**FLAGSTAFF RSU**

**EUSTIS SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

**MAY 5, 2015**

**5:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

1. **Call to order – Sarah Strunk, Chair**

Other board members present were Sue Fotter and Casey Cote.

J. Brickley and D. Richards were absent.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

1. **See if the Board will approve the minutes of the 4/7/15 Board Meeting.**

Motion to Approve: S. Fotter

Seconded: C. Cote

Vote to approve: 3-0 to approve

1. **Welcome Guests**
2. **Superintendent’s Report**
3. **2015-16 Budget – Projected Revenue**

Mr. Shea participated by telephone conference. The overall budget is up by 3%. Some carryover funds will be used to counteract the increase. Some revenue lines are down and others are up resulting in no increase in cost to the town of Eustis. When questioned about the capital reserve he noted that the attorney sets that up as a separate warrant article.

1. **Tuition Agreement with Carrabassett Valley for 2015-16**

The Town of Carrabassett Valley has sent a contract to Eustis School Department for the 2015-2016 school year agreeing to pay the state determined rate of $13,515.61 per student for the year. They also sent a proposed transportation contract agreeing to contribute $5000 towards the cost of running a late bus to pick up students at Mt. Abram H.S.

1. **Transportation**

School districts are responsible for the transportation of their students. Transportation costs are determined by adding all associated costs: bus depreciation, repairs and maintenance, insurance, drivers, etc. When the total cost is divided by the number of students being transported to and from school we have an average per student cost. We bill the state for transportation of students from the EUT towns, which for last year and this year is $95.00 per student per month. We want to be fair and consistent, so if Coplin Plt. wants Eustis to transport their students, we would charge the same rate, which could be slightly different next year. M. Aliberti has our proposal for providing transportation next year and will bring it to his school board and let us know their decision

The second consideration is the cost of running late runs and after sports runs. Carrabassett Valley is willing to continue contributing $5000 towards the cost of providing transportation from Mt. Abram after after school activities. They do not feel the need to provide transportation after sporting events. We should discuss if we should continue providing that service, given the difficulty of finding drivers and the costs involved. Many schools do not. It is the parents’ responsibility.

S. Strunk and N. Beers feel parents could carpool for sports as long as they knew ahead of time, like they did for soccer this year.

1. **Principal’s Report**

Softball and baseball season has started. The fields dried up just in time.

The school has received a donation of $1000 from Vivian Lawrence. This is her second donation to the Stratton School this year, to be used to help students. We would like to use the money to help buy desperately needed softball and baseball equipment.

The eighth grade promotion is scheduled to take place at the Community Building on Friday, June 12th.

It looks like the last student day will be an early release on June 16th, instead of the 17th, as we used only four snow days this year. MSAD#58 used five snow days so high school students will be attending on the 17th.

**Members of the board agreed to change the last day of school to June16th for students and June 17th for teachers.**

1. **School Board Chair’s Report**

A) School Garden Grant from the Sugarloaf Region Charitable Trust - $1500 has been awarded to the school thanks to David Richards.

B) Larry Warren has asked if Stratton School students are planning to help with the trail for the scenic byways project through town.

V. Collins has spoken to teachers and they are onboard to help out.

1. **Public Comment**

Michael Steward noted concern with the substitute bus driver position he had accepted earlier. He feels it was misrepresented and has resigned.

1. **Discussion Items**
2. **View and discuss “Leader’s Guide to 21st Century**

**Education” Video:** <http://www.youtube.com/edleader21>,

The first video was a recap by the author of the book.

The second was a Ted Talk segment with a thirteen-year old home-schooled student. He spoke about the importance of being happy and healthy, and encouraging creativity tied in to individual interests. Robert Walsh was cited as a proponent of exercise, nutrition, nature, community service, relationships, recreation, relaxation, and spirituality.

C. Cote queried: Are students excited about these type of activities?

It was also noted that the PEP grant, the school participates in, supports some of these activities.

1. **Community Visioning Meeting**

S. Strunk has communicated with Jean Haegar, Great Schools Partnership. She will assist with developing a school vision. The first planning session is scheduled for Saturday, May 16th, from 8:00-9:00 AM, at Stratton School. They are planning a second meeting, hopefully involving more people for Friday, May 29th at 5:00 PM. They would like to include members of the original withdrawal committee, teachers, selectmen, and Claudia Diller, logo artist.

1. **Adjustments to the Agenda**

none

1. **Agenda items for June 2nd**
2. Discussion of garden project with D. Richards
3. Read chapter 3 of The Leader’s Guide to 21st Century Learning.
4. Report on community visioning meetings
5. **Action Items**
6. **To see if the board will approve the proposed 2015-16 tuition agreement with Carrabassett Valley.**

Motion to Approve: S. Fotter

Seconded: C. Cote

Vote to approve: 3-0 to approve

**2. To see if the board will vote to accept a donation of $1000 from Vivian Lawrence.**

Motion to Approve: C. Cote

Seconded: S. Fotter

Vote to approve: 3-0 to approve

**3. To see if the board will vote to approve the proposed 2015-2016 school budget.**

Motion to Approve: C. Cote

Seconded: S. Fotter

Vote to approve: 3-0 to approve

**XII. Executive session to discuss principal candidates.**

**Adjournment. 7:25 PM**