

TOWN OF STRATTON
STRATTON SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2012

The Stratton School Board held its regular monthly meeting on September 13, 2012 at the Stratton town office. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

ATTENDING: Siobhan Eddy Young, Director, Laura Hawksley, Stratton Town Treasurer, Thomas Montemagni, Chairman, Steven John, WCSU Superintendent and Mr. & Mrs. Kobayashi.

The minutes of the August 24, 2012 meeting were read and approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. & Mrs. Kobayashi attend the meeting for the purpose of requesting tuition for their daughter who is attending SMS. Although they have a second home in Rye, N.Y. they stated that they will both be living in Stratton with their daughter. Additional information and documentation such as car registrations will be provided to the Board as soon as it is available.

Laura Hawksley informed the Board that a new family has rented a home in Stratton. As of this date, no request for residency status nor tuition reimbursement has been received by the Board.

Ms. Kristi McDonald was to attend the meeting for the purpose of residency verification, however she was not present. Although a student file has been started with information that she has provided, it is still incomplete. It was noted that she is not yet on the voter checklist. Therefore, the tuition invoice received was not paid. Ms. McDonald can attend the October 4th meeting to complete her application.

Ms. Hawksley provided a copy of the letter sent to Ms. Patricia Siegel from Chairman Montemagni stating that tuition reimbursement from the Town to the Hunter Montessori School in Connecticut was denied. The Board determined that she had not satisfied her burden of proof regarding her claim that she is a full time resident of the town of Stratton. A copy of the letter was also sent to the Montessori School.

PRE-K UPDATE:

There are two Pre-K students attending The Mountain School at Winhall. Windham Central Supervisory Union has contracts for Stratton with The Mountain School at Winhall for up to three students. Steven John will contact the Grantor regarding the expenditure of funds on two students versus the up to three students as stated in the contract.

WARNINGS FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING S

Additional school board meetings will be referenced as "meeting" and not "special meeting" which would suggest or imply that the Board met for the purpose of discussing a single, specific issue.

RESIDENCY POLICY REVIEWED:

The Board is in the process of reviewing and modifying the Stratton Residency Policy. Items #6 and #11 on the Affidavit page will be changed to read as follows, "Is this your permanent residence?" To be added will be, "Is this the child/children's primary residency?"

The last statement on page two of the Affidavit should be enlarged and in **bold** print.

At the October 4, 2012 meeting, with a full Board present, revisions to the Tuition Policy regarding tuition to out-of-state-schools will be discussed.

Steven John shared a variety of documents/information with the Board. Included was the Superintendent's Report for Stratton. He reminded the Board of the 9/26/12 meeting of the WCSU and WSWSU Boards at which time ways to improve efficiency of operations and instruction will be discussed. The meeting will be held at the Dover School at 7 P.M.

The Superintendent asked the Board to review the F16 Tuition Payment Policy. The full Board will review and discuss the policy at the October 4, 2012 meeting along with the issue of payment to out-of-state schools. Stratton School Board policies will be posted on line for public information at www.windhamcentralboard.org/school-boards/stratton/stratton-poli.

Also discussed was a publication from the Public Assets Institute regarding Vermont education spending. The update deals with spending, growth, costs, taxes and education strengths. The update can be found at www.publicassets.org.

Each Board member was given a copy of The Essential Work of Vermont School Boards. It is a publication provided by the Vermont School Boards Association. The publication deals with the roles and responsibilities of a board and its operations, ethics, challenges and the availability of helpful resources.

BILLING:

Billing was received from the following:

Deerfield Academy – Out-of-State tuition	\$ 6,230.50
Carol A. Joyce – Contracted Services	612.50
The Mountain School at Winhall – ES/MS	79,240.00
The Richards Group – Insurance	125.00
Stitzel, Page & Fletcher, P.C. – Legal Expenses	54.60

The order was reviewed, approved and signed.

The total amount of the September 13, 2012 order was \$86,262.60.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Lorraine M. Weeks-Newell
Stratton School Board Secretary

