

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Barre Town Middle and Elementary School – Library
July 6, 2016 – 4:30 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brenda Buzzell - Chair
Brent Tewksbury – Vice Chair
Chad Allen - Clerk
Kristin McCarthy
Jay Paterson – arrived at 4:33 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent

GUESTS PRESENT:

Video Vision Tech

1. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

The Chair, Mrs. Buzzell, called the Wednesday, July 6, 2016, Regular meeting to order at 4:30 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

Agenda Item 4.1 will not require action.

3. Visitors and Communications

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1. Approval of Minutes – June 1, 2016 Regular Meeting

No action taken. These Minutes were approved at the June 21, 2016 meeting.

4.2. Approval of Minutes – June 21, 2016 Barre Supervisory Union Tri-Board Planning Retreat

On a motion by Mrs. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Tewksbury, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the June 21, 2016 Barre Supervisory Union Tri-Board Planning Retreat.

5. New Business

5.1 Resign/Retire/New Hire

Resumes and BTMES Notification of Employment Status forms for Amy Robertson and Maurice (Jake) Jacob Patoine were distributed. It was noted that the hiring of Ms. Robertson was approved at the June 21, 2016 meeting. No additional action is necessary. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of Mr. Patoine’s qualifications and experience. **On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy, the Board unanimously voted to approve the hiring of Maurice (Jake) Patoine.**

5.2 Athletic Director Position

A document titled ‘Responsibilities of the Athletic Director’ was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised that he would have an additional document to distribute in Executive Session. Mr. Pandolfo advised that Mr. Joyal has advised that he is potentially interested in the position of Athletic Director. There have been some outside individuals who have also expressed interest in the position. It was noted that the position of Athletic Director is not in the Bargaining Agreement. **The Board agreed to table discussion until Executive Session.**

5.3 VEHI Petition

A letter from Rick Scott pertaining to a request to change VEHI bylaws was distributed. A corresponding petition form was also distributed. Mr. Pandolfo recommends that the Board authorize him to sign the petition for both Medical and Dental. **On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mr. Paterson, the Board unanimously voted to authorize the Superintendent to sign on the District’s behalf, the petition to change the structure of the VEHI Board.**

6. Old Business

6.1 Transportation Update

Three documents were distributed; 'BTMES Transportation Update' (dated July 5, 2016), 'BARRE TOWN MIDDLE & ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION COSTS 2015-2017', and a letter to Barre Town Families, dated June 28, 2016. Discussion opened with the topic of the national shortage of bus drivers. Mr. Pandolfo recommends that the Board consider moving to contracted transportation services effective 07/01/2017. It was noted that the Superintendent has until August 1, 2016 to report to the State regarding the Supervisory Union's decision regarding future transportation plans. This response to the State is required under Act 153. The BTMES Board is encouraged to make a recommendation to the SU Board. Act 153 requires that the decision regarding transportation services be voted on by the Supervisory Union Board. Discussion ensued regarding future assessment of transportation costs. It was noted that for the present time, costs would be assessed to each district, based on costs incurred. Concerns were raised regarding job security for current transportation employees. It was noted that there are currently three full time employees who may be impacted. If a change of transportation scheme is voted on prior to August 1, 2016, those employees will have approximately one year to weigh the options available to them. It was stressed that Administrators, the Board and the Superintendent have been working diligently to resolve transportation issues and have been conducting extensive fact based analysis in an effort to determine the best option for future transportation needs. At this time, it is not known if a transportation coordinator will be needed at each district facility, or if a centralized coordinator would be beneficial. In response to a query, it was noted that transportation costs associated with field trips would probably be minimal (approximately \$10,000). Currently BCEMS holds fund raisers to finance field trip transportation. In response to a query regarding future quotes, it was noted that the quotes provided to BCEMS (over the years) have remained competitive. Mrs. Buzzell reiterated that all facts and figures have been presented and reviewed. **On a motion by Mr. Paterson, seconded by Mr. Allen, the Board unanimously voted to recommend to the SU Board that BTMES proceed with contracted services for transportation, beginning with the 2017/2018 year.**

6.2 Dishwasher

Bob Hildebrand (Food Service Director) is waiting for quotes from two vendors. No bids have been received thus far. No action will be taken at this time.

6.3 Carpeting

A document titled 'BTMES Flooring BIDS' was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the bids received. The Superintendent recommends accepting the bid from Central Vermont Flooring. Brief discussion was held. **On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy, the Board unanimously voted to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and agreed to hire Central Vermont Flooring.** Mrs. Buzzell advised that the carpeting project involves asbestos abatement and that all State and Federal regulations need to be followed.

6.4 Copiers

A document titled '2016 BTMES COPIER PROPOSALS' was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the document and advised regarding his recommendation to continue with the current vendor (Office Systems of Vermont). **On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mr. Paterson, the Board unanimously voted to continue contracting with OSV (Office Systems of Vermont).** Mr. Pandolfo advised that copier contracts are being aligned so that in the future, they will all renew at the same time. This alignment may result in lower costs.

6.5 School Meal Reimbursement Rates

An e-mail from Bob Hildebrand (Abbey Group Food Service Director) was distributed. Action was taken at the June 1, 2016 meeting. No action is necessary at this time.

7. Board Reports

7.1 Superintendent

A copy of the Superintendent's report dated June 28, 2016 was distributed. The report included information pertaining to; the Act 46 Study Committee, Custodial/Maintenance negotiations, and the Board and Committee Meeting Schedule. A copy of the Meeting Schedule was distributed. A copy of the BTMES FY16 Expenditures/Year-end Projection report (dated June 30, 2016) was distributed. There is a projected surplus amount of \$130,983.00. The surplus was positively impacted by Special Education Revenue. Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview of the Act 46 timeline and advised regarding a wording change. Additionally, Mr. Pandolfo advised that the Custodial/Maintenance Agreement has been ratified by all units. Mr. Pandolfo queried regarding the impact of Act 46 as it relates to the Barre Town Recreational fields. Mr. Tewksbury advised that he would start discussions with the municipal government and additionally, advised that there is currently a formal agreement and a Charter change would be necessary.

7.2 Principals Report

Mr. Pandolfo, reporting for the Principals, advised regarding a letter sent to parents relating to payment for meals.

8. Future Agenda Items

No discussion.

9. Approval of Warrants

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

10. Executive Session

10.1 Labor Relations Agreement

10.2 Personnel

Items proposed for discussion in Executive Session include Labor Relations Agreement, Personnel, and the Athletic Director Position.

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

On a motion by Mrs. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Allen, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session at 5:12 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the items proposed for discussion.

Mr. Pandolfo was invited to join in Executive Session.

The remaining information was provided by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mr. Paterson, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 5:40 p.m.

On a motion by Mrs. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Allen, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Mr. Paterson to the BSU Negotiation Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mr. Paterson, the Board unanimously voted to support conducting contract negotiations in open session.

11. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on August 17, 2016.

12. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mr. Paterson, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 5:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin