

ELLSWORTH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
ELLSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES

Tuesday, July 14, 2020 - 6:30 p.m.

In accordance with An Act To implement Provisions Necessary to the Health, Welfare and Safety of the Citizens of Maine in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, as enacted to read: Sec G-1 1 MRSA §403-A Public proceedings through remote access during declaration of State of Emergency due to COVID-19, the meeting was held through a ZOOM Meeting (teleconference for Board members and panelists and by webinar for citizens. The meeting was broadcast live on the Ellsworth High School Facebook page and YouTube Page (which will be shared to the City of Ellsworth YouTube Channel). The meeting was recorded and made available on Spectrum Channel 1303. A link for Public Access via Zoom Webinar was posted to the EHS Facebook page the morning of June 9, 2020

Members Present: Brenda Thomas, Chairperson, Paul Markosian, Vice Chairperson, Rob Hudson, Abigail Miller, Jennifer Alexander

Members Excused:

Members Absent:

Members Late:

Members Dismissed:

Staff Present: Daniel Higgins, Superintendent of Schools
Dan Clifford, Ellsworth High School Assistant Principal
Erica Gabbianelli, Middle School Principal
April Clifford, Elementary Principal
Amy Boles, HCTC Director
Carol Ann McEachurn-Murphy, Special Education Director
Rachel Kohrman-Ramos, Curriculum Coordinator
Ann Sargent, Adult Education Director
Don Saunders, Director of Transportation
Christine Reinig, EEMS School Nurse
Jacquie Sandone, EHS/HCTC School Nurse
Guests Present: Jennifer Trowbridge, 4th Grade Teacher Candidate, EEMS
Mary Lowell, 3rd Grade Teacher Candidate, EEMS
Jennifer Bonnet – Middle School Special Ed Teacher, EEMS

- A. The meeting was called to order by Board Chairperson Brenda Thomas at 6:34 p.m.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Adjustment to Agenda

A motion was made by Paul Markosian, seconded by Jennifer Alexander, to adjust the Agenda by adding the following to J. New Business as recommended by the Superintendent:

J.3. Policy Review and First Read of Policies

**J.4. Consideration and Approval of FY21 Flexible Benefits Plan
Renumber previous J.3 and J.4. to J.5. and J.6.**

Vote: 5 Yes 0 No

- D. Approval of Minutes

1. June 9, 2020 Board Meeting

Discussion:

A motion was made by Jennifer Alexander, seconded by Rob Hudson, to approve the Minutes of June 9, 2020 School Board Meeting as presented.

Vote: 5 Yes 0 No

E. Communications / Correspondence:

Superintendent Higgins reported he has received one letter of resignation and one letter of retirement that he will take that up in his report.

F. Public Participation (Public Comment will be through Q & A through Zoom or by sending an e-mail to ESB Vice Chair Paul Markosian at pmarkosian@ellsworthschools.org):

G. Administrative Board Reports

1. Building Administrators' Reports
Dan Clifford, EHS
Erica Gabbianelli, EEMS 5-8
April Clifford, EEMS K-4
Amy Boles, HCTC Director
Ann Sargent, Adult Education Director
2. Curriculum Coordinator's Report
Rachel Kohrman-Ramos, Curriculum Coordinator
3. Superintendent's Report
Daniel Higgins, Superintendent

H. Committee Reports:

The Board's Standing Committees met on the following dates:
Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment (CIA) – July 13, 2020
Policy – June 30, 2020 and July 13, 2020
Facilities & Transportation – July 7, 2020
Personnel – July 7, 2020

I. Old Business

J. New Business

1. Consideration of Teacher Nomination – there were no nominations to bring forth, the Board moved on to the next Agenda item.
2. Acknowledgement of Personnel Committee's Action on Behalf of the Board
A motion was made by Abigail Miller, seconded by Jennifer Alexander, to acknowledge the Personnel Committee's action on behalf of the School Board in hiring the following teaching staff with a 1st year Probationary Contracts for the 2020-2021 School Year:

Jennifer Trowbridge – EEMS Grade 4

Mary Lowell – EEMS Grade 3
Jennifer Bonnet – EEMS Special Ed Resource Room Teacher

Vote: 5 Yes 1 No

3. Policy Review and First Read of Policies

A motion was made by Rob Hudson, seconded by Abigail Miller, to acknowledge and accept the review of the following policies with no changes as recommended by the Policy Committee:

AEC – Accountability – Reporting to the Public
BBA – School Board Powers and Responsibilities
BBAA – School Board Member Authority and Responsibilities
BE – School Board Meetings
BEDH – Public Participation at Board Meetings
BEDF – Voting Method

Vote: 5 Yes 0 No

A motion was made by Rob Hudson, seconded by Jennifer Alexander, to approve First Read of the following amended Policies as presented and recommended by the Policy Committee

AC – Non-Discrimination/Equal opportunity and Affirmative Action
ACAA – Harassment and Sexual Harassment of Students
ACAA-R – Student Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Procedure
ACAB – Harassment and Sexual Harassment of School Employees
ACAB-R – Employee Discrimination / Harassment and Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedure

Vote: 5 Yes 0 No

4. Consideration and Approval of the FY21 Flexible Benefits Plan

A motion was made by Abigail Miller, seconded by Paul Markosian, to approve the FY21 Flexible Benefits Plan as presented.

Vote: 5 Yes 0 No

5. Update and Discussion on Fall 2020 Return to School Framework

Superintendent Higgins provided an update on the status of framework planning for the start of school in the Fall of 2020. The target date for public presentation of the framework will be Monday, August 3, 2020 at a School Board Workshop.

6. Consideration and Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreement between Ellsworth School Department and Ellsworth Education Association (Possible Executive Session Under 1-MRSA, 405(6)(A))

A motion was made by Abigail Miller, seconded by Jennifer Alexander, to enter Executive Session under 1-MRSA 20-A, § 405 (6)(A) to discuss a Personnel Issue.

Vote: 5 Yes 0 No

Time entered: 8:57 p.m. Time returned to open session: 9:38 p.m.

A motion was made by Rob Hudson, seconded by Jennifer Alexander, to ratify the Collective Bargaining between Ellsworth School Department and Ellsworth Education Association as presented and recommended by the Personnel Committee

Vote: 5 Yes 0 No

K. Calendar/Announcements

Meeting Schedule:

School Board Workshop, Tuesday, July 28, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

School Board Workshop, Monday, August 3, 2020

School Board Meeting, Tuesday, August 11, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

L. Adjournment

Discussion:

A motion was made by, Jennifer Alexander, seconded by Abigail Miller, having no further business, to adjourn the Board Meeting.

Vote: 5 Yes 0 No

Time: 9:44 p.m.

Signed: Brenda Thomas, Chairperson



Date: 8/11/2020