

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

EPPING SCHOOL BOARD - LIVE/ZOOM/Epping TV Channel 22

Epping Middle School Gym, 17 Prospect St, Epping, NH 03042

August 20, 2020

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 Heather Clark, Member Ben Leavitt, Member Robin O'Day, Superintendent Furbush, and Business Administrator Bonnie Sandstrom.

SCHEDULED GUESTS

a. Fall Sports Decision

Ben discussed how athletics will be handled in the different phases. He discussed which sports will and will not be able to participate this fall. He explained why there will not be a football or spirit team this fall season. He also mentioned that participation in these sports is entirely voluntary. He said that they will work on scheduling games and matches if this plan is approved. They have also thought about alternative programming if there are not enough opposing teams. He said that all athletes need to register online, and a waiver needs to be signed by their parents. He discussed what coach and staff training looks like. He outlined the screening procedures. He went over athletic participant expectations. He covered training session procedures. He stated that facilities will be cleaned regularly. He discussed how athletic contests will be handled for athletes, spectators, officials, and visiting athletes. He also talked about transportation, equipment, and concessions. Ben stated that parents will now be allowed to drive their child to away games. There was a general discussion about 7v7 football. David asked if students would be able to drive themselves to away games versus the parents. Deborah asked if there will be any penalties if a student does not participate in sports this season; the answer is no. If a student is taking classes remotely, they will still be able to participate in sports.

Vice Chair David Mylott made a motion to accept the Fall 2020 Reopening Plan for the Epping School District Athletics as presented. Seconded by Member Heather Clark. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

b. EES Handbook Approval

Heather Cantagallo discussed the changes made to the EES Handbook. The team added the EES Guiding Principles to the Handbook. There was a revision to the pick-up/drop-off procedure. There was a verbiage revision about attendance. An adjustment was made to the dismissal procedures. She mentioned that there will be a virtual open house. Heather and Ben noted some minor typos.

Vice Chair David Mylott made a motion to approve the EES Handbook for the 2020-2021 school year. Seconded by Member Heather Clark. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

c. School District Handbook Approval

Superintendent Furbush discussed the changes made to the School District Handbook. Some of the changes included school year dates, policy links, payroll information, paraprofessional requirements, School Board meeting schedule, the superintendent note, etc.

David said that he appreciated the second document that highlighted the changes made to the original document.

Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve the School District Handbook for the 2020-2021 school year. Seconded by Vice Chair David Mylott. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

d. Substitute Handbook Approval

Cathay Zylinski discussed the changes made to the Substitute Handbook. Some of the changes included an update of principal names, a nurse's name, code of ethics, school calendar, payroll dates, etc. She thanked Christine Cue for all of her help. Heather noted a small typo.

Vice Chair David Mylott made a motion to approve the Substitute Handbook for the 2020-2021 school year. Seconded by Member Heather Clark. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

POLICY

a. ECAF - Video Surveillance on School Property

Superintendent Furbush discussed the video surveillance technology. During the summer, the cameras can save up to 16 days of footage before the hard drive is overwritten. During the school year, the timeframe goes down to three or four days. If it is the Board's wish, the district can look into extending the time frame. David is worried about bullying incidents, and kids not reporting it in time. David wants the district to monitor the system this year to see if it's worth extending the storage time frame. Heather agrees with David, but she would like to see results by the end of October in order to build it into the budget. Superintendent Furbush will confirm how many days the system maintains footage for during busy school days. He will monitor the situation and find out the cost of doubling the storage capacity.

Vice Chair David Mylott made a motion to accept Policy ECAF - Video Surveillance on School Property as written. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

b. GBEC – Drug-Free Workplace

This was tabled until the next meeting.

PERSONNEL

a. Nomination

Member Heather Clark made a motion to nominate Lindsay St. Cyr for the District Occupational Therapist position. Seconded by Vice Chair David Mylott. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

Member Heather Clark made a motion to nominate Alexander Eustace as a 7th Grade Language Arts Teacher. Seconded by Vice Chair David Mylott. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

a. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Furbush is getting ready for the school year to start. Kindergarten screening has been scheduled, and appointment times have been sent out. The book mobile is ending soon.

They are still waiting for some students to return their Chromebooks. He mentioned where and when families can drop them off.

There are currently 12 students attending the remote SAT bootcamp. Summer school ended, and 15 students received credits.

Krista Gulick is planning the PD days.

b. Committee Reports

Robin discussed the SST meeting. At the meeting, they talked about how different schools are handling reopening. SST will be running a bus and is loosening student driver requirements. Contact tracing will be done in all schools. She emphasized that communication between the schools is crucial. There will be a joint calendar planning with all schools that attend SST coming up. SST is having in-person learning.

Heather discussed the Budget Committee meeting. On 9/8, there will be a vote regarding town matters, and she encouraged the public to go out and vote.

David discussed the Tech Committee meeting. He said that they are staying on top of things in regard to school starting soon.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS & DISTRICT SERVICES

a. Building Aid Application Discussion

Bonnie said that they are not able to file the application for aid which was due July 1st as we needed to have minutes to a meeting putting forth to voters the project and we had not done that. Bonnie does not think that the district would have gotten it anyways because there are other schools with greater needs. It is a two-year cycle, so the district can apply in the future. They will need to present it to the voters. Heather thinks that they should discuss it this fall or winter.

b. Draft Budget Timeline

Deborah discussed the dates for the meetings. There was a discussion about changing some of the dates around. Bonnie will send in a revised schedule. Heather will contact the Budget Committee Chair to sort out the meeting dates.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Public Minutes for August 6, 2020

Member Heather Clark made a motion to accept the Public Minutes from the August 6, 2020 meeting after addition of last name. Seconded by Vice Chair David Mylott. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

b. Nonpublic Minutes for August 6, 2020

Vice Chair David Mylott made a motion to approve the Nonpublic Minutes from the August 6, 2020 meeting as written. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

c. Public Minutes for August 11, 2020

Vice Chair David Mylott made a motion to approve the Public Minutes from the August 11, 2020 meeting as amended. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries. Chair Deborah Brooks abstained.

MANIFEST

a. Payroll Manifest

Member Heather Clark made a motion to accept Payroll Manifest #3 dated 8/7/20 in the amount of \$148,109.70. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

b. Accounts Payable

Member Heather Clark made a motion to accept Accounts Payable #4 dated 8/13/20 in the amount of \$155,210.63. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A parent asked if all fall coaches are coming back. Yes, they are. They are currently only looking to fill one position.

A parent asked if all teaching positions are filled. They are currently looking for an Accounts Payable Clerk and Paraprofessionals. They have leads in the other open positions.

A parent asked if there is a policy about staff being arrested. There usually is not one, but there is a code of ethics. Superintendent Furbush will look more into it.

COMMENTS/OTHER

Deborah read a thank you note from Sue Thompson. She thanked Epping ETV. She wished everyone the best. She also said that she appreciates Superintendent Furbush and Band Director Sean.

Heather gave a shoutout and thank you to the media specialists for their hard work on the book mobile. Heather asked the Board if they wanted to do a field trip through the schools before the 9/3 School Board meeting. They will meet at 6 pm at the elementary school. Heather and Ben reminded parents about Powerschool at the high school and elementary school.

Ben said that the Franklin School District told him about a grant from FEMA, and he was happy to find out that the Epping District had already applied for it.

David said that the Nonpublic Minutes from 8/11 need to be posted. Superintendent Furbush said that the rest of the documents from this meeting are posted on the public drive. Superintendent Furbush also stated that a lot of information regarding reopening will be going out tomorrow.

NEXT MEETING TO BE SCHEDULED

a. Meeting to be scheduled for September 3, 2020

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 go into a nonpublic session under a. personnel and adjourn the meeting at 8:54 pm. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Dagny Wilkins

School Board Secretary