

BARRE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Barre City Elementary and Middle School – James Taffel Library
April 1, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sonya Spaulding – Chair
Giuliano Cecchinelli, II – Vice Chair
Sarah Pregent - Clerk
Andrew McMichael
Chris Riddell

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jennifer Chioldi
Michael Deering

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Hayden Coon, Principal
Chris Hennessey, Principal
Jamie Evans, Facilities Director

GUESTS PRESENT:

Video Vision Tech	Dave Delcore-Times Argus	Jen Bisson	Noah Cepeda	Tamara Cooley
Bella Craig	Paul Malone	Ben Matthews	Ava Morey	Quinn Premont

1. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

The Chair, Mrs. Spaulding, called the Monday, April 1, 2019, Regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was held at the Barre City Elementary and Middle School James Taffel Library. The flag salute followed.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Add 9.1 Student Matter under Executive Session.

3. Visitors and Communications

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – March 11, 2019 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mr. Riddell, the Board unanimously voted to approve as amended, the Minutes of the March 11, 2019 Regular Meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 Student Presentation

Coordinators of the Twin City Bull Cats After-School Program; Jen Bisson and Tamara Cooley were present at the meeting with four students who are participants in the After-School Program. The students are in grades 3 and 4. Ms. Bisson addressed the Board advising of the success of the new Program, and introduced student participants, who shared their experiences. Students advised that they are finding the program beneficial in helping getting their energy out and that they are learning and improving their skills in the areas of cooking, crafting (quilt making), and sports. Students find the new skills beneficial and advised that participating in the program has allowed them to be more active, interact with other students, and that participation in the program has lessened the amount of sedentary time they spend using tablets at home. Ms. Bisson distributed a copy of the flyer advertising the classes being offered in Session 2 (04/29/19 – 05/31/19). Students and program coordinators were thanked for presenting to the Board.

5.2 Resignations/Retirements/New Hires

A letter of resignation from Mary Tucker Hull was distributed.

Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding the letter of resignation submitted by long term employee Mary Hull. Mr. Coon advised that Mary Hull entered the school year knowing that it would be her last as a teacher at BCEMS, but has maintained her energy working with students, and is a top notch instructor who excels at supporting all of her students' needs.

On a motion by Mr. Cecchinelli, seconded by Mrs. Pregent, the Board unanimously voted to accept with regret, the resignation of Mary Hull. Ms. Hull's position has been posted. Technically, the BUUSD Board will be responsible for approving hires for the 2019/2020 year.

Mr. Pandolfo advised that the teachers' letters of intent were distributed last week and are due back on 04/15/19. An automatic two week extension is granted to any teacher who submits a written request for an extension. By the May meeting, there will be a good sense of who is returning and who is not coming back. Administrator contracts will be going out this week. Para-educators will receive letters of intent by 05/01/19. Non-contracted employees will receive letters between now and 05/01/19.

5.3 Roof Project Approval

A document containing the BCEMS Partial Roofing Replacement and Repair for the Summer of 2019 bid information was distributed. An architectural document for the project was also distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised that Dayco, Inc. had originally submitted a bid, but due to hiring issues had to decline the project. The Superintendent's recommendation is to award the contract to Evergreen Roofing at a cost of \$281,300. Mr. Evans provided an overview of what the project involves, advising that the current roof is problematic due to the fact that it is ballasted. The roof repair/replacement is covered by a twenty year warranty. The project will be funded by three sources; the Long Term Maintenance Fund (approximately \$150,000), available surplus funds, and funds budgeted for maintenance/construction in the 2019/2020 budget.

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mr. Cecchinelli, the Board unanimously voted to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to award the contract to Evergreen Roofing for partial roof repair/replacement.

6. Old Business

6.1 Merger Update

Mr. Pandolfo advised that the upcoming schedule is included in the Superintendent's Report. Mr. Pandolfo has drafted a Warning for the anticipated budget vote and hopes to have the Warning approved by the BUUSD Board at their initial meeting, which is scheduled for 04/11/19. On 03/14/19 the Transitional Board approved a draft budget and Transitional Board Members are slated to present the draft budget at the 04/11/19 BUUSD Board Meeting. Mr. Pandolfo provided an update on legislation (H39) which allows new boards (representing districts that were forced to merge) the option of delaying implementation until 07/01/20. Changes to the Bill need to be reconciled by the House and Senate and be approved by the Governor.

6.2 FY20 Budget Update

Mr. Pandolfo advised that the new end-of-year unaudited projection for BCEMS is a surplus of \$66,595. If the projection is accurate, BCEMS will have a projected fund balance of \$411,234 on 07/01/19. The fund balance projected for BTMES is \$375,284. The total projected fund balance moving into the merged district has changed from approximately \$828,000 to approximately \$928,000.

7. Board Reports

7.1 Superintendent

A copy of the Superintendent's report dated March 27, 2019 was distributed. The report included information pertaining to; the 2019-2020 School Calendar, a merger update, and negotiations. Mrs. Spaulding advised that she has seen only 1 posting promoting the upcoming vote (election of BUUSD Board Members) and queried regarding additional promotion of the vote. Mr. Pandolfo will have 'pop-ups' added to the BSU and District websites. Mrs. Spaulding will post information on Front Porch Forum. Mrs. Spaulding will send information to Tina Gilbert, who will see that the BSU and district schools' Facebook accounts are updated.

