

**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
Barre Town Middle and Elementary School – Library  
December 7, 2016 – 6:30 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Brenda Buzzell - Chair  
Brent Tewksbury – Vice Chair  
Chad Allen - Clerk  
Kristin McCarthy

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Jay Paterson

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:**

John Pandolfo, Superintendent  
Scott Griggs, Principal  
Jennifer W. Nye, Principal  
Julia Pritchard, Director of Special Services

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Video Vision Tech            Pat MacAskill

**1. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance**

The Chair, Mrs. Buzzell, called the Wednesday, December 7, 2016, Regular meeting to order at 6:38 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: 5.9 Board Openings in March  
Add: 5.10 Pickleball  
Add: 6.3 Negotiations Update

**3. Visitors and Communications**

None.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**4.1 Approval of Minutes – November 16, 2016 Regular Meeting**

On a motion by Mrs. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Tewksbury, the Board unanimously voted to approve, as amended, the Minutes of the November 16, 2016 Regular Meeting, and the Minutes of the October 13, 2013 Tri-Board Meeting.

**4.2 Approval of Minutes – October 13, 2016 Tri-Board Meeting**

Approved under Agenda Item 4.1.

**5. New Business**

**5.1 First Reading Substitute Teachers Policy (D6)**

Copies of policies referenced in Agenda Items 5.1 through 5.8, were distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised that these policies were recently approved by the SU Board. All are Model Policies, and all except for policy C23 are required. Policy C23 is a recommended policy.

On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mr. Allen, the Board unanimously voted to approve, as presented, the First Readings of the policies listed under Agenda Items 5.1 through 5.8; D6, D7, F5, F19, F23, F27, C23, and G13.

**5.2 First Reading Volunteers and Work Study Students Policy (D7)**

Approved under Agenda Item 5.1.

**5.3 First Reading Education Records Policy (F5)**

Approved under Agenda Item 5.1.

**5.4 First Reading Limited English Proficiency Students Policy (F19)**

Approved under Agenda Item 5.1.

### **5.5 First Reading Participation of Home Study Students Policy (F23)**

Approved under Agenda Item 5.1.

### **5.6 First Reading Pupil Privacy Rights Policy (F27)**

Approved under Agenda Item 5.1.

### **5.7 First Reading Use of Restraint and Seclusion Policy (C23)**

Approved under Agenda Item 5.1.

### **5.8 First Reading Animal Dissection Policy (G13)**

Approved under Agenda Item 5.1.

### **5.9 Board Openings in March 2017**

Mrs. Buzzell advised that she would not be seeking re-election in March 2017 and advised that her open seat is for a 3 year term. Mrs. Buzzell provided clarification that the Board Chair position is chosen after elections, thus individuals running for the three year seat are not also running for the Board Chair position. Mr. Tewksbury advised that he will not be running for another term. The position he is vacating is for a two year term. Those interested in running for board seats, should file a petition (containing at least 30 signatures from registered voters) with the Barre Town Clerk.

### **5.10 Discuss Pickleball**

Mr. Tewksbury advised the Board regarding the sport of pickleball, which is normally held in the BTMES gymnasium during the winter months. Another group has reserved the gymnasium for the timeframe usually reserved for pickleball, which may result in overtime by custodial staff. It is the consensus of the Board, that Mr. Tewksbury and Mrs. Nye work together to formulate the best solution possible, relating to the use of the facility for 2016/2017 winter pickleball season.

## **6. Old Business**

### **6.1 FY '18 Budget Development**

Mr. Allen reported that the Finance Committee, working with administrators, continues to work on crafting the budget. Factors to consider are costs assessed at the Supervisory Union level, including Special Education, which has projected a significant increase in needs. The Committee is working towards creation of a fiscally conservative budget. The next Finance Committee Meeting, which is open to members of the public, will be held on December 21, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the BTMES Library. This meeting is being held in lieu of a Regular Board Meeting.

