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Spaulding High School**

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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**

Carol Marold
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 Policy Committee
Rebecca Kerin-Hutchins – Chair, Guy Isabelle – V. Chair, Giuliano Cecchinelli

DATE: December 10, 2019

RE: BUUSD Policy Committee Meeting
December 16, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.
BUUSD Central Office, First Floor Conference Area

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Additions/Changes to Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Approval of Minutes
 - 4.1. Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2019
5. New Business
 - 5.1. Review BUUSD Policy Manual Index
 - 5.2. Discuss including or removing legal references
 - 5.3. Review and Revision: Section C: Students
6. Old Business
7. Other Business
8. Items for Future Agenda
9. Next Meeting Date: January 20, 2019, 5:30 pm, BUUSD Central Office, First Floor Conference Area
10. 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

DRAFT

BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Barre Unified Union School District Central Office – First Floor Conference Area
October 21, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rebecca Kerin-Hutchins, Chair - (BT)
J. Guy Isabelle, Vice Chair - (At-Large)
Andrew McMichael (BC)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Giuliano Cecchinelli - (BC)
Jon Valsangiacomo – (BT Community Member)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Scott Griggs, Assistant Director (CVCC)
Pierre LaFlamme, Assistant Principal (BCEMS)

GUESTS PRESENT:

Dave Delcore – Times Argus

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins, called the Monday, October 21, 2019, meeting to order at 5:31 p.m., which was held at the Barre Supervisory Union 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 16, 2019 Policy Committee Meeting

The Committee agreed by consensus, to approve the Minutes of the September 16, 2019 Policy Committee Meeting.

Mr. Pandolfo will be consulting with VSBA and legal counsel regarding clarification on committee attendance and voting.

5. Committee Business

5.1 Review of BUUSD Policy Manual Index

A copy of the BUUSD Policy Manual Index (dated 10/11/19) was distributed. Mr. Isabelle queried regarding how turnover at VSBA may impact policy work at the BUUSD. Sue Ceglowski, who is currently the legal contact for policy work, has accepted the position of Executive Director. Mr. Pandolfo advised that questions will continue to be referred to Ms. Ceglowski, who remains in her current position until sometime in November. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the Policy Manual Index noting that with the exception of B40 (Social/Digital/Online Communications for Staff), all of the listed policies have been adopted by the BUUSD. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the key to highlighted policies:

Blue = New Model Policies that VSBA will be revising.

Red = VSBA deleted policies. VSBA recommends that we also delete these policies.

Green = Model Policies that have been revised by VSBA this year.

Yellow = Model Policy is being developed.

The Committee discussed the policies slated for deletion: B6, D2, and D30;

B6 – HIPPA Compliance (covered by statute) – Policy will be presented for deletion at the November Board Meeting.

D2 – Grade Advancement, Retention, Promotion, and Acceleration of Students (policy is based on ‘credit’ promotion, not proficiency based grading) - Policy will be presented for deletion at the November Board Meeting.

DRAFT

D30 – Field Trips – The VSBA policy is very ‘slim’, with three procedural steps. The BUUSD policy has many more ‘procedural’ components (eight). Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview noting that the current BUUSD policy requires Board approval for out of state field trips, though SHS has not been subject to this requirement in the past. **The Committee agreed with the Superintendent’s recommendation not to make any changes regarding this policy until at least the fall of 2020.**

The Committee discussed the Model Policies that VSBA revised this year;

C9 – Nutrition And Wellness – the BUUSD uses a ‘local’ policy that was written by the SHAC Committee. Mr. Pandolfo has referred this VSBA policy to the SHAC Committee, who will compare the revised VSBA policy to the ‘local’ policy. **This policy will be discussed at a future meeting once the SHAC Committee has provided feedback.**

D3 – Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources & the Internet – the current ‘local’ policy has more “teeth”. This VSBA policy has been referred to Emmanuel Ajanma (Director of Technology) for comparison with the ‘local’ policy. **This policy will be discussed at a future meeting once the Director of Technology has provided feedback.**

F1 – Travel Reimbursement Policy – This policy looks to be the same as the policy we current have in place at the BUUSD. **No action is necessary.**

The Committee reviewed the Model Policy being developed;

B40 (Social/Digital/Online Communications for Staff). Mr. Pandolfo advised that the Model Policy being developed isn’t as broad in scope as the policy he was hoping to develop. The Model Policy in development refers only to communication between staff and students. The policy Mr. Pandolfo is developing will include additional areas. Mr. Pandolfo recommends waiting until the Model Policy comes out, adopting the Model Policy, then writing a local policy to cover areas not encompassed by the Model Policy.

