

Ashford Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes - January 2, 2020
7:00 pm
Ashford School Library/Media Center

Note: Per CGS 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 exceptions of motions and votes recorded, the minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote by the Board. Should edits be necessary, they will be made at a regularly scheduled meeting, noted in the meeting minutes, and so voted upon.

1. Call to Order

Chair John Lippert called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. Present was Marian Matthews, Tess Grous, and Jane Urban.

2. Communications

Continued discussion of busses.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

a. FY 21 Budget

No public comment.

4. Approval of Minutes: 12/19/2019 (Special and Regular)

Approval of Minutes: 12/19/2019

Motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of 12/19/2020 made by Jane Urban with the following amendments:

- Change the word “was” to “were” in the second sentence after Call to Order.

Motion seconded by Marian Matthews to approve the Special Meeting Minutes 12/19/2019 as amended and carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of 12/19/2019 made by Jane Urban with the following amendments:

- Change the word “was” to “were” in third sentence after Call to Order.
- Public Comments Title was omitted after Communications.
- Change the word “ten” to “then” in 5th sentence of FY 21 Public Budget Input.
- Change the word “were’ to “was” in 6th sentence of FY 21 Public Budget Input.
- Page 2 District Administrative Reports, Sentence 2; add the word “by” between seconded and Al Maccarone.

Motion to approve the seconded by Marian Matthews to approve the Minutes 12/19/2019 as amended and carried unanimously.

5. Committee Break Out Sessions:

Finance/Personnel/Transportation/Building & Grounds/Cafeteria/Long-Term Planning

There were no break-out sessions. Break-out sessions were tabled until a later BOE meeting.

6. Old Business

a. Follow Up to Dress Code Discussion

Dress Code Discussion will be tabled until January 16 until more information is gathered. Marian Matthews stated that if students cannot wear and cannot store jackets and backpacks they will need to go somewhere.

b. Approval of 2020-2021 School Calendar

Dr. Longo suggested that a specific proposal to be given to teachers for their input. Jane Urban suggested half days be used for packing up classrooms. Marian suggests the calendar is more important to teachers and parents so they should have input. Dr. Longo remarked the calendar is a work in progress. More will be discussed at the January 16th BOE meeting to allow time for Dr. Longo to discuss the calendar with teachers.

John Lippert made a motion to add 7b. Capital projects Priority list and between #8 and #9. Jane Urban second the motion. All in favor unanimously.

7. New Business

a. New Board Member Conference Report (Tess Grous)

Tess shared several highlights from her time at CABE New Board Member and Leadership Conference including information on Gifted and Talented students from CABE. Dr. Longo will research information and guidelines.

7b. Capital Priority Lists

Updated Superintendent's Proposed Priority List – Five Year Plan.

Marian Matthews asked why were there items on the list that have not been addressed and why aren't things that will save money like the renovations for a more efficient heating and cooling system and roof being taken care of. Marian suggested that the BOE begin talk about the roof and bonding and the energy audit. Marian was concerned that there was little that could be done since the Capital committee meets on January 7. Marian suggested that the Board look at bonding in year 3 if not before. It was decided that the Four Year Plan be reprioritized.

Dr. Longo remarked that no payment has been received for Financial Software from Cheryl Baker and Chuck Funk.

The Revisions to the Superintendent's Proposed Priority List are attached. Marian will discuss the representation of the Five Year plan at the January 7 meeting with John Calarese.

BOE members should read and familiarize themselves with the Grade Level Staffing information packet.

8. Second Opportunity for Public Comment

Maureen Caye asked when the initial budget was published. Dr. Longo explained the Cost Estimates would be available on January 16, 2020. Dr. Longo will prepare a baseline budget with 4 proposals with ongoing updates to be posted on the Website.

9. Agenda for January 16 meeting

Agenda to include an Executive Meeting at 6:00 P.M., a Special meeting at 6:30 P.M., and a Regular meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Tess proposed that the agenda be given to BOE earlier than the day or two before the BOE meeting. Dr. Longo will make a request to Troy and Cindy to prepare agenda information for the Friday before the meeting. Also, that a full packet be sent to BOE members on Friday afternoon so that BOE members can be prepared to discuss at the following meeting.

10. Adjournment

Motion made by Jane Urban to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Marian Matthews and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned by 8:28 P.M.

Recorded by:

Tess Grous, BOE Secretary

Ashford School Capital Projects Notes
January 2, 2020
Superintendent's Proposed Priority List
Five-Year Plan

Year One 2020

1. Renovation/repurposing of the "Tech Space" - called CORR
2. Upgrade Generator so emergency power includes water and more lighting
3. Two Vehicles:
 - a. Standard full size bus
 - b. Van

Year Two 2021

1. Library Media Center Drop Ceiling
2. Drop ceilings in Primary Wing Classrooms
3. Standard Bus

Year Three 2022

1. Participation in Major renovation project.
 - a. Plumbing and heating upgrade
 - i. More efficient heating system
 - b. HVAC
 - c. Window replacement
 - d. Sprinkler
 - e. Roof
 - f. Fuel Tank upgrade or replacement
 - g. Grade and pave front parking lot
 - h. Standard Bus and Van