

**EUSTIS SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2016
5:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

- I. Call to order – Sarah Strunk, Chair**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. See if the Board will approve the minutes of the 12/1/15 Board Meeting?**
 - S. Fotter motioned to approve.**
 - J. Brickley seconded.**
 - Vote in favor: 5-0**
- IV. Welcome Guests**
- V. Superintendent's Report**
 - 1. Financials – Mike reported that he will not have financials available until the February meeting due to reorganization in the office at MSAD #51. Mike mentioned that the board should plan for a longer meeting in February to start working on the budget. Revenues are over what was anticipated. Fuel costs are great due to lower costs. Mike suggests to not increase taxes this year due to payoff of school building.**
 - 2. MSAD #51 Contract Update – Mike and Jack, Andover Superintendent, recently met with the Business Office from Rumford regarding them taking over our financials. Mike is very optimistic. He would like to make a decision soon so that there will be a smooth transition.**
- I. Principal's Report**
 - 1. School Update – Barry reported cohorts working in small groups on Math, Technology, RTI, 5 yr. plan for Math curriculum. Looking at technology needs assessment and inventory, as well as RTI – addressing everyone's needs. Professional Development committee meets once a month. Barry mentioned that staff is looking at 3 days next August to work on Professional Development. Ski/skate starts on Friday. Skates have been purchased from LL Bean, through help from the PEP Grant, for students in gr. 4-8. Skates will be distributed next week. A Wellness Committee has met. Will plan to meet three times a year; September, December and April. The committee consists of board members, community members, parents, teachers, principal, nurse and cook. Dave Richards and Casey Cote have agreed to be members of this committee.
The after school program will begin bowling on Thursday. Barry invited the board members to come to the game on Thursday to see the Cheerleaders perform. He thanked the board for their support. There is a possibility of the Cheerleaders also performing at the Championship game at Mt. Abram at the end of the season.**
- VII. School Board Chair's Report – Dave Richards spoke regarding the next evolution of the "garden project". Dave presented a survey that he would like staff to complete regarding the garden. He presented a folder with information on the possibility of a "garden dome", being purchased from Growing Spaces out of Colorado. Surveys will be handed out to staff and collected before the next board meeting.
Dave contacted Peter Farnsworth about the possibility of having a water line run to the garden area. There is a \$600.00 balance remaining from the grant that could be applied to this project.**

VIII. Public Comment

IX. Discussion Items

1. **Stratton School Celebration – We have made the last payment on the Stratton School, therefore we want to plan a celebration. We are looking at either Wed, April 27 or Thursday, April 28, after spring break when the weather is nicer. A committee has been formed to plan this event. The members are: Kathy Matthews as Chair, Casey Cote, Sue Fotter and Patty Simpson. The first planning meeting will be held on January 20th at 3:00 in the office.**
2. **Confirm first Tuesday of the Month for Board Meetings – We will start meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month beginning with the February meeting. The Eustis Selectmen presently meet the first and third Tuesday each month. Kathy will contact the Town Office to change the board outside for advertising. The next school board meeting will be on February 9, 2016.**
3. **Adjustments to the Agenda – there was a discussion on school choice once a student graduates from Stratton School. This “school choice” should be reiterated during the transition to High School. Mike will check on the Tuition Policy.**

X. Action Items

- XII. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.**