

**BARRE SUPERVISORY UNION #61 SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
Spaulding High School - Library  
January 18, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Giuliano Cecchinelli, II (BC) – Vice Chair  
Chad Allen (BT)  
Anthony Folland (SHS)  
Paul Malone (SHS)  
Tyler Smith (BC)  
Sonya Spaulding (BC)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

J. Guy Isabelle (SHS) - Chair  
Alice Farrell (BT) - Clerk  
Rebecca Kerin-Hutchins (BT)

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:**

John Pandolfo, Superintendent

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Video Vision Tech

**1. Call to Order**

**The Vice Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Thursday, January 18, 2018, meeting to order at 6:05 p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library.**

**2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda**

Agenda Item 6.2 - Change Scholarship 'Funds' Policy to Scholarship 'Awards' Policy.

Agenda Item 8.2.1 Meeting date changes: The Policy Committee Meeting will be on February 19, 2018

The Finance Committee Meeting has been cancelled and will be rescheduled at a later date.

**3. Public Comment**

None.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**4.1 Approval of Minutes – December 21, 2017 Regular Meeting**

**On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mr. Allen, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the December 21, 2017 Regular Meeting.**

**4.2 Approval of Minutes – January 4, 2018 Special Meeting**

**On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously voted to approve, as amended, the Minutes of the January 4, 2018 Special Meeting.**

**5. New Business**

**5.1 First Reading BSU Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) and Pregnancy Prevention Policy (F31)**

Copies of policies referenced in Agenda Items 5.1 and 5.2 were distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of this policy, which was drafted based on the recommendation of the Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Health and the Secretary of Education. It was noted that this policy is not a 'model' policy. Board Members voiced concern regarding parents' rights to withhold permission for children to participate in the condom distribution program, as well as concerns relating to procedures being written at each school, and possible liability. It was noted that procedures, which are being developed, will be written for each district school, and will be written such that they are age/grade level appropriate. The SHAC Committee will be involved in procedure development, which will include an educational component. Procedures are being developed for use beginning in the 2018 / 2019 school year. Mr. Folland commended the policy committee for drafting this policy with an 'opt out' clause, rather than an 'opt in' clause. In response to concerns regarding the possibility that a district principal could implement procedures that prevented condom distribution, it was recommended that the policy be amended to require that procedures be developed based on the recommendation of the SHAC Committee, and be in accordance with the policy set forth. It was agreed that the word 'Education' will be added to the policy title.

**On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously voted to approve, as amended, the First Reading of the BSU Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) and Pregnancy Prevention Education Policy (F31).**

## **5.2 First Reading BSU HIV Policy (F32)**

Brief discussion was held regarding non-substantive changes relating mainly to consistency of formatting. Mr. Pandolfo will see that the requested changes are completed prior to the Second and Final Reading.

**On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mr. Folland, the Board unanimously voted to approve, as amended, the First Reading of the BSU HIV Policy (F32).**

## **6. Old Business**

### **6.1 Board Communications**

A document titled 'Barre City and Spaulding School District FY19 Budget Highlights' (dated 01/16/18) was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised that discussions have been held regarding the best way to communicate the budgets. Mr. Pandolfo advised that the Budget Highlight document worked well for the budget presentation to the Barre City Council. The document assisted with helping the City Council understand the many factors involved in creating the budget. Mr. Pandolfo highlighted that the BSU pupil count is not declining at the same rate as pupil counts around the state. Mr. Pandolfo advised that there may be information forthcoming from the legislature regarding student/teacher ratios. It was noted that there is currently no consistency regarding how staff are counted. There are many different variables; student to staff, student to teachers, and the definition of what staff members are counted (bus drivers, food service workers, custodial staff etc.). The Secretary of Education has advised that schools should be prepared for discussion of student to staff ratios.

Mr. Pandolfo advised that the information pamphlet is progressing well and that he has been communicating with Barre City regarding budget information that they require and assuring that they receive accurate information.

### **6.2 Second and Final Reading Scholarship Awards Policy (E31)**

Copies of the policies referenced in Agenda Items 6.2 through 6.6 were distributed. Brief discussion held for individual policies is noted under the corresponding Agenda Item. It was noted that some formatting changes would be necessary. In the scholarship policy, the word Funds has been changed to 'Awards'.

**On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Malone, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Second and Final Readings of BSU policies E31, E24, E23, F11, and F4 (as amended), and agreed to adopt said policies.**

### **6.3 Second and Final Reading Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Procurement Policy (E24)**

Approved under Agenda Item 6.2 – No discussion was held.

### **6.4 Second and Final Reading Capitalization of Assets Policy (E23)**

Approved under Agenda Item 6.2 – No discussion was held.

### **6.5 Second and Final Reading Search, Seizure, and Interrogation of Students by Law Enforcement Policy (F11)**

Approved under Agenda Item 6.2. It was confirmed that the SRO (School Resource Officer) is considered Law Enforcement, not school personnel. Concern was raised regarding the possibility that students could decline to be interrogated.

### **6.6 Second and Final Reading Search, Seizure, and Interrogation of Students by School Personnel Policy (F4)**

Approved under Agenda Item 6.2. Questions were posed regarding the 'Definitions' section of the policy and concern was raised that cell phones were not specifically listed in the policy. It was agreed to add the term 'electronic devices' to the "Possessions search" section of the policy. It was noted that section 'D' under 'Types of and Conditions for Searches' was reworded based on advice from legal counsel. Brief discussion was held regarding training of Administrators and clarification regarding the number of witnesses required for various types of searches.

### **6.7 Act 46**

Three documents were distributed; 'Barre 2018 Act 46 Merger Study Committee', 'Governance Update' (from the Vermont Agency of Education), and a map from the AOE titled 'Merger Activity'. Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding the distributed list of appointed Study Committee Members and advised regarding next steps; schedule of first meeting, election of Committee Chair or Co-Chairs, and scheduling of the second meeting date. Mr. Pandolfo will notify appointees and coordinate a date/time for the first meeting. It was noted that should the Study Committee decide to put forth Articles of Agreement for voter approval, it would be beneficial to choose a vote date that coincides with another vote. It was reiterated that the Superintendent's role is minimal as it relates to the Study Committee. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the Governance Update document and the Merger Activity Map. It was noted that the majority of districts have merged and it is unlikely that there will be any significant legislative changes to Act 46. Boiler plates for forced mergers will most likely be written by the State for fall of 2018.

## **7. Other Business as Needed**

None.

## **8. Reports to the Board**

### **8.1 Superintendent**

A copy of the Superintendent's report dated January 18, 2018 was distributed for review and discussion. The report included information pertaining to the Superintendent's Office, the Business Office, Curriculum, Special Education, Technology, Early Education, Human Resources, and Facilities. Four additional documents were distributed; 'PRESS RELEASE Barre School Boards Negotiation Committee', the BCEMS and BTMES Comparative Tax Rate Calculations - Budget Years 2018 – 2019, and a document from VSBA titled 'School Board Professional Development'. Brief discussion was held regarding the parking situation at the Supervisory Union building and it was noted that different options are being considered to remedy the parking shortage. Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview of the workshops and webinars that are available for school board members. It was noted that approval has been received for the proposed FY19 health insurance rate increases (approximately 10%). Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding the Negotiations Committee press release and advised that the Tax Rate sheet has been finalized. It was announced that on Thursday, January 25, 2018, the full administrative team will attend ALICE training. The Times Argus will be in attendance and police and fire personnel have also been invited.

### **8.2 Committee Reports**

#### **8.2.1 Policy Committee**

Minutes from the December 18, 2017 meeting were distributed. This meeting was held prior to the last BSU Board meeting. There is nothing new to report.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the BSU 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room.

#### **8.2.2 Curriculum Committee**

Minutes from the January 2, 2018 meeting were distributed. Mr. Smith provided a brief overview of the meeting, including the decision to adjust the structure of the agendas to include two informational meetings, and then hold one meeting to identify actions to address deficiencies. The last meeting also included an overview of ESSA testing requirements. Mrs. Ramsey-Tolman has created on-line links to make information more accessible.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 29, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in the SHS Library. The Agenda will be limited to items that relate only to Spaulding High School; Graduation Requirements and Work Based Learning.

#### **8.2.3 Finance Committee**

Minutes from the December 5, 2017 meeting were distributed. Mr. Malone reported that the Committee has held very successful meetings and completed the budget. The intent is to hold quarterly meetings, with the next meeting to be held after the March 6, 2018 elections. The next meeting date is to be determined.

#### **8.2.4 Negotiations Committee**

A teacher negotiation session is scheduled for Monday, January 22, 2018 (with mediator Ira Lobel). Additional information was provided in the Superintendent's Report. No progress has been made thus far for negotiations with Para-Educators or AFSCME representatives (for FY19 negotiations).

### **8.3 Financials**

The BSU FY18 Expenditures/Year-end Projection Report (dated 01/18/18) was distributed. A copy of the BSU FY18 Budget and the BSU General Fund Revenue Report were also distributed. There is an unaudited projected deficit of \$ 9,805. Brief discussion was held regarding the UVM Special Education Funding Report to the Legislature. This document refers to a 5 year transition plan. Mrs. Spaulding would like specifics regarding how these proposed changes will impact the BSU as a district. Mr. Pandolfo advised that this topic can be added to the February BSU Board Meeting Agenda and that he will include Executive Summaries from both the UVM Report and the District Management Group Report.

## **9. Executive Session as Needed**

### **9.1 Administrator Evaluations**

### **9.2 Superintendent Evaluation**

Items proposed for discussion in Executive Session include Administrator and Superintendent Evaluations.

**On a motion by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session, with Mr. Pandolfo in attendance, at 7:55 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the items proposed for discussion.**

The remaining information was provided by the Board Clerk.

**On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Folland, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 9:25 p.m.**

**10. Adjournment**

**On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:26 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Andrea Poulin*