

## Special Meeting Minutes – Ashford Board of Education

March 28, 2024

Room 16, Ashford School and via Zoom

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chair Jane Urban.

Members Present: Kim Kouatly, Jennifer Leszczynski, Meghan Smith, Al Maccarone, Chonte Fields and Amanda Cantrell (7:02 pm).

Others Present: Supt. Cindy Ford, Principal Polly Borysevich and Asst. Principal David Eichorn (via Zoom). Three members of the school community were present via Zoom.

### Pledge of Allegiance

Recited by all present

### Communications

Mrs. Urban has received some recent emails from BOF Chair Christina Davis concerning the BOE's FY 25 budget document, schedules and timeline.

### Opportunity for Public Comment

None

### Revisit FY 25 BOE Budget for Possible Reduction and Action

The BOE FY 25 estimated budget represented a 3% increase over FY 24. Lengthy discussion followed concerning a significant reduction achieved by changing health insurance providers from United Healthcare to the State of CT Partnership Plan. The existing health plan increase would have been 29.4% for 2024-2025. Mrs. Urban and Mrs. Ford shared details on the process, verifying the numbers, meeting with the Town and the union leadership to finalize this decision, which results in savings to both the BOE and the Town budgets. Further savings in the BOE budget stemmed from a paraeducator retirement and determination that the vacancy need not be filled. The end result is a .7% increase in the FY 25 budget.

***Motion made by Meghan Smith to amend the FY 2024-2025 Ashford Board of Education proposed budget increase from 3% to .7% over the current year. Motion seconded by Chonte Fields and carried unanimously.***

Mrs. Urban thanked the administration and Mrs. Chrzan for their hard work and efforts on the budget.

### Opportunity for Public Comment

March is Board Member appreciation month, Mrs. Urban thanked the members of the BOE, noting she is grateful for the time, commitment and respect that is given. She also noted appreciation to the members of the board of finance who have a great deal on their shoulders at this time of year.

### Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

April 4, 2024

- FY 25 Budget
- Physical Education and Health Curriculum
- Committee Breakout
- Consent Agenda
- Facility Update

### Adjournment

***Motion made by Meghan Smith to adjourn the meeting (7:57 PM). Motion seconded by Chonte Fields and carried unanimously.***

### Zoom Recording Information

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/NhanHtC9lInC5GpXUUim-jDliqsz1yJyXRthodr7ak\\_PYfxcpygM92fbELgQnZ0P.etl6mcikmBbubcwI](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/NhanHtC9lInC5GpXUUim-jDliqsz1yJyXRthodr7ak_PYfxcpygM92fbELgQnZ0P.etl6mcikmBbubcwI)

Passcode: 74y@UP=y

Recorded by: Jennifer Truax

