

**Stratford School Board
Board Meeting
April 11, 2018**

The Stratford School Board had a board meeting on Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 6:00 pm, at the Stratford Public School in Stratford, NH. Present were: Wayne Hall, Bruce Blodgett and James Kennett. Also present were Superintendent Mike Kelley and Business Administrator Patty Brown.

Mike Kelley called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

A motion was made by Bruce Blodgett and seconded by James Kennett to nominate Wayne Hall as the school board chair. There were no more nominations. A vote was then taken and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Wayne Hall and seconded by Bruce Blodgett to nominate James Kennett as the school board assistant chair. There were no more nominations. A vote was then taken and all were in favor.

Wayne Hall welcomed James Kennett to the school board.

A motion was made by Bruce Blodgett and seconded by James Kennett to approve the public board minutes of February 14, 2018 as presented. A vote was then taken and all were in favor.

Kyle Haley was in attendance and spoke to his support of school choice and would like to see the school board create an account to pay for the difference in tuition if a student chooses to go to a different school other than Groveton. Groveton does have the lowest high school tuition rate at this time, so if a student chooses to go to another school it will cost a family additional money. Kyle estimated it would cost an additional \$125,000 a year if all the students went to Colebrook next year, not that he expected all students would leave Groveton. Kyle does not feel 1% of the budget is much to ask the taxpayers to pay for our children's educational options. Kyle mentioned that the school district currently has an account for tuition expenses with a balance of \$50,000 and that could be used and add to it each year as needed or create another account.

The board responded that they need to notify the Northumberland Board by February 1st each year how many students plan to attend the following year. The current Tuition Trust Fund is used for students who were not anticipated. We base our budget and numbers eighteen months in advance and the trust fund is used for overages in the tuition budget line.

Sandi Adams' report was presented with nothing to add. Bruce Blodgett brought up homemade explosives that are being made with aluminum foil and household items (baking soda, etc...) and leaving them on the side of the roads to explode when picked up. Please remind students and staff to be cautious during roadside pickup, etc...

Michelle Mason's special education report was presented with nothing to add. The board had no questions.

Shane Cloutier's report was presented with nothing to add. The board asked how things were going and Mike Kelley responded that there have been no recent complaints with the wireless.

Patty Brown presented her business report with no changes. Patty went over the tuition rate comparisons and the history of how Stratford uses the state average of cost per pupil and adds another \$500 to set their own school district tuition rate annually. Patty then went over the sewer project and working with the summer project contractor and Mike Lynch. As of today it looks to be an unreserved fund balance around \$200k, half from unanticipated tuition revenue and the other half unexpended budget lines

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A motion was made by James Kennett and seconded by Wayne Hall to approve the 2018-2019 Stratford School District tuition rate of \$15,898, which is the NH state average plus \$500. A vote was then taken and all were in favor.

Mike Kelley presented his report and reviewed the Homeland Security reports, Weapons on School Grounds Policy, SB193-Voucher Bill Updates and how there is no new news on the bill at this point and staff nominations for 2018/2019 school year.

A motion was made by Bruce Blodgett and seconded by James Kennett to declare all the proposed equipment obsolete and allow the technology department to dispose of the list as presented. A vote was then taken and all were in favor.

Wayne Hall would not recommend the staff to carry firearms unless they went through the state training first.

Mike Kelley recommended the school board wait until the NH School Board Association gives us some direction on the subject first. They are working on potential policies as we speak, we can wait and see what they come up with and talk about it then.

A motion was made by Wayne Hall and seconded by James Kennett to go into nonpublic at 6:40 pm for RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) personnel and student discussions. James-YES, Bruce-YES, Wayne-YES.

Mike Kelley discussed the staff nominations being proposed for the 2018-2019 school year.

Mike Kelley also mentioned a recent student move and tuition request.

A motion was made by Bruce Blodgett and seconded by James Kennett to come out of nonpublic session at 6:45 pm. A vote was then taken and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Wayne Hall and seconded by Bruce Blodgett to approve the administrator's nominations for the 2018-2019 school year as presented. A vote was then taken and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Bruce Blodgett and seconded by James Kennett to approve the professional staff nominations for the 2018-2019 school year as presented. A vote was then taken and all were in favor.

Mike Kelley reminded everyone of the SAU meeting next Tuesday, April 17th at 6:00 pm at the Stark Village School.

A motion was made by Wayne Hall and seconded by Bruce Blodgett to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm. A vote was then taken and all were in favor.

These minutes were respectfully submitted by Patricia Brown