

Ashford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes – September 21, 2017
7:00 p.m.
District Office Conference Room

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

Secretary K. Warren called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. Present were members J. Lippert, L. Donegan and M. Matthews. Also present were Superintendent Dr. J. Longo, Principal T. Hopkins, Asst. Principal G. Dukette, Director of Pupil Personnel C. Ford and recording secretary J. Barsaleau. Unable to attend were board members J. Calarese, J. Rupert and K. Rourke Present in the audience was AEA co-president J. Horn, J. Zotti, N. Rice and D. Atkinson.

Persons to be Heard

a. Comments Concerning Items on the Posted Agenda

None

Communications

Dr. Longo reported that a routine tap water test sample taken in August showed slightly elevated levels of lead at one location. As required, further samples were collected, resulting in results that are within acceptable levels. The original samples were collected during summer recess at a time when water use in the school is minimal. All notification requirements will be addressed by sending home a letter to families and posting this notice on the school website.

Approval of Minutes: 09/07/2017

Motion by J. Lippert to approve the regular meeting minutes of 09/07/2017, seconded by L. Donegan and carried unanimously.

District Administrative Reports to the Board (Superintendent, Business Manager)

- Dr. Longo briefly reviewed his report and discussed committee assignments and the charge of the committees in the development of long range plans and capital plans. To accomplish this goal, the first meeting of each month would be limited to necessary business and then committee break out sessions. Goals will be discussed at the 2nd October meeting.
- L. Dyer distributed the current budget report dated 9/21. There has been limited spending to date. Mrs. Dyer will plan to attend the next board of finance meeting.

Administrative Reports (Principal, Asst. Principal, Director of Pupil Personnel, Cafeteria)

- Mr. Hopkins reviewed the principals report, noting that two staff members have completed the National Geographic Educator Certification program, and that teacher Rebecca Aubrey, was named a semifinalist for state Teacher of the Year. Dr. Longo reported he had received a phone call from the state congratulating Ashford on having a teacher of the year finalist. After school clubs have started for the trimester.
- Mr. Dukette summarized his report to the board. The upcoming October teacher workshop will focus on writing. Curriculum work on social studies, music, band and art should be finalized this year, and other curriculum work has begun in grades 4,6 and 8. Gifted and Talented PPT meetings will be held soon to identify eligible students. Community Service Day will be held on 9/30 with Ashford School students working with Eastern CT State University students at Pompey Hollow Park, the Senior Center and at Ashford School.
- Mrs. Ford reported that Ashford met all state audit requirements for compliance with writing and monitoring progress of Individualized Education Plans (IEP). This is a complicated task and she thanked her assistant, Catherine Klessner, for her hard work in achieving 100% compliance. Referrals to special education have decreased, in large part due to the success of the Student Intervention Team (SIT) meeting process. Mrs. Ford commented that she had attended the state Director meeting and noted that Ashford is ahead of many other districts as we have already implemented many of the best practice programs that were discussed at that meeting.
- By mutual agreement, the cafeteria report will be tabled until the second October meeting.

New Business

a. First Reading: Series 5000 Non-Resident Student Tuition Policy

A non-resident student Admission/Tuition policy was prepared by counsel and provided in the board packet. The policy will be on the agenda for second reading at the second October meeting.

The policy distribution led to discussion of agenda item 8b. *Certified Staff Memorandum of Agreement – Non-Resident Student Tuition Credit.*

Dr. Longo met with the AEA co-presidents to review and edit the MOA. A revised MOA was distributed and its content reviewed for inclusion of changes to the original MOA discussed at a prior meeting.

Motion by L. Donegan to approve the Memorandum of Agreement concerning Certified Staff Non-Resident Tuition Credit as presented, motion seconded by M. Matthews and carried unanimously.

Old Business

a. Tech Ed Space Renovations and Facility and Maintenance Update

Connection to the existing heating unit was successful with one of the ceiling units needing to be relocated per the town building official. Dr. Longo has contacted the first selectman requesting use of unexpended educational funds to complete this task. The cost is estimated to be \$3,900. The fire marshal has inspected the facility and we have received certification.

b. Certified Staff Memorandum of Agreement – Non-Resident Student Tuition Credit (Executive Session Anticipated)

Addressed earlier in the meeting based on relevance to the policy presented.

c. Staff Resignation

Dr. Longo received an email from Ryan Rupert confirming his resignation effective 9/14/17.

Motion made by M. Matthews to accept with regret the resignation of Ryan Rupert. Motion seconded by J. Lippert and carried unanimously.

The board wishes Ryan well in his new career.

d. Custodial and Maintenance Work Schedule

By mutual consent of the membership present this item was tabled.

Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

The next regular meeting date of 10/5 conflicts with E.O. Smith open house, the board will cancel this meeting and hold a special meeting on 10/12. Agenda items for the 10/19 meeting will include goals, facility update, facility use policy regulations, budget.

Second Opportunity for Public Comment

None

Motion to adjourn the meeting (8:12 pm) made by M. Matthews, seconded by J. Lippert and carried unanimously.

Recorded by:

Jennifer Barsaleau, Recording Secretary