### **6.2 Act 46**

A draft copy of the Warning for 'Vote for Reconsideration of the November 8, 2016 Vote on the Formation of the Barre Unified Union School District' was distributed. The draft warning advises of a January 31, 2017 vote date. It was noted that a copy of 17 V.S.A. § 2661 - Reconsideration or rescission of vote, is included in the Superintendent's Report. Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding the obligation of the BCMES Board to approve a warning for the reconsideration, and to choose a vote date that meets legal requirements. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the legal requirements, including the time allowed for submission of the petitions, the required timeframe for a revote, the associated publication of the warning, requirements for the number of votes required to overturn the original vote, and confirmed that those who originally cast an absentee ballot, would receive an absentee ballot for the revote. It is not known, who bears financial responsibility for the revote (BCMES or the Town of Barre). It was noted that voters should be advised that the new board, if Act 46 is approved, has the authority to make changes to Articles 2 – 15. Brief discussion was held. **On a motion by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Tewksbury, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Warning for revote, as written.**

### **6.3 Negotiations Update**

A document outlining 'proposal status' for teachers and para-educators was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided a status update regarding negotiations, noting that negotiations are taking place in open sessions and advised that all information is public. All information pertaining to negotiations can be found on a web site via a link from the Supervisory Union web page. Progress is being made in negotiations. Future meetings are scheduled.

## **7. Board Reports**

### **7.1. Superintendent**

A copy of the Superintendent's report dated November 30, 2016 was distributed. The report included information pertaining to; the status of Act 46 and future actions relating to the possible revote, Negotiations (including a new website containing pertinent information), and VSBA dues which will be increasing from \$7869.74 to \$8,387.51. A copy of a letter from the VSBA dated November 18, 2016 (relating to the increase in VSBA dues) was distributed. A copy of 17 V.S.A. § 2661. Reconsideration or rescission of vote was included in the Superintendent's Report.

## **7.2 Principals Report**

A copy of the BTMES Administration Report for December 7, 2016 was distributed. The report contained information pertaining to the Pre-K Meal Program (which will replace the milk program), the Holiday Food Drive, Winter Concerts (The 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade concert will be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2016. The 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade concert will be held on December 14, 2016), and Transportation. The BTMES Monthly Enrollment report for December 1, 2016 was distributed. It was noted that there have been 6 new students enrolled since the November report. There are now 879 students enrolled in pre-k through 8. Mr. Griggs provided an updated figure for the food drive and advised regarding the number of families that will benefit from the food drive. Mrs. Nye advised that the mini-meal food program will be implemented. Food Service Director, Bob Hildebrand, and Sandra Cameron, BSU Early Ed Director will present additional information at a future meeting.

## **7.3 Committee Reports**

**Finance** – Budget development was discussed under Agenda Item 6.1. There is nothing additional to report.

**Facility and Transportation** – Nothing new to report.

**Curriculum** – At the last Curriculum Committee Meeting, the Committee observed a presentation on the ECO (Educating Children Outdoors) program. This program is an outdoor classroom in pilot phase by a kindergarten class at BTMES. The teacher, class, and parent volunteers spend every Thursday morning in the outdoors classroom, dressed for all weather conditions. Additionally, the Committee is reviewing Standards Based Learning. Extensive information pertaining to Standards Based Learning is available on the Agency of Education's web site.

**Policy** – Nothing new to report.

**SHAC** – The December 5, 2016 meeting was cancelled. The Committee would like to present information at a future board meeting.

**Barre Town Recreation** – Nothing new to report.

## **7.4 Financials**

Budget development was discussed under Agenda Item 6.1. There is nothing additional to report.

## **8. Future Agenda Items and Upcoming Committee Meetings**

Finance – Wednesday, December 21, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the BTMES Library.

Facility and Transportation – To be announced.

Curriculum – To be announced.

SU Policy Committee– Tuesday, December 13, 2016 – Discussion will include SU-wide policies on class size and wellness. VSBA recently approved use of the SHAC Committee's proposed wellness policy. The First Reading will occur at the next SU Board Meeting.

BTMES Policy Committee – To be announced.

Supervisory Union – Thursday, December 15, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the BSU First Floor Conference Room.

Barre Town Recreation – To be announced.

SHAC – To be announced.

## **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 Labor Relations Agreements**

No items were proposed for discussion in Executive Session.

## **11. Next Meeting Date**

Wednesday - December 21, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. in the BTMES Library. This will be a Finance Committee Meeting in lieu of holding the Regular Board Meeting.

## **12. Adjournment**

**On a motion by Mr. Tewksbury, seconded by Mr. Allen, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:44 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Andrea Poulin*