

Stewartstown School Board					
Meeting Minutes					
Date	September 6, 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
P	Philip Pariseau			P	Debra Taylor
				P	Bridget Cross
Public in Attendance:					

Philip Pariseau, Chairman, opened the meeting at 5:19 pm.

Hearing of the Public: Public Hearing to expend funds for garage roof repair.

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To accept and expend the funds to repair the garage roof.
VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

Adjustments to the Agenda: None

Reading of the Minutes: School Board Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2023

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To accept the minutes of August 7, 2023 as presented.
VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

School Administrator’s Report – Stephanie Humphrey

1. We had a great first week of school.
2. Welcome to Larissa Avery and Danielle Angier, paras in the Pre-K / K classroom and Karen Pariseau, part-time Title I teacher.
3. Students and teachers are working on expectations and positive connections to create a fun and safe learning environment.
4. Beginning Wednesday, August 30, the eighth graders begin their day in Pittsburg for semester one. They are taking Family Consumer Science for quarter one and Woodworking for quarter two. Second semester, they will take Art and Spanish in Colebrook. Dates and been set for Colebrook and Canaan high school visits and she is finalizing a date for Pittsburg.
5. Presently we have seven new students in PreK and K this year. We are waiting for one more.
6. I would like to introduce the possibility of starting a K Club at Stewartstown Community School. Stephanie has met with Lindy and John Falconer, who explained the K Club. The cost to the district would be the stipend of the Faculty advisor. This could replace the after-school program, which we no longer have.
7. Competency-based presentations will be taking place with our students this month.
8. Current enrollment is 53 students.
9. Upcoming events: 9/7/23 - Open House; 9/13/23 - Whole school to CAES for a field trip- National Guard Day; 9/28/23 – TIGER presentation to the whole school.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Debra Taylor:

1. Dr. Taylor opened her report by thanking Stephanie for greeting all the students at the door each day.
2. Debra presented the total enrollment as of August 31, 2023 – 465 students. There are 22 collaborative students.
3. A full staff meeting was held in the Colebrook Gym on Thursday, August 24.
4. New teacher meeting was held on August 23 with four new teachers and five new paraprofessionals.
5. We are continuing to implement projects and purchase materials funded by ESSER II, III, and other grants. Jenn Mathieu and Bridget Cross have been providing leadership in this area.
6. The summer schedule was full of professional development opportunities to enhance teaching and learning. We had over 100 educators (administrators, teachers, and paraprofessionals) participating.
7. We continue to search for three full-time teachers – 2 in Colebrook and 1 in Pittsburg.
8. As Debra has announced her impending retirement at the end of June 2024, who does the board want to appoint to the Superintendent Search Committee? Betsy volunteered. Philip or Courtney will fill in on dates that Betsy is unavailable.

Business Manager's Report – Bridget Cross:

1. Bridget gave an update on the garage roof. The contractor who had bid on the job wanted the check up front. She spoke with him and explained the process. Told him we needed forms filled out before he could start. He said he would do them the next day. She has not heard from him since and he has not replied to any of her communication. We should get this job done before winter if we can find another contractor. It definitely needs to be done by June 30.
2. Adequacy Aid has just given the school district an extra \$85,613. The district can either spend the money or turn it back to reduce taxes. Bridget recommended that the Board expend the money by putting it in the school bus fund. The exact amount we are allowed to put into the fund is \$83,422. One of our buses is beginning to need major repairs and should be traded next year. This should put enough money in the Capital Reserve Fund to buy the bus without asking the taxpayers for the funds. We will need to have a meeting with the Budget Committee, then a public hearing and a District Meeting. District meeting should be held on October 2, 2023 because the tax rate is set in October.

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To accept & expend the adequacy aid money in the amount of \$83,422 to be placed in the School Bus Capital Reserve Fund once we have received Budget Committee approval. A public hearing will follow and a school district meeting with registered voters will be held on October 2nd.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To retain the maximum amount allowed by the DRA of the surplus above the \$200,000 that was promised at the annual district meeting in March would be turned back to offset taxes. The maximum anticipated amount is \$91,523.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

New Business: None

Meetings:

September 18 at 5:15 pm meeting with Budget Committee
September 18 at 6:00 pm Public Hearing and School Board Meeting
October 2 at 5:15 pm School Board Meeting
October 2 at 6:00 pm proposed Special District Meeting

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To adjourn the meeting at 6:07 pm.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia E. Grover
Minutes Taker

Adopted by Board: October 2, 2023