

Stewartstown School Board					
Meeting Minutes					
Date	September 9, 2020				
Time	4:15 p.m.				
Location	Stewartstown Community School Multi				
Chairperson	Philip Pariseau				
Attendance					
Attendance Legend: P – Present at SCS A – Absent					
School Board Members		Principals		SAU Members	
P	Jamie Boire	P	Philip Pariseau	P	Jennifer Mathieu
P	Betsy Gray			P	Debra Taylor
					Cheryl Covill
Public in Attendance: Allen & Joan Coats					

Philip opened the meeting at 4:20 pm. He asked for Adjustments to the Agenda and acknowledged Allen and Joan Coats.

Adjustments to the Agenda: None

Hearing of the Public: To accept and expend ESSER Funds (CARES Act) in the amount of \$80,603.79 for salaries, professional development, supplies, materials, technology, and equipment to assist the schools through the impact of COVID-19 outbreak.

Allen Coats asked for an explanation on how the funds would be spent.

Cheryl responded that a grant has been written for \$71,546.00

Part-time Custodian	9,886.00
Wellness Thermometers	1,760.00
Signage	500.00
Technology (audio conference phone, classroom remote, hotspots for families)	10,000.00
Supplemental materials for remote learning	3,000.00
Consultant for eight days	8,000.00
Materials like the totes that the 7 th graders are storing their items in	2,900.00
Outdoor education items	5,000.00
Fitness station for outside	10,000.00
Chromebooks for teachers (10) and students (28)	20,000.00
Indirect Cost	500.00

Money not used will go back to the State.

VLACS is full, so If we have to go to remote learning, the teachers will remain in the building and do the remote learning from here.

Joan Coats asked if any families have chosen remote. We have a total of 57 students: 52 in school and five learning remotely. There are also four homeschool students that are not included in the total.

Allen stated he is defensive about the \$80,000. It's taxpayer money so he doesn't want any money requested if it is not needed. The Town of Stewartstown didn't take any money because they did not have any extra expenses due to Covid-19. He has seen grants abused.

Dr. Taylor stated our school will remain open as long as we can. There are a lot of new procedures for students and staff.

Philip asked Allen how the voting went at the town office building. 132 from a checklist of 503 voted with 23 voting via absentee ballot. He said it worked well. Philip thanked the Selectmen for working with the school on this.

Allen and Joan Coats left at 4:37 pm.

B. Gray/J. Boire: To accept the ESSER Funds as described above.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS YES

Reading of the Minutes:

B. Gray/P. Pariseau: To accept the minutes of August 3, 2020 as presented.

VOTE: 2 YES, JAIME ABSTAINED AS SHE WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE MEETING.

Special Reports: None

School Administrator's Report – Jennifer Mathieu

1. First days were fantastic. Our teachers are great. The hardest part is “no hugs”. Busing has been going well. We have one child in Jr. High who is upset about being stuck in the classroom. Teachers move, not students. Betsy stated that her girls like the “Take Out” meals that are being served in the classrooms.
2. We put the fundraiser on hold for this year. Even though all orders could be placed on the web and delivered directly to the homes, we thought it would be better to not do it this year.
3. It will be exciting to have a student teacher from Plymouth State University working with Sharon Ricker.
4. Jen passed out new SCS masks for everyone present.
5. The new teacher for Jr. High is working out well.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Debra Taylor:

Dr. Taylor presented Jen with approximately 150 masks that had been donated to the school.

1. Back to School Preparations
We have had a very busy summer preparing for the start of the school year
2. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
Thanks to the support of the SAU 7 Board, we have been busy recruiting the shared Curriculum Coordinator with Canaan and ENSU. We plan to share the position
3. Health and Safety
Devon Phillips, our School Health Coordinator, provided an informative presentation to faculty and staff. This is outlined in our SAU7 Fall Reopening Plan posted on the website.
4. Buildings & Grounds
Custodians have been working tirelessly to prepare classrooms. Teachers worked for two additional days to organize their classrooms as required by the state and CDC guidelines.
5. Logistics
Parent surveys indicate 90% of our students will be returning to school for in person instruction. Bus transportation has been requested for 40% of our families and 40% of students will participate in school meals.
6. Staff Inservice

On August 27, the Superintendent welcomed staff, recognized new staff members as well as returning staff for their longevity and service.

Business Administrator's Report – Cheryl Covill:

1. Yearend work has been completed. Projected fund balance is \$398,674.
2. Facility Work
 - a. The following projects have been completed: Flooring – lighter tiles improved the look, Windows, Door handles & locks.
 - b. Mark Towle is now working 3½ hours a day to sanitize the building during the day. We will monitor this to see if we need him more hours.
3. Transportation
 - a. Bus 26 is down. It is a transmission problem – may be wiring. The bus passed the state inspection a week before. Cheryl would like to keep bus after the new one arrives due to the limited seating we have now. She wants to run 26 instead of the small bus. We are using the Pittsburg bus this week in place of 26.
 - b. New bus is not expected until October/November
 - c. Seating arrangements have been a bit challenging this year. Our 12-passenger bus can hold only six passengers and the 45-passenger can hold 15 students. We have approximately 40 students riding.
 - d. One bus driver is out until the 14th or 21st. Dennis has been filling in. He has taped animal pictures on each of the seats, so the students will have someone to ride with.
4. Enrollment
 - a. Opening day enrollment figures were presented. We are down 45 students in SAU 7
 - b. Stewartstown has 100 students overall.
5. FYI: One student graduated from the Charter School last year.

Betsy asked about repairing the driveway to the school. The stone that was laid down last spring didn't sink due to the dry weather. Cheryl explained that we do not own the driveway, so we cannot put a lot of money into it. We have tried to purchase it in the past, but the owner is not willing to sell yet.

The ventilation system has been thoroughly cleaned for the first time. We have also added four hours per day to the run time.

We are not allowing staff in the building over the weekends in an effort to keep the building clean.

Unfinished Business: None.

Information:

Regional Committee cancelled the last meeting. They will meet the first week of October. Two subcommittees have been meeting.

SAU 7 is updating all school districts' websites.

Betsy asked how Clarksville feels about where their children go to school. Superintendent Taylor replied that it had not been discussed.

The consultant is looking at models financially.

Other Business:

Betsy then asked if the Board had made any decision about the Dennis Joos Library being at the school. They have, but a plaque has not been purchased yet. This brought up discussion of other plaques in the building.

Meetings:

Next meeting for Stewartstown School Board will be October 5, 2020 at 4:15 pm.

B. Gray/P. Pariseau: To adjourn at 5:25 pm.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS YES

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia E. Grover
Minutes Taker

Adopted 10/05/2020