

Stone Valley Community Charter School

Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2021 6:30 p.m.

I. Call to order - The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM. A quorum was present.

Board members present: Ken Bookhamer, Katie Baker, Cheryl Casner, Katie Rupert, Kendra Lapp, Celina Seftas, Rod Cook, Ashley Suydam, Valerie Long, David Smead (joined at 8PM)

Board members absent:

Public: Jason Boyer

Via Zoom: Ashley Hawn, Cassandra Lewis, Erin LaMotta

II. Approval of Minutes from October Meeting Motion by Suydam/Cook. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Public comments - Jason Boyer commented that his family is interested in attending the school, but there is 1 spot open in 3rd grade, but they have twins who would like to attend. He asked if the board would allow for 16 students to be in 3rd grade.

IV. Board Business

V. Committee Reports:

A. Finance Committee - See [Report](#)

[Profit & Loss](#)

[Check Detail](#)

[Proposal](#)

Rupert reported that the audit is complete and looked great. The final report is pending the lawyers signature. SVCCS received a \$2000 grant from WalMart in Huntingdon. It is an annual grant program. The health insurance broker was able to negotiate a lower increase in the health insurance rate. Rupert reported that HASD will begin direct payments to SVCCS instead of going through the state, saving time and effort. Bank balances are in good shape.

Motion by Lapp/Suydam to approve expenditures. Motion passed unanimously.

Cook reported on First Nonprofit and the benefits of managing our unemployment compensation independently. Pennsylvania's unemployment fund program is not solvent. The fund balances are returned to SVCCS if we opt out later. (if SVCCS leaves the state program, we are out for 2 years). With this program, rates are guaranteed for 2 years. Balances accumulate each year and are interest bearing. There is a \$50,000 coverage for claims exceeding \$25,000. The program offers support if there are issues with claims or there are appeals. SVCCS would also get access to group purchasing options for office supplies, background checks, and other services. Motion to approve unemployment change by Seftas/Bookhamer. Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

B. Education Director's Report -

Casner reported that Outdoor School was a big success. There is one grade that has to go to remote learning due to a substitute teacher shortage and their teacher is quarantining due to COVID exposure.

PBIS update - the finished product is ready for rollout in January and the teachers did a great job putting it together.

5th grade Community Service - Mrs. Fogleman wants to have students make ornaments and cards for local residents.

Act 55 training December 10, 2021 - Casner reported that this training is available to any board members who still need to take the training.

Substitute pay rate - Motion to increase the substitute pay rate to \$115/day by Suydam/Cook. Motion passed unanimously.

Playground Ad Hoc Committee - Casner reported on an estimate for new playground equipment including complete mulch replacement. Fundraisers have already raised most of the funds needed. The balance would come from the bank account. Motion to approve the purchase for approximately \$40,000 with a final number to be reported next month by Seftas/Bookhamer. Motion passed unanimously. Mrs. Filson plans to have students design a playground, and Rupert will plan a big reveal for Christmas to the students.

Board Action -

School psychologist contract with TIU - Motion by Seftas/Baker. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote.

Motion by Baker/Suydam to approve maternity leave for Cassandra Lewis (8 weeks). Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve Lifetouch Contract (school pictures) by Lapp/Bookhamer. Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Update Safety Plan - Casner reported that the governor's mask mandate is being challenged by the courts and is currently set to expire on December 4, 2021. Results of the parent and teacher survey were discussed. Teachers overwhelmingly support masks at High and Substantial transmission levels. Only about a third of parents support masks at High, Substantial, or Moderate levels of transmission. Baker made a motion to continue with the current safety plan until the January meeting. Second by Seftas. Motion passed unanimously.

COVID testing program

C. Executive Committee - no report

D. Academic Excellence Committee - no report

E. Admissions/Parental Volunteer Committee -

Baker reported that the Greenwood Holiday Openhouse will be December 5th, and parent volunteers are needed for the event. Cookie donations are also being requested.

F. Facilities and Grounds Committee -

Recycling - Burgmeier appears to be the only option for our area.

River stone beyond sidewalk - Jay is placing stone to prevent mud at the new parking area.

Heating Oil - Rupert reported that we have half a tank of oil and are mostly using mini splits for heat. She suggested that we fill the tank before winter and prices go up. Motion to purchase up to \$11,500 by Bookhamer/Suydam. Motion carried unanimously.

Front Door System Installation - Rupert reported that this is underway. Key cards will be issued soon.

Fence Installation - complete

G Fundraising Committee - See [Report](#). The meat raffle made \$2283. The bulb sale made \$304. The apparel sale is underway, and a pretzel sandwich sale is planned for late January.

H. Board Development / Community Relations Committee - no report

I. Technology Committee

Board Action-

Motion to approve Social Media Policy by Long/Bookhamer. Motion carried unanimously.

There was a discussion about the public comment and request that was received at the start of the meeting. Motion to approve admission of the twins and a teacher's child to 3rd and 2nd grades respectively by Bookhamer/Lapp. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Adjournment (No action will be taken on any discussion after adjournment). Motion by Lapp/Baker.

Upcoming Meetings:

*Board Meeting: December 9, 2021 @ 6:30pm
All meetings are held at SVCCS unless otherwise stated.*