

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

EPPING SCHOOL BOARD

December 19, 2019 - Town Hall

School Board Meeting - 7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Deborah Brooks called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

In attendance: Chair Deborah Brooks, Vice Chair David Mylott, Member Ben Leavitt, Member Heather Clark, Superintendent Valerie McKenney, Business Administrator Bonnie Sandstrom, Student Faith Williamson, and Student Taya Morgado. Member Nicole Carleton was absent.

SCHEDULED GUESTS

a. Brian Ernest, Update from EHS

Mr. Ernest summarized Epping High School's 2019-2020 goals. He also updated the Board on the attendance and behavior of students thus far into the school year. Truant absences and behavioral issues between September and November have decreased over the years. He had sent out a student survey regarding the new student schedule and FLEX Block; the results were positive. He noted that the academic interruption time difference between 2018 and 2019 in the month of September was 15.75 hours. He updated the Board on the progress that has been made with the culture and climate initiative at the high school. He has been working closely with Mr. Preble, staff, and students towards positive change at EHS.

Safety Report

Faith Williamson and Mikhail Ozols discussed school safety. They are both members of the safety group. This group consists of EHS students who are concerned about their safety at school. Some of the students' safety concerns were school shooting awareness, school staff training, alert trainings, and where safe spots would be in order to hide if a crazy person entered the school. There was a general discussion about what they've been up to and the items they've been prioritizing. They discussed what they would like to see implemented and shared their ideas. A night lock, window painting, advanced drills, and a shooter/unsafe person drill alternative were on their list. For the night lock, they provided necessary information such as the types of doors (inward or outward swinging) that are in the school, and they included the price of

a lock that they had found online. They also presented their plan for the advanced evacuation drill plan.

b. Ben Bourgoin, Fall Round up and Winter Preview

Mr. Bourgoin recapped the 2019 Fall Sports at the middle and high school. He discussed the teams that competed and the participation numbers within each sport. He said that nine student-athletes were recognized for on-field performances. He also mentioned that one EHS team competed in the NHIAA tournament. The team made it to the quarter finals. There were two concussions that were reported during the fall season, and they've been treated. All EHS teams earned a positive sportsmanship rating. Out of the Division IV teams, they were ranked six out of 21 in terms of sportsmanship. He summarized each team's record from the fall season. Following that, he gave a mid-season report for the winter sports. He stated which teams are competing and the participation numbers. He informed the Board about the new personnel for some of the sports teams. Lastly, he summarized new developments that he's working on.

c. Fremont High School Student Discussion

Fremont High School is looking to transition their students from Sanborn High School to a more local high school next year. This would be a gradual transition starting with the current 8th grade class. If the students attend EHS, it will mean an additional 45 students would attend in Fall 2020. The superintendent from Fremont asked the Board five questions in November, and these answers were summarized to refresh the Board. Fremont is interested in scheduling a visit to EHS. All the Board members and Mr. Ernest are on board with it. They think it's a great idea.

Member Heather Clark made a motion to allow Fremont to visit in January and proceed in the potential process of tuitioning their students to Epping High School. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

POLICY

a. JICM - Bring your own device - Students - First Read/Discussion

Faith said students concerned mostly about emergency situations and not being able to use their phone. Additionally, a student suggested giving upperclassmen more freedom with their phones compared to the younger students. Taya suggested that having more freedom with the use of electronic devices could help students improve their accountability and restraint. This is an

optional policy. Valerie said that it could cause equity issues if students could bring in any device that they own.

Member Heather Clark made a motion to table this policy until after the Technology Committee has reviewed it. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

b. ECA - Buildings and Grounds Security - Second/Third Read

Member Heather Clark tabled this policy ECA - Buildings and Grounds Security until the next meeting. Seconded by Vice Chair David Mylott. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

PERSONNEL

a. None

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

a. Student Reports

The semester is coming to a close, and students are starting to collect WSP evidence. They're excited for break. Epping is winning Rivals Week so far!

b. Superintendent's Report

Valerie discussed climate and culture updates. She also mentioned important dates and upcoming events at the three schools regarding climate and culture.

c. Committee Reports

David briefly mentioned the Technology Committee meeting. At the SST meeting, they had a conversation about the change in policy regarding special needs pricing. The increase in cost can be partially attributed to a change in special needs practices. The policy isn't going to change.

Heather talked about the Budget Committee meeting. They voted to support the budget. They're going to be reviewing all warrant articles. In January, they will vote on them and have a final vote on the budget. The middle school PTO is looking for help from parents with the concession stand at basketball games. She discussed the fun festivities that are coming up for middle school students before break.

Ben discussed the superintendent search committee meeting. He talked about the progress that they've been making. There have been 14 applicants for the position. They'll present the finalists

to the Board sometime in January. The longer interviews will be recorded and posted for the public to view. He mentioned the restaurant week that is being put together by the elementary school PTO.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS & DISTRICT SERVICES

a. Financial Update

Bonnie, Business Administrator, gave the financial update. The preliminary expense forecast shows a positive balance of \$127,777. The revenue forecast is also showing a positive balance of \$54,799. This is mostly from the unanticipated rebate from Primex.

b. Approval of the 2020-2021 Paraeducator Calendar

Member Heather Clark made a motion to table the approval of the 2020-2021 Paraeducator Calendar until the next meeting. Seconded by Vice Chair David Mylott. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Public Minutes for December 5, 2019

Member Heather Clark made a motion to accept the public minutes from December 5, 2019. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 3-0. Motion carries. Chair Deborah Brooks abstained.

b. Public Minutes for December 17, 2019

Vice Chair David Mylott made a motion to table the approval of minutes from December 17, 2019 to the next meeting. Seconded by Member Heather Clark. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

MANIFEST

a. Payroll

Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve payroll manifest #12 dated 12/13/2019 in the amount of \$349,386.76. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 4-0 Motion carries.

b. Accounts Payable

Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve accounts payable manifest #13 dated 12/19/2019 in the amount of \$181,226.35. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 4-0 Motion carries.

COMMENTS/OTHER

There was a general discussion about Policy JICM. It was stressed that this is an optional policy, but it is encouraged to be reviewed by the IT Director. There was a misunderstanding about changes made to the policy on Google Docs.

NEXT MEETING TO BE SCHEDULED

- a. January 2, 2020 - Regular School Board Meeting
- b. January 8, 2020 - Budget Committee Second Warrant Article Review with Board Members Present

NONPUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3, II*

(*a. personnel, b. hiring, c. adverse reputation, d. property, e. legal, g. security functions, i. emergency functions)

ADJOURNMENT

Member Heather Clark made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Vice Chair David Mylott. VOTE: 4-0 Motion carries.

The meeting adjourned at 9:27 pm.

Minutes submitted by,

Dagny Wilkins

School Board Secretary