

**ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
HEFFERNAN MEDIA CENTER  
ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ASHLAND  
December 3, 2013**

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Ms. Badger; Ms. Brown; Ms. Liebert; Ms. Ulricson; Ms. Wrath

**MEMBERS ABSENT** None

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

**ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT** None

**OTHERS PRESENT** David Ruell, Media  
Norm DeWolfe, Selectman  
Sandra Coleman, Resident

**CALL TO ORDER** Ms. Badger called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**NON-PUBLIC SESSION** Ms. Ulricson moved, Ms. Wrath seconded, to move into non-public session under R.S.A. 91-A:3 (a) and (d) for the purpose of discussing staff personnel and legal matters. A unanimous roll call vote was taken. Ms. Ormond and Ms. Temperino were invited into non-public session.

At 6:58 p.m., Ms. Brown moved, Ms. Liebert seconded, to return to public session. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**MINUTES**

**A. Regular Meeting,  
November 5, 2013** Ms. Ulricson moved, Ms. Wrath seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 5, 2013, with the following correction: on page 1, under "Others Present," spelling correction to read "Lyford". The vote was unanimously in favor.

**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** Ms. Wrath moved, Ms. Liebert seconded, that the Board approve the payment of bills, as presented, including manifests #2014 (check #21585 in the amount of \$35,262.96), #2015 (checks #21586-21588 in the amount of \$3,284.14), and #2016 (checks #21619-#21666 in the amount of \$95,336.09). The vote was unanimously in favor.

Ms. Ulricson and Ms. Liebert questioned a couple of items on the manifest to which Ms. Temperino responded.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Board members were referred to the current financial report which was included in the agenda packet, and briefly reviewed the 2013 tax rate comparison worksheet that was distributed. She also commented on the following:

- 90 percent of this year's budget has been spent down or encumbered. \$11,567 was spent or encumbered since last month primarily due to technology expenses and the contract with AdminInternet.
- Revenues have increased slightly due to a rental of the gymnasium.
- Electricity costs are down even though usage is up slightly; and fuel oil usage is "on track".
- The food service account is looking better with the average per day meal count up 23 percent and a break even cost for the month.
- School assessment payments by the town were up to date through October. The town has requested a week's deferral for the November payment.

Ms. Ormond commented briefly on the out-of-district placements report included in the agenda packet.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. DeWolfe requested clarification regarding the November payment to the school district from the town. Ms. Temperino stated that the payment has not been received as yet. Generally speaking, the town has been timely in its payments. She noted that she has spoken to the town manager; the school district has always maintained a good working relationship with the town.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS****A. Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent/Special Education Director****1. Out-of-District Placement Reports**

Board members were referred to information in the agenda packet relative to the out-of-district placement report. Ms. Ormond noted that Mr. DiCecca has been looking at district evaluations and filling in 'gaps'. He has also put together a comprehensive guide which will be available to families in the district so they can find available services.

**2. Enrollments**

Board members were referred to the enrollment report included in the agenda packet. It was noted that the school has gained four students from the first month of school.

Ms. Ormond informed the Board that Inter-Lakes has donated its old server to Ashland Elementary School due to their purchase of a new one for Sandwich Central School. Installation will take place in the near future. She noted that two servers in the school will help "speed things up".

Ms. Ormond stated that she and Ms. Dolloff, Human Resources Director, will be attending a job fair at Plymouth State University next week where they will be actively seeking applicants for the 2014-2015 open teaching positions due to retirements. She is also looking to host a job fair in March with area schools. They are trying to draw quality candidates to the district.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS****A. Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent/Special Education Director** *(cont'd.)*

Ms. Temperino informed the Board that final approval from FEMA has been received on the security and safety grants. They can now begin to start the projects.

**3. Proposed 2014-2015 Budget Review**

Ms. Ormond noted the revised budget pages that were distributed prior to the meeting. What is being presented this evening is a budget with a 2.59 percent increase, or \$79,291. A significant reduction was made in occupational therapy due to a plan not to hire the current company next year. Rather, the district will be partnering with the Moultonborough School District to allow 1.5 days in Ashland. Ms. Ormond noted that this is an example of reaching out to local partners.

Reductions in the salary and health insurance lines are the result of \$23,000 in enrollment savings with the new collective bargaining agreement.

Some discussion ensued with Ms. Ormond and Ms. Temperino providing clarification to questions raised. Ms. Ormond asked the Board to consider an additional warrant article to put \$20,000 into the expendable trust for the purpose of the roofing project. This would come from the end-of-year fund balance.

Ms. Ormond noted that \$4,506 will be added to the bottom line following the SAU 2 budget approval for 2014-2015.

Some discussion ensued regarding a special meeting date following the SAU 2 public hearing and budget approval in order for the Ashland School Board to adopt a budget (and default budget) to forward to the Budget Committee.

At Ms. Brown's suggestion, the consensus of the Board was in favor of holding the special meeting immediately following the SAU 2 School Board public hearing and meeting on December 12, 2013, at the Humiston Building. There was also consensus by the Board in support of the budget, as proposed this evening, with the addition of the SAU 2 figure.

**B. Principal's Report**

Ms. Bartlett reported on the following:

- A safety fence has been installed in back of the school near the playground. They are still working on the wood chip situation.
- The Annual Spaghetti Supper and classroom visits in mid-November, followed by e-portfolio sessions for parents, went very well. Packets were distributed to those parents in attendance and mailed home to those who weren't able to attend.
- Mary Lambert and Terry Downing were named as staff-members-of-the-month for their support and work with the customized learning transition.
- Report cards are being produced to be sent home on Friday. They will also appear on the students' e-portfolios.

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

- Relative to the upcoming holiday, the students made their annual wreaths today, and the holiday dinner will be served this Thursday.
- The kindergarten students will begin NWEA testing next week.
- A blood drive will be held on December 9<sup>th</sup> at the school.
- Dreambox, an adaptive math program, will begin this week or next. Ms. Bartlett distributed information about the program, which provides independent activities, and spoke to it. A technology grant was used to purchase the subscription. Ms. Bartlett noted that it is aligned with learning outcomes. Ms. Ulricson inquired, and Ms. Bartlett confirmed that there is a home component to the program. She also noted that Chromebooks were purchased to have in the classroom for Dreambox. She spoke further about the students that the program targets.
- The December 10<sup>th</sup> Principal's Advisory Committee meeting will be focused on ways to collect anecdotal evidence on the new customized learning. They will be looking for "stories" from students/parents on their experiences. Ms. Bartlett noted that it is easy to collect data, but it is equally as important to collect this other information. Ms. Bartlett responded to Ms. Badger's request for further clarification, and also noted an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who is participating in an independent study program on space exploration.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Policy #1131, Strong Family and Community Partnerships** Ms. Ulricson moved, Ms. Brown seconded, to approve a second reading of policy #1131, Strong Family and Community Partnerships, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.
- B. Policy #5131.1, Student Discipline and Due Process** Ms. Brown moved, Ms. Wrath seconded, to approve a second reading of policy #5131.1, Student Discipline and Due Process, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.
- C. Policy #5155, Availability and Distribution of Healthy Foods and Beverages** Ms. Liebert, Ms. Wrath seconded, to approve a second reading of policy #5155, Availability and Distribution of Healthy Foods and Beverages, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.
- D. Policy #5165, Safe Schools** Ms. Brown moved, Ms. Ulricson seconded, to approve a second reading of policy #5165, Safe Schools, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.
- E. Policy #7100, Air Quality** Ms. Wrath moved, Ms. Liebert seconded, to approve a second reading of policy #7100, Air Quality, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Transportation Contract Extension** Per the Board's request, Ms. Temperino stated that she contacted Robertson Transit regarding an extension of its transportation contract with the school district. She reported that Robertson offered a two percent increase each year, with no additional fuel costs unless fuel goes above \$5.00 per gallon. Ms. Temperino stated her recommendation that the Board accept the offer.

**NEW BUSINESS****A. Transportation Contract Extension** (*cont'd.*)

Ms. Brown moved, Ms. Wrath seconded, to approve an extension of the transportation contract with Robertson Transit through June 30, 2019, as proposed. The vote was unanimously in favor.

Ms. Ormond spoke briefly regarding special education transportation. She stated that the way it is being done now is still more cost effective than including it in a bid process.

