

**EUSTIS SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023
MINUTES**

- I. Call to order – Casey Cote, Chair
Dave Richards and Sue Fotter were absent.**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. See if the Board will approve the minutes of the 1/10/23 Board Meeting? J. Brickley motioned to approve. S. Strunk seconded . Vote in favor: 3-0.**
- IV. Welcome Guests – Garden Committee - Katie Wuori, Eric Greatorex & Anne Flight were present representing the Garden Committee. Katie presented another job description to the board along with a little history of the garden project from the past. Katie also noted that the committee will be working once again with Gail from the Green Farm on selling planters for Mother’s Day and a seedling sale in June.**

Erin presented a video on the garden project from this year as well as a video of interviewing some students on what the garden means to them.

There was further discussion on the position for the Garden Coordinator as well as continuing with Pearl Butler, as the Math Coach. Barry noted that both positions were already figured into the budget. Tabitha spoke in support of keeping the Math Coach for another year as the Math curriculum is new this year to teachers.

Barry also mentioned that the Garden Committee may also attend a Carrabassett Valley Board meeting and ask if they would be interested in possibly partnering with us for the garden project.

The board did vote in favor of both the Math Coach position and Garden Coordinator position for next year.

- V. Principal's Report**
- 1. School Updates – Tabitha mentioned that Paul Feeney, Customs Patrol, was in touch to let her know that there is a training freeze at present and they would not be coming to use out facility during February vacation. Mr. Feeney is still planning to meet with Shawn and do a walk through at some point in the future, to determine what rooms that can be used when they return for training.**
 - 2. Tabitha has been in touch with Maine High Peaks and they will be coming to Stratton School to build toboggans with the students.**
 - 3. Basketball and Cheerleading are going well**
- VI. Superintendent's Report**
- 1. Budget – Barry thanked the staff for their hard work and that we are all looking forward to February vacation. Barry also thanked Erin Greatorex for her hard work this year on the garden project.**
 - 2. Barry presented and explained the budget to the board. This is the 11th budget presented without a tax increase for the town.**

3. **Building Maint. Update** – Barry reported that during the cold snap we had a freeze up in the boiler room. Ms. Hanczar came in to work in her room and noticed water in the hall and reported it to Shawn. Shawn and Tim were able to fix the issue as they caught it early enough. Everything was all cleaned up for school on Monday.
4. **Thayer Contract** – Barry explained to the board that we had discontinued the Thayer Contract when Mat Horton was the Maintenance Director, as we felt they were not fulfilling their contract. The contract is \$5,000.00 for the year for their services and feel that it is in our best interest to secure them in the event we have anything go wrong.
5. **Selectmen Meeting 2/21** – Barry is planning to attend the next Eustis Selectmen Meeting on 2/21. The purpose of the meeting was to talk about the budget and that there would not be an increase for the 11th year. Barry also noted that he spoke with Kirk Williams about the possibility of us partnering on a maintenance garage with the town. Barry spoke with Marc Roy and he gave some suggestions. Barry also noted that next year, the budget will probably increase at the town level.
Barry also noted to the board that there were individuals who had been in contact with him about funding educational programs such as the Huts.
6. There was also discussion on the money that the 8th grade class raises for class trips. Due to Covid-19, the class of 2020 did not use their money they raised to go on a class trip. There is fund set up, separate from the regular budget, for \$8,000.00 for any educational expense for \$1,000.00. Students from the class of 2020 are able to individually request the \$1,000.00 to be put toward any educational endeavor, to be requested by June of 2025.

VIII. School Chair's Report – none at this time.

Public Comment

IX. Discussion Items

1. **Adjustment to the Agenda**

X. Action Items

1. **To see if the board will approve the Math Coach position for one more year? J. Brickley Motioned to approve. S. Strunk seconded. Vote in favor: 3-0.**
2. **To see if the board will approve the Farm to School Garden Coordinator Position? J. Brickley motioned to approve. S. Strunk seconded. Vote in favor: 3-0.**

XI. Adjournment