

BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING

**Barre Town Middle and Elementary School
Library**

70 Websterville Road, Barre, VT

January 9, 2020

5:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Additions or Deletions with Motion to Approve the Agenda
3. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
 - 4.1. Meeting Minutes - December 12, 2019
5. Reports to the Board
 - 5.1. Central Office Report
 - 5.2. Building Reports
 - 5.2.1. SHS
 - 5.2.2. BCEMS
 - 5.2.3. BTMES
 - 5.2.4. CVCC
 - 5.3. Committee Reports
 - 5.3.1. Policy Committee: December 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes
Next Meeting: January 20, 2020 at 5:30 pm, Central Office
 - 5.3.2. Curriculum Committee: December 11, 2019 Meeting Minutes
Next Meeting: January 28, 2020 at 5:30 p.m., Central Office
 - 5.3.3. Finance Committee: December 10, 2019 Meeting Minutes; January 7, 2020
Next Meeting: February 4, 2020 at 5:30 pm, Central Office
 - 5.3.4. Facilities & Transportation Committee: December 9, 2019 Meeting Minutes
Next Meeting: January 13, 2020 at 5:30 p.m., Central Office
 - 5.3.5. Communications Committee: Meeting Minutes January 2, 2020
Next Meeting: February 11, 2020 at 5:30 p.m., Central Office
 - 5.3.6. Negotiations:
Next Meeting: TBD
 - 5.3.7. Regional Advisory Board:
Next Meeting: February 10, 2020 at 4:30 pm at CVCC
 - 5.4. Financials
6. Current Business
 - 6.1. Presentation - Technology Integration
 - 6.2. Resign/Retire/New Hire [**ACTION**]
 - 6.3. Fiscal Approvals [**ACTION**]
 - 6.3.1. FY21 BUUSD Budget and Article Warning
 - 6.3.2. FY21 CVCC Budget and Article Warning
 - 6.3.3. SEA Property Purchase Article Warning
 - 6.4. Winooski Valley School Choice Approval [**ACTION**]
 - 6.5. Announced Tuition [**ACTION**]

7. Old Business
 - 7.1. Budget Communication
 - 7.2. Board Organization
 - 7.2.1. Procedures
 - 7.2.2. March Board Elections
8. Other Business/Round Table
9. Future Agenda Items
10. Executive Session
11. Adjournment

Reminder:

Next BUUSD Board Meeting: January 23, 2020 at 5:30 pm; BTMES Library

BOARD 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 BOARD MEETING

Barre City Elementary and Middle School
James Taffel Library
December 12, 2019 - 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Malone (BT) - Chair
Sonya Spaulding (BC) – Vice-Chair
Victoria Pompei (BT) – Clerk
Tim Boltin (BC)
Giuliano Cecchinelli (BC)
Anthony Folland (BC) – arrived at 5:36 p.m.
Guy Isabelle (At-Large)
Rebecca Kerin-Hutchins (BT)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Gina Akley (BT)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Hayden Coon, BCEMS Principal
Chris Hennessey, BCEMS Principal
Lisa Perreault, Business Manager

GUESTS PRESENT:

Video Vision Tech	Dave Delcore – Times Argus	Madison Churchill	Eric Cotnoir	JC Cotnoir
Andy Evans	Kirsten Evans	Tyler Kimberly	Lev Kololmeitsev	Jenice Larrabee
Ben Matthews				

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Malone, called the Thursday, December 12, 2019, Regular meeting to order at 5:33 p.m., which was held at Barre City Elementary and Middle School in the James Taffel Library..

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Three items will be added for Executive Session:

10.1 Real Estate Matter

10.2 Litigation

10.3 Labor Relations Agreements

Change in order of discussion: Agenda Item 4.6.1 Student Presentation, will be discussed after Agenda Item 4.2

The next meeting date will be corrected to read 2020.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Agenda as amended.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – November 14, 2019 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mrs. Pompei, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to approve, as amended, the Minutes of the November 14, 2019 Regular Meeting.

4.2 Approval of Minutes – November 20, 2019 Legislative Luncheon

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the November 14, 2019 Legislative Luncheon.

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5. Reports to the Board

5.1 Central Office

The Superintendent's Report (dated 12/12/19) was distributed. The Report included information pertaining to; the Superintendent's Office, Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, Communications, the Business Office, Special Education, Technology, Early Education, Human Resources, and Facilities. Mr. Pandolfo advised that he attended the UVM celebration for Outstanding Teachers. Michael Whalen and Alison Grogan have received National Board Teacher Certification. Myrna Miranda-O'Neill has completed her educational doctorate and will be presenting at an upcoming conference. Mrs. Miranda-O'Neil was commended for her achievement. The UPS at Spaulding High School is being upgraded. Josh Allen has set up many Twitter accounts and is pushing out much information. Mr. Allen is doing a wonderful job of providing information and promoting the BUUSD, using social media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Front Porch Forum etc.).

5.2 Building Reports

5.2.1 Spaulding High School

The Principal's Report for December 2019 was distributed. The Report included information pertaining to; Athletics, Winter Sports, Students and Community, Staff, and Student, Athlete, and Staff Person of the Week. The SHS and Library newsletters for December 2019 were also distributed. There were no questions from the Board.

5.2.2 Barre City Elementary and Middle School

The Co-Principals' Report dated December 10, 2019 was distributed. The Report included information pertaining to; challenging situations/behaviors (involving parents) that are occurring on the campus, and an initiative to raise the bar on civility with students, resignation of Carmen Mears, the Barre Writing Contest, and Upcoming Events (including the Holiday Concert and Celebration – 12/18/19). Mr. Hennessey stressed the importance of transparency, and advised that administrators and staff are working 'doggedly' to promote a higher level of civility.

5.2.3 Barre Town Middle and Elementary School

The BTMES Building Report dated December 12, 2019 was distributed. The Report included information pertaining to; Assessments, the Barre Rock Solid campaign, the David Stefaniak Memorial Holiday Food and Gift Drive, Hour of Code, the LifeChanger of the Year Award (Shelby Lindley and Matt Leonard have been nominated), and the Middle School Winter Music Concerts (which occurred on 12/10/19 and 12/11/19). A copy of the BTMES Newsletter for December 2019 was also distributed. There were no questions from the Board.

5.2.4 Central Vermont Career Center

The CVCC Director's Report for December 2019 was distributed. The Report included information pertaining to; Accuplacer Pre Test Results, Professional Development, CVCC Career Day (11/04/19), and the CVCC Professional Learning Group initiative (there are 4 teams). A copy of the CVCC Perkins FY21 Summary document (dated 11/26/19) was also distributed. There were no questions from the Board.

5.3 Committee Reports

5.3.1 Policy Committee

The November meeting was cancelled.

The next meeting is Monday, December 16, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the BUUSD Central Office.

5.3.2 Curriculum Committee

The Committee met on December 11, 2019. Erin Carter, Venus Dean, and Christine Farnham presented to the Committee on curriculum, assessment (under proficiency based grading), and professional development for math programs.

The next meeting is Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at BTMES in the Library.

5.3.3 Finance Committee

The Committee met on December 10, 2019. Discussion centered mainly on FY21 budget development, with limited discussion on the status of acquisition of property for the SEA program. Lori Hébert, Human Services Instructor at CVCC presented to the Committee regarding her belief that the Human Service Program should not be eliminated as part of budget cuts. Mr. Malone advised that the Committee had a good discussion and that difficult decisions will need to be made.

The next meeting is Tuesday, January 7, 2020, 5:30 p.m. The location of the meeting is to be announced.

5.3.4 Facilities and Transportation Committee

The Committee met on December 9, 2019. Discussion included an update on the 5-year plan, removal of the canopy at BTMES, underground piping work at SHS (related to the heating system), the BCEMS bus loop project (an RFP will be going out), discussion of a generator for BTMES, transportation, and review of a draft thank you letter to BGA (for changing the bollards).

The next meeting is Monday, January 13, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the BUUSD Central Office.