7.2 Principals Report

A copy of the Co-Principals' report dated April 1, 2019 was distributed. The report included information pertaining to; the Bull Cats After-School Club, the Lifetime Achievement Award (awarded to Joanne Campisi – primary grades school counselor), the Children's Literacy Foundation Grant, a performance by the SHS Band and Chorus, and Spring Assessments. Mr. Coon highlighted the Lifetime Achievement Award presented to Joanne Campisi. Ms. Campisi received the award in recognition of 30+ years of outstanding achievement. Ms. Campisi was nominated by her co-workers. Retired Principal James Taffel was present for the surprise ceremony for presentation of the award. Mr. Hennessey advised that the school's counselors are unsung heroes working hard to assist students with increasing needs. The award is a statewide recognition and it is a rare honor for this award to be presented. Administrators have been working with Communications Specialist Ben Merrill to create an e-newsletter that will include information from the Principals' Report to the Board, as well as photos and videos. The recognition of Ms. Campisi will be included in an upcoming addition of the e-newsletter. Mrs. Spaulding is very pleased that BCEMS received the Children's Literacy Foundation Grant. Mr. Coon advised that the grant was written by Lindy Johnson and will allow the school to receive \$25,000 worth of books, and includes visits by authors. Mr. Hennessey advised that 8th grade student Seth Almond placed 4th overall in the Statewide Spelling Bee. The Board requested that Mr. Hennessey convey their congratulations to Seth Almond.

7.3 Committee Reports

7.3.1 Facility/Security

The Committee met earlier this evening (04/01/19). Discussion included; the roofing project, completion of upgrades resulting from receipt of the State Safety Grant, summer projects, and floor replacement in 8 elementary school classrooms.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 6, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the BCEMS Conference Room

7.3.2 Finance

Minutes of the March 26, 2019 meeting were distributed. Mrs. Pregent advised that there is an unaudited projected surplus of just over \$66,000.

The next meeting is Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the BCEMS Conference Room. The meeting will involve the continued review of year-end projections.

7.3.3 Verbal Report of BSU Committees

Minutes from all BSU Committee meetings were previously sent to all Board Members.

BSU Curriculum Committee -

The Committee met on March 25, 2019. Discussion included; an Early Education Presentation, the Continuous Improvement Plan, an update on Professional Development, and results from the Homework Survey. If there is a need, Mrs. Spaulding would like to see the full day program (for students with intensive needs) expanded. Expansion might also allow for serving students from outside of the district.

Upcoming meetings are tentatively scheduled for:

04/22/19 – PE Update (FitnessGram) and Grant Usage Update. Mrs. Chioldi is unable attend this meeting. Mr. Rousse will facilitate the April meeting.

05/20/19 – Homework Related Matters

06/24/19 – Assessment Snapshot

BSU Policy Committee -

The Committee met on March 18, 2019. The Committee sent additional policies to the BSU Board for approval of First Readings. Second Readings/approval of these policies is slated for April. Approximately 61 policies will be presented to the BUUSD Board in May (for First Readings), and again in June (for approval of Second Readings and adoption), which will allow the policies to be in effect when the BUUSD becomes operational on 07/01/19. The Committee has also identified a list of items for the BUUSD Board to review, including the need to set up a schedule for the ongoing review of policies.

If another meeting of the BSU Policy Committee is required, it is tentatively scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2019.

BSU Finance Committee -

The Committee last met on February 21, 2019. Discussion centered on the FY20 Budget Draft.

If the Committee needs to meet again, a meeting date will be announced.

BSU Facilities Committee -

The BSU Facilities Committee will not meet in April. If a May meeting is necessary, it will be announced.

BSU Communications Committee -

The Committee met on March 20, 2019 and reviewed the ‘thank you’ flyer, reviewed a communications timeline, and discussed how to engage with different groups in the community, targeting different groups in the community, the Education Coalition, and the Communications Committee’s role moving forward under the BUUSD.

BSU Negotiations Committee -

The Committee met on 03/19/19. A negotiation session was held on 03/27/19. Additional negotiation sessions are scheduled for 04/02/19 and 04/23/19.

7.4 Financial Report

Four reports were distributed; BCEMS FY19 Expenditures/Year-end Projection Report (dated 03/26/19), the BCEMS General Fund Expenditure Report (dated 03/21/19), the BCEMS General Fund Revenue Summary Report (dated 03/21/19), and the BSU Expenditures – FY19 Report (dated 03/21/19). There is an unaudited projected surplus of \$66,595. It was noted that BCEMS was able to reduce substitute costs this year. There continues to be an overall shortage of substitute teachers.

8. Round Table/Future Agenda Items

The next meeting will be Monday, May 6, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Agenda Items include:

Resignations/Retirements/New Hires

Summer Project Update (this item may be included in the Superintendent's Report)

Merger Update

Mrs. Spaulding believes the new After-School program is absolutely wonderful, and is pleased that learning is being expanded to after school hours.

Mr. McMichael advised that the Unified Sports Competition was very successful. Program coordinators Brian Burgess and Cindy Thompson were commended for their efforts with this program.

Mr. Pandolfo advised that the administrative team would like to re-institute participation in the Penguin Plunge, and would like to have district-wide participation. Additionally, Mr. Pandolfo advised that various departments within the Central Office are very busy making changes in preparation for the newly merged BUUSD district that becomes operational on 07/01/19. Mr. Pandolfo advised that the BUUSD will be U97.

9. Executive Session

9.1 Student Matter

A Student Matter was proposed for discussion in Executive Session.

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mr. McMichael, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session, with Mr. Pandolfo, Mr. Coon, and Mr. Hennessey in attendance, at 6:55 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 Mr. Riddell, seconded by Mr. McMichael, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 7:07 p.m.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. McMichael, seconded by Mr. Cecchinelli, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin