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| Stewartstown School BoardMeeting Minutes | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Date** | | May 2, 2022 | | | | | | | |
| **Time** | | 5:00 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 | Cheryl Covill |
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| **Public in Attendance:** John Kennedy, SCS teacher | | | | | | | | | |
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Philip Pariseau, Chairman, opened the meeting at 5:04 pm.

**Hearing of the Public:** Philip recognized John Kennedy, who teaches the upper grades at SCS. This year they have embarked on a math & science relationship with a school in Maine. The 8th graders have been working with Google Draw to do geometry. They had to draw a house. Students communicated totally on Google. There were challenges with two different servers communicating, but it was a success. The students enjoyed the experience, and they hope to continue it next year.

John used to be the Title I director for Stewartstown. He was treasurer in 2018, the last year of the North Country Title I Conference. There is over $3,000 in the Conference bank account. John contacted the other project managers and they recommended giving it to SCS with permission of the school board. Cheryl recommended that John send a letter to all the schools involved offering to return their portion of the money, due to these being federal funds. John will do this.

He has been working with Sharon on science. They want to purchase rockets that the 6th graders will work on with the 1st graders. Alan Farnsworth advised them on which rockets were suitable for that age group. This will cost around $300. Cheryl said he should submit a purchase requisition to order from district funds.

John left the meeting at 5:45 pm.

Public Hearing:

* To accept and expend the American Rescue Plan and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER III) grant money from the NH Department of Education in the amount of $347,259 to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the COVID-19\* pandemic.
* To accept and expend the American Rescue Plan IDEA/Preschool grant money from the NH Department of Education in the amount of $4,449.96

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To accept and expend the grant monies described above.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

**Adjustments to the Agenda:** Approval of general assurances and second reading of Sick Leave Policy.

**Reading of the Minutes:** School Board Meeting of April 4, 2022

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To accept the minutes of April 4, 2022 as presented.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

**Special Reports:** None

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

1. There will be a student lead Open House on May 23 with a short music presentation around 5:40 pm.
2. The eighth-grade collaborative project with a seventh-grade class in Maine was a success.
3. NH SAS assessment dates are May 3, 4, & 5 for grades 3-5 and May 10, 11, & 12 for grades 6-8. Grades 5 & 8 will also take the Science assessment planned for May 17.
4. Two teachers have volunteered to give a supplement report for the Quarter 4 report card. The supplement report will be competency-based and the work that teachers have been doing in their PLC’s.

Betsy questioned how this would work going to high school. Stephanie responded: Teachers are transitioning to this in all of SAU 7. New Hampshire is leaning in this direction throughout the state. Each child moves at their own pace. This is going to be the standard for graduation.

Courtney asked if more aides are going to be needed to meet both ends of the spectrum. Stephanie replied: “No”.

A third grader may end up working with a fifth grader. This helps students learn better and affords more flexibility in teaching. Not all teachers are going to do this at first.

1. Eighth grade graduation will be June 14 at 5:00 pm. The end-of-year award presentation for grades K-7 will be held on June 14 at 2:00 pm. Each classroom has scheduled an end-of-year field trip. The whole school BBQ will be on June 8, followed by the annual Grade 6/7 against Grade 8 kickball game.

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

1. Dr. Taylor reported that all Stewartstown teachers have signed for next year.
2. Regional agreements for SAU 7 & Essex North will be brought back in June to the boards.
3. Increased career and technical education opportunities will be implemented in the fall of 2022 through the North Point Career and Technical Education Center. Approved programs are Auto, Hospitality/Culinary, Education, Health Science – Including LNA, and Information Technology – including a third-year cybersecurity track. These programs will be included in basic tuition – no extra cost.
4. We have met the goals of our strategic plan for this year.
5. Our Student Services Department has been hard at work this year continuing the focus on student growth for students with disabilities.
6. We are preparing for the transition of our Business Administrator. We thank Cheryl Covill for thirty-eight years of service. Bridget Cross will begin in the position on July 1.
7. With a 100% high school graduation rate, our graduates are gaining admission to competitive colleges and universities or stepping into career-tract jobs that interest and excite them.
8. Dr. Taylor expressed her deep gratitude to the many parents, volunteers, board members, business owners, and community members who have donated their time and expertise on behalf of our students and schools this past year.
9. Reminders:

* Last day of school for students is June 15 (half day)
* Stewartstown Eighth Grade Graduation is Wednesday, June 14th at 5:00 pm

**Business Administrator’s Report – Cheryl Covill:**

1. Cheryl outlined how the ESSER III funds will be used.
2. We have a new bus stop on Route 145 and Bishop Brook Road.
3. Stewartstown was not awarded funding to replace the hot and cold table through the NHDOE Food Service Equipment Grant.
4. NHDOE Office of Food and Nutrition announced that our SAU will be receiving the additional funding awarded to the State Agency through the Commodity Credit Corporation. The funds are to enhance local school district’s ability to purchase food for school meals by offering resources needed to address supply chain challenges directly to schools and school districts. We received a $13,000 check to the SAU.
5. Fuel Oil: Where do we go? Do you want to set a cap? Philip asked if we could lock in a price without a prebuy. Cheryl responded that we could. Philip thought if there is a drop in price, we should act quickly. We need to decide in June.
6. Simplex Grinnell finally gave Cheryl a price for replacing the fire alarm panel - $26,450. We have approximately $127,513 in the Building Expendable Trust Fund after withdrawing the $50,000 for paving.

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To approve purchasing the fire alarm panel at $26,450.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

1. Generator is old and needs belts and hoses replaced. The generator was purchased through a Town Emergency Equipment grant. Maintenance has been periodic, but not consistent. The repairs needed now will cost approximately $3,725.00. Cheryl asked the Board’s approval to pay for the work and to enter into a three-year maintenance contract and share the travel costs with Pittsburg. The estimated cost is $2,509.07 plus a 4% cost increase per year. We will need approval from the Selectmen to take over the maintenance.

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To approve repairs and maintenance of the generator.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

**Unfinished Business:**

1. General Assurances

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To approve the Chairman signing the General Assurances.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

1. Sick Leave Bank Policy – second reading

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To approve the policy as presented.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

**New Business:**

1. Pre-K Discussion. Stephanie had a request from a parent asking to enroll their child in preschool. She requested that the School Board adopt a policy setting an entrance age for preschool. She would like it kept at 4 years old. It will be brought to the next meeting.
2. John Kennedy presented Enrichment Fund and Collaborative Math Project information.
3. RFP – Service Resource Officer: No response
4. RFP – Playground Equipment and Installation: No bids. Wants to extend date.
5. RFP – Audio and Video System: No bids
6. RFP – Financial & Compliance Audit: One letter from Plodzik and Sanderson, P.A.
7. RFP – Engineering Services for HVAC System. One bid of $8,000.

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To approve the bid for the HVAC System if it falls within the budget.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

1. RFP – Roofing for Garage: No bids. Cheryl wants to contact some locals to see if they can fit roofing the garage in this summer. Philip mentioned that Ed Poisson didn’t bid because he couldn’t meet the timeline. He might be interested if it was at a different time. Cheryl will call him.

**Meetings:**

Next meeting for Stewartstown School Board will be June 6, 2022 at 5:00 pm.

B. Gray/C. Sierad: To adjourn at 7:03 pm.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia E. Grover

Minutes Taker