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| Stewartstown School BoardMeeting Minutes | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Date** | | February 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 | Debra Taylor |
| P | Philip Pariseau | |  | | |  |  | P | Bridget Cross |
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| **Public in Attendance:** Lynn Dorman | | | | | | | | | |
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Philip Pariseau, Chairman, opened the meeting at 5:17 pm.

**Hearing of the Public**: Lynn Dorman was there to present her petition to Philip for inclusion in the Annual School District Warrant: “To see if the School District will vote to NOT tuition Stewartstown students to Colebrook Academy if the new school expansion is approved by the Colebrook School District voters, because of the increased tuition rate that will result.”

Lynn also stated she had found an article on the internet concerning Superintendent Taylor. She felt this should be brought to the attention of the School Board. Article can be located at [www.vtcng.com/stowe\_reporter](http://www.vtcng.com/stowe_reporter)/news/lamoille-north-s-school-chief-on-hot-seat.

Lynn explained that she is concerned with extra expenses that will be incurred. Tuition cannot be based on transportation costs nor capital and debt service, which means the Bond Principal and Interest will not be included in the tuition costs. Colebrook has a history of asking for extra funds. They had a good school, but sold it. Asbestos was removed a number of years ago. Voters were told it was not big enough, not safe enough, and they would save money by moving the students to the elementary school. They were not given all the facts. Lynn said this petition is to bring awareness to the voters.

Betsy is concerned our kids won’t have as many opportunities if we can’t send them to Colebrook Academy.

Lynn feels businesses will be willing to offer school to work. This could take the place of some of the CTE programs.

Our population is made up of many elderly people who can’t afford higher taxes.

Debra stated there is a lot of Facebook information that is not correct. Asbestos and mold are in the old Colebrook Academy building now. Operating costs will not be increased with the new building. Six towns send students to Colebrook. CTE program is not for just Colebrook but all the towns. College credits are part of the CTE program. The CTE programs have comprehensive curriculum plus on-site work with local employers. School-To-Work is not comparable to CTE.

**Adjustments to the Agenda:** None

**Reading of the Minutes:** School Board Meetings of January 4, 2023

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To accept the minutes of January 4, 2023 as presented.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

**School Administrator’s Report – Stephanie Humphrey**

1. January flew by so quickly. Students took the mid-year STAR and AIMSweb assessments.
2. On January 13, teachers continued to work in the PLCs on grading rubrics and other performance-based assessments. Laurel and Stephanie worked on report cards and a grading document that will be shared with staff. We will be implementing Alma, the new Student Information System.
3. Our student enrollment is back up to 49. We plan on keeping the teacher assignments the same next year.
4. Six students, Mrs. Falconer, and Stephanie traveled to Gorham, NH to accept the Berlin City Drive for Education grant of $1,500. There were six schools present and we had the most students. Our students were very respectful and polite.
5. On Friday, February 3 we celebrated eleven students who made the honor roll for the second quarter. Families were invited and grade 2 performed a reader’s theatre for entertainment.
6. For the second semester, 8th grade students are going to Colebrook for period 1. Third quarter they are taking an art class and fourth quarter a Spanish class. During this semester they will be able to spend time in the different CTE programs.
7. Officer Scott Stepanian is doing well. He is making relationships with students, staff, and their families. Students are responding to him in a positive way.
8. 8th graders and a group of staff members will host a winter carnival on February 24. We will also have a spirit week and a winter door decorating contest. We are having a kindness challenge as a whole school. Students who do random acts of kindness will go in a raffle at the end of the month.

**Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Debra Taylor:**

1. Dr. Taylor presented a calendar for the school districts’ public hearings and annual school district meetings. Stewartstown’s public hearing will follow the school board meeting at 6 pm in the Emily Haynes Community Room.
2. Also presented a comparison of Appropriation Budget Proposals for the school districts in SAU 7.
3. The adequacy grant has been reduced in all districts resulting in estimated increased local tax rates in all school districts.
4. Next Thursday the 8th graders will meet with Tia Cloutier.
5. School calendar for 23-24 will be voted on at the SAU meeting on April 13.
6. She gave an update for the regional North Point CTE Center and the Colebrook School Building Project.

**Business Manager’s Report – Bridget Cross:**

1. Bridget presented a binder to the Board Members from a company that was interested in the design/build services for the ventilation system upgrade/replacement. There was not an actual bid included, so Bridget wants to put it out to bid again with a completion date of June 2024.

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To reject the proposal and go out to bid again.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

**Unfinished Business: None**

**New Business: None**

**Meetings:**

It was listed on the agenda that the next school Board meeting would be March 6, 2023. Philip recommended that they change the meeting to Monday, March 13 at 5:15 pm before the annual district meeting. By consensus the Board agreed.

The board recessed the meeting at 6:00 pm to attend the public hearing in the Emily Haynes Community Room.

The board reconvened the meeting after the public hearing to sign the required warrants and budget documents.

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To adjourn the meeting at 6:30 pm.

VOTE: AFRFIRMATIVE

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia E. Grover

Minutes Taker

Minutes Approved: March 13, 2023