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John Pandolfo
Superintendent of Schools

Doing whatever it takes to ensure success for every child.

**Barre Town Middle & Elementary School
Central Vermont Career Center**

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Director of Human Resources

Emmanuel Ajanma
Director of Technology

Lauren May
Director of Early Education

Jamie Evans
Director of Facilities

Josh Allen
Communications Specialist

MEMORANDUM

TO: Barre Unified Union School District Facilities and Transportation Committee
Giuliano Cecchinelli - Chair, Tim Boltin - Vice Chair, Victoria Pompei, Guy Isabelle

DATE: October 29, 2019

RE: Barre Unified Union School District Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting
November 4, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.
BUUSD Central Office, First Floor Conference Area

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Additions or deletions to the agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Approval of individual committee minutes
 - 4.1. BUUSD Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes: October 7, 2019
 - 4.2. BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes: October 15, 2019
5. New Business
6. Other Business
 - 6.1. Bollard Follow-up
 - 6.2. Generator Follow-up
 - 6.3. Transportation
7. Items for future agenda
8. Next Meeting Date: December 9, 2019, 5:30 pm, BUUSD Central Office in the First Floor Conference Area
9. Adjournment

BOARD/COMMITTEE MEETING NORMS

- Keep the best interest of the school and children in mind, while balancing the needs of the taxpayers
- Make decisions based on clear information
- Honor the board's decisions
- Keep meetings short and on time
- Stick to the agenda
- Keep remarks short and to the point
- Everyone gets a chance to talk before people take a second turn
- Respect others and their ideas

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**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**
BUUSD Central Office – First Floor Conference Area
October 7, 2019 - 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Giuliano Cecchinelli, Chair - (BC)
Guy Isabelle – (At-Large) – arrived at 5:39 p.m.
Paul Malone – Ad Hoc Committee Member (BT)
Andrew McMichael – (BC)
Victoria Pompei – (BT)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tim Boltin, Vice Chair - (BC)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Luke Aither, SHS Assistant Principal
Hayden Coon, BCEMS Principal
Jamie Evans – Facilities Director

GUESTS PRESENT:

Dave Delcore- Times Argus

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Monday, October 7, 2019 BUUSD Facilities Committee meeting to order at 5:31p.m., which was held at the BUUSD Central Office in the First Floor Conference Area.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

None.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes – September 9, 2019 BUUSD Facilities Committee Meeting

On a motion by Mrs. Pompei, seconded by Mr. McMichael, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the September 9, 2019 BUUSD Facilities Committee meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 SHS Traffic Pattern

Mr. Evans advised that the recently installed China Gray granite bollards have been removed. The bollards will be replaced with bollards made of Barre Gray, donated by the Barre Granite Association. Mr. Malone suggested that in lieu of bollards, that a sidewalk and curbing be installed (in the lawn area) at the campus exit in an effort to maintain the ability to alter the traffic pattern in the event that busing is initiated in the future. Mr. Evans cautioned that granite bollards are a much safer alternative to curbing. It was noted that the auditorium entrance is not the main student entrance, and would require substantial safety related modifications in order to be utilized as such. There are no current plans to utilize the auditorium entrance as the main entrance to the building. Mr. Evans noted that the Barre City Fire Department has advised that the granite bollards do not prevent access to the road. Mr. Aither advised that 200 students leave campus and cross by the bollards. There is much foot traffic on the sidewalk of the bridge that leads to student parking. Mr. Aither would like to find out if it would be possible to install a railing on the ‘road side’ of the sidewalk to prevent students from falling or walking into the roadway section of the bridge. Mr. Aither will contact VTRANS regarding the legality of installing a railing on the sidewalk portion of the bridge. In the past, it has been suggested that a pedestrian bridge (over the river) be constructed, but that option has been deemed cost prohibitive thus far. Approximately 100 students exit the school from the auditorium and walk up the campus exit by the bridge. This area becomes very icy and slippery in the winter, and there are also concerns that cars using that exit during slippery weather are also a safety issue to students. Mr. Cecchinelli queried regarding possible modifications to the existing sidewalk (in the grass area), to eliminate students walking in the paved area of the exit. It was noted that cars picking up students at the auditorium cause much congestion in that area and also around the back side of the school parallel to the athletic fields. Currently Mr. Ferland and Mr. Aither direct traffic at the end of the school day. With the Assistant Principals directing traffic, traffic is mainly cleared in 15 minutes. Mr. Aither advised regarding a concern that the VSBIT

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Safety Grant may need to be repaid if the project is not completed. This concern differs from the original concern regarding having to repay the grant amount if the China Gray was replaced with Barre Gray. The latest concern relates to completion of the project rather than changing the materials used in the project. Mr. Aither will contact VSBIT regarding the most recent concern. Mr. Aither queried regarding the installation of a 'bumpfoot' in the front of the building to prevent student drop-off/pick-ups in front of the building. Mr. Aither advised that the administrators' position rests 100% on student safety, and they are very concerned for student safety given that slippery road conditions will be present in the near future. Administrators want issues to be remedied prior to the impending inclement weather. Mr. Cecchinelli queried regarding the possible installation of concrete blocks or Jersey barriers, as an interim solution during winter months. If the BGA can't install the new bollards within the next few weeks, are they willing to cover the expense of a temporary solution (installation of Jersey barriers)? Mr. Evans will research the cost associated with three different scenarios; 1. installation of a sidewalk with bollards, 2. installation of bollards, and 3. costs associated with rental of Jersey barriers. It was noted that student safety issues were ignored in an effort to deal with cultural sensitivity issues brought about by the granite industry. Bollards were removed without any plan for immediate remediation of the safety issues caused by their removal. At the present time, it is unknown when the replacement bollards will be available and installed. It was noted that it cost the BUUSD approximately \$5,000 to install the China Gray bollards, and approximately \$1,000 to remove them.

5.2 BTMES Generator (for emergency management)

It is not known if Barre Town representatives were contacted regarding attending a meeting regarding installation of a generator at BTMES. Members of the Select Board and Jack Mitchell will be contacted to attend the next meeting. It was noted that the current generator at BTMES meets the school's needs (lighting and heat). The generator proposed for emergency management would power the entire building. Mr. Evans believes the Town Manager and Select Board want to split the cost of the emergency management generator 50/50. It is not known if it makes sense for BTMES to be an emergency shelter. Mrs. Pompei requested information be presented at the next meeting. Mrs. Pompei would like to review any documentation from the State or Federal government regarding the two current designated shelters (BCEMS and the Barre Auditorium), and whether or not the use of those facilities factored in housing both City and Town residents. Mr. Delcore advised that no Red Cross grant funds would be available for an emergency management generator at BTMES because Town residents could probably use the Auditorium or BCEMS overflow shelter.

5.3 BTMES – Removal of Canopy Update

Mr. Evans advised that canopy removal was postponed until after this winter. The engineers only approved the soundness of the structure for two years. The two year time period expires next summer. Removal is slated for the summer of 2020. Vermont Concrete proposed removing the canopy by cutting it out in sections. Some sidewalk repairs were made this past summer. Revamping the current bus and parent drop-off /pick-up configuration may be possible. Mr. Isabelle queried regarding public sentiment with the existing canopy. In response to a query, Mr. Evans advised that the decision had been made to remove the canopy rather than replace/repair it. Removal is expected to cost approximately \$70,000, repairs would cost approximately \$80,000 to \$100,000. Mr. Evans noted that for security/safety reasons, the BTMES front office area (near the entrance), will require modifications.

5.4 Storm Water Retention Project Update

The BUUSD is still waiting to hear back from the Friends of the Winooski regarding grant funding for construction costs associated with the BTMES Storm Water Retention Project. It is anticipated that grant funding will be available for the planning phase of Storm Water Retention Projects at BCEMS and SHS. The BUUSD recently received letters from the State regarding required storm water retention mitigation at BCEMS and SHS.

5.5 Transportation

A proposal was made to change the Facilities Committee to a "Facilities and Transportation Committee", with transportation issues added to the agenda on an as needed basis. Mr. Isabelle would like to hold discussion on transportation for high school students. Mr. Aither agrees that facilities and transportation go together, and advised that he believes many truancy issues would be resolved if SHS students had transportation to the school. Mr. Aither advised that Mrs. Waterhouse is looking into a grant related to equity training. Mr. Aither would like to see district wide transportation. Mr. Aither advised that several years ago, it was estimated that transportation for SHS students would cost approximately \$200,000. In response to a query regarding utilizing Green Mountain Transit with reduced fees for students, it was noted that Green Mountain Transit does not currently have any stops specific for use by SHS students. Mrs. Pompei suggested that the issue of changing the committee name/responsibilities be presented to the BUUSD Board.

6. Other Business

Mr. Coon advised that there is a lighting issue in the dirt overflow parking lot at BCEMS. Mr. Coon queried regarding adding lighting to the sheds in that area. Mr. Malone advised that Efficiency Vermont has free LED spot lights available at Barre Electric. Mr. Malone suggested that obtaining free LED spotlights be investigated in an effort to reduce costs of installing lighting in the dirt parking lot area. Mr. Evans will look into this.

Mr. Malone reported that staff members are having difficulty finding time in their schedules to take the training necessary to use the electronic message board.

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7. Items for Future Agendas

- Transportation
- Bollard Follow-up
- Generator Follow-up (invite Barre Town Selectmen to attend)

8. Next Meeting Date

The November meeting date is to be determined.

9. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Pompei, seconded by Mr. McMichael, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin

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BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE - SPECIAL MEETING

BUUSD Central Office – First Floor Conference Area
October 15, 2019 - 5:00 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Giuliano Cecchinelli, Chair - (BC)
Tim Boltin, Vice Chair - (BC)
Guy Isabelle – (At-Large)
Paul Malone – Ad Hoc Committee Member (BT) – arrived at 5:15 p.m., departed at 5:45 p.m.
Victoria Pompei – (BT) - departed at 5:29 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dave LaCroix – (BT Community Member)
Robert Lord – (BT Community Member)
Andrew McMichael – (BC)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Jamie Evans, Facilities Director
Luke Aither, Assistant Principal SHS – arrived at 5:30 p.m.

