

## **APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, September 16, 2021**

**EPPING SCHOOL BOARD - Epping Town Hall/ Epping TV Channel 22/Zoom**

**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, Superintendent Furbush, Student Emily Kelly, and Student Nathan McTague. Member Robin O'Day and Business Administrator Christine Vayda were absent.

### **SCHEDULED GUESTS**

#### a. Update to Junior Privileges – Students

Nathan McTague said that the junior class was very disappointed that their privileges were taken away, and he said that they would like them back.

The following speakers are students from the junior class.

Daniel Johnson said that they were caught off guard, and he doesn't fully understand the reasoning for why they were taken away.

Cooper Bernier said that he was really hoping to have privileges this year, especially his lunch privileges since he goes to SST. He likes to have time to go home during his privileges and get his stuff ready before going to SST.

Austin Clark listed off several reasons why students may want lunch privileges.

Student Emily Kelly, senior, said that the privileges are a great incentive to keep good grades, and she doesn't think that they should be taken away.

The students have talked to Principal Ernest about this matter. Principal Ernest suggested a compromise of giving them lunch privileges.

Tyler Nekton, Junior Class Advisor, said that the junior class has worked really hard. He advocated for them getting privileges.

David and Heather thanked the students for coming in to voice their opinions. Deborah said that they support the administration in doing what's best for the students.

**Vice Chair David Mylott made a motion to reinstate junior privileges for the lunch period with a start date of 9/20/21. Seconded by Member Heather Clark. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

A letter will be sent out to parents.

b. Washington DC Field Trip Approval and Nature's Classroom - [Susan Gualtieri](#)

Susan discussed the Washington, DC trip. The touring company that they'll be using is EF Tours. It will be Tuesday, 4/5/21 through Friday, 4/8/21. She went through pricing, highlights of the tours, fundraising, and logistics. They will be flying this year instead of taking a bus to DC. This will give the students more time to enjoy DC and shorten travel time. They'll be flying out of Manchester, NH. Parents can apply to be a chaperone. The Board is worried about the cost of the trip since it is more expensive than usual. There was a discussion about this. The price includes food and a lunch voucher. Student Emily said that it was an amazing educational opportunity and created strong friendships. Student Nathan said that the lunch voucher was enough to cover the costs of his lunches. David supports this trip. As of today, there are no vaccination requirements for this trip, but a negative COVID test is required within 72 hours of departure. EF Tours has a great system in place in case someone gets sick while traveling. If the trip is postponed, the travel voucher can be transferred to another person if need be. Student Emily noted that even though this trip costs a little more than prior years, the students will have extra time to tour DC due to flying instead of taking the bus.

**Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve the four-day 8<sup>th</sup> grade field trip on 4/5/22-4/8/22 to Washington, DC trip through EF Tours. Seconded by Vice Chair David Mylott. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

Susan also discussed the Nature's Classroom trip. She would like the Nature's Classroom on Wheels to come back to EMHS this year. The proposed dates are 11/8/21-11/10/21 and 11/12/21. The cost is still being determined. She thinks it provides an opportunity to form great connections and relationships.

**Member Heather Clark made a motion to allow the Middle High School Administration team to come to an agreement with Camp Cody coming to EMHS the week of 11/8/21. Seconded by Vice Chair David Mylott. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

David would like the district to look into absorbing these costs.

c. Building Goals:

EES - [Heather Cantagallo](#)

Principal Cantagallo went through their process for crafting their Building Goals. Their first goal is regarding Literacy. They will be implementing a dyslexia screening tool. They will also be working on incorporating more PD around literacy. They have added books about literacy to their professional library. The second goal regards Climate & Culture. They will be adding more assemblies to their school year. They will have a staff resource website. She also mentioned the Student Advisory Committee. The third goal is about Social Emotional Learning. The school counselors and psychologists were in training today to learn the new curriculum related to Social Emotional Learning. David asked how the school year was going. She said that it feels like a real school year this year. She said that the students seem more relaxed and excited this year. She said that the staff are doing well too. She said that the car line has been going well also. They're going to start tracking how many students are dropped off/picked up.

EMHS - [Brian Ernest](#)

Principal Ernest discussed the EMHS Building Goals. The first goal is Communication. He went through some of the ways that they've improved communication this past year. Their second goal is Curriculum Development. Their third goal is Culture & Climate. They're going to try to hold events this year for the students. Their last goal is Social Emotional Learning. They'll be looking at Professional Development opportunities and working with their counselors and psychologists. They will work on getting more feedback from parents regarding their communication methods. They love getting feedback from parents. Heather said that she thinks they've very consistent with their communication. Principal Ernest said they've been holding in-person meetings with students to discuss certain matters as another form of communication. The 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> graders aren't currently part of the Student Council, but Principal Ernest will look into that. There will be an in-person Open House this year. It will be slightly different compared to previous years due to COVID. Susan went through how the Open House will work.

Parent Amy Hodgdon said that Principal Ernest had great goals, but she was wondering how success will be measured.

d. School Board Goals - Bill Furbush

Superintendent Furbush said that the School Board Goals are Communication, Life Ready, Student Achievement, Curriculum Instruction, and Climate & Culture. He briefly summarized each of the goals and gave examples of steps they're taking to accomplish them.

**POLICY**

a. JIC - Student Conduct - 1st Read

This is a completely new policy and required by law. Superintendent Furbush summarized the policy. It's in place to give students due process if they get in trouble.

This policy was moved to a second/third read at the next meeting.

b. JICD - Student Conduct, Discipline, and Due Process - 1st Read

This policy was moved to a second/third read at the next meeting.

**PERSONNEL**

a. Nomination of Karen Emmons - EES (One-to-one student specific nurse)

**Member Heather Clark made a motion to accept the nomination of Karen Emmons as a one-to-one student specific nurse. Seconded by Vice Chair David Mylott. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

b. Nomination of Nathaniel Dowst - EMHS (Family Consumer Science Teacher)

**Member Heather Clark made a motion to accept the nomination of Nathaniel Dowst as the Family Consumer Science Teacher at EMHS. Seconded by Vice Chair David Mylott. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

**REPORTS**

a. Student Report

Nathan and Emily went through what the AP classes and other classes are working on. Interest meetings were held for the Drama Club and Project Search. Band students played music for the elementary school students. Prism had their first meeting. The Yearbook Club is looking for volunteers. The cross-country team came in third place. The Student Government is busy planning Homecoming and other events. The NHS is nominating their officers soon. They listed off the records for the different sports teams. The students said that there has been a lack of variety with the menu. They would like to have a Meal of the Day to mix it up. They have a plan in place to address the issue. They said that the Wi-Fi has been inconsistent and has been causing issues. Superintendent Furbush said that they are aware of the issue, and they're working on it. He encouraged them to talk to the Tech Director still. Nathan voiced his concern over C Day. Emily also mentioned her concerns with it. Nathan said that there is no AC in the art room. The students are excited to have bells back into the school day schedule. 88% of students wanted to have the bells back according to their survey. Deborah and David commended their efforts. David noted it's important to reach out to the school staff before coming to the Board. Ben asked how the turnout was for the interest meetings. Emily said that there was interest in Project Search and after school chorus. Nathan said that interest was slightly down for the Drama Club. There was a discussion about Project Search.

#### b. Committee Reports

David said that there was a HVAC meeting.

Heather said that they're in the middle of teacher negotiations. They will be having a Fields Committee meeting soon. The Middle High School PTO recently had their first meeting, and they discussed the Turkey Raffle and Penny Wars. Elections will be held at their next meeting.

Ben said that the Elementary School PTO had a meeting recently, and there was a great turnout. They'll be partnering with the Community Garden Club.

#### c. Annual Delegate Assembly for NHSBA, October 16, 2021, Saturday, 11:00am - 3:00pm

Deborah asked the Board who wanted to attend this assembly. Deborah can't attend this year. She will reach out to Robin.

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

a. Financial Report

Christine was absent, so the Board will review the report on their own time.

b. MOU between ESD and Epping Police Department

**Member Heather Clark made a motion to accept the MOU between the ESD and the Epping Police Department. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. Public Minutes of August 26, 2021

**Member Ben Leavitt made a motion to approve the Public Minutes from the August 26, 2021 meeting as amended. Seconded by Vice Chair David Mylott. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

b. Non-Public Minutes of August 26, 2021

**Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve the Non-Public Minutes from the August 26, 2021 meeting as written. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

c. Public Minutes of September 2, 2021

**Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve the Public Minutes from the September 2, 2021 meeting as amended. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

d. Non-Public Minutes of September 2, 2021

**Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve the Non-Public Minutes from the September 2, 2021 meeting as written. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

**MANIFEST**

Payroll Manifest

a. Non-Check Deposits

**Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve the Non-Check Deposits of the Payroll Manifest dated 9/17/21 in the amount of \$267,965.61. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

b. Tax Payments

**Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve the Tax Payments of the Payroll Manifest dated 9/17/21 in the amount of \$81,737.09. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

c. NHRS - Payment

**Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve the NHRS - Payment of the Payroll Manifest dated 9/17/21 in the amount of \$53,395.71. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

John Scully was wondering if he could have the addresses of the people who were present for the vote regarding the mask mandate and who voted which way. There was a discussion about this. John mentioned RSA 91. David agreed that the number of who voted for and who voted against should have been recorded. The rest of the votes besides this one has been a consensus vote.

Brittany McNamara is a parent to students in the district. She is against students wearing masks. She appreciates the Board's leadership, but she hopes they listen to her opinion.

**COMMENTS/OTHER**

Heather said that the football team has a game coming up. Tempo has a major fundraiser coming up. They'll be selling mattresses, and later on, they'll be selling pies.

**NEXT MEETING TO BE SCHEDULED**

a. October 7, 2021 - Regular School Board Meeting.

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

A Non-Public Meeting **is not scheduled** for September 16, 2021 following the public meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Member Heather Clark made a motion to enter a Non Meeting and to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm. Seconded by Member Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dagny Wilkins

School Board Secretary