

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Barre Town Middle and Elementary School – Library
February 17, 2016 – 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brenda Buzzell - Chair
Brent Tewksbury – Vice Chair
Kristin McCarthy
Krista Metivier – arrived at 6:10 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chad Allen - Clerk

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Timothy P. Crowley, Principal
Jennifer W. Nye, Principal

GUESTS PRESENT:

Video Vision Tech	Kyle Dubois	Rebecca Geno	Victor Geno	Sarah Hill
Austin Kelley	Grace Kingzett	Jordan Parker-Martin	Jay Paterson	Laurel Slagle

1. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

The Chair, Mrs. Buzzell, called the Wednesday, February 17, 2016, Regular meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., which was held at the Barre Town Middle and Elementary School Library. The flag salute followed.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Add Executive Session for a Student Matter.

It was agreed that the order of the Agenda would be flexible to allow visitors and guests to appear before the Board earlier in the meeting.

3. Visitors and Communications

John (Jay) Paterson addressed the Board and announced that he is running a ‘write-in’ campaign for the 3 year Board position. Mr. Paterson provided a brief bio, advising he previously served on the Board.

The Board proceeded to Agenda items 4.1 and 6.2.

3.1 Board Business

This item was postponed until after Agenda item 6.2. The Board acknowledged Mrs. Metivier for her service to the Board, and recognized Mrs. Metivier for the valuable insight she brought to the Board. Mrs. Metivier was presented with a card and a gift.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – February 3, 2016 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy, the Board voted 3 to 0 to approve, as amended, the Minutes of the February 3, 2016 Regular Meeting. Mrs. Buzzell, Mrs. McCarthy, and Mr. Tewksbury voted for the motion.

5. New Business

5.1 FY '17 Budget

Chad Allen and Dave LaCroix (SHS Board) gave a budget presentation to the Barre Town Select Board. Mrs. Buzzell advised the community to look for the budget flier in the Washington World. Booklets will also be available at the district schools and at some stores. Community members were advised of the District Meeting on February 29, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., and voting on March 1, 2016, from 7:00 a.m., until 7:00 p.m. Voters were reminded of absentee voting procedures. Mrs. Buzzell advised that the budget reflects a 1.62 % increase in spending, resulting in a two cent decrease in the tax rate (when combined with the SHS budget). Mrs. Buzzell provided a brief overview of the Special Articles. Voters were reminded that Jay Paterson is running for the vacant BTMES Board seat and that J. Guy Isabelle is running for a vacant seat on the SHS Board. Mrs. Buzzell thanked the community for their support.

5.2 Act 46 Update

Mr. Pandolfo advised that the BCEMS Board also approved moving forward to a 706 Study Committee. The first 706 meeting will be held on Thursday, February 18, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. in the SHS Library. Preliminary approve of the grant has been received and a contract with a consultant has been signed. At the conclusion of the 706 Study, any proposed changes will be put before voters for approval. Mr. Pandolfo reminded the public that Act 46 information is available via a link on the district's web sites.

5.3 Second and Final Reading BSU Policy on the Prevention of Harassment, Hazing and Bullying of Students Policy (F20)

Copies of policies referenced in Agenda Items 5.3 through 5.9 were distributed. Mrs. McCarthy read the names of the policies slated for ratification and advised that no changes had been made since approval of the First Readings.

On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mrs. Metivier, the Board unanimously voted to ratify the BSU Policies cited by Mrs. McCarthy and referenced in Agenda Items 5.3 through 5.9;

BSU Prevention of Harassment, Hazing and Bullying of Students Policy (F20)

BSU Model Procedures on the Prevention of Harassment, Hazing, and Bullying of Students Policy (F-20-1)

BSU Professional Development Policy (D2)

BSU Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace Policy (D8)

BSU Drug & Alcohol Testing: Transportation Employees Policy (D11)

BSU Prevention of Employee Harassment Policy (D12)

BSU Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Compliance Policy (D13)

5.4 Second and Final Reading BSU Model Procedures on the Prevention of Harassment, Hazing, and Bullying of Students

See Agenda Item 5.3.

5.5 Second and Final Reading BSU Professional Development Policy (D2)

See Agenda Item 5.3.

5.6 Second and Final Reading BSU Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace Policy (D8)

See Agenda Item 5.3.

5.7 Second and Final Reading BSU Drug & Alcohol Testing: Transportation Employees Policy (D11)

See Agenda Item 5.3.

5.8 Second and Final Reading BSU Prevention of Employee Harassment Policy (D12)

See Agenda Item 5.3.

5.9 Second and Final Reading BSU Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Compliance Policy (D13)

See Agenda Item 5.3.

5.10 Principal Search

Four documents were distributed; 'Article 1: Qualities of Effective Principals', 'Article 2: Leadership Checklist – How to Be Emotionally Intelligent', the Barre Town School District Principal 6-8 Job Description, and 'Materials for the Barre Town Middle and Elementary School Search Committee'. Mr. Pandolfo read the names of the Committee Members, noting that one Member has, as a result of change in employment, left the Committee. Additionally, Carol Marold, the BSU Human Resources Coordinator will also be involved with the process. Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview of the progress to date. It was noted that past practice, involves Board participation in interviews with the most highly qualified candidates.

6. Old Business

6.1 Auditor's Report

Postponed until the March meeting. Mr. Crowley noted that past audits have been very positive. The current audit did not identify any findings of material weaknesses or internal controls. Mr. Pandolfo extended appreciation to Lisa Perreault and Sonya Burnham-Johnson, for their assistance with the audit.

6.2 NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) Presentation (Kyle DuBois)

Third grade students; Victor Geno, Austin Kelley, Grace Kingzett, Jordan Parker-Martin, and Laurel Slagle were introduced to the Board. The Students proceeded with an experiment while Kyle DuBois gave a Power Point presentation on NCSS. Mr. DuBois is a third grade Science instructor at BTMES. The presentation included the following topics; Best Science Teaching Practices for Next Generation Science Standards, Standards & Teaching Practices for Training, Conceptual Shifts in the NGSS, and Core Instructional Practices (including daily journaling). Aligning unit lessons with the new standards is very involved. Mr. DuBois provided an overview of the training process received at the Science and Engineering Academy. Those who attended the training will participate in the training of additional staff. At the end of Mr. DuBois's presentation, the students provided the results of their experiment. Mr. DuBois and the students were thanked for their presentation to the Board and departed at 6:31 p.m.

6.3 Resignation

A letter of resignation from Grant Fleming, Director of Facilities was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised that the position of Director of Facilities is a shared position (BCEMS and BTMES). The position was discussed at the SU meeting. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the various different configurations the Board may wish to consider when filling the position. It was noted that personnel management skills and knowledge of the building's systems will be key areas of concern when reviewing candidate qualification.

On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy, the Board unanimously voted to accept, with regrets, appreciation, and best wishes, the resignation of Grant Fleming.

6.4 First Reading to Rescind BT Standards and Procedures Policy (BC)

Copies of policies BC, BGB, and GBA were distributed.

On a motion by Mrs. Metivier, seconded by Mr. Tewksbury, the Board unanimously voted to rescind the following policies;

BT Standards and Procedures Policy (BC) – replaced by BSU Policy B3

BT Policy Adoption & Maintenance Policy (BGB) – replaced by BSU Policy A1

BT Open Hiring/Equal Employment Opportunity & Affirmative Action Policy (GBA) – replaced by BSU Policy C6.

It was noted that due to Board re-organization, the Policy Committee will not be meeting until April 2016.

6.5 First Reading to Rescind BT Policy Adoption & Maintenance Policy (BGB)

See Agenda Item 6.4.

6.6 First Reading to Rescind BT Open Hiring/Equal Employment Opportunity & Affirmative Action Policy (GBA)

See Agenda Item 6.4.

7. Board Reports

7.1 Superintendent

The Superintendent advised that he had nothing additional to report.

7.2 Principals Report

Mrs. Nye advised that the Opening Reception for the BSU Art Show will be held on Thursday, February 18, 2016 from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. in the Milne Room at the Aldrich Public Library. The Art Show will run until March 31, 2016. The Winter Carnival is scheduled for Friday, February 19, 2016. Mrs. Nye will advise if the Carnival needs to be rescheduled or cancelled. Mr. Crowley reiterated previous remarks regarding how fortunate BTMES is to have Mr. DuBois as a Science instructor. Additionally, Mr. Crowley advised that BTMES is applying for a Humanities Grant. The grant is to fund the 'Summer In Vermont Humanities Camp', which is a summer program for at risk students. The one week camp involves humanities study and creative arts. The program capacity is 20 – 25 students. This year's program will be run by Peg Mehuron and Tamra Cooley. Mrs. Nye distributed a copy of the February 2016 BTMES News Letter.

7.3 Committee Reports

Finance – The next meeting date will be announced.

Facility and Transportation – No update at this time.

Curriculum – Mr. McCraw will send out notification regarding the next scheduled meeting.

Policy – The SU Policy Committee met today (02/21) and discussed G8 - Grade Advancement, the change of B6 to C6, F28 (Federal Child Nutrition Act – Wellness Policy), Coding, and review of current policies – cycling to assure policies are reviewed on an appropriate basis. The next SU Policy Committee Meeting will be held on April 27, 2016 from 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m., The next BTMES Policy Committee Meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2016 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Mr. Crowley requested that discussion be held to assure that the community has awareness of how to access policies and has an avenue to discuss issues they feel are of an urgent nature.

Supervisory Union Report – The SU Board met on Thursday, February 11, 2016. Discussion included the resignation of the shared Facilities Director, the BSU Audit, an Act 46 update, and acknowledgement of Mrs. Ristau, who is retiring from the BCEMS and SU Boards.

Barre Town Recreation – No update at this time.

SHAC – Mrs. Metivier advised the Board that the SHAC Committee is very well organized and is involved in numerous areas/projects, including; winter carnival, repurposing of food, the Fuel Up to Play 60 Program, social issues within the school, the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Trauma Informed Training, improvements to the school's physical environment, 'what we have and

what we want' lists, and parental requests/surveys. Mrs. Metivier credited the SHAC Committee for actively seeking community involvement, and added that the Committee continues to seek additional volunteers.

8. Future Agenda Items

Auditor's Report
Board Reorganization, including Committees
Town Meeting Results

9. Approval of Warrants

On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Warrants.

10. Executive Session

10.1 – Personnel Matter

The item proposed for discussion in Executive Session is a Personnel Matter.

On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy, the Board unanimously agreed to find that premature general public knowledge of the item proposed for discussion would clearly place the Town of Barre at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public.

On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session at 7:32 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the item proposed for discussion.

Mr. Pandolfo, Mr. Crowley, and Mrs. Nye were invited to join in Executive Session.

The remaining information was provided by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Mrs. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Tewksbury, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 7:55 p.m.

11. Next Meeting Date

The next Board meeting will be held on March 2, 2016.

12. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Tewksbury, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin