

**Ashford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes – March 30, 2017**

**7:00 p.m.
District Office Conference Room**

Call to Order

Chair J. Rupert called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. Present were members: J. Rupert, K. Rourke, L. Donegan, M. Matthews, J. Calarese. J. Lippert attended Board of Finance Meeting. Absent: K. Warren. Administrators/staff present were: T. Hopkins, G. Dukette, C. Ford, L. Dyer. M. Caye was also present from the community.

Persons to be Heard

None.

Communications

One from BOF requesting additional items related to BOE budget, and one from Susan Eastwood who sent the results of the Ashford School Energy audit.

Brief discussion about the energy audit results (payback, potential for grant funds, need to prioritize items in audit). This will be a topic for a future BOE agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes from 2/16/17: *M. Matthews made motion and L. Donegan seconded motion to approve. Motion passed unanimously.*

Approval of minutes from 3/16/17: *J. Calarese made motion and K. Rourke seconded motion to approve. Motion passed unanimously.*

Administrative Reports

Troy Hopkins, Principal, highlighted several items on his Principal's Report, specifically noting the attendance of six teachers at the NELMS Conference in Providence, RI on March 30th and 31st. Two presentations were submitted and accepted marking yet another year of representation at this annual conference. Mr. Hopkins also shared academic achievement scores for 2015-16 for Ashford vs. the State's average in ELA, Math and Science. The scores were presented in % Points and Ashford scored above the State average in all three categories based on the criteria in the CT Next Generation Accountability System.

Garrett Dukette, Assistant Principal, also highlighted several items on his Assistant Principal's Report including an article he identified that sets out a plan for ensuring that writing occurs across all academic areas. Mr. Dukette is hoping to implement a portfolio process for next school year based on this article. He also discussed implementing benchmark teams with a goal of having teams of teachers grade benchmarks for consistency and efficiency. Other items were

also discussed including: finalization of next year's schedule, PBIS initiative, and the upcoming career fair on May 5th.

Cindy Ford, Director of Pupil Personnel, presented her report, which contained various statistics pertaining to Ashford's population of students. Ms. Ford also elaborated on the S.I.T. program, and discussed how this intervention program compares to special education services under 504 or IDEA/ADA.

New Business: Budget Transfers

Budget transfers were presented by the Finance Director, Lisa Dyer. ***K. Rourke made a motion to approve the budget transfers as presented in the 2016-2017 Budget Transfer Worksheet. M. Matthews seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.*** The Board reviewed the status of the current year (FY17) budget and the detailed A/P Monthly Report **noting that there were no expenditures made on behalf of the Superintendent for the month.**

Old Business

Non-Certified Staff Appointment: Tabled for next meeting.

Certified Staff Tuition for Attendance of Non-Resident Student: ***M. Matthews made a motion and L. Donegan seconded a motion to provide a tuition waiver for the remainder of the 2016-17 academic year for one student via a Memorandum of Understanding. After a discussion pertaining to the some of the specifics of the MOU including the pros/cons and also how special education services would be handled, the Board approved the motion unanimously.*** The Board also agreed that a BOE policy will be developed for the next academic year, and that such a policy would satisfy a Board of Education goal.

FY18 Budget: The Board had a brief discussion pertaining to additional information requested by the Board of Finance. J. Lippert is in attendance at their meeting, and he will report back to administration and the Board Chair. The Board also noted the amended Budget Calendar which is posted on the Town's website and which was in the *Ashford Citizen*.

Next Meeting Agenda

- Old Business: Staff Appointment
- Certified Staff Tuition for Attendance of Non-Resident Student
- FY18 Budget Worksession

Motion to Adjourn was made by M. Matthews and seconded by J. Calarese. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Recorded and Submitted by

Kimberley.Rourke

Board of Education, Vice Chair on behalf of J. Barsaleau, Recording Secretary