

APPROVED

**TOWN OF STRATTON
STRATTON SCHOOL BOARD
FEBRUARY 11, 2020, 6:00PM
STRATTON TOWN OFFICE**

The Stratton School Board held its regular monthly meeting at the Stratton Town Office on Tuesday, February 11, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm.

ATTENDING:

Chairman- Tom Montemagni
Vice Chair- Allison Young
Secretary- Lorraine M. Weeks Newell
Superintendent-

Candie Bernard	Melissa Walker	Kellie D'Elia-Laskin	Cricket Mikheev	Jessica Marullo
Carol Huber	Helen Nault	John Nault	Andrea Fournier	Abbe Haber
Betsy LaHue	Stacie Chiodi	Marisa Powers		

Modifications to the Agenda:

Executive session to be called to address Superintendent Evaluation.

Adopt Policy Changes:

Transportation Policy: Lorraine Weeks-Newell motioned to approve Transportation policy F09. Tom Montemagni second. All concur. Motion carried.

Tuition Policy: Lorraine Weeks-Newell motioned to approve Tuition policy F16. Tom Montemagni second. All concur. Motion carried.

Residency Policy: Lorraine Weeks-Newell motioned to approve Residency policy F13. Tom Montemagni second. All concur. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Update:

A treasurer's update was presented for review by the board. A copy of this update is attached to these minutes.

Approve School Board Minutes from January 23, 2020:

Lorraine Weeks-Newell reviewed the minutes from January 23, 2020. Lorraine Weeks-Newell motioned to approve the minutes. Tom Montemagni second. All concur. Motioned carried

Review/Approve order:

Billing received from the following. All reviewed and approved.

- Burr & Burton Academy	\$113,331.16	Check# 1030
- Gwynne & Ted Fitzgerald	\$ 7,966.50	Check# 1031
- The Mountain School at Winhall	\$ 7,256.61	Check# 1032
- RVUSD	\$ 29,000.00	Check# 1033
- Sullivan, Powers & Co.	\$ 2,717.00	Check# 1034
- Wardsboro Elementary School	\$ 7,250.00	Check# 1035
Total	\$ 167,521.27	

Address any correspondence brought before the Board:

A parent made a request for her two children to receive transportation reimbursement to and from Longtrail. This request was addressed when the board addressed the Treasurer's requests later in the meeting.

Community members expressed interest in developing an email alert system for school board special messages. The board advised that an email list is currently being compiled and will be available for community members to include their email addresses at the town meeting. The board asked Betsy LaHue if she would be the email coordinator at town meeting. Betsy agreed.

Email correspondence received from a parent who had removed their student from the district at the beginning of the year because they were moving. They family opted not to move, is currently still residing in town and is requesting tuition reimbursement for the 2019-2020 school year. The board requests the family fill out a residency application and provide documentation from the school. An email will be sent to the family regarding same.

Email correspondence received from a non-resident parent regarding tuition program for residents. Inquiry was fact-finding in nature with no indication of family moving to Stratton at this time. Email addressed accordingly.

Allison Young attended the WCSU board meeting of February 10, 2020. The quorum, the superintendent and State Representatives Laura Sabilia, Kelly Pajala and Emily Long (WCSU board member) were also in attendance. A highlighted focus of that meeting was the Weighting Study and its impact on local towns. The information from this meeting has been attached to these minutes and the link to the study is listed below. General discussion took place.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/edu-legislative-report-pupil-weighting-factors-2019.pdf>

Also mentioned at the WCSU meeting, the Brattleboro Career Center has requested that February vacation be moved to the week after President's week. WCSU authorized Bill Anton to advise that the WCSU will comply with that request.

Executive Session:

Executive Session called at 7:34pm to address the Superintendent's Evaluation. Executive session ended at 8pm. Evaluation to be forwarded to Rich Werner, WCSU Board Chair.

The treasurer had three notes written for payment consideration:

- \$2,396.64 is an expected last tuition request from Floodbrook: The school board pre-approved this amount for payment as the student has now left that school.
- \$645.96 for one student and \$846.15 for a second student for transportation costs to and from Longtrail Academy: The school board approved both requests and authorizes the Treasurer to pay Longtrail directly, or to reimburse the parent directly pending proof of payment.

Email correspondence received by the Treasurer from Celeste Keel of the BRSU following an email request by the board. The email confirmed that Winhall does not make transportation payments for Longtrail. The school board will be reviewing the most recent transportation policy at an upcoming monthly meeting.

Moving forward:

- Allison Young motioned for the board chair to contact Kelly Pajala regarding the Weighting Study and request a written response by February 21, 2020. The communication will be attached to these minutes when the draft is completed. Lorraine Weeks-Newell second. All concur. Motioned carried.
- Allison Young to contact the Winhall School District Board Chair regarding this study and to collect a list of other towns potentially impacted in the same manner as Stratton.
- Tom Montemagni to draft the letter to Kelly Pajala and to contact Pietro Lynn.

A work session meeting was confirmed for Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 9am to address the presentation for the March meeting and Kelly Pajala's anticipated response letter. Any response received will be posted to the February 25, 2020 draft meeting minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

Minutes prepared by: Allison S. Young

