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BARRE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Barre City Elementary and Middle School – James Taffel Library
June 10, 2019 - 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Michael Deering

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Hayden Coon, Principal
Chris Hennessey, Principal

GUESTS PRESENT:

Video Vision Tech	Dave Delcore-Times Argus	Liza Barrette	Moses Benoit	Kadence Campbell
Gabby Cota	Clara Fordham-Stephens	Kayce Lagerstedt	Ian MacDonald	Caitlin Peacock
Missy Wiggins				

1. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

The Chair, Mrs. Spaulding, called the Monday, June 10, 2019, Regular meeting to order at 5:32 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 Negotiations Update
Add 9.2 Employee Issue

3. Visitors and Communications

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – May 6, 2019 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mrs. Chioldi, seconded by Mr. Riddell, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the May 6, 2019 Regular Meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 Student Presentation

Mr. Hennessey welcomed Missy Wiggins and students from the Time for Teens Explore Block. The Time for Teens Explore Block, led by Ms. Wiggins, allowed for a student organized after-school program funded by Title I grant monies. Students provided an overview of some of the activities they organized, including game nights, sports events, and movie nights. Students on the team held a vote to allow BCEMS students to choose the activities that would be held. Students felt that allowing students to choose the activities would increase participation. Eighteen to thirty students attended each of the activities. Students feel this program helps teens avoid bad situations and allows for the formation of new friendships. Students thanked Ms. Wiggins and Mrs. Tolman for their assistance, and advised that this program pushed them outside of their comfort zones, and allowed them to improve their organizational, interpersonal, and team building skills. Students' goals include continuation of the program, expansion of the program, a larger budget, increased participation and holding the program on a daily basis. Long term, the students would like the program to have its own 'space'. For the 2019/2020 academic year, students would like to plan more frequent events, have a larger variety of options each night, increase participation, and open the program to non-BCEMS students, e.g. students from BTMES, Washington, and

DRAFT

Orange (the Central Vermont area). Students answered questions from the Board. The Board and administrators thanked the students and Ms. Wiggins for their efforts and for presenting at this evening's meeting.

5.2 Resignations/Retirements/New Hires

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. Christine Farnham, Karen Fredericks, and Lorraine Morris are moving to coaching positions. In response to a query regarding the impact the merger has had on inter-district employee transfers, Mr. Pandolfo advised that thus far inter-district employee transfers have been minimal (2 or 3).

The resumes and BSU Notification of Employment Status Forms for Wendy Wegner (School Nurse), Charlotte Baribault (Kindergarten), Heather Foley (First Grade), Hannah Bedell (School Counselor), Emma Lamson (Kindergarten), and Mikayla LeBlanc (Third/Fourth loop), were distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised of two additional candidates that will most likely be approved for hire in the near future; Allison Scavotto (7 – 8 English teacher) and Michelle Lynch (grade 3-4 teacher).

Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the candidates' education and experience. These candidates will be presented to the BUUSD Board for approval. The BCEMS Board does not need to take action.

Letters of resignation from Amanda Babcock, Gillian Fuqua, Brandy Kolling, and Karen Heath were distributed.

Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding the various resignations, advised regarding the status of the hiring for the positions, and asked that the Board approve the letters of resignation.

On a motion by Mrs. Chioldi, seconded by Mrs. Pregent, the Board unanimously voted to accept the resignations of Amanda Babcock, Gillian Fuqua, Brandy Kolling, and Karen Heath.

5.3 End of Year Projection

The BCEMS FY19 Expenditures/Year-end Projection Report (dated 06/10/19) was distributed. There is an unaudited anticipated surplus of \$23,025. It was noted that finances have remained stable and that the Finance Committee has not needed to meet. Brief discussion was held regarding line #29 (Interventionists) - one budgeted position was not filled.

6. Old Business

6.1 Merger Update

Mr. Pandolfo advised that the BSU continues to move forward with the merger. The FY20 budget was passed by the voters. There is a BUUSD Board meeting this week. The meeting should include approval of policies and approval of new hires. Much work is being performed behind the scenes by the Business Office and the Technology Department. Statewide there is no delay in implementation of forced mergers. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of some of the mergers for districts around the state. Student forums were held for BCEMS and BTMES middle school students and for Spaulding High School Students. These forums allowed students to voice their opinions regarding the impending merger. The forums included individuals from Public Forum and Communications Specialist Ben Merrill. Mr. Merrill will produce a report. Students were interested in hearing others' opinions and in sharing their ideas. It was reported that students were very articulate and engaged.

6.2 Summer Project Update

Maintenance personnel are scheduled to move forward with small projects and routine maintenance. The BUUSD Facilities Committee meets Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the BTMES Library.

7. Board Reports

7.1 Superintendent

Mr. Pandolfo advised that he received a memorandum that the Annual Snapshot information is out, but is embargoed until 06/30/19.

7.2 Principals Report

A copy of the Co-Principals' report dated 06/03/19 was distributed. The report included information pertaining to; the ongoing hiring process, the BCEMS Marching Band participation in the Memorial Day Parade, recognition of Melinda Schmalz for being awarded the Golden Apple Award by VCSEA (the Vermont Council of Special Education Administrators), Professional Development, and the 8th Grade Graduation (Thursday, June 20, 2019 at the Barre Auditorium). Mr. Hennessey advised on the importance of transparency, and advised that faculty and staff are working well with Trauma Informed Schools, and continue working hard to assist BCEMS's most vulnerable students. Developmental Designs will be implemented across the school (it is currently utilized in the middle school and will be added to the elementary school).

DRAFT

7.3 Committee Reports

7.3.1 BUUSD Facilities Committee

Minutes of the May 14, 2019 meeting were distributed. Discussion included summer projects and lead testing. The Committee had an abbreviated tour of the boiler room. It was noted that short notice was given for lead testing at BTMES and SHS and that there is no known funding for remediation expenses that may be incurred as a result of lead testing. As the BTMES and SHS buildings are older, there may be some 'deep' items identified. Test samples were taken at SHS two weekends ago. BTMES test samples were taken this past weekend. Mr. McMichael plans to join the BUUSD Facilities Committee.

The next meeting is Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the BTMES Library.

7.3.2 BUUSD Finance Committee

Mrs. Spaulding advised that the last meeting included discussion of a draft calendar of annual agenda items, final payments to board members, travel, credit card and course reimbursement procedures (3 procedures are discussed at each meeting), the RAN (Revenue Anticipation Note), FY19 year-end projections, and representation of/by administrators at future meetings – this item requires further discussion. Mrs. Pregent may join the BUUSD Finance Committee.

7.3.3 Verbal Report of BSU Committees

Curriculum Committee

The Committee met on May 20, 2019. Discussion included research results from the Homework Committee, the Continuous Improvement Plan, the Consolidated Federal Grant Program, SHS Library renovations, and the benefits of hiring a grant writer. Mrs. Chioldi may join the BUUSD Curriculum Committee.

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. Discussion included intra-district transfers (for students), and Board operation policies (including extensive discussion on school visits by Board Members).

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

BSU Communications Committee -

The June meeting has been cancelled.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, July 18, 2019.

BSU Negotiations Committee -

Tentative agreements have been made with teachers and para-educators. All are glad that an agreement has been reached. Teachers ratified their agreement 2 weeks ago. Additional information will be provided in Executive Session.

7.4 Financial Report

Three reports were distributed; the BCEMS General Fund Revenue Summary Report, the BCEMS General Fund Expense Summary Report, and the BSU Expenditures FY19 Report. All reports are dated 06/03/19. Board Members were advised to e-mail their questions to Mrs. Spaulding, who will respond with detailed information.

8. Round Table/Other Business

8.1 Board Recognition

It was noted that after this evening's meeting, there should be no reason for the Board to meet, other than one additional meeting to approve the FY19 Audit. Mr. Pandolfo hopes to hold one meeting (the second Thursday in either December 2019 or January 2020), with all existing Boards' Board Members present, so that the audits for each district (and the BSU) can be presented and approved at one time. Board Members were advised to notify Mr. Pandolfo regarding their private e-mail addresses so that he can contact them regarding the audit approval meeting. Existing BSU e-mail addresses will not be valid after 07/01/19. Mr. Pandolfo will research what steps need to be taken if a Board's quorum is not present at the audit approval meeting.

The Superintendent and administrators expressed their appreciation to Board Members, advising that the Board has been supportive, very engaged, pays close attention to details, and always have students' best interest in mind.

Mr. McMichael advised that another Unified Sports event occurred and lauded Dawn Poitras and Bryan Burgess for their successful organization of Unified Sports events. Additionally, Mr. McMichael expressed his appreciation for his prior appointments to the Board.

DRAFT

Mr. Riddell appreciates the work of administrators and the Board, and thanked them for welcoming him and assisting him with learning Board business.

Mrs. Chioldi thanked the Superintendent, administrators, and other Board Members, advising that her tenure on the Board has been a great learning experience, and she has enjoyed her time spent on the Board. Mrs. Chioldi thanked Mrs. Poulin for her work as Board recorder.

Mrs. Pregent advised that it has been an honor to serve on the BCEMS Board, and is feeling a sadness as their business comes to a close.

Mrs. Spaulding thanked everyone for their involvement, and advised that her tenure on the Board has been a 'long, wild ride', that she has always enjoyed.

Mr. Pandolfo recognized Mrs. Spaulding for her role as Board Chair and thanked her for her attention to detail.

Mr. Pandolfo advised that BCEMS Board Members, who are not on the BUUSD Board, may take their granite name placard at the end of the meeting.

9. Executive Session

9.1 Negotiations Update (Labor Relations Agreement)

9.2 Employee Issue

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

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mrs. Chioldi, the Board unanimously agreed to find that premature general public knowledge of the item "Negotiations Update – Labor Relations Agreement" proposed for discussion would clearly place Barre City Elementary and Middle School at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public.

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mr. Riddell, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session, with Mr. Pandolfo in attendance, at 6:46 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 Mrs. Chioldi, seconded by Mr. McMichael, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 7:24 p.m.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Chioldi, seconded by Mr. Riddell, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin