

Stewartstown School Board Meeting Minutes					
Date	October 7, 2024				
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	Dana Hilliard
				P	Bridget Cross
Public in Attendance:					

Philip Pariseau opened the school board meeting at 5:15 pm.

Adjustments to the Agenda: . None

Reading of the Minutes: School Board Meeting Minutes of September 4, 2024.

C. Sierad/P. Pariseau: To accept the School Board Meeting minutes of September 4, 2024 as written

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

Special Reports: None

Hearing of the Public: None

School Administrator’s Report – Stephanie Humphrey

1. September has flown by. Students and staff have settled into routines.
2. We had our first visit with Jason from Siskin. The weather was wet outside, so he brought tree saplings into the classrooms. He returns this Thursday.
3. The whole school made tie dye shirts for art class this month. Shirts will be handed out to students later when we have our Fun Friday, Tie Dye Day. The expectation is for students and staff to wear the shirts on our end-of-the-year field trips, also. Another fun activity was decorating classroom doors. Each classroom picked a New Hampshire college and decorated their door. Keene State College won the contest. Staff wore college apparel that Friday. On September 27, we had a school-wide drop-everything and read time.
4. Teachers have met with their Professional Learning Committees and Jenn Mathieu this month.
5. The new HVAC system is being installed. We had to replace the toilet in the PreK/Kindergarten room as well as fix a leaky faucet in the handicapped bathroom. The state fire inspector came for his annual inspection and the building passed with two minor fixes that are being taken care of.
6. October looks to be as busy as September was.

Superintendent’s Report – Dana S. Hilliard:

1. Proposed updated Cell Phone Policy is in the packet for a first reading.
2. We have put in for a \$25,000 grant through the NHDOE to help expand and educate our MTTs-B practices. They had so many applications that they are going to be late in notifying applicants of awards. We will keep our fingers crossed.

3. The North Country Superintendents' October Meeting was held last Thursday.
4. Reminder, I will be out of the office Tuesday through Friday to attend the in-person meeting of the National Board of Educational Sciences in Washington, DC. This is a Presidential appointment and consists of mostly college professors. Dana is the only public-school administrator on the board and is able to provide a perspective that college educators never experience.
5. It was a great goal setting session last night. The session was led by the Board rather than the administration.
6. Homeland Security: Border Patrol has access to building. Question was raised if we should give Border Patrol access to the security system due to the town not having a local police department. Philip asked if the fire department had keys to the building. Stephanie responded that there is a lock box, and the fire department should have access. Philip will check with Steve Young, chief of the department.

Business Manager's Report – Bridget Cross

1. Stewartstown School District ended FY 2024 with a fund balance of \$409,350.00 of which \$103,882.35 will be retained for unanticipated purchases during the 24/25 school year. \$305,467.65 will be returned to offset the tax rate.

Retention funds cannot be spent without a public hearing. This allows the board to communicate with the voters what they are spending their retention funds on. The board then approves or disapproves the purpose following the hearing.

Unfinished Business – Policy JICJ (First Reading)

Dana presented a draft of Policy JICJ – Mobile Devices / Cell Phones. Betsy questioned the first sentence: Students are not permitted to bring electronic devices to school. She felt this was unfair. After discussion, it was decided to change the first sentence to be: "Electronic device usage is not permitted during the school day." Dana will revise the policy and bring it back to the next meeting for a second reading.

New Business:

Meetings:

Next School Board Meeting will be Monday, November 4, 2024 at 5:15 pm.

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To adjourn the meeting at 6:09 pm.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia E. Grover
School District Clerk/Minutes Taker

Board Adopted: 11-4-24