

DRAFT

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Barre Town Middle and Elementary School – Library
June 5, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Alice Farrell - Chair
Jay Paterson – Vice Chair – via phone
Chris Hull

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Rebecca Kerin-Hutchins – Clerk
Victoria Pompei

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Scott Griggs, Principal
Jennifer W. Nye, Principal

GUESTS PRESENT:

Video Vision Tech

1. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

The Chair, Mrs. Farrell, called the Wednesday, June 5, 2019, Regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was held at the Barre Town Middle and Elementary School Library. The flag salute followed. Mrs. Farrell and Mr. Hull were present at the BTMES Library. Mr. Paterson was conferenced in and participated by phone. As Mr. Paterson is participating via phone, a roll call vote will be taken for all actionable items.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Add 10.1 Negotiations Update (in Executive Session).
Add 10.2 Employee Matter (in Executive Session),

3. Visitors and Communications

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1. Approval of Minutes – May 1, 2019 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Hull, seconded by Mr. Paterson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the May 1, 2019 Regular Meeting and to approve, as amended, the Minutes of the May 9, 2019 Emergency Board Meeting.

Mr. Hull voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Farrell voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Paterson voted in favor of the motion.

4.2. Approval of Minutes – May 9, 2019 Emergency Board Meeting

Approved under Agenda Item 4.1.

5. New Business

5.1 Resignations/Retires/New Hires

The resumes and BSU Notification of Employment Status Forms for Marisa Thomas, Neil Kelly, John C. “Chris” Cunningham, Rhonda Forlow, and Ethan Cody were distributed. A document titled ‘FY20 – Staff Leaving/Replacements (BUUSD Board)’ – dated 06/04/19, was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the summary document, noting that several vacated positions are being filled by ‘in-house’ personnel who have opted to transfer into different positions.

Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the various candidates’ education and experience. Mr. Griggs advised that Marisa Thomas will be filling a newly created 5th grade position. This position has been created because of the student population.

On a motion by Mr. Hull, seconded by Mr. Paterson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the hiring of the slate of candidates presented; Marisa Thomas, Neil Kelly, John C. “Chris” Cunningham, Rhonda Forlow, and Ethan Cody.

Mr. Hull voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Farrell voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Paterson voted in favor of the motion.

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Letters of resignation from Karen Heath and Janet Allen were distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview of the resignations, noting that the resignations will be presented to the BSU Board for approval. No action is necessary, though the Board may opt to vote.

On a motion by Mr. Hull, seconded by Mr. Paterson, the Board unanimously voted to accept the slate of resignations; Karen Heath and Janet Allen.

Mr. Hull voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Farrell voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Paterson voted in favor of the motion.

5.2 End of Year Projection

The BTMES FY19 Expenditures/Year-end Projection Report (dated 06/05/19) was distributed. There is an unaudited projected deficit of \$179,110.01. It was noted that the deficit includes approximately \$130,000 in repairs (boiler refabricating, roof work, and replacement of an air conditioning unit).

6. Old Business

6.1 Merger Update

Mr. Pandolfo advised that the budget vote passed. At the state level, various districts are continuing with their mergers in preparation of the 07/01/19 deadline. The Legislature did not pass any bills relating to delays in mergers/consolidation. The BSU is in good shape for the merger which is effective 07/01/19. The Business Office and Information Technology Department have been very busy working to assure a smooth transition. Board Members e-mail addresses will be changing on 07/01/19. The BSU and BUUSD Boards meet next Thursday (06/13/19). The BUUSD Board meeting will include approval of new hires, policies, and Intra-District Transfers. In response to a query from Mr. Paterson, Mr. Pandolfo advised that other than any new legal action (for matters that occurred prior to 07/01/19, work of the existing Board is limited to approval of the FY19 Audit. Mr. Pandolfo plans to warn one meeting and have all FY19 Audits approved at once. Mr. Pandolfo is hoping that the FY19 Audits can be ready for presentation in December. The Audit presentation meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2019. Additionally, Mr. Pandolfo advised that the BSU is obtaining a legal opinion regarding stipend payments to Board Members.

6.2 Summer Project Update

Mr. Pandolfo advised that the BTMES canopy project will be discussed at next Tuesday's BUUSD Facilities Committee Meeting. Mr. Evans is working to gather additional information on the canopy project because the test cuts of the sidewalk indicate that the sub-layers won't support the columns. It may be less expensive to remove the canopy. The engineers will provide an estimate for removal of the canopy, and then an RFP will be sent out. All are welcome to attend the Facilities Committee Meeting where the canopy project will be discussed in detail. The Facilities Committee Meeting will also include a presentation from the Friends of the Winooski (Storm Water Run-off/Retention Project), and a tour of BTMES.

