

APPROVED

TOWN OF STRATTON VERMONT
STRATTON SCHOOL BOARD
TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2019
STRATTON TOWN OFFICE

The Stratton School Board is holding the March monthly meeting at the Stratton Town Office on Tuesday, March 12, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 7pm.

ATTENDING:

Chairman- Thomas Montemagni
Vice Chairman- Allison Young
Secretary- Lorraine M. Weeks Newell
Treasurer- Alyson Marcucci
Superintendent- Bill Anton

Kent Young
Siobhan Young
Candie Bernard
Helen Fuller Eddy
Stacie Chiodi
Kevin Robinson
Deborah Cross
Diane Schwippert
Holly Wendell
Chris Kaltsas
Michael Culver
Helen Nault
Steve Goldfarb
Brian Sullivan
Kristine Koepe
Emily Schreibl
Carlo Huber

Jeanine Conte
Heidi Underwood
Robert LaHue
Jessica Baron
Carolyn Beckedorff
Abbe Haber
Melissa Walker
Greg Marcucci
Rayleen Marcucci
Gwynne Fitzgerald
DR Holton
John Nault
Peter Ahlfeld
Marisa Powers
Meredith Morin
Carol Huber

Total Count: 38

MINUTES

MODIFICATIONS:

NOTE: The modifications to the agenda will be listed below. Since the modifications were discussed within the general course of meeting discussion, the modification's subject matter will be listed under their respective sections in these notes. This is being done due to the amount of modification and to make the general discussion notes easier to understand.

- Consider approval of the minutes from the March 5, 2019 school district meeting
- Approve minutes from the School Board Meeting on February 26, 2019
- Conduct group discussion regarding budget issues
- Consider F16 Tuition Policy Amendment (warn for/adopt at April 2, 2019 meeting)
- Discuss letter to be sent to receiving schools regarding F16 Policy requirements

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING:

- Do I have a motion to schedule monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm at the Stratton Town Office, 9 W. Jamaica Road, Stratton, VT?
 - o Motion: Tom Montemagni
 - o Second: Allison Young
- Do I have a motion that the meetings be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules for small boards?
 - o Motion: Tom Montemagni
 - o Second: Lorraine Weeks-Newell
- Notices will be approved and published when necessary in the Brattleboro Reformer in accordance with statute
 - o WCSU Representative is: Allison Young
 - o WCSU Policy Committee Member is: Lorraine Weeks-Newell, Allison Young (second)
- Nomination for School Board Chair
 - o Chairman
 - Do I have a motion to nominate Thomas Montemagni as Stratton School Board Chairman?
 - Motion: Allison Young
 - Second: Lorraine Weeks-Newell
 - o Vice Chairman
 - Do I have a motion to nominate Allison Young as Stratton School Board Vice Chairman?
 - Motion: Tom Montemagni
 - Second: Lorraine Weeks-Newell
 - o Clerk
 - Do I have a motion to nominate Lorraine Weeks-Newell as Stratton School Board clerk?
 - Motion: Tom Montemagni
 - Second: Allison Young

APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES:

- Do I have a motion to approve the minutes from the March 5, 2019 school district meeting?
 - o Motion: Tom Montemagni
 - o Second: Allison Young
- Do I have a motion to approve the minutes from the February 26, 2019 school district meeting?
 - o Motion: Tom Montemagni
 - o Second: Allison Young
- Do I have a motion to approve the minutes from the January 29, 2019 school district meeting?
 - o Motion: Tom Montemagni
 - o Second: Allison Young

RESIDENCY APPLICATIONS: It should be noted that there will be two additional student applications for tuition assistance as of June/July. Their application is pending based on additional information needed.

ORDER:

Billing received from the following for payment. Billing was review and approved by the board.

Killington Mountain School:	\$7,809.00	CK# 4446
Dover Elementary School- 1 st semester:	\$20,250.00	CK# 4447
WCSU:	\$112.50	CK# 4448
Dover Elementary School- 2 nd semester:	\$22,994.28	CK# 4449
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	\$51,165.78	Total

SCHOOL CORRESPONDENCE: None

NEW SCHOOL BUSINESS:

Group discussion regarding school board budget:

- Gwynne Fitzgerald: Explained her amendment made at the March 5 school district meeting regarding paying state average to BBA.
 - o Discussion regarding BBA, losing them as a sending school. If students in other schools move to BBA, the per pupil cost goes even higher than anticipated.
 - Discussion regarding us being guaranteed to send our students to BBA
 - o What if F16 isn't state approved? When we will know about the AOE's decision regarding approval?
 - Lorraine explained that a letter was sent to the schools regarding the application delays
 - Approval decision timeline is not known
 - Tom clarified that AOE has informally reviewed the policy

- General discussion regarding backup plans being in place in addition to F16
- Steve Goldfarb
 - o Clarified how the Equalized Pupil Count works and wanted to clarify that we're not going to get penalized further if there are children who move to BBA or other public schools from private schools.
- Gwynne Fitzgerald suggested F16 apply only to families who moved in after it's January 2nd, 2019 inception.
- General discussion about the process of merging
- Marissa Powers suggested we discuss with Winhall how they handled their situation since it's similar to ours.
 - o Emily Schreibl discussed how Winhall handled things
 - Explained how the community got a committee together to handle some of these issues
 - Attendees of tonight's Stratton board meeting began an email list for the purposes of starting a committee.
 - o Tom suggested people write their ideas down and email them to the board for consideration and review
- General discussion regarding why we chose not to merge
- Chris Kaltsas
 - o SMS made an offer to the town of Stratton:
 - For the 2019-2020 school year only, SMS would bill the town of Stratton 50% of its typical bill for 15 students... which saves the town \$117,000.
 - Offer to create a 15 student cap to be held indefinitely.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESPONSE TO PETITION OF FEBRUARY 11, 2019:

- Petition received from 13 town residents for a request for reconsideration or rescission of a town vote (regarding F16 policy change)
- Letter to be sent out to anyone signing the petition explaining that the petition was an incorrect action. A policy vote is to be voted on by the board; it is not a town vote.

CONSIDER F16 TUITION POLICY AMENDMENT:

- Warning needed to update the policy with the AOE wording
- Bill Anton suggested removing the word "any" from the policy's first sentence so the partnership with SMS can be accepted.
- Plan:
 - o To the involved schools, the board will send out the F16 policy in draft form, including the AOE recommended wording, and with the singular alteration of the removal of the word "any" in the first sentence in section C3. The letters request that schools respond by March 30, 2019.
 - o Warning to follow with pending adoption scheduled for April 2.
 - o Budget will be readdressed when the letters come back from the schools and prior to the April 2, 2019 board meeting.