

ASHFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Meeting Minutes — July 21, 2016
7:30 pm
Ashford School District Office Conference Room

Note: Per C.G.S. State Statute 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

Board Chair J. Rupert called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. Present were members J. Rupert, J. Lippert, K. Rourke, M. Matthews, L. Donegan, K. Warren. Unable to attend was J. Calarese. Attending the meeting was J. Longo, Supt., and Don Neel, Business Manager.

Persons to be Heard

None

Communications

*There was a thank you letter from Danielle Cote thanking the Board for selecting her as one of the recipients of the Bicknell Scholarship.

*A letter was sent to Michael Gardner, Justin Ford, Jon Talgo, Mike Mellady, Alex Hastillo, and Jim Rupert concerning a 10-year capital plan committee be formed in order to apply for State of Connecticut school construction grants and the committee will be better able to plan out projects to be included in the town's 5-year Capital Plan.

*Shipman & Goodwin's 18-page document pertaining to Statutory Changes Affecting Students.

*Letter of resignation from JoAnna Silverstein, music teacher for grades pre-school-8.

*Letter of resignation from Jane Evans, paraprofessional.

These resignations were approved by the Board of Education meeting at their June 23, 2016 meeting.

Motion made by J. Rupert to approve appointments to the staff of Robert Ackerson, Tabitha Bogue, Jillian Bumgarner, Stephen Caldwell, Mandi Courtois and Valerie Stickles. Motion seconded by J. Lippert and carried unanimously. (This motion was inadvertently omitted from the unapproved minutes filed with the town clerk.)

Motion to accept this corrected motion made by J. Rupert and seconded by Lisa Donegan. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of minutes of June 23, 2016.

There was a correction on the back page under the line exited executive session at 9:30 pm. 1st sentence of the motion by J. Calarese to "authorize a FY 16 merit pay increase" should read "to authorize a FY 16 merit pay to increase base salary" There were not enough board members present from that meeting to approve the minutes so the minutes from June 23, 2016 will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Attached to the minutes will be the superintendent's report of June 23, 2016. A more detailed report will be given at the Board's retreat in August. J. Longo stated that they held an administrative team meeting. K. Rourke wanted to know if one form could go for all children in the family instead of a form for each child. Asst. Principal G. Dukette has been researching how they do it online at E.O. Smith.

Business Manager Report

D. Neel stated that we will have approximately \$37,000 in the plus at the end of the school year. Attached is the approximate status of the budget FY 15/16.

New Business

Resignation letter from Jennifer Sprague, bus driver, for medical reasons.

K. Warren made a motion to accept the resignation of Jennifer Sprague, with regret. L. Donegan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Lisa Donegan made a motion to hire Samantha Meduna as a paraprofessional.

K. Rourke seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Neel stated that transfer of monies at the end of the year are attached. They are-- Transfer from: Salaries (\$66,000) and Purchased Services (\$19,000) transferred to Employee Benefits (\$37,000); Property—furniture replacement (\$44,000); and Other (\$4,000). **J. Rupert made a motion to accept the budget transfers as recommended by the Business Manager, D. Neel. Motion passed unanimously.**

School Calendar for 2016/17. There is a change to the calendar: March 9, 2017 will be a regular school day and the new day off will be Election Day, the first Tuesday in November, 2016. **K. Warren motioned to accept the school calendar with the correction. L. Donegan seconded. Motion passed unanimously**

Discussion of Ashford School Education Association Negotiations

J. Rupert stated that we had our first meeting to set up the ground rules and dates for the negotiation teams.

FY 16 Year-End Budget

D. Neel stated that we were on track with the End-of-the-Year budget.

Old Business

Second Reading of Policies/Administrative Regulations (Series 3000: Credit Card Policy)

L. Donegan made a motion to accept the policy as written. J. Lippert seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

BOE Retreat Planning

The BOE will be holding their retreat at the Ashford Senior Center, August 11, 2016 at 4 pm. J. Long will email packets to the board members before the retreat.

There were no expenses for the superintendent for the past month or FY 15/16.

Next Meeting Date: August 11, 2016. Ashford Senior Center, 4 pm

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

*Approve Minutes from June 23, 2016

*Discussion of results of Retreat of Aug. 11, 2016

*Superintendent's Evaluation (possible executive session)

Marian Matthew motioned to adjourn and seconded by Lisa Donegan.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Kay M. Warren
Secretary, BOE