**B. SB 2 Preparation**

Ms. Ormond noted the public hearing and deliberative session dates (January 21<sup>st</sup> and February 6<sup>th</sup>, respectively). The “traditional” budget packet will be put together again this year. Ms. Badger mentioned the mailings that have been done in the past. Ms. Ormond stated that there may not be money in the budget to do that this year. Further discussion will be held as the dates draw nearer.

**C. 2014-2015 School Year Calendar**

Ms. Ormond referred Board members to the draft calendar for 2014-2015 that was included in the agenda packet. She stated that they are still waiting to hear from SAU 48 (Plymouth) regarding their proposed calendar. When that is received, she will attempt to align Ashland’s calendar with Plymouth’s and will present it to the staff prior to it being acted upon by the Board.

**D. Policy #5131, Conduct**

Ms. Brown moved, Ms. Ulricson seconded, to approve a first reading of policy #5131, Conduct, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

Ms. Ormond spoke briefly to this policy in comparison to the district’s Student Discipline policy. Ms. Bartlett noted that the Conduct Policy does not include core values. The consensus of the Board was to develop a new policy with just the core values (8 of them).

**E. Policy #5148, Weapons on School Property/Gun-Free Schools Act**

Ms. Brown moved, Ms. Wrath seconded, to approve a first reading of policy #5148, Weapons on School Property/Gun-Free Schools Act, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**F. Policy #6143, Use of Electronic Devices**

Ms. Ulricson moved, Ms. Brown seconded, to approve a first reading of policy #6143, Use of Electronic Devices, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**G. Policy #6171, Special Education – Independent Educational Evaluation**

Ms. Liebert moved, Ms. Brown seconded, to approve a first reading of policy #6171, Special Education – Independent Educational Evaluation, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**H. Policy #6173, Instruction of Temporarily Home-Bound Students**

Ms. Brown moved, Ms. Wrath seconded, to approve a first reading of policy #6173, Instruction of Temporarily Home-Bound Students, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**I. Policy #6181, Distance Education/Online Education/E-Learning**

Ms. Brown moved, Ms. Wrath seconded, to approve a first reading of policy #6181, Distance Education/Online Education/E-Learning, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**J. Policy #6181.1, Extended Learning Opportunities**

Ms. Wrath moved, Ms. Ulricson seconded, to approve a first reading of policy #6181.1, Extended Learning Opportunities, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS** *(cont'd.)*

- K. Policy #9100, Regulations and Policies of the Ashland School Board** Ms. Wrath moved, Ms. Ulricson seconded, to approve a first reading of policy #9100, Regulations and policies of the Ashland School Board, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.
- L. Policy #9111.1, Method of Election** Ms. Brown moved, Ms. Wrath seconded, to approve a first reading of policy #9111.1, Method of Election, as presented. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

- A. Members of the School Board** None.
- B. Members of the Administration** Ms. Ormond wished Board members a Merry Christmas.
- C. Committee Updates** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. SAU #2 School Board Budget Hearing and Meeting**  
Thursday, December 12, 2013, 6:30 p.m.  
Humiston Building Conference Room, Meredith
- B. Ashland School Board Special Meeting**  
Thursday, December 12, 2013, immediately following the SAU #2 School Board Meeting  
*(for the purpose of approving and forwarding proposed 2014-2015 budget and default budget to the Budget Committee)*
- C. Ashland School Board Regular Meeting**  
Tuesday, January 7, 2014, 6:30 p.m.  
*(Policy Review Committee to meet at 5:30 p.m.)*  
Heffernan Media Center, Ashland

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 8:04 p.m., upon a motion made by Ms. Ulricson, 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** Ms. Badger, Ms. Brown, Ms. Liebert, Ms. Ulricson, Ms. Wrath

**MEMBERS ABSENT** None

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT** Ms. Ormond, Ms. Temperino

**ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT** Ms. Bartlett

At 6:30 p.m., the Board discussed staff personnel. No action was taken.

**NON-PUBLIC SESSION II**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT** None

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT** Ms. Ormond, Ms. Temperino

**ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT** Ms. Bartlett

At 6:52 p.m., the Board received an update regarding Tri-County CAP.

At 6:58 p.m., Ms. Brown moved, Ms. Liebert seconded, to return to public session. The vote was unanimously in favor.