

**EUSTIS SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021
5:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

I. Call to order – Casey Cote, Chair

II. Pledge of Allegiance

**III. See if the Board will approve the minutes of the 4/13/21 Board Meeting?
J. Brickley motioned to approve. S. Strunk seconded. Vote in favor: 5-0.**

IV. Welcome Guests: Tabitha Emery and Mat Horton were present.

V. Superintendent's Report

**1. Budget presented for approval – Mike went over the budget with the board and the only change from last month was to allocate a dollar amount for the future garden coordinator and supply line. Mike noted that we will be receiving \$50,000 less in state subsidy. The amount for the budget line to be voted on tonight is \$2,169,529 up by \$57,000 from last year. This budget increase includes: Increased staffing
Increased French teaching
Increase in Ed. Tech's in classes**

Mike also noted that this is the 7th year in a row without an increase in taxes to the town. Mike also mentioned that the latest round of Covid funds allocated for our school is over \$200,000 of which we will purchase our new busses. Grants or allocated funds should be used to purchase things not programs.

Mike noted that being with our district has been his longest term as Superintendent and we are the healthiest financial district that he has ever been in.

VI. Principals Report

1. Food Corp Approval – Barry reported that there have been 4 or 5 people that have reached out and are interested in working as our garden coordinator. Interviews will be taking place soon. Katie and Anne will have a zoom meeting with parents to see who might be interested in serving on the garden committee.

So far we have received \$17,500 in donations this year with another \$6,000 coming soon. We will have \$30,000 for the greenhouse by the end of the year. We are hoping to have an Open House to show what we have been doing in the gardens. A school-wide seed planting day will take place on April 28, 2021.

Kindergarten and Gr. 1 are digging up the small gardens near the playground and planting herbs and other items.

2. Projected Class Assignment 21-22 – Mrs. Butler, Gr. 5 Teacher, will be retiring this year. For next year, Gr. 5 will be a self-contained classroom, with Middle school being two classes: Gr. 6 and Gr. 7/8. Katie Wuori would teach ELA and Social Studies and Paula Stevens would teach Science and Math. Mrs. Butler will come back as our Math Coach, one day per week. Katie Wuori would move her classroom to Mrs. Butler's present room, with the new 5th grade moving to Mrs. Wuori's room. There will be 3 lunches

next year: K-2, 3-5 and 6-8. We may still combine grades 5 & 6 together for specials. It was also mentioned it could be a 4 & 5 group together instead of 5 & 6 group.

Ragan Beauregard will teach French for Gr. 1-4 four afternoons a week next year. Gr. 1 & 2 on Monday and Wednesday afternoons and Gr. 3 & 4 Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Ragan will work as an Ed. Tech. in Special Ed. in the morning and teach French in the afternoon.

3. Facilities Committee/Heating & Ventilation Evaluation – Mat Horton was present. Mat mentioned that an informal Facilities Meeting recently took place with Mat, Barry and Jeff Brickley attending. Mat noted that two different companies recently were at school, Siemen’s and Thayer, to review our air quality of the school and make recommendations. We will be installing air conditioning in a couple of rooms: the Library and Ms. King’s room, which are rooms that are typically used for meetings or summer school use. This installation would take place late Spring or early Fall, using Covid money to cover the expense as well. They also reviewed another area for possible upgrades in the lower wing where rooms have been divided and would be looking to increase volume to make a more efficient system. Sieman’s have made recommendations.

The Thayer group reached out to Mat as we have no maintenance contract in place now as our last company has gone out of business. This company will work on boilers and Mat is hoping to start a maintenance program with them as well. The Thayer company also services and sells kitchen equipment which is a plus, as we are also hoping to replace our dishwasher in the kitchen.

Mat was hoping for a short term and long term evaluation to be coming out soon.

4. Summer School Consideration – Barry noted that we are unsure of the plan right now. After April vacation we will meet and have a better idea of what it will look like. At present we are thinking of the possibility of offering 2 weeks in June, 2 weeks in July, and 2 weeks in August, to those students who wish to learn and would rather be in school.

5. Approval of Softball and Baseball Coaches – Barry noted that he is recommending Greg Siekman as Baseball Coach and Johnny Walker as Softball Coach. Barry hopes that the board will approve this tonight. Practices are set to start April 26 with 10 boys and 12 girls currently signed up.

Barry also mentioned that Mya Franklin recently was the runner-up in the State Spelling Bee. Congratulations Mya.

There was some discussion about the June budget hearing and time frame. It was decided that the hearing will be the night of the board meeting in June, Tuesday June 9, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Building. The board will meet at 5:00 that evening and head over to the Community Building at 6:00 to help set up and get prepared for the budget hearing.

VII. School Board Chair's Report - None

VIII. Public Comment – None

IX. Discussion Items

1. Adjustment to the Agenda

X. Action Items

**1. To see if the Board will approve the 2021-2022 School Budget of \$2,169,529 as presented?
S. Strunk motioned to approve. S. Fotter seconded. Vote in favor: 5-0.**

2. To see if the Board will approve the Food Corp. commitment of allotting up to \$12,000 for a supply line in the budget? D. Richards motioned to approve. S.Strunk seconded. Vote in favor: 5-0.

**3. To see if the Board will approve a Johnny Walker, as Softball Coach for the 20-21 season?
S. Strunk motioned to approve. J. Brickley seconded. Vote in favor: 5-0.**

**4. To see if the Board will approve a Greg Siekman, as Baseball Coach for the 20-21 season?
S. Fotter motioned to approve. D. Richards seconded. Vote in favor: 5-0.**

XI. Adjournment – 6:30 p.m.