

**ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HEFFERNAN MEDIA CENTER, ASHLAND**

May 18, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mrs. Knowlton, Ms. D'Ambruoso, Ms. Lamson, Mr. Stack

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Hughes, with notice

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Dr. McCormack, Ms. Temperino

ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT

Mr. Tirone, with notice

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Ruell
Parents of a Ashland School student

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Knowlton, acting chair, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Ms. D'Ambruoso moved, Ms. Lamson seconded, to move into non-public session under R.S.A. 91-A:3 IIc for the purpose of discussing student personnel. A unanimous roll call vote was taken. The parents were invited into non-public session.

The Board returned to public session at 7:40 p.m. upon a motion made by Mr. Stack, seconded by Ms. Lamson, and unanimously approved.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

A. Chairman

Mr. Stack nominated Mrs. Knowlton as chairman.

There being no additional nominations, Mr. Stack moved, Ms. Lamson seconded, to elect Mrs. Knowlton as chairman of the school board. The vote was unanimously in favor.

B. Vice Chairman

Ms. Lamson nominated Mr. Stack as vice chairman.

There being no additional nominations, Ms. Lamson moved, Ms. D'Ambruoso seconded, to elect Mr. Stack as vice chairman of the school board. The vote was unanimously in favor.

C. Secretary

Ms. Lamson nominated Ms. D'Ambruoso as secretary.

There being no additional nominations, Ms. Lamson moved, Mr. Stack seconded, to elect Ms. D'Ambruoso as secretary of the school board. The vote was unanimously in favor.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD *(cont'd.)*

- D. Delegate** Mrs. Knowlton moved, Mrs. Lamson seconded, to elect Mr. Stack as the school board delegate to the NHSBA Delegate Assembly. The vote was unanimously in favor.
- E. Policy Review Committee** Mr. Stack moved, Ms. D'Ambruoso seconded, to appoint Mrs. Knowlton and Ms. Lamson to the Policy Review Committee of the school board. The vote was unanimously in favor.
- F. Budget Committee** Tabled.

MINUTES

- A. Regular Meeting, April 6, 2010** Ms. Lamson moved, Mrs. Knowlton seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 6, 2010, with the following correction: on page 1, under Public Input, first paragraph, last sentence should read, "... and discuss students' right to privacy relative to random backpack searches *since she challenged Mr. Tirone's interpretation of his authority to do so.*". The vote was 3 in favor; Mr. Stack abstained. Motion passed.

STUDENT/TEACHER RECOGNITION

Tabled.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Superintendent of Schools** Dr. McCormack noted that he received Mr. Hughes' resignation from the school board earlier today, via e-mail, to take effective immediately.
- Ms. Lamson moved, Mr. Stack seconded, to accept Mr. Hughes' resignation, effective immediately. The vote was unanimously in favor.
- Mr. Ruell asked if Mr. Hughes gave a reason for resigning. Dr. McCormack stated that he felt he could not continue in the position as a representative of the parents of Ashland.
- B. Secretary of the School Board** None.
- C. Members of the School Board** Mrs. Knowlton noted that two fruit platters were delivered to the Ashland School staff during Teacher Appreciation Week. She read a thank you note received from the staff.
- Mrs. Knowlton asked that Dr. McCormack notify Ms. Corrow regarding her request to revise the April Board minutes to let her know it has been done.
- Mrs. Knowlton also noted a letter received from the staff regarding derogatory comments made by Mr. Hughes about Ashland School.

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

Ms. Lamson moved, Ms. D'Ambruoso seconded, that the Board approve the payment of bills, as presented, including manifests #2028 (checks #16964-#16966 in the amount of \$3,134.83), #2029 (checks #16993-#17036 in the amount of \$77,473.78) and #2030 (checks #17059-#17103 in the amount of \$87,845.49). The vote was unanimously in favor.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

- The district has spent down or encumbered \$31,026 since last month (evenly distributed throughout the budget).
- There has been a small increase in revenues (\$378) due to unanticipated Federal Forest money received.
- The district is down 2,716.2 gallons of fuel oil from this time last year.
- The district should end the fiscal year within budget with regard to electricity usage.
- Good progress continues to be made in reducing the food service deficit.
- The administration has locked in at \$2.575 with Fred Fuller Oil Company for fuel oil for 2010-2011.

Ms. Temperino responded to Mr. Stack's inquiry about the cost for special services in the report.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

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

Dr. McCormack updated the Board regarding a House vote to reduce the state budget by \$181 million. The result of this will mean that the Department of Education will be reducing its budget by another \$6 million, \$4.8 million of which comes from direct aid to schools, i.e., transportation, catastrophic aid. Dr. McCormack stated that local "hits" will include a reduction to 62 to 66 percent reimbursement for special education. The state is also looking at reducing its New Hampshire Retirement System costs by an additional 5 percent. All of these costs will be passed on to taxpayers. He encouraged Board members to speak to their legislators.

B. Principal's Report

Tabled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**A. Policy #4131, Support Staff Professional Learning**

Mr. Stack moved, Ms. Lamson seconded, to approve a second reading of policy #4131, Support Staff Professional Learning, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

B. Policy #4134, Tutoring for Pay

Ms. Lamson moved, Mr. Stack seconded, to approve a third and final reading of policy #4134, Tutoring for Pay, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS *(cont'd.)*

**C. Policy #4144,
Insurance**

Dr. McCormack noted further changes suggested by the business office to make this proposed policy clearer for implementation purposes.

Mr. Stack moved, Ms. Lamson seconded, to approve a second reading of policy #4144, Insurance, as further revised. The vote was unanimously in favor.

D. Electronic Device Policy

Dr. McCormack referred Board members to a copy of what is included in the Ashland School student handbook relative to electronic devices. He noted that, after the last meeting, it was suggested that a district policy be developed. He stated that he had contacted the NHSBA relative to their model policies, and found out they do not have one on electronic devices. The NHSBA is also awaiting passage of a bill regarding cyber-bullying and, once it is passed, will develop a model policy.

Dr. McCormack noted that he and Mr. Tirone recently served as evaluators at the N.H. Association of Educational Office Professionals' conference at which Mr. John Teague presented a workshop on school law, noting that he is in the process of developing a cyber-bullying policy which he would be willing to show to Dr. McCormack when finished.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Tri-County CAP Letter

Dr. McCormack referred Board members to a letter in the agenda packet from Tri-County CAP regarding a request from them to address the Board on what can be done relative to the fire department's inability to access their building via School Street.

Dr. McCormack will write to Tri-County CAP inviting them to the June meeting of the Board.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

**A. Members of the School
Board**

Mrs. Knowlton noted that, last month, the Board approved moving its meeting night to the third Tuesday of the month to accommodate Mr. Hughes' schedule. In light of Mr. Hughes' resignation, she suggested that the Board move back to meeting on the first Tuesday of the month. It was noted that it would be better for accounts payable.

Ms. Lamson moved, Ms. D'Ambruoso seconded, that the Board meet on the first Tuesday of the month. The vote was unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Knowlton noted that the Board has a responsibility to appoint a member to replace Mr. Hughes. She suggested that Miriam Brown be appointed in light of her recent experience as a school board member. Mr. Stack also noted that Ms. Brown came in third in the last election.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- A. Members of the School Board** *(cont'd.)* Ms. Lamson moved, Ms. D'Ambruoso seconded, to appoint Ms. Brown to the school board, effective immediately through March, 2011 (the next election), at which time the district will elect someone to complete Mr. Hughes' term. The vote was unanimously in favor.

- B. Members of the Administration** None.

- C. Citizens at the Meeting** None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Ashland School Board Meeting**
Tuesday, June 1, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
(Policy Review Committee to meet at 6:00 p.m.)
Heffernan Media Center, Ashland

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

At 8:12 p.m., Mr. Stack moved, Ms. Lamson seconded, that the Board move into non-public session under R.S.A. 91-A:3 IIc for the purpose of discussing staff and student personnel. A unanimous roll call vote was taken.

The Board returned to public session at 8:21 p.m. upon a motion made by Ms. D'Ambruoso, seconded by Mr. Stack, and unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 8:22 p.m., upon a motion made by Ms. D'Ambruoso, seconded by Mr. Stack, the meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jodi Lamoureux
Recording Secretary

NON-PUBLIC SESSION I

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. D’Ambruoso, Mrs. Knowlton; Ms. Lamson, Mr. Stack

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Hughes, with notice

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Dr. McCormack, Ms. Temperino

At 7:03 p.m., the parents of a kindergarten student addressed the Board relative to an incident which occurred at the school involving their child.

The Board returned to public session at 7:40 p.m. upon a motion made by Mr. Stack, seconded by Ms. Lamson, and unanimously approved.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION II

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. D’Ambruoso, Mrs. Knowlton; Ms. Lamson, Mr. Stack

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Hughes, with notice

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Dr. McCormack, Ms. Temperino

At 8:14 p.m., upon a nomination by the Superintendent, Ms. Lamson moved, Mr. Stack seconded, that the Board elect Mary Lambert, part-time Title I math teacher, for the 2010-2011 school year. The vote was unanimously in favor.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION II

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. D’Ambruoso, Mrs. Knowlton; Ms. Lamson, Mr. Stack

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Hughes, with notice

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Dr. McCormack, Ms. Temperino

At 8:16 p.m., the Board discussed a student personnel issue involving correspondence received by Mr. Stack from a parent.

At 8:21 p.m., Ms. D’Ambruoso moved, Mr. Stack seconded, that the Board return to public session. The vote was unanimously in favor.