

Stewartstown School Board Meeting Minutes					
Date	October 2, 2023				
Time	5:15 pm				
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	Betsy Gray	P	Courtney Sierad	P	Stephanie Humphrey
A	Philip Pariseau			A	Debra Taylor
					Bridget Cross
Public in Attendance:					

Betsy Gray, Vice Chairman, opened the meeting at 5:19 pm.

Hearing of the Public: None

Adjustments to the Agenda: Need a brief non-public session.

Reading of the Minutes: School Board Meeting Minutes of September 6, 2023 and September 18, 2023

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To accept the minutes of September 6, 2023 as presented.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To accept the Public Hearing and School Board Meeting Minutes of September 18, 2023 as presented.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

Included in the packet were the Stewartstown Budget Committee meeting minutes of 9/18/23 which Patricia took for the Budget Committee. No action was needed.

School Administrator’s Report – Stephanie Humphrey

1. Busy first month of school. Staff and students are getting into a daily routine.
2. Total enrollment as of September 26 is 53 students. We are losing three students and gaining three.
3. Twenty-seven families participated in the Open House.
4. TIGER program from Plymouth State University visited on September 28.
5. Teachers have been working hard on learning and using ALMA, our new student information system.
6. Next week, 8th graders will spend the day in Pittsburg to visit the high school. In November, they will go to Canaan.
7. I would like to thank an anonymous donor for the \$100 Solomon’s gift card and Rancourt Energy for donating a \$100 gas card for prizes in the school drawing. Families were put into the drawing once they completed the meal application. All families were asked to complete the application because it is more than just free or reduced meals; it helps determine our federal funding. Maverick Houle won the grocery gift card and Gage Grover won the gas card. Laurent and Christiane Rancourt have also donated \$500 to help pay for lunches for Stewartstown Community School.

8. Next month the students will have a fire safety demonstration by Todd Nichols from Beecher Falls VFD during Fire Prevention Month. We will also have an off-site evacuation drill and an earthquake drill on October 20.
9. On October 5, teachers will be at Colebrook for Administrative Day.
10. We will have a Holiday Concert. All students will participate, but not just singing. Those who aren't comfortable singing will participate in other ways.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Debra Taylor:

1. We have set aside ESSER III funds to improve heating and ventilation systems. Engineering studies have been completed and bids will be prepared and distributed later this fall in preparation for summer 2024 construction.
2. This month we will initiate the budget process for 2024-2025.
3. Debra reported on the amount of Adequacy Aid each school district in SAU 7 will receive.
4. She also reported on the Retention Funds for each district.
5. The Superintendent visits schools and classrooms at least weekly and the leadership team meets monthly for a half day to address progress toward the strategic plan.
6. Since her September report, we have filled two additional teaching positions in Colebrook and Pittsburg.
7. Jenn Mathieu, our Curriculum Director has initiated Professional Learning Community meetings this fall to support teachers as they collaboratively work to refine competency-based instruction and assessment.
8. Kudos to Shane Cloutier, IT Director and Chris Paquette, IT Technician for a great start to the school year.
9. The Colebrook Building Committee membership was expanded to include four new members last month.
10. The SAU Policy Committee will meet on October 18 at 5:00 pm in SCS. The next SAU 7 Board Meeting will be held on November 9 at 6:00 pm in Clarksville.

Business Manager's Report – Bridget Cross:

1. Bridget was not at the meeting, but Debra presented the only snowplow bid from Laurent Rancourt in the amount of \$12,000 for plowing, sanding, snow removal and relocation .

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To approve the snowplow bid from Laurent Rancourt for \$12,000.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

2. She also presented the Fuel Bids. C. Bean Transport bid on the #2 Fuel at \$3.269 per gallon. This was under the budgeted amount of \$4.00 per gallon. There was no bid on the propane. She recommended that we continue with CN Brown. It is difficult to change propane providers as it would require the tank to be changed as the provider owns the propane tanks.

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To approve the fuel oil bid from C. Bean Transport at \$3.269 per gallon and to continue to purchase propane from CN Brown.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

3. Included in the packet were the specs for the new school bus at a cost of \$114,530. Debra recommended using \$8,654.30 from the retention fund of \$91,523. This would require a public hearing at the next school board meeting on November 6, 2023.

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To approve a public hearing at the next school board meeting for the purpose of using \$8,654.30 from the retention fund.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

4. Debra presented the tuition rates for each of the schools.

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To go into nonpublic session at 5:40 pm.

B. GRAY – YES; C. SIERAD – YES

Patricia Grover left the meeting during the nonpublic session.

New Business: None

Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3 II(c)

B.Gray/C.Sierad: Motion to enter non-public session at 5:40 pm.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

B.Gray/C.Sierad: Motion to leave non-public session at 5:45 pm.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

Meetings:

Stewartstown School Board on Monday, November 6, 2023 at 5:15 pm.

SAU #7 School Board on Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 6:00 pm at the Clarksville Town Hall.

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To adjourn the meeting at 5:49 pm.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia E. Grover
Minutes Taker

Board Adopted: November 6, 2023