

Stewartstown School Board Meeting Minutes					
Date		February 1, 2021			
Time		4:15 p.m.			
Location		Stewartstown Community School			
Chairperson		Philip Pariseau			
Attendance					
Attendance Legend: P – Present at SCS A – Absent Z – Via Zoom C – Cell Phone					
School Board Members		Principals		SAU Members	
P	Jamie Boire	P	Philip Pariseau	P	Jennifer Mathieu
P	Betsy Gray			P	Debra Taylor
				P	Cheryl Covill
Public in Attendance:					

Philip opened the meeting at 4:20 pm. He asked for Adjustments to the Agenda.

Adjustments to the Agenda: None

Hearing of the Public: No public was present.

Reading of the Minutes: Correction: 6:04 pm Jamie returned to the meeting.

B. Gray/J. Boire: To accept the minutes of January 12 as corrected.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

Special Reports: None

Policies for Board Action – NHSBA Fall 2020 Updates

POLICY	TITLE	NOTES
ADD	Safe Schools	w/drawn
BGAA	Policy Development, Adoption and Review	new
-BG	Board Policy Process	replaced with BGAA
-BGA	Policy Development System	replaced with BGAA
-BGB	Policy Adoption	replaced with BGAA
-BGC	Policy Review and Evaluation/Manual Accuracy Check	replaced with BGAA
-BGE	Policy Dissemination	replaced with BGAA
BHE	School Board Use of Email & Other Electronic Communications	
EB	Workplace Safety Program & Joint Loss Management Committee	
EBB	School Safety	
GBCD	Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check	
GBCE	Training & Information Relative to Child Sexual Abuse Prevention	new
JCA	Change of Class or School Assignment Best Interests and Manifest Hardship	
JEC	Change of Class or School Assignment Manifest Educational Hardship	w/drawn
JLCJ	Concussions and Head Injuries	
JLI	Joint Loss Management Committee	w/drawn

B. Gray/J. Boire: To accept the policies as presented for Stewartstown School District.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

School Administrator's Report – Jennifer Mathieu

1. Things continue to go well.
2. Upon return from Remote Learning, there was a testing window during which students participated in Winter Benchmark Assessments for STAR360, AIMSweb Plus, and a few other local assessments. Jenn presented the board with a graph on these benchmarks.
3. Through the Cares Grant, Jenn was able to purchase art projects for the kids. Everyone is excited with these.
4. Oxana Joos will be joining the staff as Title I teacher. She had to pass the practice. She expects to get state approval within the next 10-14 days.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Debra Taylor:

1. Dr. Taylor included a written report in the packet.
2. The SAU7 Office has reopened after quarantining because of staff members with COVID
3. Stewartstown School District Public Hearing on the budget will be held at 6:00 pm that evening.
4. The draft of the school calendar for 2021-2022 will be emailed to the Board members. School will start on August 30th and end on June 15th.
5. COVID vaccinations are on schedule.

Business Administrator's Report – Cheryl Covill:

1. Cheryl discussed Staff Appreciation Day with the Board
2. Couldn't get the plaque from the original company so it has been ordered from Barry Normandeau.
3. She reported on the Legislative Bulletins. At present there is a bill before Legislature that you must put money in every line item if you think you may need to use it during the year. This is being challenged. Second area of concern is Vouchers for students. Jenn will join an online discussion on this on Tuesday, February 2.
4. Fund Retention Article: Budget Committee recommended taking \$20,000 out of this to help offset the low revenue.

B. Gray/J. Boire: To go with the Budget Committee recommendation.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

5. The budget is down, but so are the revenues.
6. Betsy asked questions about how the meeting will be conducted if we have overflow. The moderator is in charge of the overflow room as well as the main meeting room.
7. Philip recommended that it be included in the school report that Masks Must Be Worn at all times during the meeting.
8. Cheryl presented two draft policies from other districts on hourly personnel retiring. This will be on the agenda for March.

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

CONNECTICUT RIVER COLLABORATIVE COMMITTEE

1. Finance committee report was preliminary.
2. The Committee will meet again on Thursday, February 4
3. Betsy asked if they were still looking at Pre-K – 12 School District. Will the district be governed by Vermont?

Debra replied there are rules for interstate school districts that we much follow. These depend on how the school district is set up. Canaan is the only district from Vermont in this interstate district. The rest are Northeast Kingdom districts.

Betsy expressed her concern over this being a Pre-K – 12 school district rather than just for high school. She is not interested in having Stewartstown join if we cannot keep our elementary school. She is not in favor of Vermont having any control of the district.

Debra replied that each district belonging to the interstate school district will have their representative on the Board. No one district will be in control.

Betsy is very concerned that we are going to lose our school control. She recommended not joining the interstate school district if it is going to be Pre-K – 12. Jamie concurred. Philip said he would notify the committee.

Meetings:

Next meeting for Stewartstown School Board will be March 8, 2021 at 4:15 pm.

Annual District Meeting will be on March 8, 2021 at 6:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia E. Grover
Minutes Taker

Adopted 03/08/2021