

DRAFT

TOWN OF STRATTON
STRATTON SCHOOL BOARD
NOVEMBER 5, 2019, 6:00PM
STRATTON TOWN OFFICE

The Stratton School Board its regular monthly meeting at the Stratton Town Office on Tuesday, November 5, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm.

ATTENDING:

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

Alyson Peterson	Peter Ahlfeld	Meredith Morin	Abbe Haber
Candie Bernard	Holly Wendell	Betsy LaHue	
Jessica Dell'Aera	Carson Thurber	Jessica Baron	
Melissa Walker	Ross Powers	Chris Kaltsas	

MODIFICATIONS TO AGENDA:

Remove agenda item 14 "Discuss tuition eligibility for an applicant in violation of the Homestead policy" as it will be addressed during the executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The board and superintendent entered into an executive session at 6:06pm for both legal and contractual purposes.

Legal: The superintendent was directed by the board to consult with Pietro Lynn regarding Homestead specifics within the policy.

Contractual: At this time, the board is unprepared to sign a contract with a private investigator. More information is required from the superintendent prior to engaging. The superintendent to provide follow-up information for the next meeting.

Executive session adjourned at 6:25pm.

TREASURER'S UPDATE:

Stratton town treasurer created a snapshot of the YTD revenues and expenditures for the school board. A copy and explanation of the snapshot was provided to all attendees. A clarification of certain line items was provided.

APPROVE SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 1, 2019 AND OCTOBER 22, 2019

Lorraine Weeks-Newell reviewed the minutes from October 1, 2019 and noted an error on the date in the introductory line. Lorraine Weeks-Newell motioned to approve the minutes barring the change to the date. Tom Montemagni second. All concur. Motioned carried

Lorraine Weeks-Newell reviewed the minutes from October 22, 2019. Lorraine Weeks-Newell motioned to approve the minutes with the following changes. Tom Montemagni second. All concur. Motion carried.

REVIEW/APPROVE ORDER:

Billing received from the following. All reviewed and approved.

- Lynn, Lynn, Blackman & Manitsky:	\$ 90.00	Check# 1016
- Taconic & Green	\$ 23,700.00	Check# 1017
- Wardsboro Elem	<u>\$ 7,250.00</u>	Check# 1018
Total	\$ 31,040.00	

DISCUSS ANY CORRESPONDENCE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD:

A residency appeal was heard by the board on October 1, 2019. The superintendent's decision of non-residency (based on temporary living situation) was supported by the board. The board's decision is being appealed and the applicant supplied the board a copy of the appeal emailed to the AOE.

- The hearing has not been scheduled. The last communication from the applicant was that she was hiring an attorney and would get back to the AOE and the Stratton School Board attorney, Pietro Lynn. At this time, we have not heard anything further from the applicant.

DISCUSS THE SCHOOL BOARD UPDATE GOING TO HOMESTEAD TAXPAYERS AND PARENTS:

A document was provided to the board summarizing its actions since the March town meeting. The document is to be forwarded for review to all school board members.

REPORT ON THE DATA COMMITTEE:

The data committee put forth amazing effort and took approximately ten hours to collect and organize school board data. At this point, the information provided by the superintendent at the merging meeting has put some of their efforts on hold. They did, however, create a powerpoint presentation that can be utilized in any comprehensive presentations made to the community by the board. They also provided the board a better understanding of the information the public was interested in and offered ideas on how to present it. The board thanked Abbe Haber, Betsy LaHue, Stacie Chiodi and Carolyn Beckedorff for their efforts.

REPORT ON THE SURVEY COMMITTEE:

A survey was generated by the Kristine Koeppel and provided to the board for review and revision. A finalized copy of this survey was reviewed at the meeting. Although previously suggested, no questions regarding bussing were included in the survey (please see REPORT ON BUSSING below). The board thanked Ms. Koeppel for her efforts in an email.

FUTURE RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR CURRENT SCHOOLS

Currently, Maple Street School has a 1-year, 7 student cap and SMS has a 2-year, 15 student cap. BBA and Mountain School are sending schools and accept all Stratton students. The board is to contact the currently capped schools to discuss these caps in further detail.

REPORT ON THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS PROGRESS REPORT AS PROVIDED TO THE WCSU:

A copy of the Director of Operation Progress Report was provided to the board for review. A copy of this document can be found on the WCSU website.

REPORT ON BUSSING:

The board was approached regarding bus overcrowding and a possible AM stop at the town office for the Manchester bus runs. The board contacted Chris Medina, Director of Operations for the WCSU, and received the following email:

Was able to get in touch with Derek regarding the questions.

