



**UNAPPROVED**

MINUTES

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**Stratham Memorial School - Vision Committee**

MONDAY - FEBRUARY 4, 2008 - 6:30 PM

Stratham Memorial School Library

39 Gifford Farm Road

Stratham, New Hampshire

**Present:** John Hazekamp, Stratham School Board/Committee Co-Chair; Katherine McDonnell, Stratham School Board; Laura Batchelder, SMS Teacher Representative; Tony Baldassaro, Lisa Calandra, Joe Kenick III, Judy Merrill, Mark Poirier, Doug Scamman, Travis Thompson, Jon Tymann, Jeff Wilson.

**Absent:** Luke Breton, Stratham School Board-Chair/Committee Co-Chair; Tom Fosher, Principal; Rogers Johnson.

**Audience:** None.

**Handouts:** Minutes - 11/5/07 (unapproved), Agenda - 2/4/08, SMS Vision Committee Survey.

**1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance** - Mr. Hazekamp opened the meeting at 6:40 P.M.

**2. Approval of Minutes** - November 5, 2007 no revisions suggested.

**3. Visitor Comments** - None.

**4. Background** - No meeting was held during December and January. The tentative January 28 meeting with demographer Peter Francese was cancelled due to a scheduling conflict. Instead Mr. Hazekamp developed a survey and distributed it to Committee members asking for input relative to meetings held to date and meetings going forward. The consensus of the committee was that the first Monday of each month was still a good day to hold meetings.

**4. Discussion** - There was minimal discussion about the Vision Committee Survey conducted by Mr. Hazekamp that was taken by ten of the fourteen members and whose results were circulated to the committee via email.

**5. Discussion - Where do we go from here?** - No options for dealing with our space crunch were emailed around during our break, so there was no discussion about the pros and cons for possible ideas. Instead committee members interjected their thoughts on where our visioning effort is headed. The issue was seen as to whether the educational development of our children is being hampered by existing space limitations. If so, what factors are the cause, what are possible solutions, and why do they or don't they meet our needs? The possibility of obtaining outside expertise on the more difficult issues was seen as another source for uncovering viable solutions. With concerns over our progress, the May 2008 deadline will be evaluated over the next few meetings, but should be used to, at least, present our preliminary findings. The book, Communities & Consequences, co-authored by demographer, Peter Francese, was mentioned as a source for background into where New Hampshire is headed based on demographic projections, see the [www.communitiesandconsequences.org](http://www.communitiesandconsequences.org) website for more information. Committee members decided to look deeper into the following areas and report back their findings: Demographics (Judy M.), Programming (Travis T.), Space Efficiency (Jon T. & Doug S.), Class Sizes (Jeff W.), Space Options (Lisa C.), Mandates (Joe K.), Testing & Technology (Tony B.), Teacher Input (Laura B.), Special Ed. (Mark P.).

**6. Old Business** - None

**7. New Business / Wrap-up** - The March meeting will include discussion about individual research topics and the rescheduled NH demographics presentation (pending confirmation).

The SMS Vision Committee's agendas, minutes, and support materials are available on the SAU16 / SMS website with video recorded DVDs of the meetings available through the town's Wiggin Memorial library, courtesy of Minuteman Documentation.

**8. Next Meeting Date** - March 3, 2007 - 6:30 PM .

**9. Adjournment** - 8:45 PM