

Ashford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes – November 5, 2015

7:30 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 by the Superintendent of Schools

Superintendent of Schools J. Longo called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. Present were J. Rupert, K. Rourke, J. Lippert and K. Warren. Also present were Principal T. Hopkins, Asst. Principal G. Dukette, and recording secretary J. Barsaleau and audience member N. Rice. Unable to attend were board members L. Donegan, M. Matthews and J. Calarese.

Board Reorganization

a. Election of Officers

Dr. Longo opened the floor to nominations for the appointment of Board of Education Chairperson. ***K. Warren nominated J. Rupert for the position of Board Chairperson. Nomination seconded by K. Rourke.*** Being that there were no other nominations, Dr. Longo called for a vote on the nomination on the floor. Nomination carried.

Dr. Longo opened the floor to nominations for the appointment of Board of Education Vice-Chairperson. ***Motion made by J. Lippert to nominate both the Board of Education Vice-Chairperson and the Board of Education Secretary. Motion seconded by J. Rupert and carried unanimously.***

Dr. Longo opened the floor to nominations for Board of Education Vice-Chairperson and Board of Education Secretary.

J. Lippert nominated K. Rourke for the position of Board of Education Vice-Chairperson and K. Warren for Board of Education Secretary. Nominations seconded by J. Rupert.

Being there were no other nominations, Dr. Longo called for a vote on the nominations on the floor. Both nominations carried.

Dr. Longo closed this portion of the meeting and turned the meeting over to the Board Chair.

b. Committee Appointments

Motion made by K. Rourke to postpone committee appointments until the next regular meeting.

Motion seconded by K. Warren and carried unanimously.

Motion made by K. Rourke to reorder the agenda, addressing item 6a at this time. Motion seconded by J. Lippert and carried unanimously.

Distribution of Administrative Reports

a. Superintendent

Dr. Longo deferred to Mr. Hopkins to discuss an article “Rating the Towns” (attached) that recently appeared in the November 2015 edition of Connecticut Magazine. For homes with a median value of \$200,000 or less, Ashford was ranked as the fifth best place to live out of forty-three towns. In terms of education, Ashford ranked third amongst these same towns. The board was very appreciative and thanked Mr. Hopkins for bringing this to their attention. The board is pleased that the administration and staff’s commitment and dedication to educational excellence is receiving recognition.

c. Establishment of Regular Meeting Date, Place and Time

A meeting schedule draft was included in the board agenda packet. Dr. Longo suggested that the board consider the option of utilizing the 1st meeting of the month for subcommittee meetings and/or board work sessions. Regular meetings will be on the first and third Thursday of each month in District Office Conference Room 14 at 7:30 PM.

Motion made by K. Rourke to approve the regular Board of Education meeting schedule dates as presented, striking the 6:30 PM subcommittee meeting reference. Motion seconded by K. Warren and carried unanimously.

Persons to be Heard

None.

Communications

A packet of materials from the Town Clerk concerning annual meeting schedules, filing deadlines and FOI was handed out. Also distributed was the November enrollment report, and a model policy update notice from board counsel.

Approval of Minutes: 10/01/2015; 10/15/15

Motion to table approval of the regular meeting minutes of 10/01/2015 and 10/15/15 made by K. Rourke, seconded by J. Lippert and carried unanimously.

New Business

a. First Reading: (Series 3000 – Purchasing (edit approved by counsel))

A single line of text has been added to the existing purchasing policy and approved by counsel. The regulation associated with this policy has been edited as directed at the last board meeting. Both will be on the agenda in December for second reading and approval.

Motion made by J. Rupert to add to the agenda as item 8b, discussion of a resolution recognizing the service to the Board of Education of Donald Wesson and Jennifer Mozeiko. Motion seconded by K. Warren and carried unanimously.

The board will invite Mr. Wesson and Ms. Mozeiko to a future meeting to formally recognize and thank them for their service to the community and the Ashford Board of Education.

Old Business

a. Second Reading of Policies: (Series 1000 – School Volunteers; Series 4000-Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Assault; Series 5000-Attendance and Truancy; Immunizations; Health Assessments and Screenings; Discipline; Student Records (FERPA); Administration of Medications in Schools; Use of District's Computer Systems)

A summary of policies was distributed noting that two policies require board directive to include or exclude optional language (attached).

Motion made by K. Warren to approve the series 1000, 4000 and 5000 policies as presented, adding a .50 per page copy fee to the Student Records (FERPA) policy, and excluding appendices B&C from the Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Assault policy. Motion seconded by K. Rourke and carried unanimously.

b. Second Reading of Board Policy Regulation Update (Series 1000-Sexual Offenders on School Property)

Motion made by K. Rourke to approve Series 1000 Sexual Offenders on School Property regulation as presented. Seconded by K. Warren and carried unanimously.

Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

The next regular meeting date is 11/19. Agenda items include board committee appointments, administrative reports including cafeteria and health room, second reading of policies and superintendent evaluation.

Superintendent Evaluation (Executive Session, Action Anticipated)

Motion made by J. Lippert to enter into executive session (9:23 pm) for the purpose of evaluation of the Superintendent, inviting Dr. Longo to attend. Motion seconded by K. Rourke and carried unanimously.

Present: J. Rupert, K. Warren, J. Lippert, K. Rourke and Dr. J. Longo

The Board and Dr. Longo exited the session at 9:42 pm.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at (9:43 pm) made by J. Lippert seconded by K. Warren and carried unanimously.

Recorded by:

Jennifer Barsaleau
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Ashford Board of Education: