

SHARON AND STRAFFORD BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

COMBINED BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019 @ 5:30 PM

THE NEWTON SCHOOL

APPROVED MINUTES

In attendance: Strafford Board-Glenn Wylie, Sarah North Sharon Board- Samantha Potter, Don Shaw, Chantelle Brackett, Sharon Principal- Keenan Haley, Newton Principal- Tracy Thompson, Superintendent- Bruce Labs, Strafford Recording Secretary- Becky Proulx, Sharon Recording Secretary- Nicole Antal, Community members- Tim Briglin, Jessica Tidman (arrived 6:00pm)

1. Call to Order Glenn called the meeting to order at 5:35pm
2. Adjustments to the Agenda
3. Consent Agenda
 - 3.1 Approve the Minutes of Tuesday, September 10, 2019 (Combined) – no quorum so minutes could not be approved
4. Public Comment- Keenan was approached by Peter Anderson regarding the Ashley Forest. He is encouraging the 5/6 grade classes from Sharon and Strafford to get together for an event such as snowshoeing this year.
5. Reports to the Board
 - 5.1 Superintendent's Report- Bruce reported that the policies up for review have been added to by the Sharon Board. The Policy committee would like all Boards to adopt the Sharon version. Bruce reported that they are looking further into the service animal policy. Animal registries are available through the Kennel Club and the State of VT. An SU Policy Committee meeting has been scheduled for December 12, 2019. Bruce reported that 5 or 6 other policies will be reviewed in December. Bruce asked Board members to send edits to Bruce.

Bruce reported that the auditors are in pretty good shape. Bruce had hoped that draft audits would be available for Boards tonight. Tara wanted to review them one more time. Bruce reported that the SU is in deficit by a couple hundred thousand dollars. Bruce reported that is because the SU has not gotten the state allotment in matching funds. Bruce stated that when that money comes in it will ease the deficit. Don asked if Tara has numbers for principals for their budgets. The numbers are based on the two year rolling average for ADM. For the FY20 budget Sharon is 14.7% of the SU budget and

Strafford is 8.9% of the SU budget. Bruce reported that both Sharon and Strafford have food service deficits. Bruce suggested having food service managers at each school create a budget. Sarah N asked if Sharon and Strafford could join forces to save money. Bruce stated that they looked at different food service companies and a person could also be hired at the SU level. Keenan asked what might be the cause. Bruce said you don't want to make money on food service, you just want to break even. Tunbridge is looking for an interim principal to finish the year. Bruce has offered some dates for negotiating. Don reported that he is hoping to schedule 5 dates for both support staff and teacher negotiations. Don asked how the lease for the SU offices was going. Bruce reported that they are in year 4 of a 5 year lease. Don suggested getting it on an agenda.

6. Discussion Items

6.1 Policy Review- Discussion about Emergency Closing policy ensued.

7. Confirm Next Meeting Dates

7.1 Tuesday, December 10, 2019 - 5:30 PM @ Sharon Elementary School

8. Adjourn- Motion (Don/Sarah N) to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:03pm

Regular Sharon and Strafford Board Meetings to follow