GUESTS PRESENT:

Kerri Lamb

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Tuesday, October 15, 2019 Special Meeting of the BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee to order at 5:02 p.m., which was held at the BUUSD Central Office in the First Floor Conference Area.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Add 4.2 Update on Lead Testing

3. Public Comment

Agenda Item 3 was discussed after Agenda Item 4.2. Kerri Lamb addressed the Committee advising that she would like to see the formation of a committee to work on bettering the facilities for athletics, advising that she believes our athletic buildings and grounds are in disrepair don't compare well with that of other schools. Mrs. Lamb advised that the concession stands, media booth, and track are most in need of much improvement, with other areas also needing improvement. Mr. Evans advised that Dubois & King have done some conceptual work, but funds are lacking. Mr. Malone believes that costs to improve the athletic fields were estimated at approximately \$3,000,000. It was noted that Ed Rousse is the head of the Spaulding Foundation. The Foundation does not raise money for specific projects, but rather raises funds for SHS and lets SHS make the decisions on how the funds are utilized. Mrs. Lamb advised that she would like to actively participate in raising funds to improve the SHS athletic buildings and grounds. It was noted that CVCC students cannot assist with improvements as it is not in their curriculum. Mrs. Lamb advised that there are currently no stairs into the media booth, and it is very difficult for individuals to enter the booth. This is a safety issue. It should be a fairly easy fix to add stairs for entry into the media booth. Improvements to the SHS athletic fields have been discussed numerous times, but not action is ever taken. Mrs. Lamb stressed her belief that improvements need to be made and she would like the Board to consider authorizing an ad-hoc committee for that purpose. Brief discussion was held regarding the possibility of reviving the SHS SHAC Committee. The Committee was advised that under consolidation (the BUUSD), any committee that is formed would need to be BUUSD-wide (not just for SHS). It was agreed to bring Mrs. Lamb's request to the BUUSD Board for their consideration and possibly approval. Mrs. Lamb advised that she will send an e-mail with information, and will attend a future Board meeting.

4. New Business

4.1 Act on SHS Bollard Decision

Mr. Cecchinelli reported that he spoke with Mark Gherardi, who has advised that the granite was ordered and should be in in a week or less. After the granite is in, it will be processed, with the work to possibly be divided amongst 3 different manufacturers. The immediate work is for bollards only. The other granite pieces will not be available until a later date. The bollards will be square and will not have planters. Planters and a bench will be placed outside by the cafeteria. The planters will be designed such that they will withstand winter without cracking. It was suggested that steeled stone that is inside the building be swapped with the polished stone

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that is outside. The polished stone may pose a safety issue as it is slippery when wet. It was suggested that an inventory be taken of all polished stone that is on the outside of the building.

Mr. Pandolfo has Minutes from 2010 that relate to a traffic study. The study shows that one vehicular lane is safest configuration. Mr. Pandolfo believes that no change in the traffic pattern flow should be done until additional information is received, possibly another traffic study. Mr. Pandolfo does not recommend making any traffic flow changes at this time, and wishes to avoid any hasty decisions. Mr. Evans provided some historical information regarding past traffic issues and changes that were implemented. The custodial crew will be responsible for shoveling/sanding/salting the walkway path leading out of campus. The committee provided Mr. Malone with an overview of the discussion held prior to his arrival at the meeting. Mr. Pandolfo advised that the full 2010 traffic study will be located and reviewed. There will be work involved for any redesign of pedestrian and/or vehicle traffic, with the first step being to locate the old traffic study performed by Dubois and King. Mr. Malone advised that he had conversations with Mr. Aither, and that Mr. Aither advised he had spoken with the Barre City Chief of Police, who did not have an issue with changing the campus exit to have 2 exit lanes. Two exit lanes is Mr. Malone's preference.

On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mrs. Pompei, the Committee unanimously voted to make a recommendation to Administration authorizing them to install the new bollards back in the same locations that the previous bollards were removed from, with the intention of having a traffic study performed.

Mr. Malone voiced opposition to the motion. Mrs. Pompei raised concern regarding voting by Mr. Malone, as he is not officially on the Committee, and his presence constitutes a quorum of the Board. Mr. Malone withdrew his 'vote' of opposition.

The Committee provided Mr. Aither with an overview of the discussion held prior to his arrival at the meeting, and advised him regarding the Superintendent's recommendation and the decision of the Committee.

4.2 Update on Lead Testing

Lead testing was performed at BCEMS as part of the pilot program. BCEMS applied for, and received a waiver not to have to retest every tap. All problematic taps at BCEMS have been remediated. The BUUSD has received notice from the State that they will be publishing the results of the BCEMS testing on Friday, 10/18/19. BCEMS needs to retest all remediated taps. Results from testing at BTMES and SHS should be available within a few days.

5. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is Monday, November 4, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the BUUSD Central Office in the First Floor Conference Area.

6. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Boltin, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin