

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING**

Barre City Elementary and Middle School – James Taffel Library  
June 13, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Paul Malone (BT) - Chair  
Sonya Spaulding (BC) – Vice-Chair  
Victoria Pompei (BT) – Clerk  
Gina Akley (BT)  
Tim Boltin (BC)  
Giuliano Cecchinelli (BC)  
Rebecca Kerin-Hutchins (BT)  
Chris Riddell (BC)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Guy Isabelle (At-Large)

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:**

John Pandolfo, Superintendent

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Video Vision Tech  
Dave Delcore – Times Argus  
Sophia Boltin  
Stacie Boltin

**1. Call to Order**

**The Chair, Mr. Malone, called the Thursday, June 13, 2019, Regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was held at the Barre City Elementary and Middle School in the James Taffel Library.**

**2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda**

Add Agenda Item 7.6 - Executive Session – Student Matter

**3. Executive Session**

**3.1 Curriculum Director Interview**

An Employee Matter (Curriculum Director Interview) was proposed for discussion in Executive Session.

**On a motion by Mr. Boltin, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session, with Mr. Pandolfo (Superintendent), Mrs. Marold (HR Coordinator), and the finalist candidate for the position of Curriculum Director in attendance, at 6:03 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the item proposed for discussion.**

**On a motion by Mr. Cecchinelli, seconded by Mr. Boltin, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 7:00 p.m.**

**On a motion by Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins, seconded by Mrs. Pompei, the Board unanimously voted to hire Jessica Barewicz as Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.**

**4. Public Comment**

A copy of a prepared statement by Sophia Boltin was distributed. Ms. Boltin addressed the Board and read her prepared statement to the Board. Ms. Boltin is addressing the Board to voice a complaint that she believes several reported issues have not been adequately addressed by staff at BCEMS. Ms. Boltin is requesting a formal investigation by Members of the Board regarding staff who she believes failed to follow policy, and she would like the Board to take appropriate disciplinary action against those who failed to implement school policy. Board Member Tim Boltin was asked to recuse himself from the discussion and agreed to sit as a member of the audience during the Board's discussion of the complaint from Sophia Boltin. Board Members posed questions to Ms. Boltin regarding the experience(s) she reported. Ms. Boltin answered questions from the Board. The Board thanked Ms. Boltin for coming to report her issues, and acknowledged her courage in bringing these issues to the Board's attention.

Stacie Boltin distributed a packet containing a historical accounting of correspondence sent/received relating to issues experienced by Sophia Boltin, as reported by her and Tim Boltin. Mrs. Boltin advised the Board regarding her parental perspective regarding the issues her daughter has been experiencing.

## **5. Approval of Minutes**

### **5.1 Approval of Minutes – May 23, 2019 BUUSD Regular Meeting**

**On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Boltin, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the May 23, 2019 BUUSD Regular Meeting.**

## **6. Current Business**

### **6.1 Resignations/Retires/New Hires**

The resumes and BSU Notification of Employment Status Forms for Mikayla LeBlanc (BCEMS SPED), Katherine Whitcomb (SHS English Teacher), Kevin Haley (SHS SPED), Carl Matteson (CVCC Emergency Services Program Instructor), Bonnie McIntosh (BTMES SPED/SLP), Michelle Lynch (BCEMS Grade 3 – 4), Samantha Alexander (SHS SPED), Allison Scavotto (BCEMS 7 – 8 English teacher), Michael Martin (BCEMS Technology Integrationist), William (Bill) Meehan (BTMES SPED), Julia (Julie) Donahue (BTMES Assistant Principal) Natalie Soffen (SHS Athletic Director), and Jason Derner (SHS Alternative Education Administrator) were distributed. A document titled ‘FY20 – Staff Leaving/Replacements (BUUSD Board)’ was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview of the summary document, advising regarding positions that need to be filled. It is anticipated that filling school psychologist positions is challenging. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the candidates’ names and the positions they are slated to fill. Mr. Pandolfo will research regarding whether or not parental permission is required for students to receive psychological services. Mr. Pandolfo answered questions from the Board, advising that the Athletic Director’s position is a 261 day per year position. The Assistant Principal’s position works 210 days per year. Extensive discussion was held regarding the technology integrationist position that was cut from the BTMES FY20 budget. Both BCEMS and SHS have technology integrationists. Mr. Pandolfo feels the position is very important and wants to see the position added for BTMES in the FY21 budget. During discussion of the technology integrationist position, it was reiterated that it was understood when the position was cut from the BTMES budget, that the BCEMS technology integrationist would continue to work full time at BCEMS and would not be shared with BTMES. Discussion included consideration of hiring someone to fill this position at BTMES, given that the School Resource Officer position at BTMES cannot be filled in FY20 (due to the Barre Town Police Department being down two officers). It was noted that the salary budgeted for the School Resource Officer position will not cover the cost of a technology integrationist. The cost of the SRO is shared with the Town of Barre. Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins advised that when BTMES administrators were making budget reductions, administrators advised that a technology integrationist was on the lowest part of their priority list. Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins would like to see the list reprioritized prior to any decisions being made. Mr. Pandolfo cautioned the Board that should they decide to add an unbudgeted position, they need to be mindful of that if the BUUSD experiences a deficit in FY20. After lengthy discussion, the Board agreed to have Mr. Pandolfo reach out to BTMES administrators regarding their opinion on hiring a technology integrationist for FY20.

**On a motion by Mr. Boltin, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to approve the hiring of the slate of candidates presented; Mikayla LeBlanc, Katherine Whitcomb, Kevin Haley, Carl Matteson, Bonnie McIntosh, Michelle Lynch, Samantha Alexander, Allison Scavotto, Michael Martin, William (Bill) Meehan, Julia (Julie) Donahue, Natalie Soffen, and Jason Derner.**

### **6.2 Approval of FY20 Revenue Anticipation Note**

A document titled ‘FY20 Revenue Anticipation Note Comparison 5/24/19’ was distributed. Mrs. Spaulding, Mr. Pandolfo, and Mr. Malone each provided information relating to how Revenue Anticipation Notes work to assist the district with ‘cash flow’. It is the Superintendent’s recommendation to utilize Community Bank for the Revenue Anticipation Note.

**On a motion by Mr. Boltin, seconded by Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins, the Board unanimously voted to contract with Community Bank for the FY20 Revenue Anticipation Note.**

### **6.3 Ratification of Master Teacher Agreement**

Mr. Pandolfo provided highlights of the Agreements that were tentatively reached at the 05/21/19 negotiation session. Teachers agreed to 3.1% in new money and an increase in the ‘cash in lieu of health insurance’ (from \$500 to \$1000). The para-educator hourly rate increase is \$1.25. The probationary period will increase from 45 days to 90 days. Workplace safety items were also included. Newly hired para-educators’ pay will vary based on education and experience (\$13.50 - \$14.95). The Agreements are one year Agreements that expire on 06/30/2020. The Unions ratified the Agreements on 05/29/19.

**On a motion by Mr. Cecchinelli, seconded by Mr. Riddell, the Board unanimously voted to ratify the Master Teacher Agreement.**

#### **6.4 Ratification of Master Para Agreement**

**On a motion by Mr. Cecchinelli, seconded by Mr. Boltin, the Board unanimously voted to ratify the Master Para-educator Agreement.**

#### **7. Other Business**

##### **7.1 Second Reading of 58 Policies Previously Adopted by the Barre Supervisory Union**

Mr. Pandolfo answered questions from the Board.

**On a motion by Mrs. Pompei, seconded by Mr. Cecchinelli, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Second and Final Readings of the 58 policies whose First Readings were previously approved by the BUUSD Board, and agreed to adopt said policies;**

**A1 – Board Member Conflict of Interest Policy**

**A22 – Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy**

**B1 – Substitute Teachers Policy**

**B2 – Volunteers and Work Study Students Policy**

**B3 – Alcohol & Drug Free Work Place Policy**

**B4 – Drug & Alcohol Testing: Transportation Employees Policy**

**B5 – Prevention of Employee Harassment Policy**

**B6 – HIPPA Compliance Policy**

**B7 – Tobacco Prohibition Policy**

**B21 – Professional Development Policy**

**C1 – Education Records Policy**

**C2 – Student Drugs & Alcohol Policy**

**C3 – Transportation Policy**

**C4 – Limited English Proficiency Students Policy**

**C5 – Firearms Policy**

**C6 – Participation of Home Study Students Policy**

**C7 – Student Attendance Policy**

**C8 – Pupil Privacy Rights Policy**

**C9 – Nutrition and Wellness Policy**

**C10 – Bullying of Students Policy**

**C10-P – Model Procedures on the Prevention of Hazing, Harassment and Bully of Students**

**C11 – Student Freedom of Expression in School-Sponsored Media Policy**

**C20 – Student Conduct and Discipline Policy**

**C21 – Searches, Seizures, and Interrogation of Students by School Personnel Policy**

**C23 – Student Clubs and Activities Policy**

**C24 – Interscholastic Sports Policy**

**C25 – Admission of Non-Resident Tuition Students Policy**

**C27 – Student Self-Expression and Student Distribution of Literature Policy**

**C30 – Student Medication Policy**

**C31 – Admission of Resident Students Policy**

**C32 – Eighteen Year-old Students Policy**

**C33 – Student Assessment Policy**

**C34 – Restraint and Seclusion Policy**

**C40 – Entrance Age for Admission to Kindergarten Policy**

**C42 – Searches, Seizures, and Interrogation of Student by Law Enforcement or Other Non-School Personnel Policy**

**C43 – STI and Pregnancy Prevention Policy**

**D1 – Proficiency Based Learning Policy**

**D2 – Grade Advancement, Retention, Promotion, and Acceleration of Students Policy**

**D3 – Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources & the Internet Policy**

**D4 – Title I Comparability Policy**

**D5 – Animal Dissection Policy**

**D6 – Class Size Policy**

**D20 – Curriculum Development and Coordination Policy**

**D21 – Educational Support System Policy**

**D30 – Field Trips Policy**

**D31 – Selecting Library Materials Policy**

**D32 – Selection of Instructional Materials and Sensitive Issues Policy**

**D40 – Special Education Policy**

**E1 – Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Policy**

- E20 – Community Use of School Facilities Policy**
- E30 – School-Community Relations Policy**
- F1 – Travel Reimbursement Policy**
- F20 – Fiscal Management & General Financial Accountability Policy**
- F23 – Capitalization of Assets Policy**
- F24 – Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Procurement Policy**
- F30 – Budgeting Policy**
- F33 – HIV Policy**
- F40 – Scholarship Awards Policy**
- F41 – Video Surveillance Policy**

#### **7.2 Second Reading Role and Adoption of School Board Policies (A30)**

A copy of the policy was distributed.

**On a motion by Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins, seconded by Mrs. Pompei, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Second and Final Reading of the Role and Adoption of School Board Policies Policy (A30), and agreed to adopt said policy.**

#### **7.3 Second Reading Intra-District School Transfer (C41)**

A copy of the policy was distributed. A copy of the procedures was also distributed. Mr. Pandolfo answered questions from the Board. After brief discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Pandolfo would make one minor change to the procedures document.

**On a motion by Mrs. Pompei, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Second and Final Reading of the Intra-District School Transfer Policy (C41), and agreed to adopt said policy.**

#### **7.4 Board Development**

A document listing possible topics for discussion was distributed. Mr. Malone requested that Board Members review/add to/condense the list to assist with determining the final agenda for the retreat. Mrs. Spaulding suggested that some of the topics could be discussed and decided upon in a regular board meeting (e.g. Administrator Participation at Board/Committee Meetings). After brief discussion, it was agreed that all topics listed would remain, but would be grouped into ‘similar categories’. Mr. Pandolfo will reach out to facilitators to determine available dates. Once facilitator availability is determined, the Board can select a date for the retreat. It is the preference of the Board that one 4 to 6 hour session be held (as opposed to multiple shorter sessions).

#### **7.5 Summer Project Update**

SHS – The Library renovation project has started. Other routine cleaning/maintenance/renovations are also planned.

BCEMS – Roof work will be completed. Regular cleaning and maintenance is also planned. Summer school will not be held at BCEMS this summer.

BTMES – Canopy repair originally slated for this summer has been postponed. Consideration is now being given to removal of the canopy rather than making repairs. The Board may wish to wait a year before taking action. Regular cleaning/maintenance/renovations are also planned.

Mr. Cecchinelli provided an overview of the storm water retention project being discussed/planned at BTMES. Storm water remediation is necessary due to recent legislation. Legislation applies to property that has 3 or more acres of non-permeable surface (parking lots, roofs, etc). The Facilities Committee agrees that the plan presented is good and should be put before the Board (in July) for approval. Mrs. Pompei reiterated that the project is required by new regulations and at present time, both planning and construction are covered by grants. Mrs. Pompei stressed that the work should be completed ‘now’ with grant funding, rather than be postponed and risk losing grant funding. Mrs. Pompei may have identified a possible solution for phosphorus removal, and will share this information with those involved with planning the project. SHS and BCEMS will also require storm water remediation. The Storm Water Remediation item will be added to the July Agenda for presentation, discussion, and approval.

#### **7.6. Executive Session – Student Matter**

A Student Matter was proposed for discussion in Executive Session. It was agreed that Mr. Boltin would recuse himself from the discussion in Executive Session.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mrs. Pompei, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session with Mr. Pandolfo in attendance, at 8:40 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 Mrs. Akley, seconded by Mr. Cecchinelli, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 9:36 p.m.**

**8. Adjournment**

**On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Riddell, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:36 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Andrea Poulin*