

**EUSTIS SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022
MINUTES**

- I. Call to order – Casey Cote, Chair**
Jeff Brickley and Sue Fotter were absent.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. See if the Board will approve the minutes of the 3/08/22 Board Meeting? S. Strunk motioned to approve. D. Richards seconded. Vote in favor 3-0.**
- IV. Welcome Guests**
- V. Superintendent's/Principal's Report**
 - 1. School Updates: Barry reported that Eric Rutberg, Licensed Counselor out of Wilton, "Access Mental Health" is willing to contract hours to provide services. He is working with only three schools in our area. His rate is \$84.00/hour. Most students are covered by insurance and we budgeted \$3,500.00 potentially for students who cannot afford to pay or have no insurance. He is also willing to provide staff with two half hour sessions of training.**

Garden – Barry was disappointed as we were promised on January 4th that our raised beds were ready but we still have not received them. We are now looking into building them ourselves. We are planning to build an 8 ft. x 2 ft and a 6 ft. x 2 ft. table to use for this year. They will use for this year in the greenhouse and then put them outside for next year. Seed planting day at school is scheduled for April 27th. Gail from the Green Farm has donated landscape fabric cloth and planters with flowers started in them. The plan is to sell planters of flowers for Mother's Day. The money will be put in the garden fund to be used for maintenance on the greenhouse.
 - 2. Next Year's Numbers – Our current enrollment is 96 students. We have been contacted by 7 or 8 out of 13 students currently enrolled at KES that they would be attending Stratton for next year. Projected numbers in the fall could be at 106 students.**
 - 3. Middle School Split – There have been conversations about a middle school split due to increasing numbers. Option A: Gr. 6 alone with (7 or 8 students) and Gr. 7/8 together (20 students). Option B: Gr. 5/6 together (15 students) and Gr. 7/8 together. Option C: If more students move in to the middle school, it would make classes too large and may create an additional teacher. We do have an issue of where another classroom would come from. Sarah mentioned an outside classroom? The cost of renting versus purchase was mentioned.**
 - 4. Employee Handbook – Barry noted that as part of Mrs. Emery's internship she created an employee handbook for review by the board. The draft was handed out to the board with the hope of approval at the next board meeting in May.**
 - 5. Board Policy Audit – Also during Mrs. Emery's internship she noted that our board policy is not up to date. Barry contacted Charlotte Bates regarding any updates. For a small district such as ours, there are only 17/18 policies that need to be looked at. The estimated cost for updates for her department would be approximately \$1,500.00 - \$1,800.00 or at the very worse \$4,500.00. Barry felt that this would definitely be worth the money spent on this as the board or himself to not have the expertise to go over this.**

6. **Budget 2022-23 – Barry noted that the Kindergarten position interviews are taking place with 2 candidates. We should have a decision on Thursday night. Barry also mentioned bringing the Library position back and possibly post the job this week. Barry has decided to move the Social Media and Yearbook stipend position out of the classroom and back with the Library position. Barry mentioned that Greg would work as a Ed. Tech. with either 4th or 5th grade next year.**

Barry also mentioned that he had someone who was interested in the Library position who has her Masters in Library Science and a Minor in Technology.

Ragan Beauregard will be a half time French teacher next year.

The budget breakdown that was reviewed at a prior board meeting will be presented at the Budget approval meeting at the Town Office on Tuesday, June 7th.

Barry let the board know that Joanne Raymond is back working very part time. She is helping out some and taking care of paperwork. Joanne will not be able to come back full time as she cannot be on her feet all day long since the accident. Barry is going to offer the full time cook position to Millie. Maurene would prefer to work just half time.

We will still have Jim Bellwood as our High School bus driver. Shawn Niles just received his date for his bus driving test. Justin Wyman will continue as a spare driver.

Pearl Butler will be back for another year next year as our Math Coach.

Other: Baseball/Softball will start after vacation.

The new Banner for Soccer was presented at our Sports Assembly week.

The last Day of School as of now is June 16 for a half day with the final workshop on June 17.

VI. School Chair's Report

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Discussion Items

1. Adjustment to the Agenda

IX. Action Items

XI. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.