

BARRE SUPERVISORY UNION #61 SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Spaulding High School - Library
February 21, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

J. Guy Isabelle (SHS) – Chair
Victoria Pompei (BT) – Clerk
Alice Farrell (BT)
Anthony Folland (SHS)
Paul Malone (SHS)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Giuliano Cecchinelli, II (BC) – Vice Chair
Jennifer Chioldi (BC)
Rebecca Kerin-Hutchins (BT)
Sonya Spaulding (BC)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent

GUESTS PRESENT:

Video Vision Tech

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Isabelle, called the Thursday, February 21, 2019, meeting to order at 6:10p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

None.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – January 17, 2019 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Pompei, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the January 17, 2019 Regular Meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 Resignations/Retires/New Hires

There were no resignations, retirements, or new hires for presentation to the Board.

5.2 First Reading Student Medication Policy (F6)

Copies of policies referenced in Agenda Items 5.2 through 5.7 were distributed. The Board agreed to discuss each policy individually, and hold one vote for the approval of all policies. Mr. Isabelle provided a brief overview of current practices for policy approval. The Board agreed to a minor typographical correction to policy F6. Discussion of each policy is noted under the policy's Agenda Item.

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Pompei, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Readings of the policies presented under Agenda Items 5.2 through 5.7;

Student Medication Policy (F6)

Eighteen Year-Old Students Policy (F18)

Student Assessment Policy (F22)

Student Self-Expression and Student Distribution of Literature Policy (F29)

Selecting Library Materials Policy (G4)

Selection of Instruction Materials and Sensitive Issues Policy (G5)

Second and Final Readings (policy adoption) will be on the March Agenda.

5.3 First Reading Eighteen Year-Old Students Policy (F18)

There were no questions or comments on this policy.

This First Reading of this policy was approved under Agenda Item 5.2.

5.4 First Reading Student Assessment Policy (F22)

There were no questions or comments on this policy.

This First Reading of this policy was approved under Agenda Item 5.2.

5.5 First Reading Student Self-Expression and Student Distribution of Literature Policy (F29)

There were no questions or comments on this policy.

This First Reading of this policy was approved under Agenda Item 5.2.

5.6 First Reading Selecting Library Materials Policy (G4)

Mr. Malone queried regarding the selection process for books and a broad spectrum of publications (weekly/monthly/quarterly) at each school and whether or not there is an in-depth process to assure a good balance of subject areas. Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview of how materials are selected as outlined in the policy. It was noted that if an individual had a complaint regarding the selection of materials, the individual should follow the regular chain of command regarding complaints.

This First Reading of this policy was approved under Agenda Item 5.2.

5.7 First Reading Selection of Instruction Materials and Sensitive Issues Policy (G5)

This First Reading of this policy was approved under Agenda Item 5.2.

5.8 Annual Report

A black and white draft copy of the Annual Report for 2018 – 2019 was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview of the document advising that the Communications Committee has been involved in drafting the document. The document will continue to be worked on. The final version will be printed well in advance of the May budget vote. Mr. Pandolfo asked that Board Members direct their comments/questions/corrections to himself or to Ben Merrill.

6. Old Business

6.1 Merger Update

A document titled 'Barre Unified Union School District – Moving Forward, Looking Back: A Timeline for School Governance – Dates / Elections / Meetings – A Guide'. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the timeline document, advising that the timeline is straightforward. The BSU website is being updated. The Articles of Agreement were amended by the 02/19/19 vote. Petitions for the 9 member BUUSD Board are due 03/11/19, which is the 5th Monday before the election. The standard that the City/Town Clerks have used is 6 Mondays prior to an election, so this is a change from when petitions have been due in the past. The Articles of Agreement state that petitions must be filed not fewer than 30, nor more than 40 days prior to the date of the vote. This timeframe makes it more difficult for Town Clerks for ballot preparation and absentee ballots. It may be worth considering changing the Articles of Agreement in a future vote. The Transitional Board has completed its charge to warn the meeting/vote for changes to the Articles of Agreement. The Transitional Board is responsible for handing a draft budget to the Initial Board, and is continuing to work on the budget draft. The 3rd charge of the Transitional Board was to warn the election of the Initial Board. The Transitional Board approved the Warning for the 04/09/19 Board Member election at their 02/18/19 meeting.

The Transitional Board has agreed to hold a meeting on 03/14/19. The main purpose of the meeting is an FY20 budget work session. The Transitional Board will need to make a recommendation to the Initial Board regarding what they feel should be presented to the tax payers. Hopefully a budget vote can be held on 05/14/19. It is hoped that the 04/11/19 Initial Meeting of the Initial Board will include approval of the FY20 budget and approval of a Warning for a budget vote. It was noted that the Transitional Board Meetings are open to the public and all, including district Board Members are welcome to attend.

6.2 Act 173

A document titled 'Act 173 – What is the Purpose of the law and how does it impact our schools?' was distributed. A presentation packet from the Vermont Agency of Education, titled 'Act 173 of 2018 Orientation' was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised that Act 173 will have a larger impact than Act 166 and Act 46. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the AOE presentation which included an overview of; the purpose of Act 173, historical information, reporting, changes and effective dates, items that will not change and other 'items of note'. The purpose of Act 173 is to enhance the effectiveness, availability, and equity of services provided to all students who require additional support in Vermont's schools. The law supports a broader group of students, including Tier 1 students. There will be important changes to the funding model, including raising the Extraordinary Cost Relief threshold from

\$50,000 to \$60,000. There will not be changes to the EEE (Essential Early Education) grant program. Much more information will be presented in the future. An important workshop will be held on 03/15/19.

7. Other Business as Needed

None.

8. Reports to the Board

8.1 Superintendent

A copy of the Superintendent's report dated February 21, 2019 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 a letter from VASBO (Vermont Association of School Business Officials) dated 02/12/19 was distributed. The 02/12/19 letter to the House and Senate Education Committees is an official request to modify the legislatively imposed implementation date for the SSDDMS system (Statewide School District Data Management System). Mr. Pandolfo had one verbal addition to his report; adding '8D' to the HR section - the BCBSVT system update issues have been resolved. The BSU is currently working with the Third Party Administrator to resolve/finalize any outstanding claims. It was noted that everyone (students/staff/administrators) have been affected by A.L.I.C.E. training. During February Break, Active Shooter Training will take place at BCEMS over the course of a couple of days. Mr. Pandolfo advised that it is time to start thinking about organizing the BUUSD Board, and assuring that they receive all the information they need. Mr. Pandolfo envisions the BUUSD Board receiving a 'Building Report' for each of the district buildings.

8.2 Committee Reports

8.2.1 BSU Policy Committee

The Committee met on February 18, 2018.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 18, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the BSU Upstairs Conference Room.

8.2.2 BSU Curriculum Committee

The January and February meetings were cancelled.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 25, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the SHS Library.

8.2.3 BSU Finance Committee

The Committee met this evening prior to the BSU Board Meeting and held extensive discussion regarding the draft budget. The expenditure budget is \$45,511,786, not including CVCC. The CVCC budget is roughly \$3,000,000. The draft budget will need to be further reviewed by the BUUSD Transitional Board, hopefully with input from the local boards and members of the BSU Finance Committee. It is not known if the BSU Finance Committee will need to meet again. Any future meeting dates will be announced.

8.2.4 BSU Facilities Committee

The next meeting is Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. Location is to be determined.

8.2.5 BSU Communications Committee

The Committee met on February 14, 2019. Minutes from the meeting were distributed. The meetings have been held on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Mr. Pandolfo may change the meeting day to be the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

The next meeting date is to be announced.

8.2.6 BSU Negotiations Committee

Minutes from the January 31, 2019 meeting were distributed.

Meetings are planned for 03/13/19 and 03/20/19 at 5:30 p.m. in the SHS Library.

8.3 Financials

The BSU FY19 Expenditures Report (dated 02/14/19) was distributed. More indepth information on the district schools will be available for the March 2019 Board meetings. Due to Special Education, year-end information for the BSU Board may take some additional time. The next meeting of the BSU Board is Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the SHS Library.

Agenda Items include:

Resignations/Retirements/New Hires

First Readings of Proposed Policies

Second and Final Policy Readings

Merger Update

Annual Report Draft (review of mock-up)

Administrative Contracts – In Executive Session

9. Executive Session as Needed

9.1 Superintendent's Evaluation

The Superintendent's Evaluation was proposed for discussion in Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Pompei, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the item proposed for discussion.

The remaining information was provided by the Board Clerk.

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Farrell, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 8:32 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Farrell, the Board unanimously voted to offer competitive compensation to the Superintendent.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Folland, seconded by Mrs. Farrell, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin