

Ashford Board of Education
Ashford, Connecticut

Regular Meeting Agenda
November 2, 2017
7:00 pm
Ashford School
District Office Conference Room 14

1. Call To Order
2. Communications
3. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes: 10/19/2017
4. New Business
 - a. Policy Recommendations Summary – Student Series 5000
5. Old Business
 - a. Friar & Associates Follow Up
 - b. “CORR” Area Renovations
6. BOE Subcommittee Worksessions (7:30 pm – 8:15 pm)
 - a. Transportation (J. Rupert, K. Warren, J. Calarese - Conference Room)
 - b. Finance (K. Rourke and J. Lippert - Superintendent of Schools Office)
7. Subcommittee Worksession Summary to Board
8. Personnel Matter (Executive Session Anticipated, Action Anticipated)
9. Adjournment

Ashford Board of Education Goals

The Ashford Board shall:

1. Initiate policies and practices, as well as devote appropriate resources towards the improvement of Ashford students on Connecticut standardized testing.
2. Promote instructional practices rooted in the individual skills, talents, needs and performance of the student.
3. Initiate mechanisms for improved and effective communication with the community as well as town leaders and other town boards and committees.
4. Develop a three-year school improvement plan that presents, and explains, an optimal path towards educational excellence in Ashford.

All meetings, conferences, programs and activities at Ashford School are available, without discrimination, to individuals with disabilities as defined by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and/or Title II of the American with Disabilities Act.

Individuals with disabilities requesting relocation of this meeting should call the Superintendent at 429-1927 or e-mail a request to jplongo@ashfordct.org not later than 2 working days prior to the meeting. Hearing impaired individuals may communicate their request for accommodations by using the e-mail address above, or calling the State of CT TDD relay service (800) 842-2880 or the national relay service number (800) 855-2880.

Enclosures: Minutes 10/19; 2017 policy recommendation summary

Ashford Board of Education
Special Meeting Minutes – October 19, 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

Board Chair J. Rupert called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm. Present were members J. Lippert, L. Donegan, K. Warren, J. Calarese, K. Rourke and M. Matthews. Also present were Superintendent Dr. J. Longo, Principal T. Hopkins, Asst. Principal G. Dukette, Director of Pupil Personnel C. Ford, Business Manager L. Dyer and recording secretary J. Barsaleau. Present in the audience was AEA member J. Zotti.

Persons to Be Heard

a. Comments Concerning Items on the Posted Agenda

None

Communications

A letter from the Teacher of the Year Council was shared congratulating Ashford teacher Rebecca Aubrey for being named a semi-finalist for 2018 Teacher of the Year. Board members extended their congratulations to Ms. Aubrey and noted this is a great accomplishment for her and for Ashford School. J. Rupert noted that he had received communication from the probate court concerning the Bicknell Trust. The triennial report was filed with the court earlier this month. The YMCA after school program has requested board action concerning temporary program management until their program license is granted.

Approval of Minutes: 09/21/2017; 10/12/2017

Motion by J. Lippert to approve the regular meeting minutes of 09/21/2017, motion seconded by L. Donegan and carried with three abstentions (J. Rupert, J. Calarese and K. Rourke).

Motion by J. Lippert to approve the special meeting minutes of 10/12/2017, motion seconded by K. Rourke and carried unanimously.

Distribution of District Office Reports (Superintendent, Business Manager, Cafeteria)

a. September 2017 Financial Reports

Dr. Longo distributed copies of his most recent Ashford Citizen article and L. Dyer distributed and reviewed the Business Manager's report. A cafeteria report was included with the board agenda packet. Members asked Mrs. Dyer about the state of cafeteria finances. She indicated they are in the black and have a balance of approximately \$5,000-\$7,000 at this time. Other items discussed were the UCOA grant, financial software, budget, composting and food waste.

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

All reports were included in the board packet. Members asked Mr. Hopkins about the teacher Argonaut Program and how it is funded. Mr. Dukette was asked to explain what the Ashford Writing College is. This refers to Ashford teachers who have attended writing classes at Columbia University and are leading professional development in writing with their peers.

New Business

a. Custodial Search Committee

A custodial vacancy has been reposted for a 32-hour position that includes Saturdays. Upon receipt of applications, interviews will be held. J. Calarese and J. Rupert will participate in the interview process.

Motion made by J. Lippert to add to the agenda as item 7b, Request Authorization of Temporary YMCA Program Management. Motion seconded by J. Rupert and carried unanimously.

The after school program at Ashford School requires an annual license. The application is currently in process and the state requires program management oversight until the license is granted.

Motion made by L. Donegan to provide Board of Education oversight and administration of the Indian Valley Family YMCA after school care program through March 1, 2018. Motion seconded by K. Warren and carried unanimously.

Old Business

a. "CORR" Area Space Renovations and Facility Management Update

The town building official inspected the renovated space on 10/17 and will issue a certificate of occupancy. The official will not sign off on Certification of Completion for the contractor until final review by the BOE and the Superintendent. J. Rupert expressed concern about lack of insulation in exterior doors. Mr. Rupert and Dr. Longo will discuss this further with counsel if necessary.

Dr. Longo expressed his appreciation to Mike Mellady for his hard work in bringing this project to the final stages for a certificate of occupancy. Mr. Mellady spent a great deal of time not only physically working in this space, but also communicating with the contractors, the Town and fire marshal. The board expressed its thanks and appreciation to Mr. Mellady as well.

b. Second Reading: Non-Resident Student Tuition Policy

The policy as presented by counsel requires the board to determine a reasonable period of time to allow for non-resident student attendance in the case of future occupancy or residency within Ashford; and the period of time that permits a student who moves from Ashford, to remain at Ashford School.

Motion made by L. Donegan to stipulate the period of 90 school days be added to the above policy sections III – A and III-B. Motion seconded by J. Calarese and carried unanimously.

c. Capital Planning Priorities

Dr. Longo and Mr. Rupert met with Mike Sorano of Friar & Associates prior to this board meeting to discuss prioritization of needs. A quote for this service will be forthcoming.

d. Request Use of Unexpended Educational Funds

Dr. Longo has received board authorization to request release of unexpended funds. Dr. Longo will draft a letter of request for the next board meeting.

Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

Friar & Associates quote, budget, building and grounds report. Committees on the next agenda will be finance and transportation.

Second Opportunity for Public Comment

L. Donegan attended this year's WINGS event at the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp. She spoke very highly of our students and staff that attended and shared great appreciation and admiration for the program. It is unique and very special to our school and she urged everyone who has not been there to attend.

Motion to adjourn the meeting (8:31 pm) made by M. Matthews, seconded by L. Donegan and carried unanimously.

Recorded by:

Jennifer Barsaleau, Recording Secretary



**MODEL POLICY CLIENTS
SUMMARY OF POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
2017**

Introduction

This memorandum serves as a collective summary of the suggested revisions to local and regional board policies, regulations and accompanying documents that we have recommended as a result of laws from the 2016 legislative session that are effective with the 2017-2018 school year, new laws from the 2017 legislative session, as well as changes based on legal trends or best practices. The bases for our recommended changes to existing policies for each respective series are discussed below. For access to these policies, regulations and accompanying documents, please visit our client portal and use the login and password with which you have been provided. If you need any assistance with your login and/or password, please contact Jade Tarca, jtarca@goodwin.com. If you have any questions about the policy revisions, feel free to contact Peter J. Maher, at pmaher@goodwin.com, or Christopher A. Tracey, at ctracey@goodwin.com.

Students (5000)

Attendance and Truancy

This policy and accompanying administrative regulations have been revised based on Public Act 16-147 and Public Act 17-14. Public Act 16-147, which is effective August 15, 2017, removes the Family with Service Needs (FWSN) process as a response for schools to address truancy issues and further provides that the State will provide a truancy intervention models that must be used by districts with a (yet to be defined) disproportionately high rate of truancy by August 15, 2018. Public Act 17-14, effective July 1, 2017, removes in-school suspensions that are greater than or equal to one-half of a school day from the definition of “absence” for purposes of calculating chronic absenteeism rates.

Restraint and Seclusion

This policy and corresponding administrative regulations have been revised based on Section 5 of Public Act 17-220. That law revised the mandatory training requirements for physical restraint and seclusion by requiring such training only for members of a school’s crisis intervention team, while permitting school districts to train other school employees who are not on a crisis intervention team. Previously, such training was required to be phased in over a three-year period for all school professionals, paraprofessionals and administrators. The new law

also clarified the membership of crisis intervention teams and requires districts to maintain a list of crisis intervention team members for each school.

Student Discipline

This policy has been revised based on Public Act 16-147 and Public Act 17-220, which revised the expulsion statute and added new requirements relating to expulsion notices and procedures and the alternative educational opportunity for expelled students. Public Act 17-220 also requires the State Board of Education to adopt standards for the provision of an adequate alternative educational opportunity for expelled students by August 15, 2017, which will include the kind of instruction and number of hours to be provided to such students. Other revisions to this policy include clarification of due process procedures for expulsion hearings. In addition, the model expulsion notice to parents and model stipulated expulsion agreement have also been revised.

Note: We will review the State Board's alternative educational opportunity standards once they are released and make further revisions, as necessary, to this model policy at that time.