The Committee agrees with the Superintendent’s recommendation. Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins will keep the policy on the priority list. The Committee continued discussion relating to social media postings, including BUUSD control of ‘school and/or classroom’, related social media accounts, rights of staff members to have personal social media accounts, grades with access to Google Classroom, and use of personal cell phones for contact with parents. Use of personal cell phones for parental contact is very much discouraged.

5.2 BUUSD-VSBA Policy Comparison

A document titled ‘BUUSD-VSBA Policy Comparison (dated 10/11/19) was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo commended Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins for her work on this document. Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins advised that the BUUSD has adopted all required policies. It was noted that the policies highlighted in green are policies in place at the BUUSD for which the VSBA has no required, recommended, or to be considered policies. The Committee may wish to review these policies to assure that the BUUSD wants them to remain in place. Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins queried regarding how much time has elapsed since the Committee reviewed VSBA policies labeled as recommended or to be considered. There are ten policies listed as ‘to be considered’ that we have no equivalent in place for.

Mr. Pandolfo advised that the BUUSD does have policies F21, F23, and F24 in place. These are VSBA recommended policies relating to Non-Instructional Operations. It was suggested that the Committee review (at a future meeting) VSBA ‘recommended’ policies that are currently not adopted by the BUUSD. Review of these policies should probably be performed as part of the review schedule. The Superintendent recommended starting with a review of Section C (Student related policies) because this is the section the VSBA is starting revisions with. Closer to November, Mr. Pandolfo will check with VSBA to determine what they have completed. The BUUSD does not have a lot of policies in place for Section B (Personnel), but the BUUSD does have systems in place. If Personnel policies need to be implemented, the HR Department needs to be involved. It was noted that there is a philosophy that supervisory unions should have as few policies as possible.

5.3 Consideration of Policies for Deletion

As discussed under Agenda Item 5.1, deletion of the following policies will be presented to the BUUSD Board at their November meeting:

B6 – HIPPA Compliance

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

5.4 Proposed Schedule for Review and Revision

- **November – Section C : Students**
- **December – Section D: Instruction & Section E: School-Community**
- **January – Section F: Non-Instructional Operations**
- **February – Section B: Personnel**
- **March - Section A: Board Operations**

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Mr. Pandolfo will check with Sue Ceglowski to see what Model Policies will be in place in time for the November meeting.

6. Other Business

Mr. Isabelle queried regarding voting at committee meetings, and the ramifications relating to when a quorum of the Board is present at committee meetings. It was suggested that procedures be drafted, including a procedure that committees don't pass motions.

Mr. Pandolfo reiterated that he will be discussing these issues with the VSBA and legal counsel. **This item will be added to a future agenda.**

7. Adjournment

The Committee agreed by consensus, to adjourn at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin

VSBA Model Policy Index - Section C: Students (12/6/2019)								
Code	Policy	Updated/Reviewed	Code	Policy	Updated	Code	Policy	Updated
C1	<u>Student Records</u>	10/11/2019	C20	<u>Student Conduct and Discipline</u>	4/2/2012	C30	<u>Student Medication</u>	6/30/2008
C2	<u>Student Drugs & Alcohol</u>	12/3/2015	C21	<u>Search and Seizure of Students by School Personnel</u>	11/12/2013	C31	<u>Admission of Resident Students</u>	2/10/2016
C3	<u>Transportation</u>	10/11/2019	C22	<u>Student Activities (Elementary)</u>	3/25/2009	C32	<u>Eighteen Year-Old Students</u>	2/10/2016
C4	<u>Limited English Proficiency Students</u>	12/3/2015	C23	<u>Student Clubs & Activities (Secondary)</u>	11/28/2007	C33	<u>Student Assessment</u>	2/10/2016
C5	<u>Firearms</u>	10/11/2019	C24	<u>Interscholastic Sports</u>	9/18/2013	C34	<u>Restraint and Seclusion</u>	2/10/2016
C6	<u>Home Study Students</u>	10/11/2019	C25	<u>Admission of Non-Resident Tuition Students</u>	9/18/2013			
C7	<u>Student Attendance</u>	10/11/2019	C26	<u>Tuition Payment</u>	9/18/2013			
C8	<u>Pupil Privacy</u>	10/11/2019	C27	<u>Student Self-Expression and Student Distribution of Literature</u>	9/18/2013			
C9	<u>Nutrition & Wellness</u>	10/11/2019						
C10	<u>Prevention of Harassment, Hazing & Bullying Policy</u>	12/2/2015						
C10-P	<u>Prevention of Harassment, Hazing & Bullying Procedures</u>	12/2/2015						
C11	<u>Student Freedom of Expression in School-Sponsored Media</u>	8/28/2019						

	Recently reviewed/revised
	Still waiting on VSBA
	Not necessary for Barre

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT # 097
POLICY**

CODE: C 1

**PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED: 6/13/2019
1ST READING: 1/9/2019
2ND READING:
ADOPTED:**

EDUCATION RECORDS

1. Policy

The Barre Unified Union School District (BUUSD) recognizes the importance of keeping accurate and appropriate education records for students as part of a sound educational program and is committed to act as trustee of this information, maintaining these records for educational purposes to serve the best interests of its students.

The principles of accuracy and confidentiality underlie all policies and procedures for the collection, maintenance, disclosure and destruction of education records. It is the policy of the district to protect the confidentiality of education records and release information only as permitted by law. Annually or when the student enrolls, the district will inform parents, guardians, and students eighteen years and older of their right to inspect, review, and seek amendment of the student's education records. The district will inform parents, guardians, and students eighteen years and older of items considered directory information through notices distributed at the beginning of each school year or when a student enrolls.

The building principal will be the custodian of all education records in a given school. The superintendent has overall responsibility for education records throughout the district and for assuring that adequate systems are in place to maintain such records and to provide parents with access to them in accordance with state and federal law. The Superintendent is responsible for developing procedures to assure the consistent implementation of this policy. The procedures shall comply with all federal and state laws and regulations governing access to and the collection, maintenance, disclosure and destruction of education records.

2. Definitions

All terms used in this policy, and the procedures developed for the implementation of this policy, shall be defined, where applicable, as those terms are defined in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and in the federal regulations promulgated pursuant to that Act.

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT # 097
POLICY**

CODE: C 3

**PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED: 6/13/2019
1ST READING: 1/9/2019
2ND READING:
ADOPTED:**

TRANSPORTATION

Policy

Where it is reasonable and necessary to enable a student entitled or required to attend an elementary or a secondary school within the Barre Unified Union School District (BUUSD) , the BUUSD may furnish transportation on public roads to students who reside within the district. The supervisory union may also provide transportation to non-resident students as authorized by the board.

The superintendent will establish routes and designate stops after considering both the safety of children and efficiency of operation. The superintendent will consider the following factors when determining routes and stops.

1. The age and health of pupils,
2. Distance to be traveled,
3. Condition of the road, and
4. Type of highway.

The superintendent may consider any other factors he or she deems appropriate when establishing routes and designated stops.

The BUUSD shall furnish transportation for students enrolled at Barre City Elementary and Middle School and Barre Town Middle and Elementary School in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Transportation decisions are guided by publicly approved budgets.
- Daily transportation to and from school is a privilege offered to all PreK-8 students.
- Transportation to and from extra-curricular activities shall be the responsibility of the parents.

The BUUSD will only furnish transportation for students enrolled at Spaulding High School under the following circumstances and/or conditions:

- A. Transportation to and from home for students with disabilities – either permanent or temporary – as required by the student’s Individual Education Plan or 504 Plan.
- B. Transportation to and from school sponsored field trips, scheduled extra-curricular events, and special activities.

- C. Transportation to and from scheduled interscholastic events.
- D. Transportation for students living in communities outside BUUSD boundaries, as decided annually by the Superintendent based on enrollment on August 1st, from school districts that do not operate a high school and pay tuition to Spaulding High School.

The superintendent shall establish transportation procedures to support this policy.

The superintendent shall submit to the school board for approval any contracts, leases or purchases necessary to maintain and operate transportation equipment, and shall include in his or her annual report to the board information as to all pupils transported by the school district and the expense thereof.

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT #097
POLICY**

CODE: C 5

**PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED: 6/13/2019
1ST READING: 1/9/2019
2ND READING:
ADOPTED:**

FIREARMS

Policy

It is the policy of the Barre Unified Union School District (BUUSD) to comply with the federal Gun Free Schools Act of 1994 and state law requiring school districts to provide for the possible expulsion of students who bring firearms to or possess firearms at school. It is further the intent of the board to maintain a student discipline system consistent with the requirements of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Vermont State Board of Education rules.

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, the terms “firearm” “school” and “expelled” shall be defined consistent with the definitions required by state and federal law.

Sanctions

Any student who brings a firearm to school, or who possesses a firearm at school shall be brought by the superintendent to the school board for an expulsion hearing.

A student found by the school board after a hearing to have brought a firearm to school shall be expelled for at least one calendar year. However, the school board may modify the expulsion on a case-by-case basis when it finds circumstances such as, but not limited to:

1. The student was unaware that he or she had brought a firearm to school.
2. The student did not intend to use the firearm to threaten or endanger others.
3. The student is disabled and the misconduct is related to the disability.
4. The student does not present an ongoing threat to others and a lengthy expulsion would not serve the best interests of the pupil.

At the discretion of the school board and administration, an expelled student may be afforded limited educational services at a site other than the school during the period of expulsion under this policy.

Policy Implementation

An expulsion hearing conducted under this policy shall afford due process as required by law and as developed by the superintendent or his or her designee.

The superintendent shall refer to appropriate law enforcement agency any student who brings a firearm to a school under the control and supervision of the BUUSD. The superintendent may also report any incident subject to this policy to the Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services.

The superintendent shall annually provide the Secretary of Education with descriptions of the circumstances surrounding expulsions imposed under this policy, the number of students expelled and the type of firearms involved.

PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED: 6/13/2019

1ST READING: 1/9/2019

2ND READING:

ADOPTED:

PARTICIPATION OF HOME STUDY STUDENTS

Policy

It is the policy of the Barre Unified Union School District (BUUSD) to comply with the requirements of Act 119 of 1998 by allowing home study students to participate in courses, programs, activities, and services and use school educational materials and equipment.

The Superintendent will develop administrative procedures that comply with rules promulgated by the Vermont State Board of Education as is necessary to implement this policy.

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT #097
POLICY**

CODE: C 7

PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED: 6/13/2019

1ST READING: 1/9/2019

2ND READING:

ADOPTED:

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Policy

It is the policy of the Barre Unified Union School District (BUUSD) to set high expectations for consistent student school attendance in accordance with Vermont law in order to facilitate and enhance student learning. Legal pupils between the ages of 6 and 16 and who are residents of the school district and non-resident pupils who enroll in school district schools are required to attend school for the full number of days that school is held unless they are excused from attendance as provided in state law. Students who are over the age of 16 are required to attend school continually for the full number of the school days for which they are enrolled, unless they are mentally or physically unable to continue, or are excused by the superintendent in writing.

Annually, the superintendent shall ensure that the school board appoints one or more individuals to serve as the truant officer, and shall ensure that appointment is recorded with the clerk of the school district.

The superintendent shall develop administrative rules and procedures to ensure the implementation of this policy.

Administrative Rules and Procedures

The procedures will address the following issues and may include others as well:

- A. written excuses;
- B. tardiness;
- C. notification of parents/guardian;
- D. signing out of school;
- E. excessive absenteeism;
- F. homebound and hospitalized students;
- G. early dismissals;
- H. homework assignments;
- I. making up work

Administrative Responsibilities

1. The principal is responsible for maintaining accurate and up-to-date records of student attendance.
2. The principal is responsible for assuring that the school has the appropriate family information that allows the school to contact the parent(s) or guardian(s) of all students whenever necessary.

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT #097
POLICY**

CODE: C 8

PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED: 6/13/2019

1ST READING: 1/9/2019

2ND READING:

ADOPTED:

PUPIL PRIVACY RIGHTS

Policy

It is the intent of the Barre Unified Union School District (BUUSD) to comply with the provisions of the federal Pupil Privacy Rights Amendment (PPRA) and Vermont State Board of Education Rules governing the administration of certain student surveys, analyses or evaluations.

Administrative Responsibilities

The superintendent of his or her designee shall develop administrative procedures to ensure BUUSD compliance with applicable federal and state laws related to pupil privacy. The administrative procedures shall include provisions related to the following legal requirements.

1. The right of parents or eligible students to inspect surveys created by third parties before administration or distribution of the surveys to students;
2. Any applicable procedures for granting request by a parent for access to such survey within reasonable time after a request is received;
3. Arrangements to protect student privacy in the event of the administration or distribution of a survey to a student containing one or more of the items listed in the federal Pupil Privacy Rights Amendment;
4. The right of a parent to inspect any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for the parent's child, and any applicable procedures for granting access to such material within a reasonable time after the request is received.
5. The administration of physical examinations or screenings that the school district may administer to a student;
6. The collection, disclosure or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information, including arrangements to protect student privacy in the event of such collection, disclosure or use.
7. The right of a parent of a student to inspect any instrument used in the collection of personal information under subparagraph (6) above, and any applicable procedures for granting a request for such inspection within a reasonable time after receiving the request;
8. Provisions to ensure that parents are notified of the BUUSD policies and procedures adopted to comply with federal and state laws and regulations governing pupil privacy, including, but not limited to, notification of activities involving the collection of personal information from students, the administration of surveys containing items specifically listed in the Pupil Privacy Rights Amendment.

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT #097
POLICY**

CODE: C 9

PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED: 6/13/2019
1ST READING: 1/9/2019
2ND READING:
ADOPTED:

FEDERAL CHILD NUTRITION ACT WELLNESS POLICY

Purpose

It is the intent of the Barre Unified Union School District (BUUSD) to comply with the local policy requirements of the federal *Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004* and *Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010*. In accord with those requirements, this policy has been developed in consultation with parents, representatives of the school food services authority, school administrators, school health professionals and the public.

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the BUUSD to establish goals for nutrition promotion and education, health education, physical education, and physical activity, and other school-based activities that are designed to promote student wellness. With the objective of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity, the district will also establish nutrition guidelines for all foods available at school during the school day.

I. Goals for Nutrition Promotion and Education.

- A. The BUUSD shall provide nutrition promotion and education programs as required by state law and regulations of the State Board of Education. In particular, the supervisory union shall provide a nutrition component in its Comprehensive Health Education program and shall develop curricular programs intended to accomplish applicable goals enumerated in the National Health Education Standards.
- B. To the extent practicable, nutrition promotion and education shall be integrated into core curricula areas, such as science, health, physical education, and family and consumer science courses.
- C. The BUUSD shall establish meal periods that provide adequate time to eat and are scheduled at appropriate hours in a clean, safe, and adequate space.
- D. Food shall not be used in BUUSD schools as a reward or punishment, except when rewards are part of a student's written IEP, 504, or behavioral plan.
- E. The BUUSD shall provide training opportunities as appropriate for food service and other staff members in areas of nutrition and wellness as described in the Vermont Education Quality of Standards.

II. Guidelines for Health Education

- A. The BUUSD shall enable students to engage annually in rigorous, relevant and comprehensive learning opportunities that allow them to demonstrate proficiency in health education as defined by Vermont state law 16 V.S.A. 131 (EQS rule 2120.5). In

particular, the district shall develop curricular programs intended to accomplish the goals enumerated in the National Health Education Standards for all students in grades K-12.

- B. Health Education shall be integrated into core curricula areas, such as science, physical education, and family and consumer science courses.

III. Goals for Physical Education and Physical Activity.

- A. The BUUSD shall provide physical education and adaptive physical education classes for all students as required by Education Quality Standards and 16 V.S.A 2902.
- B. The BUUSD will provide students with Physical Education, using an age-appropriate, sequential Physical Education program consistent with 2014 SHAPE America National Standards and Grade-Level Outcomes for Physical Education.
- C. The BUUSD shall provide physical activity opportunities to all students as required by Education Quality Standards and 16 V.S.A 2210.5.

IV. Goals for Other School-Based Activities.

- A. The BUUSD shall use evidence-based strategies to determine goals for promoting student wellness.
- B. The BUUSD shall promote health and wellness by encouraging staff to model healthy eating/drinking behaviors at school, by displaying USDA promotional materials, such as informational posters on school property, by marketing health and wellness on signs, score boards, sports equipment, in curricula, educational materials, both printed and electronic, and through its website. No foods of minimal nutritional value will be advertised on school grounds.

V. Nutrition Guidelines.

- A. Following state law 16 V.S.A. section 1264, the BUUSD shall offer National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs that meet 7 CRF 210 and 7 CRF 220 and the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.
- B. The BUUSD shall ensure that guidelines for reimbursable school meals are not less restrictive than regulations and guidance issued by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to sections (a) and (b) of section 9A(a) and (b) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act as those regulations and guidance apply to schools.
- C. The BUUSD shall ensure that foods and beverages offered at school during the school day other than through the National School Lunch or School Breakfast programs, including foods sold through vending machines and foods sold for fundraising during the school day, shall comply with the USDA Smart Snacks Standards.

VI. Policy Implementation.

- A. The superintendent or his or her designee shall periodically monitor BUUSD programs and curriculum to ensure compliance with this policy and any administrative procedures established to carry out the requirements of this policy. The BUUSD shall periodically inform and update the public about the content and implementation of this policy, including the extent to which BUUSD schools are in compliance with this policy, the

extent to which this policy compares to model local school wellness policies and a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of this policy.

- B. The BUUSD shall permit parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the school board, school administrators and the general public to participate in the development, implementation and periodic review and update of this policy.
- C. The superintendent or his or her designee shall establish ongoing BUUSD health and wellness committee(s) following the Vermont Agency of Education and Vermont Department of Health recommendation evidence-based collaboration approach to learning and health. Information on how to join the committee(s) is available on the supervisory union websites.
- D. The BUUSD health and wellness committee(s) assist the superintendent or his or her designee, at least triennially, in the assessment and/or revision of the wellness policy using best -practice assessment tools, in auditing supervisory union-wide compliance, and in reviewing evidence of student health and learning impact.

The superintendent or his or her designee shall report yearly to the board and to the public on the BUUSD's compliance with law and policies related to student wellness. The report shall include information as to the content and implementation of this policy, and an assurance that BUUSD guidelines for reimbursable meals are not less restrictive than regulations and guidelines issued for schools in accordance with federal law.

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT # 097
POLICY**

CODE: C 11

**PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED: 6/13/2019
1ST READING: 1/9/2019
2ND READING:
ADOPTED:**

STUDENT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN SCHOOL-SPONSORED MEDIA

Policy

Freedom of expression is a fundamental principle in a democratic society that provides all citizens, including students, with the right to engage in a robust discussion of ideas. It is the policy of the Barre Unified Union School District (BUUSD) to ensure that students enjoy free speech and free press protections related to school-sponsored media, and to encourage students to become educated, informed, and responsible members of society.

No expression made by students in school-sponsored media shall be deemed to be an expression of school policy.

Definitions

“Media advisor” means a person employed, appointed, or designated by the BUUSD to provide instruction relating to school-sponsored media.

“School-sponsored media” means any material prepared, written, published, or broadcast as part of a school-supported program or activity by a student journalist that is distributed or generally made available as part of a school-supported program or activity to an audience beyond the classroom in which the material is produced.

“Student journalist” means a student enrolled in the BUUSD who gathers, compiles, writes, edits, photographs, records or prepares information for dissemination in school-sponsored media.

“Student supervisor” means a student who is responsible for editing school-sponsored media.

Implementation

Subject only to the conditions 1-6 below, a student journalist may exercise freedom of speech and freedom of the press in school-sponsored media. Student supervisors of school-sponsored media are responsible for determining the content of their respective media.

This policy does not authorize or protect content of school-sponsored media that:

1. Is libelous or slanderous;
2. Constitutes an unwarranted invasion of privacy;
3. May be defined as obscene, gratuitously profane, threatening or intimidating;
4. May be defined as harassment, hazing, or bullying under Title 16 § 11;
5. Violates federal or state law; or
6. Creates the imminent danger of materially or substantially disrupting the ability of the school to perform its educational mission.

BUUSD staff may restrain the distribution of content in school-sponsored media that can be demonstrated to violate any of the conditions 1-6 above.

Content in school-sponsored media will not be restrained solely because it involves political or controversial subject matter or is critical of the school or its administration.

A student journalist may not be disciplined for acting in accordance with this policy.

A media advisor may not be disciplined for taking reasonable and appropriate action to protect a student journalist in conduct protected by this policy or for refusing to infringe on conduct that is protected by this policy, by the first amendment to the U.S. Constitution, or by the Vermont Constitution.