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5.3.5 Communications Committee

The Committee met on December 5, 2019. Nancy Wolfe, a community member attended and advised the Committee regarding how she obtains information relating to the BUUSD and district schools. Discussion centered mainly on ways to communicate with members of the community, with special focus on strategies on communicating budget information. Mrs. Spaulding advised that brief discussion was held regarding name tags for Board Members. Mrs. Spaulding has researched the cost (\$6.00 per name tag). Board Members should e-mail Mrs. Spaulding on how they want their name to appear on their name tag. Mrs. Spaulding will order the name tags. The next meeting is Thursday, January 2, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the BUUSD Central Office.

5.3.6 Negotiations Committee

Minutes from the December 3, 2019 meeting were distributed. The Committee has met twice with teachers and para-educators to discuss terms, presentation, framing, and ground rules. The Committee will meet again to trade lists of issues to discuss. The Committee will meet next week with representatives from the Association. Meetings are scheduled twice a month from December through May.

5.3.7 Regional Advisory Board

Minutes from the December 2, 2019 meeting were distributed. The outcome of the RAB Board recommendation was discussed at the Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Isabelle advised that many Board Members attended the CVCC Open House which had a great turnout of community members. The next meeting is February 10, 2020 at the Central Vermont Career Center.

5.4 Financials

A copy of the BUUSD Expense Report Summary (dated 12/10/19) was distributed. There were no questions from the Board.

6. Current Business

6.1 Student Presentation – Social Contract

Mr. Hennessey advised that working with students to develop a student led Social Contract has been the highlight of the past two weeks. Mr. Hennessey provided a brief overview of this initiative. Students addressed the Board, utilizing a Power Point presentation, and provided an overview of the student led project. The Social Contract defines expectations and what each expectation looks like. The process of writing the Social Contract involved each middle school TA. Each TA came up with ideas. The lists of ideas were combined by grade. The goal of the process was to learn everyone's opinion. Each team had a student leader that was selected by student peers. Students provided an overview of the defined expectations. The new Social Contract was presented to the entire middle school during an assembly. The Social Contract has been fully implemented in the middle school, and is starting to be implemented in the elementary school. The Social Contract is posted in every middle school TA and is also posted in many common areas throughout the school. Mr. Hennessey advised that the Social Contract is very powerful because it was defined by students rather than by staff or administrators. The Social Contract promotes respecting others' property, voice, space, and feelings. 'BCEMS is a judgement free zone !'. Students and parents were thanked for their attendance at the meeting. .

6.2 Audit Presentation

Four Draft Audits were distributed (BCEMS, BTMES, SHS/CVCC, and BSU). Each Draft Audit contained a draft letter (dated 12/06/19) from Mudgett Jennett & Krogh-Wisner, PC and a draft document titled 'Financial Statements June 30, 2019 And Independent Auditor's Reports' (BCEMS draft dated December 6, 2019, BTMES, SHS/CVCC, and BSU drafts were dated 12/05/19).

Tyler Kimberly, Senior Accountant, addressed the Board, advising that he will be presenting the highlights of the FY19 Audit. The Board is encouraged to provide feedback and ask questions. Mr. Kimberly advised that the audit went smoothly, and proceeded to provide an overview of the process which started in September and is currently being 'wrapped up'. The Audit found no material weaknesses or deficiencies, and included some discussion on consolidating the districts into one entity. Several adjustments were made. The BSU had the most adjustments, which mainly related to reporting activities. Mr. Kimberly provided an overview of the Fund Balances for each entity, and advised that next year's audit would be for a single entity. The Audit went very smoothly, and Business Office personnel work well with the auditors. Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins thanked Mrs. Perreault for her efforts on the Audit. Mrs. Perreault advised that it was very beneficial for Mr. Kimberly to guide the Business Office through the work involved combining into one entity. Mr. Kimberly answered questions from the Board, including one on the SHS Audit (page 7, Table 3), where it was noted that the 'years' listed in the table need to be modified. Mr. Pandolfo advised that all Board Members from the previous district Boards were sent copies of the Audits and were invited to attend this evening's meeting. The Board commended Mr. Kimberly, Mrs. Perreault, and Business Office staff for their work on the FY19 Audit.

On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins, the Board unanimously voted to approve/accept all of the Audits as presented, with one change to be made in the SHS Audit (BCEMS, BTMES, SHS/CVCC, and BSU).

6.3 Resignations/Retires/New Hires

The resumes and BUUSD Notification of Employment Status Form for Cooper Bushey (BTMES physical education – elementary school) and Heather MacAskil (BCEMS Behavior Specialist) were distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the

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candidates' experience, and advised that Board approval is only necessary for Cooper Bushey's position.

On a motion by Mr. Folland, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to approve the hiring of both candidates; Cooper Bushey and Heather MacAskill.

Letters of resignation from Tracy Taylor, RN, MSN (CVCC Medical Professionals Instructor), Steve Coultas (retirement) (CVCC Building Trades Instructor), and Carmen Mears (BCEMS Behavior Specialist) were distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview of the letters of resignation and retirement, and requested Board approval. In response to a query relating to the resignation letter submitted by Tracy Taylor, it was noted that many positions within the BUUSD require dual licenses. Mr. Hennessey advised that Ms. Mears is a graduate of both BCEMS and SHS, who has done a wonderful job with the kids, and that BCEMS has been very fortunate to have found someone to fill the position she is leaving.

On a motion by Mrs. Pompei, seconded by Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins, the Board unanimously voted to accept the resignations from Tracy Taylor, Carmen Mears, and Steve Coultas (retirement).

6.4 Field Trip Approval

A document titled 'Overnight/Out of State Field Trips' was distributed as part of the packet.

A revised version of the document was distributed. The revised document includes one additional field trip.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mrs. Pompei, the Board unanimously voted to approve the field trips identified in the revised Overnight/Out of State Field Trips document.

Mr. Cecchinelli queried regarding the ratio of adults to students on the February 6, 2020 Building Trades, Electrical and Plumbing Trades field trip to Boston for the Construction Trade Show.

7. Old Business

7.1 Budget Development

Ten documents were distributed:

A document titled 'Impact of Budget Increase Contributors on Tax Rates – BUUSD FY21 Budget'

A document titled 'FY21 BUUSD Draft 2 Summary – December 12, 2019'

A document titled 'FY21 BUUSD Budget Development Highlights – December 12, 2019 – Draft #2'

A document titled 'BUUSD FY21 Proposed Budget, Expense Summary – 12/12/19'

A copy of the BUUSD Projected Comparative Tax Rate Calculations for Barre City and Barre Town (for Budget Year 2020 – 2021)

A copy of an e-mail from Mr. Pandolfo titled 'tax rate increase breakdown' (dated 12/11/19)

A copy of a letter from Susan Young, Secretary of Administration to Rep. Johnson, Speaker of the House / Sen. Ashe, President Pro Tempore, (dated 12/02/19) regarding the 2019 Education Tax Rate Forecast

A copy of a letter from Craig Bolio, Acting Commissioner, Department of Taxes, to Rep. Johnson, Speaker of the House / Sen. Ashe, President Pro Tempore (dated 12/02/19).

A copy of a document titled 'Commissioner of Taxes Releases FY2021 Education Yield Letter

A document from the Vermont Department of Taxes titled 'The Education Fund and Education Finance' (dated 12/01/19)

Mrs. Perreault advised that the Finance Committee meeting was well attended and much honest and open conversation occurred.

FY21 is a very challenging budget year. Mrs. Perreault advised that the new statewide health insurance plan that was recently announced, adds 1.3 million dollars to budget draft 1. Draft 2, including Universal Free Meals, results in a 12.49% increase.

Mrs. Perreault advised regarding the recommendation for CVCC that was presented at the Finance Committee meeting. The RAB Board has asked that CVCC tuition not increase by more than 10%. Mrs. Perreault provided an overview of the Draft 2 Summary document, noting the cost per pupil at each building, and advising that she proposes using \$200,000 from the Tax Stabilization Fund, as revenue for FY21. In response to a query, it was noted that Universal Free Meals is still in the draft budget, though no final decision has been made. The amount budget for UFM \$750k, is an estimate that could increase if forms are not submitted by parents. It was noted that due to stigma, high school students are less likely to turn in the forms for free/reduced meals. Mrs. Nye advised that due to changes in the Federal threshold, 75 to 100 BTMES families no longer qualify for free/reduced meals. In response to a query, it was noted that there has been no official word regarding a change to the Tax Yield number. If the Tax Yield increases, it would be beneficial to the BUUSD. Implementation of Universal Free Meals would result in a tax increase of 3¢ (\$60 per year for a 200k house). All administrators are in favor of instituting Universal Free Meals. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the Impact of Budget Increase Contributors on Tax Rates document, and cautioned against budgeting too low. Mr. Pandolfo advised that the health insurance increase of \$1,917,500 results in a 7.5¢ increase for Barre City and an increase of 8.5¢ in Barre Town. Additionally, the increase for wages, (\$1,529,000) results in a 5.9¢ increase for Barre City and an increase of 6.8¢ in Barre Town. The tax impact including Universal Free Meals is a 16.3¢ increase for Barre City and an increase of 18.6¢ in Barre Town. Brief philosophical discussion was held regarding the reasons for healthcare increases. Mr. Malone expressed concern regarding the double digit tax increase. Mr. Isabelle expressed frustration that the BUUSD had been holding down per pupil costs for years and is now going to

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have a significant increase due to items that are not in the Board's control. Mrs. Perreault advised that the initial student counts were due from the State on 12/01/19, and have still not been received. Mr. Pandolfo advised that the Agency of Education has lost many employees and are having capacity issues. At the legislative luncheon, Mrs. Spaulding was told that if the BUUSD has issues with the Agency of Education, they should write to the Governor. Mrs. Spaulding announced that she will write to the governor and she encourages other Board Members to do the same.

7.2 Board Organization

7.2.1 Appointment of Negotiations Committee Chair as Voting Delegate for Statewide HealthCare Bargaining

A copy of a letter from Sue Ceglowski, Executive Director of the VSBA, to Mr. Pandolfo (dated 11/14/19) was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the document, and advised that Gina Akley is the present Chair of the BUUSD Negotiations Committee. Mr. Pandolfo recommends appointing the 'Negotiations Committee Chair' to be the voting delegate for Statewide HealthCare bargaining.

On a motion by Mrs. Pompei, seconded by Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins, the Board unanimously voted to appoint the Negotiations Committee Chair as the voting delegate for Statewide HealthCare bargaining.

7.2.2 Procedures

7.2.2.1 Public Comment at Board Meetings

A draft document titled 'Barre UUSD Board Procedure – Public Comment at Board Meetings' was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised that he has drafted the procedures for Board review and comments. Procedures do not need to be approved by the Board. If the Board believes the draft documents are satisfactory, he will remove the word 'draft' and the documents can be posted on-line. Mrs. Spaulding queried regarding the 'user friendly' flow chart that she requested for the procedure listed under Agenda Item 7.2.2.2. Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins advised that the flow chart was presented at the Policy Committee meeting. A note will be added to the 'Complaints Regarding Students, Parents, Employees, School, or District' procedure, advising that a flow chart will be added. The Board agreed that the drafts are satisfactory and the word 'draft' may be removed, and the procedures posted on-line.

7.2.2.2 Complaints Regarding Students, Parents, Employees, School, or District

A draft document titled 'Barre UUSD Board Procedure – Complaints Regarding Students, Parents, Employees, School, or District' was distributed. See discussion under Agenda Item 7.2.2.1.

7.2.2.3 Board and Board Committee Operation

A draft document titled 'Barre UUSD Board Procedure – Board and Board Committee Operation' was distributed. See discussion under Agenda Item 7.2.2.1.

7.2.3 March Board Elections

A document titled 'Article 11: Initial Directors' was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the document, advising that Mr. Boltin, Mr. Folland, and Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins terms end in March 2020. Mr. Pandolfo noted that the January meeting falls within a few weeks of the deadline for submission of petitions. Those wishing to run for Board seats should obtain the forms and necessary signatures and submit their petitions prior to the deadline.

8. Other Business/Round Table

Mr. Isabelle appreciates the recognition of student and staff.

Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins thanked Mr. Coon and Mr. Hennessey for the work they are involved in with students.

Mrs. Spaulding advised that Hedding Methodist Church is holding their annual Christmas dinner. Everyone is welcome to attend and/or volunteer.

Mr. Pandolfo advised that Board Members should have received an e-mail from VSBA regarding January being Board / Board Member Recognition Month.

Mr. Coon reported that the 3rd grade concert at BCEMS was wonderful, and that all Arts staff also joined the event.

Mr. Coon and Mr. Hennessey are very proud of BCEMS staff, who have recently been under a significant amount of stress. The recent stressors have had a major impact on morale and issues need to be addressed to keep the school functioning. Parents and community members need to address their concerns with administrators and stop attacking staff on social media. The recent social media attacks are unacceptable and uncalled for.

9. Future Agenda Items

- FY21 Budget
- Approval of the Announced Tuition
- Approval of the Winooski Valley & Statewide Choice of Public High School Collaborative for the 2020 – 2021 School Year (Under Act 129 (SEC. 34§ 822d 2A).
- Employee Retirements/Resignations/New Hires

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Two Board meetings are scheduled for January 2020. **Both meetings will take place at the BTMES Library.**
The Board will meet on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.
The Board will meet on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

10. Executive Session as Needed

10.1 Real Estate Matter

10.2 Litigation

10.3 Labor Relations Agreements

Items proposed for discussion in Executive Session include a Real Estate Matter, Litigation, and Labor Relations Agreements.

On a motion by Mrs. Pompei, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously agreed to find that premature general public knowledge of the items proposed for discussion would clearly place the BUUSD at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session, with Mr. Pandolfo in attendance, at 7:19 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. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 7:42 p.m.

11. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Folland, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin

*Barre City Elementary & Middle School
Spaulding High School*

Lisa Perreault, SFO
Business Manager

Jessica Barewicz
Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and
Assessment

Donald E. McMahon, M.Ed.
Stacy Anderson, M.Ed.
Co-Directors of Special Services

Annette Rhoades
Assistant Director of Special Services



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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

January 9, 2020

TO: Members of the Barre Unified Union School District Board.

RE: Central Office Report

Please accept the following report to the BUUSD Board:

1. Superintendent's Office:

- a. Carol Marold has recently met the requirements to become a Senior Certified Professional through the Society for Human Resource Management. Carol achieved this national certification by passing a challenging exam (which has a pass rate of only 55%). Congratulations to Carol! We are fortunate to have her expertise in our organization.
- b. I participated in aVSA Legislative Preview webinar on December 17. When the webinar slides become available I will share them, as they are a valuable reference as you advocate for important educational issues this coming session and beyond.
- c. I have just learned that the Education Funding/Act 173 Weighting Study which the General Assembly commissioned UVM to carry out was released on December 24. While I have not had a chance to read the (extensive) report yet, I am passing along the link here:
<https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/edu-legislative-report-pupil-weighting-factors-2019.pdf>
- d. The AoE has released another technical guidance document for Act 173 implementation - Local Comprehensive Assessment Systems in School District Systems (the link is below). This is the second of four detailed technical guidance documents (in addition to the summary) with the remaining two expected to come soon.
<https://education.vermont.gov/documents/local-comprehensive-assessment-systems-in-school-district-systems-act-173-technical-guidance>
- e. In December, the State Auditor's Office released an audit report on the Agency of Education and school districts' compliance with Child Protection Registry mandated checks. While Barre was not among the 18 SU/SDs listed as failing to complete some or all checks in 2018, we were listed as having one employee for which we were unable to verify completion of a check (at the time of the audit). We have since verified there is no issue with this employee; there was simply a mix-up with last names in the registry database. To see the full report, go to:
<https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/6584141/AOE-CPR-Report-Final-Rev.pdf>. For the VT-Digger article on the report release, go to:
<https://vtdigger.org/2019/12/18/auditor-school-districts-service-providers-failed-to-check-child-abuse-registry/>

2. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

- a. **Jan 20 Inservice:** Planning for January 20 inservice day is in full swing with the Instructional Leadership Team (ILT). The ILT processed all of the exit ticket and Google Form feedback from 11.11.19 to inform planning for 1.20.20. While the feedback varied, we took the major themes into account. Expanding the influence of our valuable investment in PLGs and facilitative leadership, administrators will be sharing facilitation with PLG facilitators. Groups will be mixed PK-12 and choice-based. We will analyze our available district-wide student data to inform a deeper understanding of our needs as a district. Then, February and March inservice will focus on trauma-transformed practices for supporting all students and educators.
- b. **Grants Update:**
 - i. BUUSD was recently awarded an additional \$2500 in BEST/Act 230 funding after being invited to apply for additional funds. These additional funds will further support trauma-informed professional learning opportunities for our educators.

- ii. CFP Amendment should be finalized soon. We are awaiting Secretary Dan French's final approval to our amendment which required a service plan for Barre City Elementary's implementation of Developmental Designs.
 - c. **Leadership Team Visits:** I have been meeting with each building-based leadership team to get feedback on the remainder of inservice days. Once those meetings are completed, I will report out themes and send a Google form to get input into PD needs across the district and ideas for a comprehensive PD/Continuous Improvement committee for next year.
 - d. **Curriculum Committee:** Math Curriculum and Teacher Leaders presented to the Curriculum Committee on December 11. A big thanks to Erin Carter, Venus Dean, and Chris Farnham for such a thorough presentation about PK-12 math curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices! January 28th's meeting is focused on PK-12 literacy.
 - e. **Proficiency-Based Learning:** While there has been much discussion statewide about the shift to a system of proficiency-based learning, it is important to stay centered on the purpose of the shift. This [blog post](#) from CVU Principal Adam Bunting and [this article](#) from Jeff Evans do a nice job of summarizing why we must remain committed to proficiency-based practices even though implementation inevitably hits bumps and snags along the way. These bumps are natural for such a change that promises greater equity for all students through
 - i. clear understanding for students, teachers, and families of where a student is along the path to achieving proficiency in transparent learning outcomes
 - ii. common, rigorous expectations across classrooms and grade-levels to ensure all students are progressing in achievement
 - iii. separating the assessment of effort (still important!) from academic achievement to better target instruction
3. Communications:
- a. **Annual Report:** I've been working steadily on this year's annual report. I've been getting quotes from multiple printing services and I settled on Jet Service out of Berlin to do the printing and mailing of this 8 page document to every household in Barre (7,528 households). USPS will update postage rates on January 26, with an estimated 2% increase, but at the moment we qualify for \$0.092 per mailing.
 - b. **Social Media:** I have been keeping all our schools social media pages on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram up to date. I've developed a good system of people either sending me content directly or inviting me into their classrooms to capture activities and it's been going great so far.
 - c. **Websites:** On December 4, myself and Kate Connizzo from the AOE led a training for other Communication Specialists in the state on making school websites compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This went very well. The first half of the training was a presentation and the second half was a workshop. In that workshop I worked with people 1 on 1 to look at their websites and give advice on how to be more compliant. Since this training, I've scheduled time in my week to go through each of our web pages and make sure everything is ADA compliant and up to date.
4. Business Office:
- a. The finance committee will put the finishing touches on proposed FY21 BUUSD and CVCC Budgets on January 7th, and will bring recommendations to the board on January 9th. The BUUSD FY21 Budget will have a more substantial increase in the per pupil spending than in the past however, we must keep in mind that the projected per pupil spending remains \$2,000 below the state average. It will be prudent to communicate to the community the importance of providing adequate funding to run the Barre schools, leading to better long-term outcomes for students. At a time when the nation is trying to produce workers with skills to master new technologies and grow young adults who will prosper in this competitive world, underfunding basic education would undermine the goals of the local education community leaving the students in Barre without the resources they need.
 - b. Ashley Young and I have been working closely with Aladdin, our contracted food service company, to address concerns which the building administrators have brought to our attention. Feeding children healthy, nutritious, delicious food along with teaching good eating habits is critical. We have begun the process of convening an advisory committee which will meet monthly and we also have started to conduct weekly on-site visits. Monthly surveys will be sent to students, results will be shared with all stakeholders so that we can continue to improve upon the food service program.
 - c. Calendar year-end activities are underway including open enrollment deduction adjustments, grant reporting, announced tuition calculations, annual report preparations, retirement reports, and 941s. The following IRS reporting will be completed by the end of the month: W2s, 1095s, and 1099s etc.
5. Special Education:
- a. As a continuation of the centralization of our special services department, Robin Poulin, Administrative Assistant has moved to the central office as of December 27th. We have shared communication with staff about the move and how documents and materials will flow after the move.

- b. We have hired Brandi Bohn as a new Speech and Language Pathologist. Brandi will be covering a FMLA leave at BCEMS through January and then will move to BTMES to fill the SLP position in that we were unable to fill for the start of the year. Brandi is originally from Spokane, Washington and has worked with the Birth to 3 and early childhood populations prior to her move to Vermont. Welcome Brandi!
- c. We recently met with District Technology Integrationists to begin the conversation about how assistive technology (AT) supports can be utilized in a universal design model and how AT can support students with special needs. Tech integrationists will join us at our January Special Ed Staff meetings to share available AT resources and talk with us about needs that they can be helpful with.
- d. The tide is rising at the SEA as we have recently accepted three new students and are currently considering applications for three more! We are happy to welcome our new BI Patricia Russell Copping, who has filled a long vacant position previously held by Lucas John at the ACT program. The pursuit continues for a new district owned facility that will allow our alternative special education programs to expand and support a broader scope of needs.

6. Technology:

- a. **1:1 Chromebooks Program for Barre Schools:** With a successful implementation of 1:1 Chromebooks program for all our high school students, we are now extending this initiative to our middle schools (BTMES first and BCEMS to follow). Unlike our high school students, middle school students will not be taking their assigned devices home. Chromebooks are subject to the same filtering rules both off and on campus. Although no web content filtering system is ever 100% effective, the software used by the District provides protection against inappropriate web content that meets federal Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requirements.
- b. **Tyler Technologies New Update:** Tyler Technologies released a new year-end version for its ADS Profund software. Our business department currently uses ADS Profund software from Tyler Technologies for budgeting, payroll, and other financials. We are working to install this new release on our server as soon as possible. Tyler Technologies require the latest version to be installed before printing 1095-C and 1095-B forms or creating electronic files for 1095-C/1095-B forms or IRS 1094 Transmittal Form.
- c. **E-Rate Applications:** We are in the bidding phase of our E-Rate applications process. We worked with our consultant to complete the filing of Form 470, a form that describes our required network infrastructure improvements. After all the bids are in, the next steps would be final negotiations and signing of an agreement with vendors. E-Rate funding has helped us over the years to acquire and maintain our network infrastructure

7. Early Education:

- a. Act 166 (Universal Preschool) is gearing up for registration to begin in February. All 3, 4, or 5 year olds are eligible for 10 hours of preschool funded by their local school districts. More information to follow.
- b. The BUUSD will hold annual PreK developmental screenings in March of this year. This is a little earlier than in years past. Residents of Barre City and Barre Town who have a child who will be 3 or 4 by September 1st, should be on the lookout for upcoming advertisements with details on how to sign up to attend.
- c. The Barre Town Early Education Program welcomes Heather Touchette as our new Prekindergarten permanent sub, supporting staff absences in preschool, and grades K-4 as needed. Both Barre Town and Barre City Elementary schools have an additional opening for Prekindergarten Permanent subs. A link to the application can be found on School Spring.

8. Human Resources:

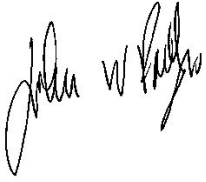
- a. Open Enrollment has closed for the 2020 insurance year. We will be insuring 407 employees and their families for a total of 960 lives insured (2020 numbers are estimates until BCBS completes their enrollment/change process in January). As a reference, in 2019 we insured 388 employees/841 lives.
- b. Flexible spending accounts will be utilized by 254 employees. Dependant care accounts will be utilized by 11 employees.
- c. We have learned that the state wide negotiated healthcare plan will be effective January 1, 2021 (as opposed to the original date of 7/1/2020). This is a relief since using the proposed fiscal year would have meant two open enrollment periods and almost impossible FSA/HRA calculations/protections.
- d. The state wide negotiated healthcare plan does not require us to use a common third party administrator. This is good news since our current TPA, Healthy Dollars, has been an excellent partner this year. After the issues with Future Planning and Data Path, moving from Healthy Dollars to yet another TPA would have been unfortunate.

9. Facilities:

- a. Winter season has set in and all of the BUUSD buildings are doing well. Heating systems are working well, the new snow plowing contractor is performing well and all is good. Ongoing maintenance as well as small scale projects will take us through the winter season.

- b. Guard rails were installed recently in the student parking lot at SHS/CVCC. Additional cameras, upgrades to the clock system and replacement of the fire alarm panel are upcoming projects at all of the school buildings soon. These are all part of the continuous efforts to improve the safety measures of the BUUSD buildings.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Pandolfo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "P".

John Pandolfo
Superintendent of Schools
on behalf of the Barre UUSD Central Office Administrative Team

JANUARY 2020

BUUSD CENTRAL OFFICE NEWSLETTER

"Doing whatever it takes to ensure success for every child."

WELCOME BACK....HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Barre City School

Barre Town School

Spaulding High School

Central VT Career Center



Baking Arts



Emergency Services



Culinary Arts

Mr. Taffel visits/Students of the week. Congratulations!!

Gobblewobblers, Mrs. Cooley's 4th Grade. Video

Assembly Fun!!

Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FFK4fPAhLqxjfuZdE_nLrXMY-FGMXasz/view



Ski Pass Recipients Congratulations!!



Computer Science - Hour of Code



Computer Science - Hour of Code

Central Office Staff

HUMAN RESOURCES:

Carol Marold, Director of HR
Leslie Babic, HR Specialist
Linda Papineau, Receptionist/HR Administrative Assistant

SPECIAL EDUCATION:

Don McMahan, Co-Director
Stacy Anderson, Co-Director
Annette Rhoades, Asst. Director
Sue Cioffi, Administrative Assistant
Robin Poulin, Administrative Assistant
Jason Derner, SEA Program Administrator

COMMUNICATIONS:

Josh Allen, Communications Specialist

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Tina Gilbert, Executive Assistant

BUSINESS OFFICE:

Lisa Perreault, Business Manager
Ashley Young, Senior Accountant
Kristin Gilbar, Accountant (Payroll SHS/CVCC/BTMES/CO)
Michelle Leeman, Accountant (Accounts Payable BUUSD)
Ann Baker, Accountant (BCEMS Payroll)
Kathy Couture, Medicaid Clerk
Jennifer Hart, Medicaid Clerk (PT)

EARLY EDUCATION:

Lauren May, Director
Rebecca Webb, Act 166 Coordinator
Megan Gonyaw, Administrative Assistant

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, & ASSESSMENT:

Jessica Barewicz, Director
TBA, Administrative Assistant

TECHNOLOGY:

Emmanuel Ajanma, Director
Megan Gonyaw, Administrative Assistant

FACILITIES:

Jamie Evans, Director



120 Ayers Street
Barre, VT 05641
Phone: 476-5011
Fax: 477-1132
Website: buusd.org





SUPERINTENDENT NEWS



I had the pleasure of attending the UVM Outstanding Teacher Ceremony on December 5. In addition to hearing an inspiring speech by outgoing Vermont Teacher of the Year Tom Payeur of Winooski High School and seeing teachers recognized from across our state, our own Don Singer (JROTC Instructor at Spaulding High School), and Tim Sanborn (Science Teacher at Barre Town Middle School) were recognized for making a difference in the lives of their students and colleagues. Congratulations to Don and Tim!

Please also join me in congratulating Alison Grogan and Michael Whalen for joining the ranks of National Board Certified teachers in our district. This is quite an accomplishment; the NBCT process is quite rigorous and exemplifies quality instruction. For more information on National Board Certification, go to <https://www.nbpts.org/>

In one more note of congratulations, Carol Marold has recently met the requirements to become a Senior Certified Professional through the Society for Human Resource Management. Carol achieved this national certification by passing a challenging exam (which has a pass rate of only 55%). We are fortunate to have Carol's expertise in our organization.

Questions have come up on employees using the "Admin-Principal" option in Aesop. I will provide some clarification here, and HR plans to follow up with a procedure on their webpage.

- 1) A staff member should have PRIOR APPROVAL from their supervising administrator (Aesop approver) prior to entering Admin-Principal for a reason into Aesop. In most cases, this will follow direct communication between the employee and the supervising administrator. In some cases, this could be done as a general approval and not need to be direct communication in every instance (i.e.; where a case manager goes to CHOICE Academy for a series of meetings over the year).
- 2) The staff member should almost always know in advance they will need this option so they should enter it into Aesop IN ADVANCE
- 3) If the staff member misses the deadline for Aesop, they should NOT go directly to the sub coordinator but should send an email to the supervising administrator (Aesop approver) who can then forward it to the sub coordinator saying "I approve". This keeps our sub coordinators out of the uncomfortable position of being put on the spot to enter Admin-Principal without authorization. Please remember, your sub coordinator is not your supervisor and is not authorized to approve your absence; they also have very challenging jobs and deserve all of our respect.

You will see some information from the Business Office about the FY21 budget. Unfortunately, this looks to be one of our most challenging budgets in years, in terms of the impact on tax rates in Barre City and Barre Town. The vast majority of the increase will be due to factors that are beyond our control. A significant portion of the increase is related to health insurance. Wage increases is always one of the biggest factors, as wages make up the largest portion of our budget. Additionally, many of the other increases are "right-sizing" the budget to our actual expenses, as we have avoided some increases in budget lines in the past in an effort to keep the tax rate low. While some taxpayers will be asking where the savings from merging our districts went, we can be thankful small efficiencies we are seeing from the merger, or else tax rate increases would be even higher. We should remember that we continue to provide a high quality education to our students at a cost that is still well below the state average; our current Draft 3 Budget has a projected per pupil spending \$2,000 below the statewide FY21 estimate.

Reminder: As we enter re-licensure season, please stay ahead of the timeline, work with your Local Standards Board, and get a copy of your new license report to Tina Gilbert when you have completed the process.

Column Movement Notification Requirement for Teachers - Written notification to the Superintendent for horizontal salary schedule changes taking place for the next contract year are due on or before **January 15, 2020**. It is understood and agreed that a teacher will submit to the superintendent the appropriate administrative form(s) and transcript(s) indicating satisfactory completion of the course(s) taken before a change in horizontal salary schedule placement will become effective. This notice of course completion shall be provided to the superintendent by November 1st. If you have any questions at all please feel free to contact Tina at ext. 1015.

Lastly, in case you didn't see it in the Curriculum section of last month's newsletter, I will again share the link to a Ted talk by 2019 Nebraska Teacher of the Year Sydney Jensen about the secondary trauma that impacts school staff, as I feel it is very relevant. Sydney offers some great thoughts on how to build and enhance a trauma-informed/trauma-transformed system. I will credit Becca Webb, our Regional Act 166 Coordinator, with finding and sharing this talk.

https://www.ted.com/speakers/sydney_jensen





BUSINESS OFFICE



REMINDER: The BUUSD's consolidation on July 1, means that all employees were employed by two different entities in the calendar year. All employees (employed before July 1, 2019) will receive at least two W2s. These will be in your mailboxes by January 30, 2020. Contact Kris or Ann if you have any questions.

SCHOOL BUDGET: The BUUSD Board will be reviewing and approving a FY21 Budget at their meeting on January 9, 2020. Many of you are residence of Barre City or Barre Town. Please encourage your family, friends, and neighbors to exercise their right to vote on March 3, 2020. Requesting an absentee ballot is very convenient and all it takes is a call to your local municipal office. Barre City residents may call 476-0242, and Barre Town residents may call 479-9391.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: No matter what your resolutions are, the key isn't making the list it's sticking to it. Here are five resolutions that can help improve your financial wellness for the new year:

- 1) Create a budget
- 2) Manage your debt
- 3) Optimize your portfolio
- 4) Prepare for the unexpected
- 5) Protect your assets



RETIREMENT: As an employee in the BUUSD you have the benefit of contributing to a tax deferred 403(b) plan with very competitive administrative fees. You also have the benefit of accessing advice from an Edward Jones financial advisor. Please see our website under Human Resources, Retirement, for more information about how to locate an Edward Jones office near you. Following are the 2020 IRS limits on elective deferrals. The most an employee can contribute to a 403(b) account out of salary - is \$19,500 in 2020 (\$19,000 in 2019). Employees who are age 50 or over at the end of the calendar year can also make [catch-up contributions](#) of \$6,500 in 2020 (\$6,000 in 2015 - 2019) beyond the basic limit on elective deferrals. The limit on annual additions (the combination of *all* employer contributions and employee elective deferrals to all 403(b) accounts) generally is the lesser of: [\\$57,000 for 2020](#) (\$56,000 for 2019).

We wish you health and happiness in 2020!!!

Welcome 2020

HUMAN RESOURCES

The statewide healthcare bargaining process has been completed and we have confirmed that it's unlikely there will be changes that substantially affect the BUUSD's healthcare coverage for 2020. Changes will take place on January 1, 2021. This means that you won't need to do anything until the next open enrollment in the fall of 2020. We will keep you posted!

We are happy to announce that we will be working with Healthy Dollars again this year as the Third Party Administrator for our health insurance plans. Healthy Dollars has been a great partner for us as our TPA and we look forward to another smooth year.

We still have many different opportunities for new paras. Did you know that the top three reasons our paraeducators came to the BUUSD are: (1) their desire to work with children; (2) the school schedule; and (3) the Barre location? The best way to recruit talented, engaged employees is through employee referrals. Please send them right to our website for a list of the current open positions. <https://www.buUSD.org/district/employment>



EARLY EDUCATION



Act 166 (Universal Preschool) is gearing up for registration to begin in February. All 3, 4, or 5 year olds are eligible for 10 hours of preschool funded by their local school districts. More information to follow!

The Barre Town Early Education Program welcomes Heather Touchette as our new Prekindergarten permanent sub, supporting staff absences in preschool, and also grades K-4 as needed. Both Barre Town and Barre City Elementary schools have an additional opening for Prekindergarten Permanent subs. A link to the application can be found on School Spring.

The BUUSD will hold annual PreK developmental screenings in March of this year. This is a little earlier than in years past. If you live in Barre City or Barre Town and have a child who will be 3 or 4 by September 1st, be on the lookout for upcoming advertisements with details on how to sign up to attend.



Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment



Jan 20 Inservice: Planning for January 20 inservice day is in full swing with the Instructional Leadership Team (ILT). The ILT processed all of the exit ticket and Google Form feedback from November 11th to inform planning of January 20th; while the feedback varied across the board, we took it into account in our planning and want you to know that your feedback matters. If the agenda for January 20 is not shared with everyone prior to the holiday break, it will be shared soon after.

Google PD Calendar: Here is a [link](#) to a Google calendar to house PD and meeting information. It will become more comprehensive and detailed as time goes by. If you click the event, as they become available details and relevant documents will be added to the description boxes to help pull things into accessible spots for everyone. Please add this to your list of calendars for easy access.

Leadership Team Visits: Jess has been meeting with each building-based leadership team to get feedback on the remainder of inservice days. Once those meetings are completed, she will report out themes and send a Google form to get input into PD needs across the district and ideas for a comprehensive committee for next year.

Curriculum Committee: Math Curriculum and Teacher Leaders presented to the Curriculum Committee on December 11. A big thanks to Erin Carter, Venus Dean, and Chris Farnham for such a thorough presentation about PK-12 math curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices! January 28th's meeting is focused on PK-12 literacy.

Relevant Topics:

Proficiency-Based Learning: There is much chatter about PBL implementation across the state. These are recent articles that help recenter us around the why and purpose of PBL.

- [“An Argument for PBL,”](#) Adam Bunting (CVU Principal) blog post
- [“Striving for Proficiency and Beyond for All Students,”](#) Jeff Evans (CVUUSD Curriculum Director) article in Shelburne News

Questioning Techniques for Deeper Learning:

- [Higher Order Questioning in one 6th grade classroom](#)
- [Questions are More Important Than Answers](#)
- [Question Formulation Technique](#)

Truancy: We've been talking some about truancy at Administrative Team meetings knowing there are many angles to examine in how to improve student attendance. [This article](#) is an accessible way for all of us to positively encourage attendance for students when the issue often feels so beyond our control.

Collaboration and High Quality Teams: Collective efficacy might be a new buzz word, but it is also a significant indicator of the success of any school or system. Our ability to achieve the collective goals we set can sometimes be limited or enhanced by how much we truly believe we can actually attain our lofty goals together.

- [What Drives Collective Efficacy?](#)
- [How Collective Efficacy Develops](#)
- [Getting to No:](#) Building True Collegiality in Schools



FACILITIES

The maintenance departments in all of the BUUSD buildings performed small projects during the winter vacation break. Extra cleaning, preventative maintenance, routine maintenance and various other duties were tackled. SHS/CVCC replaced their dated fire alarm panel with a new fire alarm panel. Be sure to thank your custodial and maintenance crew for their hard work.

The grounds continue to look good with the snow plowing contractor for all BUUSD properties, the heating plants are working well and all is well with all of the buildings at this time.



COMMUNICATIONS



Annual Report: My attention is shifting more and more towards the budget as the vote date begins to approach. I am gathering all materials for our Annual Report, which I am using as a tool to tell our story and educate our voters on the upcoming budget. You can expect this document to be in the mailbox of every Barre household shortly before Town Meeting Day.

Census: As Census Day approaches us on April 1, I wanted to share a reminder why it is so important for schools. The count impacts the federal funding we receive each year for programs and services that are critical for schools, students, and younger children, such as: Special Education, After-School Programs, Classroom Technology, Food Assistance, and Child Health Programs. The US Census Bureau has released resources designed specifically for schools, with materials designed for any age level. <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/2020census/2020-resources.html>

In The Schools: I've been having a great time in the schools taking photos and sharing the great things you all are doing with our community on social media. Please reach out to me at jallebsu@buusd.org if you have anything exciting happening in your classroom and you'd like me there to capture it! A lot of you have already been doing this and I really appreciate it.

Social Media: Follow our schools!

	FACEBOOK	TWITTER	INSTAGRAM
BCEMS	/bcemsvt	@bcemsvt	@bcemsvt
BTMES	/btmesvt	@btmes	@btmesvt
SHS	/shscrimsonside	@shscrimsonside	@shscrimsonside
CVCC	/centralvermontcareercenter	@cvcc_vt	@centralvermontcareercenter



TECHNOLOGY



BUUSD tech help website:

The technology integrationists collaborated to create a tech help website for BUUSD teachers. The site contains videos, tutorials, and quick tips organized by relevant classroom topics. All the tutorials highlight tools that are available here in the District. You may contact the Technology Integrationist in your building with questions. This tech help site for teachers is now live on the following link: <https://sites.google.com/buusd.org/barreschoolstechhelp/home>.

1:1 Chromebooks Program for Barre Schools:

With a successful implementation of 1:1 Chromebooks program for all our high school students, we are now extending this initiative to our middle schools (BTMES first and BCEMS to follow). Unlike our high school students, middle school students will not be taking their assigned devices home. Chromebooks are subject to the same filtering rules both off and on campus. Although no web content filtering system is ever 100% effective, the software used by the District provides protection against inappropriate web content that meets federal Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requirements.

Windows 7 support ends:

A reminder to everyone that Microsoft will end support for Windows 7 this January. We are working now to upgrade our remaining Windows 7 devices to Windows 10. Let us know if your school computer is still running on Windows 7 so we can update your device. For your safety, please check your home computers and upgrades to Windows 10 if you have not done so. [Read more about these changes from Microsoft.](#)

G Suite December Updates:

- Send emails as attachments in Gmail ([Link](#))
- Propose a new meeting time or add a note to Calendar invites in Gmail ([Link](#))
- Review the latest changes to a new Google Site before publishing ([Link](#))



SPECIAL EDUCATION



In a continuation of the centralization of our special services department, Robin Poulin, Administrative Assistant has moved to the central office as of December 27th. We have shared [communication](#) with staff about the move and how documents and materials will flow after the move.

We have hired Brandi Bohn as a new Speech and Language Pathologist. Brandi will be covering a FMLA leave at BCEMS through January and then will move to BTMES to fill the SLP position that we were unable to fill for the start of the year. Brandi is originally from Spokane, Washington and has worked with the Birth to 3 and early childhood populations prior to her move to Vermont. Welcome Brandi!

As shared in the December Newsletter we have now finalized and shared IEP, Initial Evaluation and Re-evaluation checklists to be used by our special education staff to ensure required steps are completed during the IEP and Evaluation Process. Please let us know if you do not know how to access these and we will help you out.

We recently met with District Technology Integrationists to begin the conversation about how assistive technology (AT) supports can be utilized in a universal design model and how AT can support students with special needs. Tech integrationists will join us at our January Special Ed Staff meetings to share available AT resources and talk with us about needs that they can be helpful with.

We continue to meet with building Administrators weekly to share ideas and learn from each other. This has been a very productive process that has proven to strengthen our systems of student supports.

The tide is rising at the SEA as we have recently accepted three new students and are currently considering applications for three more! We are happy to welcome our new BI Patricia Russell Copping, who has filled a long vacant position previously held by Lucas John at the ACT program. The pursuit continues for a new district owned facility that will allow our alternative special education programs to expand and support a broader scope of needs for the students in our district.

Upcoming PATH Opportunities

HIIT Thursdays with Brittany Tremblay from 4:15-5:00 pm at Granite City Group Fitness, January 2-February 6th (nominal fee), watch for signups via email (Only six spots left as of New Year's Eve)

HIIT or High-Intensity interval training, also called high-intensity intermittent exercise or sprint interval training, is a form of interval training, a cardiovascular exercise strategy alternating short periods of intense anaerobic exercise with less intense recovery periods. This class could include body weight exercises as well as various weights and equipment. HIIT stations, partner exercise, and/or individual work. The class can accommodate all fitness levels and is setup as an "at your own pace" type of workout. It is truly a great workout for any BODY!

Ongoing Yoga with Christina Morris 4:00-5:00pm (nominal fee)

Thursdays January 2 until March 12th (10 sessions)(following school calendar) @ Barre Town School (Large Multipurpose Room), watch for signups via email

Classes will begin seated or lying down, using a grounding meditation to start, then incorporating breath and movement, progressing toward standing postures and thoughtful sequences engaging the whole body. (Suggestions for modifications for all different body types will be offered). Class will end with some seated postures and a short savasana (rest), then a final meditation.

BSU Family Skate! 5:30-6:30pm (FREE)

Saturday January 11th @ BOR, Barre, no signups required-just come and have fun!

Come skate with your family, co-workers and friends. The ice is rented exclusively for us! Free snacks will be provided.

Building Coordinators – BCEMS: Diana Flood, Jessica Maurais, Ian Thomas; **SHS:** Beth Bicknell, Jesse Carpenter, Sarah Chap; **CVCC:** Wendy Clark, Cheryl Zanleoni; **BTMES:** Laura Thygesen, Jessie Casavant, Amy Robertson; **BUUSD:** Michelle Leeman

VINS Nature Camp Registration is open - <https://vinsweb.org/nature-camp/>

NEW NATURE CAMP! Survival Superpowers: Frozen World - February 17-21, 2020/Grades 1-4

<https://vinsweb.org/nature-camp/february-2020/>



Upcoming Calendar Events



January 7 – BUUSD Finance Committee Meeting - 5:30 pm – Spaulding High School Library

January 9 – BUUSD Board Meeting – 5:30 pm – BTMES Library

January 11 - BUUSD Family Skate - PATH sponsored event at B.O.R - 5:30 pm

January 13 – BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting – 5:30 pm – Central Office

January 20 - Staff Development Day

January 20 – BUUSD Policy Committee Meeting – 5:30 pm – Central Office

January 23 - BUUSD Board Meeting - 5:30 pm – BTMES Library

January 28 – BUUSD Curriculum Committee Meeting – 5:30 pm – BTMES Library



Spaulding High School

155 AYERS STREET, SUITE 1
 BARRE, VERMONT 05641-4300
 TEL: 802-476-4811 • FAX: 802-479-4535
 Website Address: www.shsu61.org

Luke Aither
 Assistant Principal

Brenda Waterhouse
 Principal

Jim Ferland
 Assistant Principal

January, 2020
 Principal's Report

Athletics:

Fall Sports:

- The compilation of the student surveys and parent surveys with the coach evaluations has been completed. With the new evaluation tool, it has taken a little longer in completing the coach evaluations this time around, but the individual follow up meetings with each coach are in progress; if any constructive feedback was given, plans for improvement will be formed. We are very excited with the new evaluation tool and opportunities for both students and parents to provide feedback, as well as the feedback that we received.

Winter Sports:

- **Girls Hockey**- Currently have a 5-0 record, sitting in 1st in D3. They are the Middlebury tournament champions with a 3-2 overtime win; **Camryn Bell** scored the game winner with 14 seconds left in the overtime. Camryn was athlete of the week for the Times Argus (week of December 22nd), and was on the ballot for player of the week for the Burlington Free Press (week of December 22nd).
- **Boys Hockey**- Currently have a 3-1 record, sitting 4th in D1. They are coming off a huge win over BFA 1-0. **Grant Otis** was on the ballot for player of the week for the Burlington Free Press (week of December 22nd).
- **Varsity Girls Basketball**: Are adjusting well to the new coach Tanya MacAuley. Currently 1-3 playing a metro schedule, with a win over Colchester 49-37.
- **Varsity Boys Basketball**: Are currently 1-3. They defeated BFA 65-59. They have been competitive playing in a tough metro schedule. They have had 2 games postponed thus far due to weather.
- **Indoor Track**: They have competed in 3 meets this season. Boys have finished 1st in all of them. On Saturday, December 28th, **David Poulin** broke the school record with 10 minutes and 18.46 seconds for the 3000m run. The previous record was held by **Taite Magoon** set on December 29, 2018 with 10 minutes and 29.91 seconds. Girls have finished 4th, 7th and 5th respectively in the 3 meets.

- **Wrestling:** Traveled to Whitehall, NY on December 20th – 21st. They finished with 3 wins and 4 losses in the Whitehall Duals Tournament. **Carter Dickinson** went 7-0, **Colton Perkins** 7-0, **Nick Pierce** 6-1, and **Matt Durgin** 5-2 over the course of the weekend! On December 27th – 28th they traveled to North Berwick, ME to compete in the Noble Holiday Tournament. SHS had 3 finalists: **Carter Dickinson**, **Nick Pierce** and **Ryan Glassford**. **Carter Dickinson** was named the male athlete of the week for the Times Argus (week of December 22nd). The team has a few more out of state day tournaments this season. January 4th @ Keene, NH. January 18th @ Pelham, NH Gionet Memorial Tournament. January 18th @ Southern New Hampshire Quad Tournament. February 1st @ Franklin County Duals in Franklin, MA. February 8th @ Plymouth Invitational in Plymouth, NH.

Other Athletic Notes:

- Baseball interviews have been completed. We are in the process of finalizing references for our candidate.

Students & Community:

- Please see the attached January Newsletter. The monthly newsletter highlights the closing of semester one, the start of semester two and the planning for the 2020-2021 program of studies as well as course registration. Additionally, junior and senior information about SATs, ACTs and scholarships is noted.
- We are working on increasing our online presence. Josh Allen has been instrumental in getting us going in this direction. We are in the process of getting more student involvement in the communications, as well as increase the awareness of amazing happenings throughout the building.
- In the September [Newsletter](#), the new Office Hours and Plans for Academic Success (PAS) system was outlined. Students that had earned a Below or Unsatisfactory in their academic courses received an email, along with their parents, indicating that they would need to work on their plan. The teachers worked closely with the students needing to make a plan, receive support and complete work. Parents should have received a follow-up plan for each course their child needed to work on.

