

**SPAULDING HIGH SCHOOL
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**
Spaulding High School – Library
July 21, 2015 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Carlotta Simonds-Perantoni - Chair
David LaCroix - Vice Chair
Joe Blakely - Clerk
Ed Rouse – arrived at 7:15 p.m.
Mark Tatro

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Veronica Foadelli-McCormick
Dotty Ricks

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Brenda Waterhouse, Principal
Donald McMahon, Special Services Director – departed at 7:07 p.m.

GUESTS PRESENT:

Bernie Lambek, Attorney for the District – departed at 7:07 p.m.

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mrs. Perantoni, called the Tuesday, July 21, 2015, meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. LaCroix, the Board unanimously voted to move Item 6.1 (Grievance Hearing) to Agenda Item 3 and shift the items accordingly.

Add E-Rate Award as Agenda Item 6.4

On a motion by Mr. Blakely, seconded by Mr. LaCroix, the Board unanimously voted to discuss the Grievance Hearing in Executive Session.

3. Visitors and Communication

3.1 Grievance Hearing

On a motion by Mr. Blakely, seconded by Mr. LaCroix, the Board unanimously agreed to find that premature general public knowledge of the items proposed for discussion would clearly place the City of Barre at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public and agreed to enter into Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the items proposed for discussion (grievance hearing).

Mr. Lambek, Mr. McMahon, Mr. Pandolfo, and Mrs. Waterhouse were invited to join Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. LaCroix, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 7:07 p.m. Mr. Lambek and Mr. McMahon departed the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Blakely, seconded by Mr. Tatro, the Board unanimously voted to deny the grievance.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – June 15, 2015 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Blakely, the Board unanimously voted to approve, as submitted, the Minutes of the June 15, 2015 Regular Meeting.

4.2 Approval of Minutes – June 29, 2015 Special Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Blakely, seconded by Mr. Tatro, the Board unanimously voted to approve, as submitted, the Minutes of the June 29, 2015 Special Meeting.

Mr. Rouse joined the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

5. Old Business

None.

6. New Business

6.1 Approval of Borrowing in Anticipation of Tax Revenue

Mr. Pandolfo distributed a document titled 'RAN BIDS – Revenue Anticipation Note Bid FY 16'. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview and requested approval to contract with Merchants Bank. Mr. Pandolfo responded to all Board queries.

On a motion by Mr. Rousse, seconded by Mr. Blakely, the Board unanimously voted to approve contracting with Merchants Bank for the Revenue Anticipation Note. The contract/agreement was circulated to Board Members for signatures.

6.2 Resignations and New Hires

Mr. Pandolfo advised that he was in receipt of a letter of resignation from Stefanie Cravedi (English Teacher). Brief discussion was held. The reason for resignation is retirement. **On a motion by Mr. Rousse, seconded by Mr. Blakely, the Board unanimously voted to accept the resignation of Stefanie Cravedi.**

Mr. Pandolfo distributed two resumes with Notification of Employment Status cover sheets. Brief discussion was held.

On a motion by Mr. Rousse, seconded by Mr. Blakely, the Board unanimously voted to approve hiring Seth Mikle as a first quarter Long Term Substitute for David Ball.

On a motion by Mr. Rousse, seconded by Mr. Tatro, the Board unanimously voted to approve hiring Brandi Dewey to fill the English Language position vacated by Sefanie Cravedi.

Mr. Pandolfo advised that Lynn Richards Pollack (previously approved for hire), has requested a release from her Letter of Intent.

On a motion by Mr. Blakely, seconded by Mr. Rousse, the Board unanimously voted to release Lynn Richards Pollack from her letter of intent.

Mrs. Waterhouse addressed the Board and provided a brief bio of Whitney Dubie, who is a candidate for a position as a Long Term Substitute. **On a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Rousse, the Board unanimously voted to authorize hiring Whitney Dubie as a first quarter Long Term Substitute for Katie Myer (English).**

6.3 Approval of Copier Contract

Mr. Pandolfo distributed a document titled 'SHS COPIER RFP Lease and Maintenance Recommendation' dated July 2015.

Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of his recommendation for copier lease and vendor at both Spaulding High School and Barre Technical Center. **On a motion by Mr. Blakely, seconded by Mr. LaCroix, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to enter into a three year agreement with Office Systems of Vermont for copier services at Spaulding High School and at the Barre Technical Center.**

Superintendent's recommendation to enter into a three year agreement with Office Systems of Vermont for copier services at Spaulding High School and at the Barre Technical Center.

6.4 E-Rate Award

Mr. Pandolfo distributed a document titled 'The FCC's E-Rate Modernization Order of 2015 will affect us in various ways'.

Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the funding programs which will allow discounts to upgrade the network infrastructure, with managed gigabit switches and managed wireless access points. The benefits include increased network capacity and increased monitoring and management of the network environment. The E-Rate Modernization Order will allow SHS to purchase \$60,462 worth of network equipment and services for \$16,929.36. The savings include the E-Rate Consultant fee of 10%. **On a motion by Mr. Rousse, seconded by Mr. Tatro, the Board unanimously voted to approve spending \$60,462 with the final cost to be \$16,929.36 for gigabit services at all access points and laptops.** Mr. Rousse is pleased that the school is capitalizing on these various programs. Mr. Pandolfo commended Diane Stacy for her efforts on this project.

7. Other Business

A copy of the Superintendent's report dated July 21, 2015 was distributed. The report included information pertaining to the Act 46 Consolidation Study Committee and the AOE response to Special Education and Transportation Waiver requests. Mr. Pandolfo provided an update of the Consolidation Committee discussion at the SU meeting and advised that representatives from Spaulding should include the Finance Committee Chair (currently a Barre Town representative), and a second individual to represent Barre City. Ads will be placed requesting that interested community members submit a letter of interest and qualifications by July 31, 2015. Additionally, Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the AOE response, advising that the waivers will be granted for one year, but that by July 1, 2016, Transportation and Special Education Costs must be paid through the SU. All Special Education staff must be BSU employees by that date. Mrs. Waterhouse advised that the consolidation of Special Education under the SU may be beneficial as it may allow for transitioning Special Educators with their students. Fact finding regarding cost effectiveness of multiple busing schemes vs a single busing scheme must be performed. A progress report detailing the steps being taken to assure compliance must be

submitted to the AOE by August 13, 2015. The required changes will have a large impact on budget development. It was noted that the SU budget is not currently voted on by the public.

8. Future Agenda Items

The next meeting will be held on August 17, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. This meeting will consist of a short meeting, with a Board Retreat to follow. Dinner will be provided. A member of the Vermont School Board Association will be invited to attend to discuss roles and legislative changes.

A Facilities Meeting date needs to be set.

Board members were advised to contact Mr. Pandolfo and Mrs. Perantoni with any additional items.

It was noted that beginning in September, the Board will plan to meet once a month, on the first Monday of each month. Agendas will be mailed early. This new schedule is subject to change.

It was reiterated that the Finance Committee will begin meeting on the third Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. (confirmed by a review of the June 15, 2015 Minutes)

9. Executive Session as Needed

9.1 Negotiations

9.2 Personnel

The item proposed for discussion in Executive Session is negotiations.

On a motion by Mr. Blakely, seconded by Mr. LaCroix, the Board unanimously agreed to find that premature general public knowledge of the item proposed for discussion would clearly place the City of Barre at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public and agreed to enter into Executive Session at 8:11p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the item proposed for discussion (negotiations) .

On a motion by Mr. Rouse, seconded by Mr. Tatro, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 8:20 p.m.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Rouse, seconded by Mr. Tatro, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin