BARRE SUPERVISORY UNION #61 SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Barre Supervisory Union – Conference Room
August 18, 2016 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Chad Allen (BT) - Chair
Giuliano Cecchinelli, II (BC) – Vice Chair
J. Guy Isabelle (SHS) - Clerk
Joe Blakely (SHS) – arrived at 6:07 p.m.
Kristin McCarthy (BT)
Tyler Smith (BC)
Sonya Spaulding (BC)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
Brenda Buzzell (BT)
Carlotta Perantoni (SHS)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:
John Pandolfo, Superintendent

GUESTS PRESENT:
Video Vision Tech

1. Call to Order
The Chair, Mr. Allen, called the Thursday, August 18, 2016, meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., which was held at the Barre Supervisory Union Central Office in the Conference room.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda
It was noted that policy DFA was listed twice under Agenda Item 5.4. The second entry can be deleted.

3. Public Comment
None.

4. Approval of Minutes
4.1 Approval of Minutes – July 21, 2016 Regular Meeting
On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to approve, as amended, the Minutes of the July 21, 2016 Regular Meeting.

5. New Business
5.1 Resign/Retire/New Hire
A document titled ‘BSU-New Hires’ was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised that BCEMS recently approved the hiring of Spencer Horchler, as an EEE Speech Pathologist. As this individual’s position falls under Special Education, hiring needs to be approved at the SU level. On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously voted to approve the hiring of Spencer Horchler.

Mr. Pandolfo advised that he recommends hiring Venus Dean as the Pre-K – 8 Curriculum Specialist for Math (formally Beth Hulbert’s position). Ms. Dean currently works at BTMES and was recently approved for a one year leave of absence so that she could pursue the Curriculum Specialist position. Mr. Pandolfo advised that it is also his recommendation, that the position of Curriculum Specialist for Math be filled for a period of one year. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of Ms. Dean’s experience. On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy, the Board unanimously voted to approve the hiring of Venus Dean, to fill the Curriculum Specialist position for a period of one year.

5.2 FY18 Budget Development
A document titled ‘Barre Supervisory Union BCEMS/BTMES/SHS-CVCC Budget Development Schedule for FY 2018 DRAFT 8/9/16’ was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised that this schedule is similar to last year’s budget schedule, but has been altered some due to Act 46 considerations. If Act 46 passes, the 3 district budgets will roll into one unified union budget. In response to a query, Mr. Pandolfo advised that it is too soon to quantify how big of an impact Act 46 would have on budget creation. It is not known if changes for Act 46 consolidation would require that three separate budgets be created, then, combined, or if the Tri-Board would be...
Mr. Pandolfo started the discussion with an overview of the Timeline, advising that efforts to recruit new Board Members (for the unified board) need to get started. Mr. Pandolfo is waiting to hear back from counsel regarding deadlines and ballot wording. Mr. Isabelle suggested that it may be beneficial to know who plans on running and for which seat they will be petitioning for.

Mr. Isabelle thanked the Committee for their efforts on this project. Discussion moved to the Communications Strategy document. Mr. Pandolfo gave an overview of highlights from the VSBA handout, including sections titled ‘Building Your New Policy Manual’, and ‘Introduction to Budgeting in a Unified System’. Discussion moved to the Communications Strategy document. Mr. Pandolfo gave an Act 46 pres
6.3 Transportation Plan Approval
Mr. Pandolfo advised that due to recent changes in staffing at the AOE, he has not officially heard back regarding approval. There are no anticipated issues with the proposed plan. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

7. Other Business as Needed
None.

8. Reports to the Board
8.1 Superintendent
A copy of the Superintendent’s report dated August 18, 2016 was distributed for review and discussion. The extensive report included information pertaining to the Superintendent’s Office, the Business Office, Curriculum, Special Services, Technology, Early Education, Human Resources, and Facilities. A copy of a memorandum, dated July 29, 2016, from the State Board of Education, relating to the Federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)) was distributed. A copy of a letter to John B. King Jr., Secretary of Education, US Department of Education, dated July 2016 was distributed. A copy of a letter to John B. King Jr., Secretary of Education, US Department of Education, dated July 27, 2016 was distributed. In response to a query regarding staffing, Mr. Pandolfo advised that the implementation of new processes and procedures, including the AESOP Substitute system is time consuming, and that when time permits, he is hoping to transfer some payroll clerk duties to HR. All staff are currently working to capacity and beyond. In addition to the written report, Mr. Pandolfo provided some highlights of the Administrative Retreat (a copy of the agenda was distributed), including the Theory of Action discussion (which he will expand on at a future meeting), and advised that implementation of the Veritime system will occur in July of 2017. Mr. Pandolfo also provided an overview of the evaluation process and of discussions with the Barre City Council regarding recent drug overdoses in the area, including a newspaper article which will be published in the near future.

8.2 Committee Reports
Policy Committee – The next meeting is scheduled for August 23, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in the Supervisory Conference Room.

8.3 Financials
Three financial reports were distributed; BSU FY16 Expenditures/Year-end Projection (August 10, 2016), BSU General Fund Revenue, and BSU Budget – FY16. It was noted that the numbers are very similar to the last report. Mr. Isabelle extended thanks to the team for keeping the SU within budget. In response to a query, Mr. Pandolfo advised that he believes the audits paid for by the SU show a deficit because they were not included in the adopted budget, but are being paid by the SU based on a surplus in the SU budget. Mr. Allen commented that he felt the letters from the Vermont State Board of Education to the US Department of Education were a bit course.

9. Executive Session as Needed
9.1 Labor Relations Agreement

Item proposed for discussion in Executive Session is the Labor Relations Agreement.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, 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. Smith, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session, with the Superintendent, at 7:39 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the items proposed for discussion.

The remaining information was provided by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Blakely, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 7:51 p.m.

The next SU Board Meeting will be held on September 15, 2016.

10. Adjournment
On a motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin