

ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
HEFFERNAN MEDIA CENTER, ASHLAND
February 2, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Burgess, Chair; Ms. Brown; Mrs. Knowlton; Mr. Stack

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Hughes, without notice

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Dr. McCormack, Ms. Temperino, Mr. Tirone

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Ruell
Ms. Michelle D'Ambruoso, School Board Candidate
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Kinney, Residents

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Burgess called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

**A. Regular Meeting,
January 5, 2010**

Ms. Brown moved, Mr. Burgess seconded, that the minutes of the January 5, 2010 regular meeting be approved, as printed and distributed. The vote was 2 in favor; Mrs. Knowlton and Mr. Stack abstained. Motion passed.

**STUDENT/TEACHER
RECOGNITION**

Mr. Tirone reported on the following Students-of-the-Month: Jeffrey Lyford, Kindergarten; Kamren Bixby, Grade 1; Erin Crowley and Aleysha-Ann Stark, Grade 2; Kate Von Iderstine, Grade 3; Bryn Donovan, Grade 4; Hunter Bavis, Grade 5; Julia Hatfield and Sophie Sanborn, Grade 6; Jessica Noyes and Mackenzie Welch, Grade 7; and Brian Moriarty and Allen Reynolds, Grade 8.

He also recognized Ms. Barbara Sewall and Judy Macdonald as Staff-Members-of-the-Month for their public relations work for the school.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Superintendent of Schools

None.

**B. Secretary of the School
Board**

None.

**C. Members of the School
Board**

None.

CURRENT BILLS PAYABLE

**A. General Operating
Expenses**

Mrs. Knowlton moved, Mr. Stack seconded, that the Board approve the payment of bills, as presented, including manifest #2021 (checks #16637-#16640 in the amount of \$3,903.97), and manifest #2022 (checks #16667-#16718 in the amount of \$45,237.04). The vote was unanimously in favor.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Temperino referred to the budget report in the agenda packet, and noted the following:

FINANCIAL REPORT *(cont'd.)*

- The district has spent down or encumbered \$6,916 since last month.
- Some expenses were moved to the IDEA grant and the district has received \$1,805 from the ARRA grant.
- Revenues increased from tuition received.
- Fuel oil usage is down 539 gallons from last year at this time.
- The district continues to make progress on the food service deficit.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Burgess referred to a letter received from Mr. and Mrs. Mike Kinney regarding a request to connect into the school's septic system. Discussion ensued. Mr. Burgess requested a lot of coordination if the Board agrees to the request. Mr. Kinney asked for a drawing of where the school's line goes in, in order to give to the contractor doing the job. Mr. Tirone also requested a drawing of where the Kinneys line will go in.

Ms. Brown moved, Mr. Stack seconded, that the Board approve the request to allow the Kinneys to tie into the school's septic line, contingent upon coordination of the job with the school. The vote was unanimously in favor.

Mr. Burgess also acknowledged the presence tonight of school board candidate Michele D'Ambruoso. She commented briefly, noting that she is looking forward to serving the district if elected.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**A. Superintendent/
Assistant Superintendent**

None.

B. Principal's Report

Mr. Tirone provided the following highlights:

- The winter recreation program is going very well, with lots of activities and participation.
- Parent/teacher conferences were held January 18th and went smoothly.
- A notice went home last Friday, with students' report cards, reminding parents of the deliberative session. Another notice will be sent home with students tomorrow. "One calls" will be done tomorrow afternoon.
- Last Monday night, 8th graders went to Plymouth Regional High School for "Step-Up Night". Mrs. Hogan, Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Tirone accompanied the students. Mr. Tirone noted that the students have scheduled their courses for next year. Additional step-up activities will be occurring this and next month.
- Basketball season is winding down. The awards program will be held next week.
- NECAP results have been received and look good. There are no significant changes, with steady increases in all areas. Reading scores were very good; they are making progress in math.

B. Principal's Report *(cont'd.)*

- Mrs. Hogan and Mr. Tirone participated in a well-attended NECAP conference yesterday regarding interpretation of data, how to get it, and how to use it. He noted that Measured Progress is getting more information on what teachers can do with the test results. A presentation on the results will be made at next month's Board meeting.
- The Winter Carnival is coming up with a number of activities planned.
- I Love to Read and Write Week is also coming up. Mr. Tirone noted that Rick Charette, singer and storyteller, will be coming to work with the students.
- *Green Pages*, the school's second newsletter of the year, was distributed to Board members earlier this evening.
- Proposed music and health curriculums were distributed to Board members earlier in the evening, for Board members' review. Action on the curriculums is expected at next month's Board meeting. Mr. Tirone stated that the staff is already geared up for the language arts, family and consumer science, and technology curriculums to be reviewed next year.
- Mr. Tirone reported that Ashland Elementary School has, again, been randomly selected to take part in the NAEP testing on February 18th. Eighth graders will be taking the test, but the school does not receive results.

Dr. McCormack commented on how Plymouth Regional High School staff appreciated the Ashland School staff's presence during Step Up Night, noting that it helps with the students' transition.

In response to Mr. Burgess's inquiry, Mr. Tirone stated that PRHS guidance counselors no longer meet with 8th grade parents as this was not positively received in the past.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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| A. Third/Final Reading of Policy #4114.1, Physical Examinations for School Employees | Mr. Stack moved, Mrs. Knowlton seconded, to approve the third and final reading of policy #4114.1, Physical Examinations for School Employees, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor. |
| B. Third/Final Reading of Policy #4117.3, Complaints and Grievances | Mrs. Knowlton moved, Ms. Brown seconded, to approve the third and final reading of policy #4117.3, Complaints and Grievances, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor. |
| C. Third/Final Reading of Policy #4210, Paraprofessionals, Secretaries, Custodians, & Food Service Employees | Ms. Brown moved, Mrs. Knowlton seconded, to approve the third and final reading of policy #4210, Paraprofessionals, Secretaries, Custodians, and Food Service Employees, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor. |
| D. Second Reading of Policy #5127, Admission of Homeless Students | Mr. Stack moved, Ms. Brown seconded, to approve a second reading of policy #5127, Admission of Homeless Students, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor. |

UNFINISHED BUSINESS *(cont'd.)*

- E. Second Reading of Policy #6170.1, Determination of a Specific Learning Disability** Mrs. Knowlton moved, Mr. Stack seconded, to approve a second reading of policy #6170.1, Determination of a Specific Learning Disability, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

- F. Final Details of First (Deliberative) Session** The Power Point presentation, which will be shown at the First (Deliberative) Session was shown to the Board. Ms. Temperino noted that it is a “companion” to the handout which will also be available, and is intended to be an overview of the budget.

In response to Mr. Ruell's inquiry, Mr. Burgess noted that the warrant will be reviewed, by article, at the First Session. Also the tax impact slide will be separated, i.e., separating the budget and teacher agreement impact.

Mr. Burgess noted information available regarding past voted appropriations, showing a relatively low increase over the last five years. This will be added to the Power Point. Some discussion ensued regarding an explanation relative to the 2007-2008 school year budget “peak”.

Mr. Burgess reminded Board members that the First Session will begin at 7:00 p.m. He thanked Ms. Brown for hanging posters around town reminding people of the meeting and encouraging attendance. Some discussion ensued regarding posting places and logistics, i.e., set up. It was noted that the school district attorney and the special education director will also attend the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval of Study Skills Curriculum** Mrs. Knowlton moved, Ms. Brown seconded, to approve the Study Skills Curriculum, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- A. Members of the School** None.
- B. Members of the Administration** None.
- C. Citizens at the Meeting** None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Ashland School District First (Deliberative) Session**
Thursday, February 4, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
Ashland Elementary School Gymnasium, Ashland
- B. Ashland School Board Meeting**
Tuesday, March 2, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
(Policy Review Committee to meet at 6:00 p.m.)
Heffernan Media Center, Ashland
- C. Ashland School District Second (Voting) Session**
Tuesday, March 9, 2010, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Ashland Elementary School Gymnasium, Ashland

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

At 7:55 p.m., Mrs. Knowlton moved, Mr. Stack seconded, that the Board move into non-public session under R.S.A. 91-A:3 11c for the purpose of discussing staff personnel. A unanimous roll call vote was taken.

The Board returned to public session at 8:27 p.m. upon a motion made by Mr. Stack, seconded by Ms. Brown, and unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 8:27 p.m., upon a motion made by Mr. Stack, seconded by Ms. Brown, the meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jodi Lamoureux
Recording Secretary

NON-PUBLIC SESSION I

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Burgess, Chair; Ms. Brown; Mrs. Knowlton; Mr. Stack

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Hughes, with notice

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Dr. McCormack, Ms. Temperino, Mr. Tirone

At 7:55 p.m., the Board discussed a policy regarding medical insurance for non-bargaining staff. No action was taken.

At 8:27 p.m., Mr. Stack moved, Ms. Brown seconded, that the Board return to public session. The vote was unanimously in favor.