

BARRE SUPERVISORY UNION #61 SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Barre Supervisory Union – Conference Room

March 24, 2016 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chad Allen - Chair (BT)
Giuliano Cecchinelli, II – Vice Chair (BC)
J. Guy Isabelle - Clerk (SHS)
Joe Blakely (SHS) – arrived at 6:08 p.m.
Brenda Buzzell (BT)
Kristin McCarthy (BT)
Carlotta Perantoni (SHS)
Tyler Smith (BC)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sonya Spaulding (BC)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent

GUESTS PRESENT:

Video Vision Tech

1. Call to Order

The Superintendent, Mr. Pandolfo, called the Thursday, March 24, 2016, meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was held at the Barre Supervisory Union Central Office in the Conference room. Board Members introduced themselves advising which Board they represent.

1.1 Board Reorganization

VSBA Board Re-organization documentation was distributed. Additionally, Mr. Pandolfo distributed a document providing information pertaining to Executive Sessions. It was noted that all SU Board Members have signed an oath and copies of the ‘Code of Ethics For Vermont School Board Members’ document, as part of reorganization of their respective Boards.

Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding Board re-organization and requested nominations for the position of Board Chair.

Mrs. Buzzell nominated Mr. Allen for the position of Board Chair, seconded by Mr. Cecchinelli. There were no additional nominations. **The Board unanimously voted to elect Mr. Allen as Board Chair.** Mr. Allen chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Mr. Smith nominated Mr. Cecchinelli for the position of Vice-Chair, seconded by Mr. Isabelle. There were no additional nominations. **The Board unanimously voted to elect Mr. Cecchinelli as Vice Chair.**

Mrs. Buzzell nominated Mr. Isabelle for the position of Clerk, seconded by Mrs. Perantoni. There were no additional nominations. **The Board unanimously voted to elect Mr. Isabelle as Clerk.**

**The Policy Committee Chair assignment was discussed and the Board agreed to the following:
Policy Committee Chair: Mr. Pandolfo.**

On a motion by Mrs. Perantoni, seconded by Mrs. Buzzell, the Board unanimously voted to authorize the Board Chair to sign Teacher Contracts and other contracts, as approved by the Board.

The Board agreed to hold Board meetings at 6:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month.

The Board agreed to a tentative date (June 21, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.) for the Board Retreat.

The Board was advised of Board Chair and Superintendent training that will be held at Lake Morey on May 18, 2016, from 1:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

The Board agreed to post Agendas and Minutes at the Supervisory Union, the City Clerk's Office, and the Barre Town Clerk's Office.

The Board agreed to use Roberts Rules.

The Board reviewed communication practices. The Board agreed that the Chair and the Superintendent would act as spokespersons for the Board. The Board also reviewed Board development opportunities and Board advocacy.

The Board agreed to designate the Times Argus and Washington World as the newspaper publications to be utilized for meeting notices, warnings and employment advertisements. Brief discussion was held regarding use of an additional publication and electronic methods of communication.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

None.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – February 11, 2016 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mrs. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to approve, as amended, the Minutes of the February 11, 2016 Regular Meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 2016 – 2017 School Calendar

A copy of the proposed 2016 – 2017 School Calendar, dated 03/24/16 was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo reiterated that the calendar was drafted in coordination with other schools districts, to better align student days and allow for coordinated training and in-service days. Mr. Pandolfo advised that each of the school boards has reviewed and given their approval of the proposed calendar.

On a motion by Mrs. Perantoni, seconded by Mr. Blakely, the Board unanimously voted to approve the 2016 – 2017 School Calendar as presented.

5.2 Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy (B6) Code change to C6

A copy of the policy was distributed. Brief discussion was held. **On a motion by Mrs. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the code change of B6 to C6, for the Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy.**

5.3First Reading Grade Advancement: Retention, Promotion, and Acceleration of Students Policy (G9)

A copy of the policy was distributed. It was noted that Mr. Pandolfo will collaborate with leadership at each school to develop common procedures, if possible. **On a motion by Mrs. Perantoni, seconded by Mrs. Buzzell, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reading of the Grade Advancement: Retention, Promotion, and Acceleration of Students Policy (G9).**

5.4BSU Tri-Board Meeting

The Board agreed to choose June 21, 2016 as a tentative date. The meeting would be held from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Each Board will confirm the date. An alternate date would be June 28, 2016. There will not be a Regular SU Board Meeting on June 14, 2016. The Administrative Retreat will be held on June 15th, 16th, and 17th. The Board held brief discussion regarding the carrousel model for meetings. Brief discussion was also held regarding joint board strategic planning, with individual boards reporting back with progress updates.

6. Old Business

6.1Second and Final Reading Special Education Policy (G15)

A copy of the policy was distributed.

On a motion by Mrs. Perantoni, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Second and Final Reading of the Special Education Policy (G15).

6.2Act 46 Update

Draft Minutes from the March 17, 2016 meeting were distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the meeting, including Board make-up, sample Articles of Agreement, public outreach (including large and small 'neighborhood' forums), financial implications, and voting (possibly with the November 2016 elections).

6.3 Facilities Director Position

A document titled ‘Facilities Director Input from BSU Principals/Directors’ was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided a re-cap regarding the retirement of Grant Fleming (at the end of Fiscal Year 2016), possible options for configuring the position, and the consensus to move forward with a centralized Facilities Director.

6.4 Superintendent Evaluation Survey Results

A document containing the survey results was distributed. There were 33 respondents. Mr. Pandolfo advised that the goal of the survey was to determine if he was ‘headed in the right direction’. Feedback on the Superintendent’s performance was very positive. It is a goal to have survey information available for the Board to use when performing the Superintendent’s evaluation. An additional goal is to have Administrative personnel develop a survey to help assess their performance.

7. Other Business as Needed

None.

In response to a query regarding sign-off of warrants, it was reported that signature of warrants is part of the Business Office Procedures and it is anticipated that the current authorizers will continue in their current role.

8. Reports to the Board

8.1 Superintendent

A copy of the Superintendent’s report dated March 24, 2016 was distributed for review and discussion. The report included information pertaining to the Superintendent’s Office, the Business Office, Curriculum, Special Services, Technology, Early Education, and Human Resources. Mr. Pandolfo would like to discuss some re-organization matters in Executive Session.

Mr. Pandolfo highlighted an upcoming meeting with custodial staff (April 7, 2016). Mr. Pandolfo advised that he will be out of the office Monday through Wednesday (03/28 – 03/30). Donald McMahon is the official designee to contact in Mr. Pandolfo’s absence. VEHI changes will have an impact on negotiations. Mr. Pandolfo will be attending a Policy/Governance Workshop on April 1, 2016. Mr. Pandolfo shared an e-mail requesting Boards to reconsider the substitute rate of pay. The current rate at BCEMS and BTMES is \$73.00 per day. SHS pays an hourly rate of approximately \$17.00. The HR Coordinator will be performing research on substitute pay rates.

8.2 Committee Reports

Policy – Minutes from the February 17, 2016 meeting were distributed.

9. Executive Session

9.1 Personnel

9.2 Bargaining Agreements

Items proposed for discussion in Executive Session include Personnel Matters (including a reorganization matter), and Bargaining Agreements.

On a motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Perantoni, the Board unanimously agreed to find that premature general public knowledge of the items proposed for discussion would clearly place the Barre Supervisory Union at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public.

On a motion by Mrs. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Cecchinelli, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session at 7:33 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the items proposed for discussion.

Mr. Pandolfo was invited to join Executive Session.

On a motion by Mrs. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 8:16 p.m.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mrs. Perantoni, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin