

Ashford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes – September 8, 2011
7:00 p.m.

Note: Per C.G.S. §10 – 218, Board of Education meeting minutes are provided in a draft format within 48 hours of the date the meeting was held. With the exception of motions and votes recorded, these minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote of the Board. Should edits be necessary, they will be made at a regularly scheduled meeting, noted in the meeting minutes, and so voted upon.

Call To Order

Chair J. Sterling-Folker called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Board Present

Present were members J. Sterling-Folker, K. Warren, D. Wesson, K. Rourke, J. Rupert and J. Lippert (7:57 pm). Also present were Superintendent Dr. J. Longo, Principal N. Johndrow, and recording secretary J. Barsaleau. Also present were AEA representatives K. Bryce, MEUI representatives S. Fletcher and G. Leedie. Resident L. Unable to attend was member J. Lipker.

Persons to be Heard

None

Communications

J. Sterling-Folker shared that she had received a copy of EASTCONN's annual programs and services catalog.

Staff Resignations

None. Posted to the agenda in error.

Approval of Minutes: 08/25/2011

Motion to approve the minutes of 08/25/2011 made by K. Warren, seconded by K. Rourke and carried unanimously, with the following correction, "Approval of Minutes: 08/04/2011", the motion was seconded by K. Rourke.

Administrative Reports/Summary

a. Superintendent

1. Facility Report

All of the above agenda items are addressed in Dr. Longo's report (attached). Dr. Longo reviewed the contents of the report with the board. Discussion followed concerning the school calendar and requested that the board consider changing the start date of the school year to 9/6, adding three days to the end of the current calendar, and reserving the right to recall February vacation as potential school days if it becomes necessary.

Motion made by J. Rupert to adopt the changes as proposed in Dr. Longo's report, motion seconded by K. Warren and carried unanimously.

Bus maintenance and repair expenses were discussed. The bus shed will no longer support electric heaters as was used in the past. The board directs Dr. Longo to contact the town's building official concerning the shed and any possible code issues or factors that would prevent installation of a propane heating unit in the shed. Rooftop drainpipes have been examined and some are damaged and/or clogged, this must be corrected before the winter. Repair solutions are being sought. This issue will be brought forth for inclusion in discussing the school roof with the selectmen's ad hoc committee.

The requested CMT report by the principal will be added to the next agenda.

b. Business Manager

Mrs. Clements was unable to attend the meeting, but provided budget information in Dr. Longo's report.

Old Business

a. Cafeteria Year End Report and List

The cafeteria co-managers provided a cash flow report and a list of equipment and items that may require replacement in the future. The board requests that the co-managers attend the next board meeting, and that they obtain price quotes for the equipment they listed. The board also requests an account balance sheet for the next meeting.

b. CABE/CAPSS Convention

Convention registrations have been made for member K. Warren. J. Lippert will also attend the Saturday workshops. There is a third reservation available for the incoming board member after the election. The reservation can be canceled for this person without penalty if they do not wish to attend the convention.

c. Standing Orders Revision

School medical advisor Dr. Kelly was contacted. He will revised the cardiac arrest section of the standing orders and send to the Superintendent's Office.

d. Lighting/Electrical Update

Addressed in the Superintendent's Report. Prices will be obtained for a building mounted light.

J. Lippert arrived (7:57 pm)

K. Rourke spoke of the creation of a capital maintenance item list (i.e. items that we have been unable to complete or address within our recent budgets, such as air handling, repairs etc.).

The board took a moment to share feedback from parents concerning the Summer Packets that were provided to students. Some of the parents reported their children felt as though they would be penalized for not completing the packet when they returned to school, others spoke of the online component of the packet as "not working out" for many of them. Mrs. Johndrow thanked the board for the feedback and reported that work was already underway to improve communication to families on the purpose and goal of the summer packet, and what the student expectations are.

New Business

a. Approval of School Bus Routes

Bus routes were handed out to members to review at the end of the last meeting. The runs are being revised slightly due to new student enrollment, the number of routes remains as it was last year.

Motion to approve the bus routes for 2011-12 made by K. Warren, seconded by D. Wesson and carried unanimously.

Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

Several board members reported conflict with the next regularly scheduled meeting date of September 22nd.

Motion to change the next meeting date to September 21, 2011, made by K. Warren, seconded by D. Wesson and carried unanimously.

Items for the next agenda:

CMT Report

Cafeteria Balance Sheet; Review List

Administrative Reports (Superintendent, Business Manager; Principal; Director of Pupil Personnel)

Facilities Report

CABE/CAPSS Convention

Non-Certified Staff Agreement

Superintendent Evaluation (Executive Session)

Superintendent Evaluation (Executive Session Anticipated)

Motion made by J. Rupert (8:34 p.m.) to enter into executive session for the purpose of the evaluation of the Superintendent and to invite Dr. Longo to attend. Motion seconded by D. Wesson and carried unanimously.

The Board and Dr. Longo exited executive session (10:09 pm)

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting (10:10 p.m.) made by K. Warren, seconded by K. Rourke and carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Barsaleau
Recording Secretary