved, Ms. Liebert seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 6, 2016, with one correction, under Privilege of the Floor #2, Ms. Cara O’Leary should be Ms. Kara O’Leary.
The vote was unanimously in favor.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR #1
None

COMMUNICATIONS
None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS
A. Enrollment
It was noted that there were 3 new students enrolled this week.

B. Parent Survey Results
The Leadership team spoke about the open house held last month at the school and how the open house gave them a chance to connect with families. The Leadership Team presented a slide show with the results of the Parent Survey. They received 68 responses to the survey. The survey results were reviewed (see attached).

C. Plymouth Regional High School/Ashland Elementary School Student Data
Mrs. Moriarty shared that NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) is a good focal point for assessing how prepared Ashland students are for high school. Mrs. Moriarty went on to say that NWEA can predict anticipated growth targets. Mrs. Moriarty presented the a handout with Northwest Evaluation Association Math and Reading data collected for the Class of 2018 (current Juniors) and the Class of 2019 (current Sophomores)

Ms. Coleman asked if Algebra is offered in Grade 8. Ms. Bartlett responded that Algebra is offered in Grades 6-8.
**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS-Cont’d**

D. Goals to continue Connections with Plymouth Regional High School  
  Mrs. Moriarty spoke about spending time with the Administrative Team at Plymouth Regional High School. Mrs. Moriarty remarked about what a great opportunity this was to continue to help Ashland Elementary School students transition to high school and how appreciative she is for all the support that she has received from SAU #48.

E. Ashland School Board April meeting at Plymouth Regional High School  
  Mrs. Moriarty stated that to keep the connection with Plymouth Regional High School she would like to see the Board meet with students and Administrators at Plymouth Regional High School in April. Mr. Dion asked Board members to look at dates in April that would work for them.

F. Financial Report  
  Ms. Temperino gave an overview of the financial report attachment. Ms. Temperino stated that 92.2% of the budget to date has been spent or encumbered compared to 93% from the previous year. Ms. Temperino also stated that revenues and the tax impact will be reported at the November 1st Board meeting.

**BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

A. July 4, 2017 Fireworks And the use of Ashland Elementary School  
  Mr. Dion told the Board that the agreement for July 4, 2016 had lapsed and that he would be bringing an updated agreement to the Board at the November 1st meeting. The school reported no issues from this past July 4th’s fireworks.

**BUSINESS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

A. General Operating Expenses  
  Ms. Liebert moved, Mr. Lyford seconded, that the Board approve the payment of bills, as presented, including manifests #2008 (check #24913-#24914 in the amount of $462.10), VOID2009 (checks #24867 amount of $(243.00checks #24928-#24932), and #2010 (checks #24846 through #24899 in the amount of $211,081.80).

  Ms. Temperino responded to a request for clarification by Mr. Lyford, on the water and sewer payments.

  The vote on the motion was unanimously in favor.

  Discussion ensued regarding the memo that was attached with the accounts payable manifests. The memo requested that the Board give permission for the Ashland Electric, Ashland Water and Sewer, and Fairpoint Communications be paid by the 25th of each month so as not to incur late fees. The memo also requested that the State Criminal Background Checks/Fingerprint cards be processed and released with Board approval so that Background check results can be received in a more timely fashion.

  Ms. Coleman stated that no resident in the Town of Ashland has ever been charged extra fees because of late payments to the Ashland Electric Company.

  Mr. Dion also stated that it has never been the goal of the Ashland utilities companies to shut people off for late payments.

  Mrs. Moriarty stated that there is a need to problem solve the request further and that it was not necessary to make a decision that evening.
Mr. Lyford moved, Ms. Liebert seconded to authorize the payment and release of the State Criminal Records Background/Fingerprint Cards when necessary. The vote was 3-0 in favor, with Ms. Coleman voting not in favor.

**B. Tuition Rates for the 2016-2017 School Year.**

Ms. Temperino explained how the state determines the tuition rate based on a formula embedded in the DOE 25. The formula uses a modified total expenditures divided by the ADM (Average Daily Membership) to arrive at a cost per pupil.

Ms. Liebert moved, Ms. Coleman seconded to approve the 2016-2017 tuition rates for Ashland Elementary School as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**POLICIES – Third and Final Reading**

**A. Policy #1330, Community Use of School Facilities**

Ms. Liebert moved, Mr. Lyford seconded, to approve a third and final reading of Policy #1330, Community Use of School Facilities. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**B. Policy #3670, Fixed Assets Management**

Mr. Lyford moved, Ms. Liebert seconded, to approve a third and final reading of Policy #3670, Fixed Assets Management. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**C. Policy #5152 Wellness Through Nutrition and Physical Activity**

Mr. Lyford moved, Ms. Coleman seconded, to approve a third and final reading of Policy # 5152, Wellness Through Nutrition and Physical Activity. The vote was four against, zero in favor. The motion failed.

Mrs. Moriarty explained to the Board that the Wellness Committee was in the process of forming and that she is encouraged to have the policy in place. Mrs. Moriarty went on to say that the Policy will go to the Wellness Committee for their approval.

**D. Policy #5185 Video and Audio Recording in School Classrooms**

Mr. Lyford moved, Ms. Liebert seconded to approve a third and final reading of Policy #5185 Video and Audio Recording in School Classrooms. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**E. Policy #9110 Number of Board Members**

Mr. Lyford moved, Ms. Coleman seconded to approve a third and final reading of Policy #9110 Number of Board Members. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**F. Policy #9100 Regulations And Policies of the Ashland School Board.**

Ms. Coleman moved, Mr. Lyford seconded to approve a third and final reading of Policy #9100 Regulations and Policies of the Ashland School Board. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**POLICIES – Second Reading**

**A. Policy #4153, Drug Free Workplace**

Mr. Lyford moved, Ms. Liebert seconded, to approve a second reading of Policy #4153 Drug Free Workplace. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**B. Policy #4160, Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check.**

Ms. Coleman moved, Mr. Lyford seconded, to approve a second reading of Policy #4160 Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check. The vote was unanimously in favor.
POLICIES – Second Reading-Cont’d

C. Policy #5113, Attendances/Truancy
   Mr. Lyford moved, Ms. Coleman seconded, to approve a second reading of Policy #5113, Attendances/Truancy. The vote was unanimously in favor.

D. Policy #5118, Admission of Tuition and Non-Resident Students
   Ms. Liebert moved, Mr. Lyford seconded, to approve a second reading of Policy #5118, Admission of Tuition and Non-Resident Students. The vote was unanimously in favor.

E. Policy #5142 Behavior Management and Intervention
   Mr. Lyford moved, Ms. Coleman seconded, to approve a second reading of Policy #5142 Behavior Management and Intervention. The vote was unanimously in favor.

F. Policy #5145 Child Abuse
   Mr. Lyford moved, Ms. Liebert seconded, to approve a second reading of Policy #5145, Child Abuse. The vote was unanimously in favor.

POLICIES – First Reading

A. Policy #1170 Title I Parent Involvement in Education
   Ms. Coleman moved, Mr. Lyford seconded to approve a first reading of Policy #1170, Title I Parent Involvement in Education. The vote was unanimously in favor.

B. Policy #1360 Fundraising Activities
   Mr. Lyford moved, Ms. Liebert seconded to approve a first reading of Policy #1360, Fundraising Activities. The vote was unanimously in favor.

C. Policy #5125 Manifest Educational Hardship
   Ms. Coleman moved, Mr. Lyford seconded to approve a first reading of Policy #5125, Manifest Educational Hardship. The vote was unanimously in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Appointment of two Board Members to the Withdrawal Study Committee
   Mr. Lyford moved, Mr. Dion seconded to appoint Ms. Liebert to the Withdrawal Study Committee. The vote was unanimously in favor.

   Ms. Liebert moved, Ms. Coleman seconded to appoint Mr. Dion to the Withdrawal Study Committee. The vote was unanimously in favor.

   Ms. Liebert moved, Mr. Lyford seconded to appoint Ms. Coleman to the Wellness Committee. The vote was unanimously in favor.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR #2

Ms. Hancock, whose daughter is in the Primary Tier, expressed concerns regarding Project Based Learning. Mr. Dion shared the steps of talking with the teacher, Principal and Superintendent with the parent. Mrs. Moriarty suggested that Mrs. Bartlett set up a time to meet with Ms. Hancock to discuss her concerns.

Mr. Ruel asked how the Withdrawal Study Committee members had been selected. Mr. Dion explained that an ad was placed in the newspaper and on the website looking for volunteers from the community.
ANNOUNCEMENTS
A. SAU Board Meeting
   Thursday, October 6, 2016, 6:00pm
   Humiston Building, Meredith

B. Ashland School Board Meeting
   Tuesday, November 1, 2016, 6:30pm
   Policy Review Committee Meeting, 5:30pm
   Heffernan Media Center, Ashland

C. Ashland School Board Work Session
   Wednesday, November 9, 2016
   6:00-8:00pm
   Ashland Elementary School – Teacher’s Room

D. Ashland School Board
   Work Session II, (If necessary)
   Wednesday, November 16, 2016
   6:00-8:00pm
   Ashland Elementary School – Teacher’s Room

NON-PUBLIC SESSION
   Not necessary.

ADJOURNMENT
   There being no further business to come before the Board, at 8:06
   p.m., Mr. Lyford moved, Ms. Liebert seconded, to adjourn the
   meeting. The vote was unanimously in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maribeth Ryan
Recording Secretary
Parent Survey Results-2016

1. My child(ren) are in the tiers: (check all that apply)

- Primary: 39 (57.4%)
- Intermediate: 25 (38.2%)
- Middle: 21 (30.9%)

2. I have had a child(ren) at AES for the past:

- 1-2 years: 23.5%
- 3-5 years: 23.5%
- 6-8 years: 16.2%
- More than 8 years: 11.8%
- My family is completely new to AES: 25%
3. I have a positive working relationship with my child’s teacher(s).

If you feel you do not have a positive working relationship with your child’s teachers, please explain (1 response):

I feel that I do with most.

4. I have opportunities to discuss my child(ren)’s specific needs with teachers and/or administrators.

If you feel you do not have opportunities to discuss your child(ren)’s specific needs with teachers and/or administrators, please describe how we could increase these opportunities (1 response).

Somewhat
5. The Learning Summary report card allows me to understand my child(ren)'s academic progress.

![Pie chart showing 86.8% Agree and 13.2% Disagree.]

If you feel the Learning Summary report card does not allow you to understand your child(ren)'s academic progress, please identify training we could offer that would help and/or ways in which the document itself could be improved (7 responses).

- Very confusing at times to understand the grading (P, B, D, A) as well as the smarter balance testing scores.
- I have not seen any evidence uploaded lately.
- I find them to be confusing and not really specific on how he is doing.
- Agree with reservations, most likely the result of something different different than standard A-F etc... that I have used as a measuring stick all my life.
- It is very hard to understand. I don't like the new grading system at all.
- Go back to grading with As B's etc.
- Bring back the A B C D grade.
6. I am comfortable asking questions and expressing concerns to school staff.

If you are not comfortable asking questions and expressing concerns to school staff, please explain what we can do to improve this relationship (1 response).

Answers given are different depending on who the parent is.

7. AES has provided me with information, resources and materials that explain and support the instructional methods used with my child(ren).
If you feel AES has not provided you the information, resources and materials you need, please identify areas in which you would like more information and/or support from school staff (3 responses).

I do not feel that any information was provided stating that we are moving toward PBL.

At times when my child would bring home work home they did not have examples of what was supposed to be done. That would be helpful especially in math.

Since volunteer meetings/school board meetings are difficult to attend for parents that work outside of the home, I would appreciate a digital portal that connects parents to information. An example might include hosting a monthly "Principal's Corner" blog where we can read about what is going on in school, district, national landscape with hyperlinks for added research.

8. I feel the school is meeting the educational needs of my child(ren).

If you feel the school is not meeting the educational needs of your child(ren), please explain what we could do to improve (4 responses).

I am concerned about intermediate teacher instruction.

Need to go back to grades instead of tiers.

We disagree in part. Ex: A project that was assigned last year did not allow our child to express his opinion about the topic. Effective learning should promote individual expression paired with opposite or varying viewpoints. We feel this allows for a more thorough process of learning as it allows tolerance and understanding for different viewpoints.

Somewhat
9. I feel the school is meeting the social/emotional needs of my child(ren).

If you feel the school is not meeting the social/emotional needs of your child(ren), please explain what we could do to improve (1 response).

There should be a class about beliefs that they should have to do every year to show the kids the school will no tolerate it.

10. I feel the school succeeds at preparing my child(ren) for future learning.

If you feel the school does not succeed in preparing your child(ren) for the future, please explain what we could do to improve (5 responses):

- I am not sure how the transition to high school or other schools will be.
- AES provided our son with great prep for high school and beyond. I trust the same will be true for our daughter.
- Need to re-evaluate the school and the mass customized learning
- Somewhat
- How is a child supposed to sign a check when they are older when they don’t learn cursive?
Please share any additional comments, concerns or questions regarding the learning experience AES provides your child(ren).

AES has been great with my child. They have been great with communicating with us and meeting our child's needs.

Mrs. Lambert is outstanding. Always communicates and is a wonderful member of AES

I don't mind the tier system, but I have a hard time grasping exactly how my child is doing without grades

So far all great!

My children have become more confident, enthusiastic, active, participatory learners with the forward thinking, progressive ideas incorporated over the last 5 years.

Keep up the good work!

My boys look forward to school and are always happy at the end of the day.

Mrs. Lambert is a great teacher! Whenever I have a question or concern she's always quick to respond back to my e-mails.

The school has greatly improved since getting new teachers, staff and principal.

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Please share any additional comments, concerns or questions regarding the learning experience AES provides your child(ren), continued.

I love the flexibility in supporting non-traditional learning methods, allowing self-directed learning and projects that intersect with each student's interests. Also the willingness of teaching staff to try new things.

We Love AES!!!

Not providing the skills necessary for high school. Not pushing the student academically. Daycare environment.

Placing my child with groups of kids within his tier that are at a similar level of learning and development has been great.

Would an informational presentation at the beginning of the school year be helpful to get the word out about the advantages of the instructional methods being used? Two years ago the school had a presentation at the beginning of the year that was helpful.

Please contact me for support/help/research regarding multi-age learning, tier system etc. I am excited about the ongoing effort at AES to engage children in interdisciplinary ways. Amanda Whitworth (Fin's mom)

awhitworth@plymouth.edu
Next Steps

- All parents who requested it have been contacted (1 had clarifying questions; 2 offered additional support for our work and the school in general)
- Goal of fall Parent Teacher Conferences is to increase parent understanding of Smarter Balanced Assessment results and Learning Summary
- After Spaghetti Supper (November): may offer mini-workshops for Warrior Portal, ALMA Parent portal & Learning Summaries
- Middle Teachers to visit PRHS to gain clear understanding of academic expectations