MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Paul Malone - Chair
David LaCroix – Vice Chair
Joe Blakely - Clerk
Tim Boltin
Anthony Folland
J. Guy Isabelle
Ed Rousse

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:
John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Brenda Waterhouse, Principal
Luke Aither, Assistant Principal – departed at 5:50 p.m.
Penny Chamberlin, Director Central Vermont Career Center
Lisa Perrault, Business Manager – arrived at 6:00 p.m., departed at 8:27 p.m.
Jacquelyn Ramsey-Tolman, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, departed at 7:32 p.m.

GUESTS PRESENT:
Video Vision Tech
Ezra Bernier
Ralph Gerrish
Natalie Taylor

1. Call to Order
The Chair, Mr. Malone, called the Thursday, December 6, 2018, Regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda
Agenda Items 10.1 and 10.2 will be discussed out of order (immediately after Agenda Item 2).
Agenda Item 8.5.1: Change next meeting date to January 2, 2019

Employment of Employees and a Student Matter were proposed for discussion in Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. LaCroix, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session, with Mr. Pandolfo, Mrs. Waterhouse, and Mr. Aither in attendance, at 5:01 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the items proposed for discussion.

The remaining information was provided by the Board Clerk.

On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. Boltin, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 5:52 p.m.

3. Visitors and Communication
Mr. Gerrish addressed the Board conveying that the 8th grade girls were disappointed with the outcome of their request to play hockey on the SHS team. Mr. Gerrish believes the girls were ‘mistreated’, advising that they attended every practice even though they were not eligible to practice with the team. Mr. Gerrish was advised that VPA rules do not allow 8th grade players to move up to a high school team unless two conditions are met: 1. There are not enough high school players on the team, and 2. There is no other team on which the 8th graders can play. The conditions have been clearly explained to the 8th grade girls and their parents. It was not until recently that it was announced that there was a BYSA U14 team on which the 8th grade girls could play. The formation of a U14 team makes the girls ineligible to play for SHS. Mrs. Waterhouse has documentation to support that the decision was made in accordance with the VPA rules which SHS must abide by. Mr. Gerrish was advised that should he have concerns relating to the rules, his concerns should be addressed with the VPA, (Vermont Principals Association).
4. Approval of Minutes
   4.1 Approval of Minutes – November 1, 2018 Regular Meeting
On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. Folland, the Board unanimously voted to approve as amended, the Minutes of the November 1, 2018 Regular Meeting.

4.2. Approval of Minutes – November 15, 2018 Tri-Board Meeting
On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. Boltin, the Board unanimously voted to approve as amended, the Minutes of the November 15, 2018 Tri-Board Meeting.

5. New Business
   5.1 Resignations/Retires/New Hires
A letter of resignation from Marie Ritzo was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised that action has already been taken to accept Mrs. Ritzo’s resignation. No action is necessary.

The resume and BSU Notification of Employment Status Form for Samantha Loesch was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo and Mrs. Waterhouse provided an overview of the candidate’s education and experience. The candidate is being presented for hire to fill the position vacated by Mrs. Ritzo.

On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. LaCroix, the Board unanimously voted to approve the hiring of Samantha Loesch.

   5.2 SBAC Assessment Review Results
An updated copy of the document titled ‘Annual Snapshot Update’ (SHS 12/2018) was distributed. Two additional documents were also distributed; ‘State Accountability: All Measures’ and ‘English and Mathematics – 2017 – 18 Spaulding – All Students’. It was noted that the English/Mathematics document contains data for 9th grade students, not all SHS students.

Mrs. Tolman advised that her presentation includes Agenda Items 5.2 and 5.3. The Annual Snapshot is an online tool used to review quantitative performance data of students in the school and statewide. The Annual Snapshot includes an equity gap metric to assist with addressing performance gaps. Areas measured under the Annual Snapshot include; Academic Proficiency, Personalization, High Quality Staffing, Safe, Healthy Schools, and Investment Priorities. The Annual Snapshot is one way to assess success in meeting Education Quality Standards and assists with updating the Continuous Improvement Plan. The AOE has advised that due to not receiving all census data, the availability of the Annual Snapshot has been delayed. The presentation included links to websites that provide additional information. Mrs. Tolman provided a brief overview of the roll out schedule for the various components of the Annual Snapshot. Mrs. Tolman provided an overview of Integrated Field Reviews, which will first occur in academic year 2019-2020, and advised regarding ‘next steps’. Mrs. Tolman provided an overview of SBAC results for English and Mathematics for 9th graders for academic year 2017 – 2018. It was noted that the percentage of students proficient in Math is very low (35% statewide, 39% at SHS).

   5.3 Education Quality Review
Documentation was distributed under Agenda Item 5.2. Discussion was held under Agenda Item 5.2.

   5.4 SHS Foundation Update
Mr. Rousse advised that the SHS Foundation has a point person to head up Foundation projects and do administrative work. An SHS Foundation meeting will be held soon after 01/08/19. The SHS Foundation is a 501(c) 3 organization that raises funds for projects that are outside of the school budget. The SHS Foundation assisted with the project to install outdoor lights on the football field.

6. Old Business
   6.1 Act 46
Seven documents were distributed; an e-mail from Mr. Pandolfo to all Board Members (dated 12/05/18 ), ‘Barre Act 46 Information’, a letter from the AOE dated 12/03/18, a 38 page document titled ‘Final Report of Decision and Order on Statewide School District Merger Decisions Pursuant to Act 46, Sections 8(b) and 10’, a 12 page document titled ‘The Barre Unified School District Articles of Agreement’, a 5 page document titled ‘Articles of Agreement Barre Unified Union District’ and a document from the AOE titled ‘SBE Final Order’ (November 28, 2018).

Mr. Pandolfo advised that a recent change allows for Boards to appoint 2 members to the Transitional Board. Mr. Pandolfo recommends appointing the Board Chair and the Board Vice-Chair. Mr. LaCroix advised that he will not be available during the period when the Transitional Board meets. After brief discussion, Mr. Boltin agreed to serve on the Transitional Board.

On a motion by Mr. Folland, seconded by Mr. Blakely, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Mr. Malone and Mr. Boltin to the Transitional Board.
Mr. Pandolfo advised that 1404 positive votes will be necessary to overturn the previous ‘no’ vote in Barre Town. A positive (yes) vote will allow tax payers to receive the tax incentive and $150,000 implementation grant, as well as use the Articles of Agreement crafted by the Study Committee. If the vote is ‘no’, the forced merger still stands, but there will be no tax incentives or incentive grant, and the district will operate under the Default Articles of Agreement (without the protections built into those written by the Study Committee).

Mr. Pandolfo queried the Board regarding their approach to and involvement in the upcoming vote (01/08/19), advising that the BTMES Board was split regarding support for the vote and for the possibility of joining a class-action lawsuit. Mr. Malone advised that a ‘yes’ vote results in one additional vote, while a ‘no’ vote results in a minimum of 3 additional votes. Mr. Malone reiterated that with a ‘no’ vote, tax incentives and the implementation grant are lost. The SHS Board overwhelmingly supports a ‘yes’ vote and agreed to make an official Board statement. There is concern that a four member board, as dictated by the Default Articles of Agreement, is not large enough to run a consolidated district.

On a motion by Mr. Rousse, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to support Article 1 on the vote to be held in Barre Town on 01/08/19.

The Board asked that the record reflect that the decision to support a ‘yes’ vote on Article 1 was unanimously passed by all Barre Town and Barre City Members of the SHS Board.

Mr. Pandolfo reminded the Board that the sitting SHS Board needs to remain operational until 06/30/19, and encouraged those whose terms expire, to submit petitions for re-election. Mr. Malone reiterated that the upcoming vote is not whether or not to merge (the State has mandated a merger), but that this vote is to gain the tax incentives, implementation grant, and use the Articles of Agreement crafted by the Study Committee. Mr. Pandolfo provided a comprehensive overview of the ‘e-mail’ document, advising of what will result from both ‘yes’ and ‘no’ votes, including timeframe requirements. Mr. Pandolfo recommends that the organizational meeting of the Board occur on 01/10/19. Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview of the ‘map’ document advising that currently approximately 80% of the state is ‘merged’. Mr. Isabelle thanked and commended Mr. Pandolfo for all of his efforts relating to Act 46, advising that the Barre Supervisory Union is very fortunate to have Mr. Pandolfo as Superintendent. It was noted that a significant amount of the Superintendent’s time has been spent on Act 46 related activities.

6.2 Budget FY20

Budget documents were distributed by Mrs. Perreault. Mrs. Perreault advised that she feels the budget looks good at this point. Mrs. Perreault provided an overview of the SHS and CVCC budget considerations outlined on page 2 of the ‘Considerations’ document. The SHS budget draft reflects an increase of 5.54%. Mrs. Perreault provided an overview of the per-pupil spending document, advising that under the BUUSD budget, the FY20 per-pupil spending is $14,124.22, 8.7% higher than in FY19. Mrs. Perreault provided a brief overview of the BUUSD FY20 Budget document, noting that the report does break out some expenses ‘by building’. Ms. Chamberlin advised that the RAB Board recommends that the CVCC budget increase be no more than 4%. To reach a 4% increase will require cutting $340,000 from the budget. Ms. Chamberlin advised that to eliminate $340,000 from the budget would require that 3 programs be cut (not an option), and/or a reduction in support staff. It will be very challenging to identify cuts that can be made without harming programs. Additionally, Ms. Chamberlin queried regarding how the merger (forced or voluntary) will impact CVCC. Mrs. Perreault advised of the announced tax yield for FY20. It was agreed that the budget discussion will need to be continued at a future meeting.

6.3 Athletic Program Update

The Athletic Director’s Report (for the December 6, 2018 Board Meeting) was distributed. Results from the Fall 2018 SHS Student Athlete Survey were also distributed. Mrs. Waterhouse advised that she may try to review survey data from previous years. The goal this year is to have 100% student participation in surveys. Some work will need to be performed to encourage participation. The Board reviewed the Fall 2018 SHS Student Athlete Survey results which were very positive. Data distributed was graphed data. Written comments were not included in the distributed report. Coach evaluations for the Fall Season have been completed and distributed to coaches. Evaluations must be returned by 12/07/18. Mr. Boltin queried regarding the possibility of including parents in the survey. It was reiterated that parents need to follow the chain of command when issues arise. Hiring for the Spring Season will begin with interviews in mid-January. Practice starts in mid-March. Mr. Folland advised that there was no team/family meeting for girls’ basketball. Mr. Merriam will be in attendance at the next Board Meeting.

7. Other Business

None.
8. Reports to the Board

8.1 Student Representatives
Mr. Bernier reported on; winter sports (have begun), the Fall play (was good, but didn’t have record breaking attendance), the 3 on 3 basketball fundraiser (was a success), the upcoming ‘Parent Night’ fundraiser (12/15/18), the upcoming Talent Show (12/14/18), the upcoming Band/Chorus concert (12/10/18), and Friday’s Spirit Day (Pajama Day).

8.2 Superintendent
A copy of the Superintendent’s report dated November 26, 2018 was distributed. The report included information pertaining to; Act 46, the Barre Education Coalition, Administrative Evaluations, Health Insurance, and Weather Cancellations and Delays. The Superintendent had nothing additional to convey. There were no questions from the Board.

8.3 Principal
The Principal’s Report (dated 12/06/18) was distributed. The Report included information on Students & Community, Students of the Week, Athlete(s) of the Week, and Staff Person(s) of the Week. A report listing Burdett Award recipients was distributed. A list of students who made First Quarter Honor Roll was distributed. A copy of the Principal’s Message (December 2018) was also distributed. Mrs. Waterhouse believes that Honor Roll is quite consistent, and highlighted the Burdett Award information that was included in the packet. Two thank you notes were circulated.

8.4 CVCC Director
The CVCC Director’s Report for December 2018 was distributed. The Report contained information on; the Digital Media Arts Program, CVCC tours, the Fall Open House and Career Fair, the 5 year visit from SREB (Southern Regional Education Board), and a document written by VACTED members (Vermont Association of Career and Technical Education Directors). The document, ‘Vermont CTE: A Path Forward 2.0’ was distributed. Minutes from the 10/29/18 RAB (Regional Advisory Board) Board Meeting were distributed. Five additional documents were distributed; the CVCC Professional Development Plan 2018 – 2019 (updated 11/20/18), FY19 CVCC Projected Tuition, CVCC Announced Tuition Rates (dated 11/20/18), CVCC Announced Tuition Rate Comparisons, and a document titled ‘September & November 2018 Work Based Learning Events’. Ms. Chamberlin advised that Mike Deweese is continuing his work on the feasibility study and needs assessment.

On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. Rousse, the Board unanimously voted to accept the RAB Board’s recommendation to move presentation of the Feasibility Study and Needs Assessment to the April 2019 Meeting.

The Five-Year Curriculum and Instruction Visit by the Southern Regional Education Board is 12/04/18 -12/06/18. The Draft Report should be available for review at the January 2019 meeting. This is the first time utilizing SREB. In the past, accreditation was performed by NEASC.

8.5 Committee Reports

8.5.1 Finance
The next meeting is Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in the SHS Library.

8.5.2 SHS Facilities
Minutes of the November 14, 2018 meeting were distributed. The Wednesday, December 12, 2018 meeting has been cancelled.

8.5.3 Verbal Report of BSU Committees
Minutes from all BSU Committee meetings were previously sent to all Board Members.

BSU Curriculum Committee -
The next meeting is Monday, January 28, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the SHS Library

BSU Policy Committee -
The next meeting is December 17, 2018 in the BSU Central Office 2nd Floor Conference Area.

BSU Finance Committee -
The Committee last met in September. The next meeting date is to be determined.

BSU Facilities Committee -
The November 20, 2018 meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at BCEMS (location rotates).
8.6 Financials
Six reports were distributed; SHS and CVCC Revenue Summary Reports (dated 11/19/18), the SHS and CVCC FY18 Expenditure/Year-end Projection Reports (dated 10/28/18), the SHS and CVCC Expenditures Reports (dated 11/20/18). SHS has an unaudited projected surplus of $8,755. CVCC has an unaudited projected surplus of $29,786. There was no discussion.

9. Future Agenda Items
The next meeting is Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the SHS Library.

Agenda Items:
Community Service Graduation Requirement Follow-up
Athletic Director Update
Winooski Valley School Choice
Audit Presentation (tentative)
Executive Session – Evaluation Surveys and the Superintendent’s Evaluation

10. Executive Session as Needed
  10.1 Personnel
  10.2 Student Matter
Executive Session was held after Agenda Item 2. No additional Executive Session was necessary.

11. Adjournment
On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. LaCroix, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin