

**Stratford School Board
Board Meeting-Public Minutes
November 9, 2016**

The Stratford School Board had a board meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 2016 at 6:00 pm, at the Stratford Public School in Stratford, NH. Present were: Mike Lynch, Wayne Hall and Bruce Blodgett. Also present were Superintendent Mike Kelley, Business Administrator Patty Brown, Special Education Director Michelle Mason and Principal Sandi Adams.

Wayne Hall called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

A motion was made by Mike Lynch and seconded by Bruce Blodgett to approve the public minutes of October 12, 2016 as presented. A vote was then taken and all were in favor.

Citizens Comments: There were no comments.

Sandi Adams presented her report and mentioned the Thanksgiving Feast on the 17th and reminded the board they were all welcomed. Sandi also mention the policy and procedure for activating EMS and dialing 911 within the Emergency Response Plan. The Stratford School will be using 911 in those situations within the plan; it was decided and will be updated. Sandi also passed out an article on the extended summer program this past summer. It was great publicity for our school and Coos County.

Sandi Adams said there was a question about the equipment being taken from the school that was donated to Groveton. If Groveton had no use for equipment, it should have come back here for us to sell or dispose of. Patty Brown confirmed she did receive a check for that equipment. The equipment not used was sold to a Stratford resident and they did bring a check in made out to the Stratford School District.

The board asked that only useful equipment be taken as a donation. Anything not needed should stay and the school should handle any sales, disposals, etc...

Michelle Mason presented her report and mentioned that she offered the extended school position to the Stratford special education teacher and that teacher is interested. Michelle also updated the board that the one referral in her report is now identified, so the student cases increased to 17 and the referrals decreased to 0.

Karen Conroy's technology director's report was presented in the board packet. There were no comments or questions on the report.

Patty Brown presented her report with nothing to add. The only action for the board is to hire another contractor for the plowing/sanding bid. Patty then went over the proposed budget for 2017-2018 and highlighted any significant increases and decreases. The budget is up \$57,938, just under 3% compared to the 2016-2017 current budget. The tuition is down because high school enrollment is down 7 students, salaries are up because 1.5 additional paraprofessionals needed to be hired this year, additional services for speech, OT and psych needed to be purchased, NHRS increased an additional 1.69%, and fuel is down based on the three year average budgeted at \$2.50 per gallon. Patty supplied the board with a summary report describing all these differences in detail.

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Mike Kelley presented his report and had nothing to add. Mike let the board know that tomorrow is a professional development day for everyone in SAU #58 at Groveton High School. A facilitator will be leading the professional development day.

Bruce Blodgett asked about the tuition agreement and if it will go to the town for approval at this upcoming March 2017 meeting.

Mike Lynch would like to see if it could go this March, but would like to meet and talk with the Northumberland school board first.

Mike Kelley thought the tuition agreement samples we received had some good examples we could follow. Mike did mention that even another districts attorney had the same opinion as the school's attorney. Stratford needs to make sure they have a tuition agreement with one school and mentioning transportation guidelines with that school. Then have an option to offer choice at that tuition rate with the school the agreement is with.

Mike Lynch repeated that we would have an agreement with Groveton and only provide a bus to Groveton, like we do now. Students would also have the option to go to another school with their own transportation and the Stratford will only pay what Groveton's current tuition rate is. Any amount over that, plus the transportation, the parents would have to cover.

Bruce asked if we could move to a multiyear agreement with Groveton. Mike Lynch and Wayne Hall agreed they would move to a multiyear agreement.

Mike Lynch also mentioned that if enrollment increases with choice, then Groveton's enrollment from us could increase also.

Mike Lynch asked that Mike Kelley send some dates to the board after talking to Groveton at their board meeting, and then they can set a date to meet and discuss these options with renewing the tuition agreement.

A motion was made by Mike Lynch and seconded by Bruce Blodgett to accept the annual policy review of policy DFA – Investment as presented. A vote was then taken and all were in favor.

Patty Brown informed the board that Croteau's Lawn Service withdrew their plowing bid, so the bid then defaulted to the second and only other bid submitted by Brassard Property Service and Construction for \$6,300. A detailed contract was created and reviewed by the board and SAU office. The contract was acceptable to Marc Brassard.

Wayne Hall asked the board to consider a multiyear contract with Marc Brassard. Stark currently has a multiyear contract with Mr. Brassard where the rate is fixed for a few years.

Mike Lynch asked that we continue this year with a one-year contract and see how it goes and if everything is good, we can go to a multiyear contract starting next year. Mr. Brassard seems like a nice guy, but we just came up with this new detailed contract, let's see how this year goes.

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A motion was made by Mike Lynch and seconded by Bruce Blodgett to hire Marc Brassard based on the annual contracted amount of \$6,300 for plowing/sanding and spring cleanup for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Final payment will be held until all responsibilities in the contract are satisfied. A vote was then taken and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Mike Lynch and seconded by Bruce Blodgett to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 pm. A vote was then taken and all were in favor.

These minutes were respectfully submitted by Patricia Brown