7. Board Reports

7.1. Superintendent's Verbal Report

Mr. Pandolfo is hoping that new legislation does not result in a lot of changes for the BUUSD. Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview of proposed "Equity Legislation" (embedding equity into all aspects of education). The lead testing bill was finalized, limiting lead to 4 parts per billion (which is lower than the amount allowed for bottled water). BCEMS was a pilot test school. BTMES and SHS were chosen to be tested 'first and fast'. Letters regarding testing were mailed to students' families. The audit of the taps has been completed. SHS drew samples last week. BTMES samples will be taken over the upcoming weekend. The state provides the test vials. The State doesn't currently have a plan regarding remediation for issues that are 'deep' (in the system). Testing results will be provided in written form.

7.2 Principals Report

The BTMES Administrative Report for June 5, 2019 was distributed. The report included information pertaining to; A.L.I.C.E. drills, Community Service Learning Projects, Dynamic Landscapes – Vita Learn Conference, Eighth Grade Graduation (06/20/19 at 6:00 p.m.), the Enrollment Report (a copy was distributed), Field Trips, the Summer Garden Library Series, Summer School, the transition to a new food service provider (Aladdin), and Upcoming Events. Mrs. Nye highlighted the middle and elementary schools' latest A.L.I.C.E. evacuation drills. The schools ran separate evacuations. The middle school evacuation took approximately 6 minutes. The elementary school evacuation took a little under 11 minutes. Student counts remain steady. Mr. Griggs highlighted the 8th grade graduation that will take place on 06/20/19 at 6:00 p.m. Weather permitting, the event will be held in the BTMES courtyard. If graduation cannot be held outside, it will be held in the SHS gymnasium. Public Agenda, with Communications Specialist Ben Merrill, met with students last week. The meeting went well, with the main purpose of hearing 'student voice' regarding the merger, and moving forward. Public Agenda will be writing a summary of the meeting. BTMES will be very busy this summer, hosting summer school and being a summer meal site. The new food service provider will also be setting up over the summer. It was noted that the After-School Program was very successful. Special thanks go out to After-School Program Coordinators Jennifer Bisson and Tamara Cooley.

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7.3 Committee Reports

7.3.1 Verbal Report of BSU Committees –

BSU Curriculum Committee

The Committee met on May 20, 2019.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 24, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. The location is to be announced.

BSU Policy Committee -

The Committee met on May 20, 2019.

The first meeting of the BUUSD Policy Committee will be scheduled in August 2019.

BSU Finance Committee -

The BUUSD Finance Committee met on June 4, 2019.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at the BUUSD Central Office.

BUUSD Facilities Committee -

The Committee met on May 14, 2019. The next meeting is Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the BTMES Library.

BSU Communications Committee -

The June meeting has been cancelled.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, July 18, 2019. Mr. Pandolfo queried the Board regarding interest in serving on the Committee and advised that members of the community are also encouraged to join the Committee.

BSU Negotiations Committee –

An update will be provided in Executive Session.

7.4 Financials

Three reports were distributed; BTMES General Fund Expenditures Report, the BSU Expenditures FY19 Report, and the BTMES General Fund Revenue Report (all reports are dated 05/28/19). There were no questions from the Board.

8. Other Business

8.1 Board Recognition

Mrs. Farrell advised that the BUUSD Board has sent Certificates of Appreciation for all BTMES Board Members. Mrs. Farrell read one of the Certificates and advised of her appreciation of the Board's efforts. Mr. Pandolfo expressed his appreciation to the Board for all of their work over the years, and noted that their work involved a variety of capacities, as well as many challenges. Mrs. Nye and Mr. Griggs also expressed their thanks to the Board for the support they have provided. Mr. Pandolfo thanked Mr. Griggs for his service as Middle School Principal.

9. Future Agenda Items and Upcoming Committee Meetings

No discussion.

10. Executive Session

10.1 Negotiations Update

10.2 Employee Matter

Items proposed for discussion in Executive Session include a Negotiations Update and an Employee Matter.

On a motion by Mr. Paterson, seconded by Mr. Hull, the Board unanimously agreed to find that premature general public knowledge of the item (Negotiations Update) proposed for discussion would clearly place Barre Town Middle and Elementary School at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public.

Mr. Hull voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Farrell voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Paterson voted in favor of the motion.

On a motion by Mr. Hull, seconded by Mr. Paterson, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session, with Mr. Pandolfo in attendance, at 6:50 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the items proposed for discussion.

Mr. Hull voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Farrell voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Paterson voted in favor of the motion.

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The remaining information was provided by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Mr. Hull, seconded by Mr. Paterson, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. Mr. Hull voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Farrell voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Paterson voted in favor of the motion.

11. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Paterson, seconded by Mr. Hull, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:26 p.m. Mr. Hull voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Farrell voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Paterson voted in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin