

**SPAULDING HIGH SCHOOL
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**
Spaulding High School – Library
August 22, 2016 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Carlotta Simonds-Perantoni - Chair
David LaCroix - Vice Chair
Anthony Folland
Lucas Herring
J. Guy Isabelle
Ed Rousse – arrived at 6:22 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joe Blakely - Clerk

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Luke Aither, Assistant Principal
Penny Chamberlin, Director Central Vermont Career Center

GUESTS PRESENT:

Video Vision Tech Dottye Ricks

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mrs. Perantoni, called the Monday, August 22, 2016, Regular meeting to order at 6:04 p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

None.

3. Visitors and Communication

In response to a request from Ms. Ricks, the Superintendent advised he is working on implementation of posting meeting Agendas on Front Porch Forum, as well as posting the link to meeting videos on-line. In response to a request from Ms. Ricks, the Superintendent advised that a new agenda item for upcoming meeting information will be added to board agendas prior to the Adjournment agenda item.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – July 7, 2016 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to approve, as amended, the Minutes of the July 7, 2016 Regular Meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 Resign/Retire/New Hires

A letter of resignation from Jen Olson (Employment Specialist) was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding Ms. Olson's resignation. **On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to accept, with regrets, the resignation of Jen Olson.**

The resume and Notification of Employment Status Form for Catherine Franks was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the candidate's experience. Ms. Franks is replacing Al Moore as an English/Social Studies teacher in the Phoenix Program.

On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to approve the hiring of Catherine Franks.

Mr. Pandolfo advised that there are currently 2 positions open in the ACT Program; 1 Special Education teacher, and 1 Behavioral Specialist position. Mr. Pandolfo will be making a recommendation at the September 1, 2016 meeting.

5.2 Discipline Data Presentation

A comprehensive Behavioral Resolutions report was distributed. Mr. Aither advised that Jim Ferland created the report and apologizes that he is not able to attend tonight's meeting. Mr. Aither proceeded to provide an overview of the information and

answered questions from the Board. Discussion encompassed trends, including a reduction in behavioral issues as students' mature (freshman have the highest number of referrals, seniors have the lowest number). It was noted that a small percentage of students account for the majority of referrals. Discussion was held regarding In-School suspensions vs. Out-of-School suspensions, including the length of suspensions and the behavior that qualifies for suspension. It was noted that Administration works to keep students in school whenever possible. Varying management styles (over the years) has an impact on the number of referrals. There were many 'warnings' issued in the past year that are not reflected in the data. The 'warning' process does include follow-up by a school counselor. Teaching staff are being trained to learn how to deal with student behaviors, including Trauma Informed and Adverse Childhood Experiences training. Discussion also included the various categories of behavioral issues and which categories are more prominent. Incidents involving fighting have been reduced, as students are learning coping skills to deal with frustrations. Restorative Practices will be implemented this year. It was noted that PBIS was investigated, and found not to be as effective for high school students, as it is for those in middle and elementary grades. It was noted that increased enrollment in alternative programs may have an impact on reporting. Data on behavioral issues at the alternative programs is not included in the report. The Board requested additional data, including all incidents (both in-house and at alternative program sites), if available, to better assess the overall effectiveness of the programs in effect. Additional discussion included the importance of including emotional and social components in student education, a possible student survey, the student handbook, on-line relational aggression, and the driving forces that promote behavioral issues.

5.3 Athletic Field Discussion

Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the different situations within the district. BTMES owns recreational fields that are scheduled and maintained by the Town of Barre. BCEMS and SHS fields are owned, maintained, and scheduled by the schools. The BTMES Board recently voted to move forward with transferring ownership of their recreational fields to the Town. Mr. Cecchinelli advised that in recent discussions, he was informed that Barre City does not wish to take ownership of the BCEMS or SHS recreation fields. The SHS Board agreed that they would like assurance from the Town of Barre that they will continue to receive the current prioritization regarding field use.

5.4 First Reading BSU Policy D11 – Drug and Alcohol Testing; Transportation Employees

A copy of the policy was distributed. In response to a concern raised by Ms. Ricks, Mr. Herring provided additional information regarding the scope of the policy. **On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Rousse, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reading of the BSU Drug and Alcohol Testing; Transportation Employees Policy (D11).**

5.5 First Reading BSU Policy D12 – Prevention of Employee Harassment

A copy of the policy was distributed. In response to concerns raised by Ms. Ricks, the Board agreed to have Mr. Pandolfo proceed with non-substantive changes to the policy. No other changes were approved by the Board. **On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Folland, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reading of the BSU Prevention of Employee Harassment Policy (D12).**

5.6 First Reading BSU Policy D13 – HIPPA Compliance

A copy of the policy was distributed. The Board agreed that approval of the First Reading of this BSU policy was appropriate. **On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reading of the BSU HIPPA Compliance Policy (D13).**

5.7 First Reading BSU Policy E1 – Fiscal Management and General Financial Accountability

A copy of the policy was distributed. **On a motion by Mr. Rousse, seconded by Mr. Herring, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reading of the BSU Fiscal Management and General Financial Accountability Policy (E1).**

5.8 First Reading BSU Policy E2 – Budgeting

A copy of the policy was distributed. **On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Rousse, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reading of the BSU Budgeting Policy (E2).**

5.9 First Reading BSU Policy G9 – Grade Advancement, Retention, Promotion, and Acceleration of Students

A copy of the policy was distributed. The Board agreed that this policy was required. **On a motion by Mr. Folland, seconded by Mr. Rousse, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reading of the BSU Grade Advancement, Retention, Promotion, and Acceleration of Students Policy (G9).**

5.10 First Reading BSU Policy G15 – Special Education

A copy of the policy was distributed. Mr. Herring advised that the link listed in the policy was not working. Mr. Herring and Mr. Pandolfo will research the correct link and have the policy updated accordingly. It was agreed that this change was non-substantive. **On a motion by Mr. Rousse, seconded by Mr. Folland, the Board unanimously voted to approve, with addition of the appropriate link, the First Reading of the BSU Special Education Policy (G15).** Mrs. Perantoni requested that a member of the Technology Department attend an upcoming meeting and assist Board Members with connecting their non-mobile devices to the network.

6. Old Business

6.1 Act 46 Update

Eight documents were distributed; the Act 46 Timeline, the VSBA's Building a Strong Foundation for Unified Districts document, the Act 46 Quick Update informational document, a copy of the BSU Summary of Buildings, Contents, and Site Values, Long Term Debt, and Reserve Funds, a document containing Articles 9 and 12 (Initial Directors Terms of Office and Australian Ballot Voting), drafts of the Barre City and Barre Town Warnings, and a document containing Act 46 Survey #2 results to-date.

Copies of the Barre Unified School District Act 46 Study Committee – Final Report – Draft 5, dated August 15, 2016, and a document from the State Board of Education titled 'GUIDANCE: Proposals by One or More Non-Merging Districts for an "Alternative Structure" Under Act 46 (2015) (dated July 29, 2016), were made available to those who wished to possess printed copies.

Mr. Pandolfo proceeded to provide an overview of the documents advising that he is waiting for counsel and City/Town Clerks to approve the draft petitions. It was noted that existing Board Members who are elected to the unified board, would be working on two boards until July 1, 2017, when the existing boards disband. The next Act 46 meeting will be held on September 8, 2016. The finalized documents will be presented to the BCEMS and BTMES Boards for official review and comment. The SHS Board may review the documents, but their involvement is not required. The Act 46 Committee will likely meet again on September 22, 2016 prior to submitting the Final Report to the Secretary of Education. Once approved by the Secretary of Education, the report will be sent to the State Board of Education for final approval. If approved, Act 46 changes will be submitted for voter approval. Confirmation is being sought regarding whether or not the Act 46 Committee has the authority to approve the Warning. Mr. Pandolfo proceeded to provide an overview of various communication strategies, as well as the remaining documents. It was noted that the City and Town will not be co-mingling the votes. The survey results indicate that the community is better informed regarding the implications of Act 46, though a push to educate the public should continue, especially a month or so prior to the vote.

7. Other Business

It was announced that flex days must be completed by this Tuesday (08/23/16). An all-staff meeting will be held on Wednesday morning (08/24/16). Some students will start school on Monday, August 29, 2016. It was noted that Paul Poirier contacted Mrs. Waterhouse regarding a possible presentation to students.

8. Reports to the Board

8.1 Superintendent

A copy of the Superintendent's Report dated August 15, 2016 was distributed. The report included information pertaining to; Act 46 action, the Custodial/Maintenance Agreement (ratified and being operated under), and Summer Facilities Work. A copy of the Fire Inspection Results was also distributed. Additionally, Mr. Pandolfo advised that the petition (regarding Board restructuring) was submitted to VEHI. It was noted that any individual interested in running for the Unified Board, would need to begin obtaining petition signatures in the near future.

8.2 Principal

Mr. Aither announced the appointment of Chloe Lamphere, to the Student Representative position. Mr. Aither provided an overview of completed summer projects. Board Members were invited to attend the parent/student luncheon for freshman on Monday, August 29, 2016 at 11:55 a.m. in the cafeteria. Mr. Aither announced that Davey Muise will speak to students at the whole-school assembly on Tuesday, August 30, 2016, and will then speak to three additional smaller groups. The message being presented is "What's your shovel?", recognizing and validating the various traumas that students might face, and how to find meaning in life, and identifying a passion to carry on through them. Mr. Muise will speak specifically about suicide, self-harm, self-medicating through drug and alcohol use and other unhealthy choices. It is anticipated that his message will inspire students to persevere and make safe, healthy choices as individuals, and support each other as peers, reducing risky/self-harming behaviors. Mr. Aither advised that this speaker is very moving and those who wish to preview his work can do so on-line at <http://tfaspeakers.com/project/davey-muise/>. Mr. Aither expressed much gratitude to Josh Allen for his work in organizing and updating the school's web site, and working to improve communication by making the web-site more informative and user friendly.

8.3 CVCC Director

The CVCC Director's report dated August 22, 2016 was distributed. The report included information pertaining to opening day events, enrollment numbers, professional development planning, Adult Education programs, Open House (Wednesday, November 16, 2016 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.), RAB meetings, Enterprise Corporation meetings (Mr. Pandolfo will advise regarding the next meeting date), and Staffing (all positions are filled). Ms. Chamberlin provided an overview of the report and answered questions from the Board.

8.4 Committee Reports

Policy Committee – Minutes from the August 1, 2016 meeting were distributed. Mr. Isabelle provided a brief overview, including input from guest, Representative Topper McFaun.

The SHS Policy Committee meets on the first Monday of each month. Due to the holiday on September, 5, 2016, the next SHS Policy Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, **September 12, 2016**, at 5:30 p.m. at the Supervisory Union.

The next **SU Policy Committee Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, August 23, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. at the Supervisory Union.

Curriculum Committee – The Curriculum Committee meets on the second Monday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2016, at 3:00 p.m. in the Spaulding High School Library.

Finance Committee – Minutes from the July 27, 2016 meeting were distributed.

The Finance Committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The August meeting has been cancelled.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 28, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. at the Supervisory Union.

Facilities Committee –

The Facilities Committee normally meets on the third Tuesday of the month. The next meeting date has not been confirmed at this time.

8.5 Financials

Copies of the SHS and CVCC FY 16 Expenditure/Year-end Projection reports were distributed. SHS has a projected surplus of \$297,219. CVCC has a projected surplus of \$119,871.

8.6 Student Representatives

It was announced that Chloe Lamphere is the newly appointed Student Representative. Mrs. Perantoni advised that she would like to see consistent meeting attendance of student representatives.

9. Future Agenda Items

Board Members were advised to notify Mr. Pandolfo or Mrs. Perantoni regarding future agenda items.

Mr. Herring advised that policy ratification and rescindment will need to be included in upcoming agendas.

Update on Behavior Reporting – add to October or November Agenda.

10. Executive Session as Needed

10.1 Labor Relations Agreement

The item proposed for discussion in Executive Session was Labor Relations Agreements.

On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously agreed to find that premature general public knowledge of the item proposed for discussion would clearly place Spaulding High School at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public.

On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. Herring, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session, with Mr. Pandolfo attending, at 8:05 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the items proposed for discussion.

The remaining information was provided by Mr. Herring.

On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. LaCroix, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 8:12 p.m.

No action was taken.

11. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Rouse, seconded by Mr. Folland, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin