

**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, October 19, 2023, 7:00 PM**  
**EPPING SCHOOL BOARD**  
**Epping Town Hall/Epping TV Channel 22/Zoom**

**BUDGET WORKSHOP**

Food Service Director Moss Crutchfield and the Board discussed the changes in the proposed Food Service budget. The Technology team and the Board discussed the changes in the proposed Technology budget. Athletic Director Chris Goldsack and the Board discussed the changes in the proposed Athletics budget.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Heather Clark called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

In attendance: Chair Heather Clark, Vice Chair Ben Leavitt, Member Robin O'Day, Member Julie Knight, Student Jacob Twombly, and Student Landon Toomire

Absent: Business Administrator Christine Vayda

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**SCHEDULED TOPICS**

a. 8th Grade Washington DC Trip Approval - EMHS Principal Chris Mazzone and EMHS Teacher Courtney Mora

They mentioned that this trip is the same trip as last year. The price is also the same as last year. Robin asked if the trip is fully refundable should there be any travel restrictions in place. Ms. Mora explained that if students/parents purchase the trip insurance then 72% of the trip cost is refunded in the event of a cancellation. The trip will take place April 9th-12th, and students will travel by bus. She talked about the trip itinerary and gave some highlights. Breakfasts and dinners are included during the trip but not the lunches. Heather asked what the level of interest was for the trip. Ms. Mora said currently there are 36 students interested, and there will be 4 chaperones. Ben asked if there is a backup plan in case an attraction is closed for some reason. Ms. Mora said that they book everything ahead of time, so they should be able to avoid this issue but can plug in alternate attractions as needed. Julie noted the importance of providing engaging learning activities for the students who are unable to attend the trip.

**Member Julie Knight made a motion to accept the 8th Grade Washington DC Trip for April 9th-12th, 2024. Seconded by Member Jen Jacoby. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.**

b. District Goals 2023-2024 Update - Superintendent Furbush

Superintendent Furbush gave a brief history of how the goals were created and highlighted some of the improvements being made to reach these goals.

Julie asked if there will be a summary/evaluation at the end of 2024 to show the progress and accomplishments. Superintendent Furbush said that he has typically done a yearly summary, but he can combine them and highlight what has been accomplished.

**Vice Chair Ben Leavitt made a motion to accept the 2023-2024 District Goals as written. Seconded by Member Jen Jacoby. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.**

c. School Board Meeting Format - Member Julie Knight

Julie gave some background as to why she feels the meeting format should be changed. She explained that she looked at other School Board Meetings in other Districts to gather information.

Heather asked if all of the meetings that Julie looked at were streamed live to the public. Julie said she did not know if they were live, but all of the meetings had publicly available recordings. Jen asked what the capabilities for recording in the school buildings are. Superintendent Furbush said there are a few spaces that have enough room to hold the meeting, but they would require someone to be responsible for broadcasting. Heather noted the importance of keeping the meetings accessible online to allow more of the public to watch. Jacob asked if the reason for wanting the change was because of the table setup or the location. Julie said she originally only wanted the table setup to change, but now she would prefer to have them in a school building. Robin said they used to hold the meetings in the library, and she prefers the school. Ben agreed with the idea of changing the table setup, but he doesn't think that will remove the perceived intimidation. He voiced security concerns with having meetings in the school buildings. He also liked the idea of collaborating with ETV to potentially provide an ELO and get students involved in the broadcasting. Jen said she did not feel that holding a School Board meeting in the school buildings was any more of a security concern than sporting events. Jen also thought that having meetings at the school might provide more comfort for students and staff who are presenting.

Principal Mazzone spoke about the security concerns and said that they have the ability to lock down certain areas of the school. He also said that staff schedules could be shifted to have people in the building during the meetings. He agreed that the school may provide more comfort for student and staff presenters.

Heather said she thinks it is critical to be recorded live. She would like to have people in the schools but is concerned about security. She noted the importance of picking a location that is easy to get to for parents. She would like to form a committee to compare the options and capabilities of each location. There was further discussion regarding the location, setup, and time

of the School Board meetings. The Board will hold a few future meetings at a school location and discuss how they went before making a decision on a new meeting location.

### **POLICY**

a. EBCC - False Alarms, Active Shooter, and Other Such Threats - 2nd/3rd Read

Heather suggested a few minor changes. Jen also suggested a change in wording.

**Member Jen Jacoby made a motion to accept Policy EBCC - False Alarms, Active Shooter, and Other Such Threats with the noted changes. Seconded by Vice Chair Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.**

b. FA - Facilities Development Goals and Preparation of Capital Improvement Plan- 2nd/3rd Read

This policy has been tabled until the next meeting.

### **PERSONNEL**

None

### **REPORTS**

a. Principal Reports

None

b. Superintendent Reports

Superintendent Furbush spoke about the upcoming Halloween parade and is looking forward to the wonderful things going on.

c. Student Reports

Jacob and Landon gave an overview on what some of the classes are currently working on. They also gave an update on recent and upcoming extracurricular activities.

### **FINANCIAL BUSINESS & DISTRICT SERVICES**

None

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. Public Meeting Minutes October 5, 2023

The approval of the minutes from October 5th was tabled until the next meeting.

### **MANIFEST**

a. Payroll deposited on September 29th, 2023

**Vice Chair Ben Leavitt made a motion to accept Payroll deposited on September 29th, 2023 in the amount of \$391,132.87. Seconded by Member Julie Knight. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.**

**BOARD COMMENTS/OTHER**

Robin gave an update on the Delegate Assembly and provided some suggestions and feedback to the Board.

a. Board Comments

Jen thanked Julie for her effort and passion regarding the School Board meeting format. She also said that she experienced a great sense of community in the after school pick-up line. She said it was great to see the Administrators and staff helping out to get kids where they need to go.

Ben reminded everyone that the EES PTO's Monster Mash and Trunk or Treat are coming up, and they are still looking for people to sign up and participate.

Julie also said she enjoys seeing everyone involved in after school activities and the sense of community it brings. She also said she appreciated the productive conversation about the School Board meeting format.

Robin reminded everyone of the upcoming Budget Committee Meetings.

Heather reminded the Board to sign up for their NHSBA Policy Database access. She also mentioned the upcoming Halloween Block Party.

There was a brief discussion regarding the budget and Budget Committee Meetings.

**NEXT MEETING TO BE SCHEDULED**

a. November 2, 2023

**NONPUBLIC SESSION:** RSA 91-A:3, II Non-Public Meeting **is not scheduled** for October 19, 2023 after the public meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made to adjourn at 9:20pm. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dagny Wilkins

School Board Secretary