

**BARRE SUPERVISORY UNION #61 SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR TRI-BOARD MEETING**

**BARRE SUPERVISORY UNION BOARD
BARRE CITY SCHOOL BOARD
BARRE TOWN SCHOOL BOARD
SPAULDING HIGH SCHOOL BOARD**

Spaulding High School - Library
November 15, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BCEMS BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Giuliano Cecchinelli, II – Vice Chair
Andrew McMichael – departed at 7:05 p.m.

BCEMS BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sonya Spaulding – Chair
Sarah Pregent - Clerk
Jennifer Chioldi
Michael Deering
Chris Riddell

BTMES BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Alice Farrell - Chair
Jay Paterson – Vice Chair
Victoria Pompei – Clerk – arrived at 6:49 p.m.
Chris Hull
Rebecca Kerin-Hutchins – departed at 7:50 p.m.

BTMES BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

SHS BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Malone - Chair
Joe Blakely – Clerk – arrived at 6:20 p.m.
Tim Boltin
Anthony Folland
J. Guy Isabelle
Ed Rousse

SHS BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

David LaCroix – Vice Chair

BSU BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

J. Guy Isabelle (SHS) – Chair
Giuliano Cecchinelli, II (BC) – Vice Chair
Victoria Pompei (BT) – Clerk– arrived at 6:49 p.m.
Alice Farrell (BT)
Anthony Folland (SHS)
Rebecca Kerin-Hutchins (BT) – departed at 7:50 p.m.
Paul Malone (SHS)

BSU BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sonya Spaulding (BC)
Jennifer Chioldi (BC)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Chris Hennessey, Principal - BCEMS
Donald McMahon, Director of Special Services - SHS
Jennifer W. Nye, Principal - BTMES
Lisa Perreault, Business Manager
Jacquelyn Ramsey-Tolman, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
Brenda Waterhouse, Principal - SHS

GUESTS PRESENT:

Video Vision Tech Dave Delcore-Times Argus Ben Matthews Mark McCarthy Jessica Vest

1. Call to Order

The BSU Chair, Mr. Isabelle, called the Thursday, November 15, 2018, meeting to order at 6:10 p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library.

The SHS Chair, Mr. Malone, called the Thursday, November 15, 2018, meeting to order at 6:10 p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library.

The BTMES Chair, Mrs. Farrell, called the Thursday, November 15, 2018, meeting to order at 6:10 p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library.

The BCEMS Co-Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Thursday, November 15, 2018, meeting to order at 6:10 p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

There were no additions or deletions to the Agenda. It was noted that the BSU Finance Committee did not meet tonight. The Tri-Board Meeting Agenda includes BSU FY20 Budget Development.

3. Public Comment

Board Members were introduced. There was no public comment.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – October 18, 2018 Regular SU Board Meeting Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mr. Cecchinelli, the BSU Board unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the October 18, 2018 BSU Regular Board Meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 Approval of Financial Management Questionnaire

The BSU Financial Management Questionnaire (dated 10/11/18) was distributed. Mr. Isabelle provided a brief overview of the document which is required by Statute. Board Members have reviewed the form. There were no questions from the Board.

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mr. Folland, the BSU Board unanimously voted to approve the Financial Management Questionnaire and authorized the BSU Board Chair to sign the document.

5.2 Administrative Evaluations

A document titled 'BSU Admin Evaluation Feedback Survey Distribution Lists 11/14/18' was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised that all administrators have reviewed their job descriptions and made necessary changes. The Superintendent's Executive Assistant will create the evaluation survey forms. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the survey distribution list and the evaluation process, including the schedule. In response to a query, it was noted that the Athletic Director's evaluation survey is not distributed to parents. Parental feedback is gathered via end-of-season surveys which are not used as part of the Athletic Director's evaluation. It was noted that parental feedback is not used in teacher evaluations.

6. Old Business

6.1 Act 46

Six documents were distributed; the Warning for the 'Special Barre Town School District Meeting', the Draft Default Articles of Agreement (dated 11/15/18), letters from the BCEMS and BTMES Boards to the State Board of Education, an e-mail from Donna Kely (dated 11/13/18), and 'Results from Barre Act 46 Votes'. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of voting results from previous Act 46 votes, advised of the letters to the State Board of Education (from the BCEMS and BTMES Boards), and advised that a petition to reconsider the 11/06/18 Barre Town vote has been submitted to the Barre Town Clerk. Because the Barre Town vote on 11/06/18 failed to pass Article 1 (to merge the districts), the Board Members voted in during that election do not count. If a revote reverses the 11/06/18 decision, the Board voted in on that day will stand. Regardless of the decision of the State Board of Education, a re-vote (for Article 1) must be held. The re-vote is only for Barre Town. The suggested re-vote date is 01/08/19, with a less favored date of

12/18/18 also offered as an option. Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding the State Board of Education meeting held at the Barre Elks Club. Mr. Pandolfo provided a recap of some of the day's events including; public comment (which included Board Member input, as well as input from the Superintendent and community members). The State Board of Education held discussion on 'Barre' during the afternoon and voted to impose a merger. The State Board of Education advised that the petition for revote is not their concern and that their decision not to provide input prior to the 11/06/18 vote was a courtesy. Given the deadline for creation of a Final Plan, that courtesy will not be extended again. If a revote results in the merger passing in Barre Town, the Articles of Agreement created by the Study Committee will stand, the Board voted in on 11/06/18 will stand, and tax incentives will be granted. The State Board of Education noted that they asked that the original vote date be moved to an earlier date, but their request was denied by the Study Committee. Mr. Pandolfo advised that the State Board of Education has made some revisions to the Draft Default Articles of Agreement. These revisions allow for more leeway for amendments to the Articles. Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding the various timeframes involved and provided an overview of the numerous votes (Re-consideration, Articles of Agreement, Board Members, and Budgets) that may need to occur. Additionally, Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding the costs associated with these additional votes. It was noted that amendments to Default Articles of Agreement must be made within 90 days of finalization of the Statewide Plan. Mr. Pandolfo will document and distribute a schedule which includes critical dates. Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding Board Members elected on 11/06/18. It was noted that there was one Barre City seat for which no one ran and there was no write-in candidate. Mr. Pandolfo reiterated that there will be benefits if the re-vote passes (tax incentives, Board structure, more protective Articles of Agreement). If the re-vote passes, the Town Meeting vote will be on a single budget. The 706 Study Committee remains in effect until the Barre Town re-vote. The current Boards remain in existence until 06/30/19 and for approximately 6 additional months, as FY19 audits needs to be finalized and any other outstanding business needs to be resolved. Board seats that expire need to be filled and remain filled until all business is resolved. Mr. Pandolfo requested that individuals whose terms expire, run for re-election so that the Boards finalizing business, are not comprised of individuals who are new to the Boards. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the Warning and asked that the Board choose a vote date and approve the Warning. The Board agreed to hold the vote on 01/08/19.

On a motion by Mr. Hull, seconded by Mrs. Pompei, the BTMES Board unanimously voted to approve the Special Barre Town School District Meeting Warning for a vote date of January 8, 2019. The Warning was circulated for signature.

Mr. Pandolfo advised that for the no vote to be overturned there must be at least 1404 votes in favor of the motion to merge.

6.2 FY20 Budget Development

Two documents were distributed; a copy of the PowerPoint Presentation 'FY20 BUDGETS-DRAFT 1 – Barre Supervisory Union – November 15, 18', and the BSU FY20 Budget Draft 1 – 11/15/18. Mrs. Perreault began the budget presentation noting that under a single budget, there will be some level of modest, immediate savings (e.g. 1 audit instead of 4). If tax incentives are realized (under a voluntary merger) there will be additional savings. A \$150,000 transition grant may also be available. The budget development timeline may need to be adjusted based on today's Act 46 decision from the State Board of Education. Mrs. Perreault proceeded with the presentation which included an overview of the Guiding Principles, Budget Highlights and Goals, and Budget Additions & Reductions. Salary and wage increases will be dependent on the outcome of negotiations. The Gold CDHP Plan will have an increase of 11.8%. Other additions include an increase for the Communications Specialist, addition of 1 FTE Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), addition of 1 FTE Therapist, and addition of 1 FTE Reading Specialist. In an effort to align caseloads, there is a reduction of 2 FTE Special Educators at BTMES. The budget draft includes consideration of the addition of 2 to 3 vehicles for transportation of some specific categories of students (this option is less expensive than using contracted busing). Items being added to the BSU budget for FY20 include technology, curriculum coaches, and copier leases. Act 173 will result in changes to reimbursement for extraordinary costs (a loss of approximately \$184,000). Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of Act 173 changes (a 5 year transition from a reimbursement model to a census based model of reimbursement). Mrs. Perreault advised that with the merger, there will no longer be assessments as all monies budgeted will be embedded in the budget. Mrs. Perreault provided an overview of the 5 contributing factors affecting the tax rate, noting that the data will be updated in December. Due to issues with implementation of the new State-wide Longitudinal Data System, Mrs. Perreault anticipates that data may be received later than usual. Mrs. Perreault provided an overview of budget considerations by school (BCEMS, BTMES, SHS, and CVCC). Brief discussion was held regarding the comparison of education spending. Barre continues to have one of the lowest cost per pupil rates in the state. Mrs. Perreault advised regarding cost per equalized pupil under the current separate budgets, and the cost per pupil under consolidation.

6.3 Communication

The Barre Education Coalition is continuing with efforts to identify the best ways to communicate with community members. The Communication Committee continues to review implementation of a new web site and public communication (including informing the public of the 'good we do', and promotion of budgets).

7. Other Business as Needed

None.

8. Reports to the Board

8.1 Superintendent

A copy of the Superintendent's report dated November 15, 2018 was distributed for review and discussion. The report included information pertaining to; the Superintendent's Office, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Communications, the Business Office, Special Education, Technology, Early Education, Human Resources, and Facilities. A copy of the Facility Director's Report was distributed. A significant power outage last Tuesday evening caused issues with some 'core switches' and resulted in internet issues. The problem was fixed and internet services were restored by mid-day Wednesday. Inclement weather on Tuesday morning was challenging for buses, but all worked out well. Mr. Pandolfo advised that when making decisions for late starts or closings, it is his goal to make a decision by 5:30 a.m. In response to a query, it was noted that Safety Grant funding is not used for personnel or training, but rather must be used for safety related equipment and/or structural improvements. It was noted that a recent safety meeting stressed the importance of having SROs (School Resource Officers). SHS and BCEMS have SROs. The most recent BTMES budget draft (for FY20) includes the addition of an SRO.

8.2 Committee Reports

8.2.1 BSU Policy Committee

There was no October meeting.

The next meeting is Monday, November 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the BSU 2nd Floor Conference Area.

8.2.2 BSU Curriculum Committee

Minutes from the October 29, 2018 Meeting were distributed.

The next meeting is Monday, November 26, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in the SHS Library.

8.2.3 BSU Finance Committee

Minutes from the September 20, 2018 meeting were distributed. There was no meeting in October.

The next meeting will be in December. The meeting date is to be determined.

8.2.4 BSU Facilities Committee

The next meeting is Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at BCEMS in the Conference Room.

8.2.5 BSU Communications Committee

Minutes from the November 8, 2018 meeting were distributed.

The next meeting is Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the BSU Central Office.

8.2.6 BSU Negotiations Committee

Planning meetings have been scheduled for 11/29/18 and 12/04/18. The Committee continues to wait for the Association to provide meeting dates.

8.3 Financials

No discussion.

9. Executive Session as Needed

No items were proposed for discussion in Executive Session.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mrs. Pompei, the BTMES Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mr. Blakely, the SHS Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.

On a motion by Mrs. Pompei, seconded by Ms. Farrell, the BSU Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.

The BCEMS Board did not have a quorum and there was not vote to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin