

BARRE SUPERVISORY UNION #61 SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Barre Supervisory Union – Conference Room
December 15, 2016 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chad Allen (BT) - Chair
Anthony Folland
Kristin McCarthy (BT) – departed at 6:38 p.m., returned at 6:54 p.m.
Carlotta Perantoni (SHS) – departed at 8:10 p.m.
Tyler Smith (BC)
Sonya Spaulding (BC)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brenda Buzzell (BT)
Giuliano Cecchinelli, II (BC) – Vice Chair
J. Guy Isabelle (SHS) - Clerk

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Lisa Perreault, Business Manager

GUESTS PRESENT:

Video Vision Tech

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Allen, called the Thursday, December 15, 2016, meeting to order at 6:16 p.m., which was held at the Barre Supervisory Union Central Office in the Conference room.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Add 4.2 Approval of Special Board Meeting – December 1, 2016
Add 9.1 – Personnel Issue (under Executive Session)

Mr. Allen introduced Tony Folland, who will be filling the SU Board position recently vacated by Joe Blakely. Mr. Folland will be representing the SHS Board.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – November 17, 2016 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the November 17, 2016 Regular Meeting.

4.2 Approval of Minutes – December 1, 2016 Special Meeting

On a motion by Mrs. Perantoni, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to approve, with clarification as discussed, the Minutes of the December 1, 2016 Special Meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 First Reading of Class Size Policy (G14)

Copies of policies reference in Agenda Items 5.1 – 5.3 were distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the policies.

On a motion by Mrs. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reading of the Class Size Policy (G14).

5.2 First Reading Federal Child Nutrition Act Wellness Policy (F28)

After lengthy discussion, the Board agreed that no substantive changes were being requested. On a motion by Mrs. Perantoni, seconded by Mr. Folland, the Board unanimously voted to approve, with changes as discussed, the First Reading of the Federal Child Nutrition Act Wellness Policy (F28).

5.3 First Reading Proficiency-Based Graduation Requirements (PBGRs) (G20)

In addition to the policy, a copy of a document titled 'Proficiency Based Graduation Policies in VT' dated December 1, 2016, from the Vermont Superintendents Association, was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo led the discussion, including an overview of the document created by the Vermont Superintendents Association. After lengthy discussion, the Board agreed to send the policy back to Committee for additional work. The policy will be slated for presentation at the January or February 2017 SU Board meeting.

6. Old Business

6.1 Second and Final Reading Student Conduct and Discipline Policy (F1)

Policies referenced in Agenda Items 6.1 through 6.4 were distributed. Mr. Allen provided an overview of the policies. Brief discussion was held.

On a motion by Mrs. Perantoni, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously voted to approve the policies referenced in Agenda Items 6.1 through 6.4 (F1, F7, F21, and F25).

6.2 Second and Final Reading Student Alcohol and Drugs Policy (F7)

Approved under Agenda Item 6.1.

6.3 Second and Final Reading Firearms Policy (F21)

Approved under Agenda Item 6.1.

6.4 Second and Final Reading Student Attendance Policy (F25)

Approved under Agenda Item 6.1.

6.5 Act 46 Update

Two documents were distributed; a copy of the approved Warning for 'Vote for Reconsideration of the November 8, 2016 Vote on the Formation of the Barre Unified Union School District', and a copy of the 'CERTIFICATION OF FINAL VOTE' for the Barre City Article I Act 46, November 8, 2016 vote. The revote in Barre Town is warned for January 31, 2017. Mr. Pandolfo advised that the margin of votes to approve Act 46 consolidation is 333+. Barre Town community members are trying to help educate additional community members regarding the impact of Act 46. The Act 46 Committee met on December 8, 2016 and agreed not to hold an additional public forum, advising that they would like to let members of the public assist with educating the community. The Committee has tentatively scheduled meetings for January 12, 2017 and February 9, 2017. The Committee would like a positive push (to pass Act 46) by community members, rather than by the Committee. Mrs. Perantoni advised she would be happy to assist with creating opportunities to educate the members of the community. Mrs. McCarthy stressed that the public needs to be made aware that the 'new' consolidated Board, has the authority to change Articles 2 through 15.

6.6 FY '18 Budget

Eight documents were distributed; the BSU FY18 Budget Considerations document (dated 12/15/16), the FY18 BSU Assessment Information document (dated 12/15/16), 'BSU District-wide FY18 BUDGET ADDITIONS – 12/15/16', 'FY18 SERVICE PLAN PROJECTIONS', 'FY18 Proposed BSU School District Budgets Unified – 12/15/16', 'FY17 Barre Supervisory Union School District Budgets', 'BARRE SUPERVISORY UNION FY18 BUDGET REVENUE SUMMARY', and the 'BARRE SUPERVISORY UNION FY18 BUDGET EXPENSE SUMMARY' report. Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding an e-mail from Mr. Isabelle. Mrs. Perreault provided an overview of the documents, and advised regarding the removal of a new financial accounting system, removal of the HR system, and changes to the Special Education portion of the budget. While providing an overview of the 'assessment' document, Mrs. Perreault advised that Administrators recommend using \$100,000 (of unaudited surplus funds), rather than the \$75,000 proposed at the December 1, 2016 meeting. Mrs. Perreault and Mr. Pandolfo continued their review of the distributed documents. After lengthy discussion, it was noted that the increase in cost per pupil is largely impacted by a significant drop in enrollment numbers (from 2460 to 2421). Discussion included an overview of homestead tax rates and the education tax yield. **On a motion by Mrs. Perantoni, seconded by Mr. Folland, the Board unanimously voted to accept the proposed FY18 BSU General Fund Expenditure Budget, not to exceed \$13,949,842.** Brief discussion was held relating to the CLA (Common Level of Appraisal).

6.7 Labor Relations Agreement

The Proposal Status documents for Teachers and Para-educators were distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding the progress of negotiations. It was noted that line items marked with 'TA'd', refer to items which have been tentatively agreed upon. There were no questions from the Board.

7. Other Business as Needed

None.

8. Reports to the Board

8.1 Superintendent

A copy of the Superintendent's report dated December 15, 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, Human Resources, and Facilities. A copy of a letter from the VSBA dated November 18, 2016 (relating to the increase in VSBA dues) was also distributed. VSBA dues will be increasing from \$7869.74 to \$8,387.51. Mr. Pandolfo provided additional information relating to the decision process for school closings/delayed openings, mechanical failure of the BCEMS woodchip boiler, and evacuation procedures (including student safety, transportation of students, and communication procedures).

8.2 Committee Reports

Policy Committee -

A packet of information titled 'Best Practices for Schools Regarding Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students' was distributed. A copy of the BSU Policy Manual Index was also distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the Policy Index, and advised that the VSBA has a model policy regarding Transgender/Gender Nonconforming Students, but that a policy is not required and that the policy may be removed from the Policy Index.

Negotiations Committee – Minutes from all Negotiation Committee Meetings from November 17, 2016 – December 14, 2016 were distributed. Discussion was held under Agenda Item 6.7.

8.3 Financials

The BSU Expense Budget Status Report, dated 12/09/16, was distributed. Mrs. Perreault provided an overview, and advised that 'Shared Staff Service', will be off-set by revenue, the deficits listed for Curriculum Development and Early Ed Administration, are due to the hiring of administrative assistants, the deficit under Plant Operation & Maintenance is due to the hiring of a district wide Facilities Director and electrician, and the deficit under line item 2520 (Business Office Services), is due to payment of unemployment for all of the BSU.

9. Executive Session as Needed

9.1 Personnel Issue

A status update relating to a Personnel Issue, was proposed for discussion in Executive Session.

On a motion by Mrs. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session, with Mr. Pandolfo, at 8:10 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the item proposed for discussion. Mrs. Perantoni departed the meeting at 8:10 p.m. and did not participate in Executive Session.

The remaining information was provided by Mr. Smith.

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

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. McCarthy, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin