

ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HEFFERNAN MEDIA CENTER, ASHLAND
August 20, 2013

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	Ms. Badger; Ms. Brown; Ms. Liebert; Ms. Ulricson; Ms. Wrath
<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	None
<u>ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT</u>	Ms. Ormond, Ms. Bartlett
<u>ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT</u>	Ms. Temperino, with notice
<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	David Ruell, Media Resident
<u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	Ms. Badger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
<u>TOUR OF ASHLAND SCHOOL</u>	No tour was held at this time. Ms. Ormond commented that projects, including building renovations and camera installation, are on hold pending grant approval. She stated that the resources have been allocated, but it is important to get the reimbursement.
<u>MINUTES</u>	
A. Regular Meeting, July 9, 2013	Ms. Ulricson moved, Ms. Wrath seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 9, 2013, as printed and distributed. The vote was unanimously in favor.
B. Special Meeting, July 31, 2013	Ms. Ulricson moved, Ms. Brown seconded, to approve the minutes of the special meeting of July 31, 2013, as printed and distributed. A revision was noted: on page 1, under Special School District meeting, 2 nd paragraph, the revised dates that were approved will be included. The vote was unanimously in favor.
<u>COMMUNICATIONS</u>	
A. Superintendent of Schools	None.
B. Secretary of the School Board	None.
C. Members of the School Board	The Board recognized Mr. Bradley Wolff as New Hampshire State Teacher of the Year for 2013 by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in New York. Mr. Wolff was nominated by Ashland staff members, Ms. Sarah Davis and Ms. Gail Spears. The award includes giving the school access to a tremendous archive of American history, and other educational materials which will be sent to the school for the library. Ms. Ormond asked that the Board accept the gifts received.

COMMUNICATIONS**C. Members of the School Board** (*cont'd.*)

Ms. Liebert moved, Ms. Ulricson seconded, to accept American History materials (posters, copies of primary source documents, and books) received by Mr. Wolff as a result of being named New Hampshire State Teacher of the Year for 2013 by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in New York. The vote was unanimously in favor.

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

Ms. Brown moved, Ms. Ulricson seconded, that the Board approve the payment of bills, as presented, including manifests #2002 (checks #21150-#21152 in the amount of \$2,377.08), #2003 (checks #21162-#21170 in the amount of \$8,125.04), #2004 (checks #21177-21233 in the amount of \$75,788.33), and #2005 (check #21250 in the amount of \$312.12). The vote was unanimously in favor.

In response to Ms. Badger's inquiry regarding the fiscal year of the manifests, Ms. Ormond summarized the items on the manifests.

PUBLIC INPUT

A resident in attendance inquired about the status of the community garden on school grounds. Ms. Badger stated that the committee that is working on it has not yet reported back to the Board.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**A. Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent Report****1. Back-to-School Letter**

Ms. Ormond noted that today was the first day back for teachers. Excitement overflowed!

2. New Part-Time IT Technician, Receptionist

Ms. Ormond announced that Ryley Ameden is the new Information Technology person for the school, and Jillian Halpin is the new receptionist.

3. Legislative Update

Ms. Ormond referred Board members to information included in the agenda packet regarding legislative changes relative to education. She provided a brief review of them.

4. Status of Grant/Security

Mr. Ormond reported that approval of the grant is expected soon contingent upon FEMA's approval of it.

5. Café Services Update

Ms. Ormond reported that Ms. Temperino talked to Café Services who ensured her that they are ready for school to begin.

B. Principal's Report**1. Leasing Program for Students**

Ms. Bartlett reported on the summer planning in preparation for the implementation of customized learning. She noted that Café Services provided a very nice breakfast for the staff's first day back today. It was a very busy day and the next two days will be equally as busy.

Ms. Bartlett noted that Mr. Ameden, the new IT person, is doing very well, and has been extremely helpful in recreating the district website.

B. Principal's Report**1. Leasing Program for Students** (*cont'd.*)

Ms. Bartlett reported that the school is on a four-year rotating cycle for teacher laptop replacements. She noted the age of the current computers and problems with connectivity, etc. Mr. Ameden is working on getting all the computers set up. It is felt that a lease program for new computers will allow for more timely updates.

Ms. Liebert questioned the change in the traffic pattern at the school for parents dropping off/picking up their children. Ms. Bartlett noted that the afternoon pattern only will change, and she reviewed it. Some discussion ensued.

Ms. Ormond reported that only one bid was received for snowplowing and sanding. The will be going out to bid again based on the needs of the district. Ms. Ormond responded to Ms. Liebert's question regarding the bid process.

Ms. Badger asked about the district's new website. Ms. Bartlett responded, noting that they are working on it "re-pointing". She also spoke about the parent portal, which should be ready very soon – possibly tomorrow. The staff is discussing holding an informational segment about the portal the same evening as the annual fall spaghetti dinner.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**A. Special School District Meeting**

Ms. Ormond noted that the supervisors of the checklist notice did appear in *The Record Enterprise*. The supervisors will be holding a session to correct the checklist on August 24. Since the First (Deliberative) Session is to be held on September 3, the consensus of the Board was to hold its next regular meeting on Wednesday, September 4.

B. EMPG Security Grant

Ms. Wrath moved, Ms. Ulricson seconded, to approve the EMPG Grant Agreement and to authorize the Assistant Superintendent to sign the agreement and supporting documentation. The vote was unanimously in favor.

NEW BUSINESS**A. 2014-2015 Budget Development Calendar**

Some discussion ensued regarding the proposed budget development calendar for 2014-2015. Due to the unavailability of some Board members for the Saturday, October 5, budget work session, another date will be selected and a revised calendar brought back to the Board for approval.

Ms. Brown questioned the need for a six-hour budget meeting, as was proposed. She noted that it usually does not take that long.

B. Nomination/Election of Staff

Ms. Liebert moved, Ms. Brown seconded, to elect Jamie King, Social Studies Teacher, as nominated by the Superintendent, for the 2013-2014 school year. The vote was unanimously in favor.

In response to Ms. Ulricson's inquiry, it was clarified by Ms. Bartlett that Ms. King will be teaching mainly the middle tier, but may have some computer classes with the younger students.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**A. Members of the School Board**

Ms. Brown reported that the HEAL garden committee has met. She reported that the property that was thought to belong to the school district is being said it belongs to the town; therefore, she is not sure how the committee will proceed.

Discussion ensued. Ms. Badger noted that the tax map shows the property as belonging to the school district, but survey maps held by the town show the property as belonging to the town. Ms. Badger asked if Ms. Temperino would have any information on the property at the central office. Ms. Ormond noted that she does not believe the central office would have the most up-to-date map.

Ms. Ulricson noted that Patsy Tucker, school district clerk, spoke to her and asked that Ms. Ulricson share with the Board her opinion around the cost of using the voting machine on October 1 vs. copying the ballot and hand counting the results. She estimates the costs to be \$650 for the voting machine vs. \$30 for copying and hand counting; therefore, she recommends the less costly method.

Ms. Ormond spoke against copying and hand counting the ballots due to the importance of the special election. Voters are accustomed to using the voting machine. She feels strongly that voting should be conducted "the way it has always been done" in order to avoid any confusion that could result in the election being questioned.

Some discussion ensued. The consensus of the Board was in favor of using the voting machine. It was questioned whether the school district would have to pay for renting the machine since the town owns it.

Ms. Ulricson questioned whether extra plugs and outlets have been put in at the school due to the increase in technology. Ms. Bartlett noted that installing charging stations, etc., are a part of what is being done. Ms. Ulricson also questioned whether there would be any impact on internet access with the increased number of users. She was assured that, since Ashland is so small, there would be no problem.

Ms. Ulricson questioned the break for the middle school students for eating lunch. Ms. Bartlett responded regarding the supervision of students. She stated that the schedule cannot work without trusting students, but stated that there will be two staff members for supervision purposes.

Ms. Liebert suggested that internet access should be available to Board members through the school. Ms. Bartlett noted that there is a guest access available. Ms. Ormond noted that it would be easy to do, but would come under the same restrictions as it does for students, i.e., some sites would not be available. Some discussion ensued. Ms. Bartlett asked Ms. Liebert to call her for the password.

B. Members of the Administration

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A. First (Deliberative) Session of the Special School District Meeting
Tuesday, September 3, 7:00 p.m.
William J. Tirone Gymnasium, Ashland**

Ms. Liebert noted that she will not be present. Ms. Badger noted that selectmen are also meeting that evening at the same time.

**B. Ashland School Board Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 4, 2013, 6:00 p.m. - CONFIRMED
(No Policy Review Committee meeting.)
Heffernan Media Center, Ashland**

In response to Ms. Brown's inquiry regarding why no Policy Review Committee meeting has been held in a few months, Ms. Ormond noted that the state has not finished its rulemaking on standards which will have a dramatic change in policies. The district is, however, caught up on job descriptions.

**C. Second (Official Ballot Voting) Session of the Special School District Meeting
Tuesday, October 1, 2013, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

At 6:55 p.m., Ms. Ulricson moved, Ms. Wrath seconded, to move into non-public session under R.S.A. 91-A:3(c) for the purpose of discussing staff personnel. A unanimous roll call vote was taken.

At 7:03 p.m., Ms. Brown moved, Ms. Wrath seconded, to return to public session. The vote was unanimously in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 7:04 p.m., upon a motion made by Ms. Brown, seconded by Ms. Wrath, the meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jodi Lamoureux
Recording Secretary

NON-PUBLIC SESSION I

MEMBERS PRESENT Ms. Badger, Ms. Brown, Ms. Liebert, Ms. Ulricson, Ms. Wrath

MEMBERS ABSENT None

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT Ms. Ormond, Ms. Bartlett

ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT Ms. Temperino, with notice

At 6:54 p.m., the Board discussed the assistant principal position at the school.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Ms. Wrath moved, Ms. Ulricson seconded, to elect Stephen Heath to serve as the assistant principal for kindergarten through grade 8 for the 2013-2014 school year. The vote was unanimously in favor.

At 7:03 p.m., Ms. Brown moved, Ms. Wrath seconded, to return to public session. The vote was unanimously in favor.