1. Bus Capacity- After they received reports of overcrowding they rode the bus to investigate. The bus was at capacity (not over) but some students did not want to make room to sit more than 1-2 in a seat and other students thought it was fun to ride standing up in aisle. BRSU cracked down on the driver to ensure all students are in seats and making room if necessary. He reported it has been much better.

Originally that route had a 71 passenger bus. Last week they traded the bus for a 77 passenger, so they have a few extra seats now as well.

2. AM stop at Town Hall- He stated this stop would most likely not be able to be added. Since that bus starts its route so early, winter weather is a big concern coming down to southern part of Stratton; afternoons are a little better as crews had more time to treat roads. This goes along with the general point of increasing the route time.

The town hall stop adds an additional 30mins to the route. If it was considered it would add a considerable amount to the current transportation cost as it would push their driver into overtime for the week.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY LEGALLY COME BEFORE THE BOARD:

The board presented the town select board with a request for a projector, screen and cart. The request was approved and the items were purchased. These items are available for town to use at meetings and other events.

A regular monthly meeting was confirmed for December 3, 2019 at 6pm.
Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Minutes prepared by: Allison S. Young

November School Board Snapshot

		REVENUES			
Account	Description	Budget	YTD Receipts	Balance	% Uncollected
41921	REC AREA RENTAL REVENUE	120,000.00	40,000.00	80,000.00	
42790	NATIONAL FOREST GRANT	10,000.00	-	10,000.00	
42150	STATE TRANSP GRANT	10,787.00	-	10,787.00	
43110	EDUCATION SPENDING GRANT	1,005,387.00	603,232.20	402,154.80	
44791	PILOT REVENUE FROM TOWN	37,555.00	-	37,555.00	
	SUBTOTAL	1,183,729.00	643,232.20	540,496.80	46%
	TOTAL	1,837,729.00	643,232.20	540,496.80	46%

		EXPENDITURES			
Account	Description	Budget	YTD Expenses	Balance	% Unspent
5561	PREK TUITION TO PUB VT LEAS	6,494.00	-	6,494.00	
5593	SU ASSESSMENT - ECSE SERVICES	2,567.00	641.75	1,925.25	
	SUBTOTAL	9,061.00	641.75	8,419.25	93%
5561	TUITION TO PUB VT LEAS	58,500.00	15,150.00	43,350.00	
5562	TUITION TO PRIV VT LEAS	285,260.00	136,367.00	148,893.00	
5591	TRANSPORTATION EXPENSE	7,077.00	-	7,077.00	
	SUBTOTAL	350,837.00	151,517.00	199,320.00	57%
5561	TUITION TO PUB VT LEAS	31,600.00	15,800.00	15,800.00	
5562	TUITION TO PRIV VT LEAS	577,715.00	273,458.00	304,257.00	
5564	TUITION TO NONVT PRIV LEAS	31,866.00	23,899.50	7,966.50	
5591	TRANSPORTATION EXPENSE	12,923.00	-	12,923.00	
	SUBTOTAL	654,104.00	313,157.50	340,946.50	52%
5191	OTHER	5,000.00	-	5,000.00	
5220	FICA	383.00	-	383.00	
5344	ATTORNEY'S FEES	-	1,268.50	(1,268.50)	
5521	INSURANCE (NOT EMP BEN)	400.00	-	400.00	
5581	MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT	-	45.24	(45.24)	
5593	SU ASSESSMENTS - ADMINISTRATIVE	30,803.00	6,884.50	23,918.50	
5342	AUDITING SERVICES	10,500.00	4,437.00	6,063.00	
5833	BOND ISSUANCE/OTHER DEBT	100,000.00	-	100,000.00	
5593	SU ASSESSMENTS- SPECIAL ED SECONDARY	22,641.00	5,660.25	16,980.75	
	SUBTOTAL	169,727.00	18,295.49	151,431.51	89%
	TOTAL	1,837,729.00	483,511.74	700,117.25	59%

Current Student Count 63
 Budgeted Phantom Tuition 104,940.00
 ESTIMATED Remaining Phantom Tuition 100,079.60
 Comments from Treasurer:

Although we currently have 63 students, we expect 3 more students in the very near future. That being said, I reported 66 students on the Tuitioned Student Census Report which will be used to calculate the Equalized Pupil Rate for the FY21 Tax Rate (my hope is that we will at least get some credit for the 3 incoming students). The Census report is due to WCSU by November 1st. Any students that move in after this date will not be counted in the Equalized Pupil Rate and will adversely affect the FY21 Tax Rate.