After each implementation, we seek feedback and ways to improve our system. The Call Back Day is reserved as a final opportunity to reassess at the end of the semester if a student has a few performance indicators to complete and has attended their Office Hours (see the January Newsletter for more information). We are also in the process of finalizing clear and consistent communication for the second semester courses around Office Hours and PAS expectations.

At the end of the semester, we will review our data for the number of students attending each Office Hours, attendance challenges on the Office Hours days and the students that have successfully completed courses versus not, as compared to previous years. We do expect the second semester will not only be much smoother in function, but that we will

have even greater gains in students staying current with their work as well as success in completing courses.

- NHS, Michelle LaFrancis and Jim Ferland are coordinating an event with the Vermont Relay for Life to raise money that will be used to support those battling cancer in our community. Luminary Bags to be displayed at our SHS hockey double header on Saturday, February 15th. The bags will be \$3/each or 2/\$5. Although we did not do this event last year, we have done this in the past. Our own Dawn Poitras is the impetus for our efforts this year.

Staff:

- **Michael Whalen** has recently completed his National Board Certification. *National Board Certification was designed to develop, retain and recognize accomplished teachers and to generate ongoing improvements in schools nationwide. It is the most respected professional certification available in k-12 education.* Mike has been working on his certification for the last four years and will be a NBCT (National Board Certified Teacher) for a period of five years, at which point he would have to renew his certification.
- **Myrna Miranda-O'Neill** will be attending the Caribbean Without Borders conference, where she has been accepted to present the literary works of the New York diaspora poets, which she researched for her dissertation. The conference will be an opportunity to immerse herself in the language and cultures, as well as connect with other presenters from a variety of disciplines focusing on the politics of language and linguistics, Caribbean history and resistance and teaching techniques. She will be attending the conference March 3rd – 5th.

Student of the Week

- **Kai Morse** (nominated by Katie Saint Raymond) *Kai works hard to be a great student leader to their peers and is taking on a lot. They contribute to Student Council and Drama Club. This month, Kai approached me to ask if they could take on more roles in the drama club, including stage managing and assistant directing Winter One Act Play.*
- **Gabriel Stone** (nominated by John Bushnell) *He was the last one out of my block 4 class yesterday and noticed another student had left an unopened bag of chips on a table. Although he desperately wanted to eat these chips, he demonstrated integrity and willpower by turning them over to me so that I can give them to their rightful owner today. As a result, I purchased an even larger bag of the same chips for him after school to reward him for doing the right thing when it could have been so easy to do the wrong thing. Furthermore, although he is not always 100% focused in class, Gabe really gets involved more often than not and contributes enthusiastically to our discussions.*
- **Jack Dodd** (nominated by Sue Brennan) *He met with John Pandolfo on Friday to stand up for himself as a student who identifies a certain way, and that takes a lot of courage. John was supportive and helpful, but that didn't make it any less of a risk for him.*
- **Matt Tacey** (nominated by Michelle LaFrancis) *I must submit Matt Tacey for the amount of heart he has for not only soccer, but basketball and Work Based learning. He is the ultimate professional, athlete and an inspiring person who wants to not only lead his peers and colleagues on the field and the court, but also in the classroom or medical office.*

Athlete of the Week

- **Camryn Bell** (nominated by Natalie Soffen) *I am nominating freshman Camryn Bell from girls hockey. She scored 6 goals in her high school debut and helped the team defeat Harwood/Northfield 7-3. She has also been named a captain on this year's team, which is rare for a freshman.*
- **Matt Tacey** (nominated by Jesse Willard) *My vote goes for Matt Tacey. He is our leading scorer but also our best leader. He put his arm around several kids at practice and in the game to get their heads right. He is emulating servant leadership.*

Staff Person of the Week

- **John Bushnell** (nominated by Laurie Berryman) *I want to nominate John Bushnell for being so student centered and for attending so many IEP and 504 meetings!!*
- **Jim Willis** (nominated Hailey LaFaille) *He is so helpful and always so happy. He is always willing to go out of his way to make sure students really understand the content and he makes learning fun. I prefer to go up to the Tide Pool everyday for advisory to get math help because it's such a quiet area where he can truly help you one on one without any distractions. I don't think I would be passing math class right now if I didn't have Mr. Willis to help me.*
- **Erin Carter** (nominated by Madison Henderson) *She teaches both AP Calc classes and is incredibly dedicated to the success of her students and the school. She taught me in AP Calc last year and she contributed a positive learning environment and attitude to whatever I needed help with. She deserves a lot of recognition for not only her teaching, but everything she involves herself in.*
- **Michael Whalen** (nominated by Ezme Quittner & Emily Morris) *Mr. Whalen always makes class fun and he creates an enjoyable environment in the classroom. & Mr. Whalen makes history fun and interesting.*

Spaulding High School Newsletter

January, 2020

Call Back – January 17th

All semester and quarter classes will have a final submission deadline of January 16th. Teachers will then determine those students that will be eligible for Call Back Day (January 17th). To be eligible, students must be close to meeting proficiency in the course, must have attended all required Office Hours for that course and must have made appropriate progress on PAS (Plan for Academic Success) for the course, if a PAS had been previously required. Students that had not been previously required to attend Office Hours or complete a PAS need only meet the criteria for being close to meeting proficiency. The Call Back Day is intended for students to demonstrate proficiency within a 75-minute block; not spend hours trying to recover a semester's worth of standards. This is not intended to be a pressured time, but rather, a final opportunity for those students that have worked hard throughout the course and are close to proficiency.

Although the philosophy of proficiency allows students extended learning time and strives to have all students demonstrate proficiency on standards, we are also trying to hold students accountable for continuing to do their work when assigned and not procrastinate in their learning efforts. This is why we have implemented the PAS system and the Call Back time as we have.

Parents and guardians will receive an email from their student's teachers indicating if the student is invited to attend Call Back Day or not. An email for either case will be sent by each teacher. Questions about student progress should be directed to the individual teachers, but counselors can also be contacted for assistance.

Second Semester – January 21st

Second semester schedules will be printed and provided to all students on January 21st. These will be distributed during Block 1 classes, and there will be lists posted in the Main Lobby, outside the School Counseling Office and in the Auditorium Lobby indicating where each student's first block class is located.

Students may schedule an appointment with their school counselor to make changes to their schedule. The add/drop period will end at the end of the day on Monday, January 27th. We encourage parents and guardians to discuss student choices of courses with their students as well as with their school counselors. We offer a variety of course offerings and learning opportunities and encourage all students to take full advantage of their learning and explore areas of interest.

Community Forum

The community forums are held on the first Tuesday of each month – which will be January 7th. Due to feedback and survey information about time of day forums are held, the forum will be **5:30 PM to 6:30 PM** in the Cafeteria. This is a change in time. Light refreshments will be available.

Our topic for discussion for this month will be about Boosters – supporting all teams and clubs. Suggestions for future topics are always welcome and may be submitted to Jim Ferland, Assistant Principal, at jferlshs@buusd.org

2020-2021 Planning

Although we are less than half way through the 2019-2020 school year, we are well under way with the 2020-2021 planning. We are reviewing our current course offerings and considering student interests and needs to be best prepared for college and career readiness in preparing our 2020-2021 Program of Studies. The Program of Studies will be made public in early February, and the School Counseling Department will be holding registration meetings with students, as follows:

- Class of 2021: February 18th – February 21st; March 4th – March 6th
- Class of 2022: March 9th – March 13th
- Class of 2023: March 16th – March 20th
- Class of 2024: March 23rd – March 26th (held at Barre City on the 23rd & 24th; at Barre Town on the 25th & 26th)

Parents and guardians are invited to attend these meetings, either in person or via phone. Please reach out to your students' school counselor to express interest in participating in the appointment, so that counselors can schedule appointments appropriately.

Please note that students interested in applying to CVCC (Central Vermont Career Center) must submit their applications to the School Counseling office by Tuesday, January 7th. For more information, please contact your student's school counselor.

Spring SATs / ACTs

Spaulding High School is one of the area schools to host the SATs and ACTs. The next SAT testing to be held at SHS will be on March 14th. Students need to register no later than February 14th to avoid late registration fees. Registration for the SATs takes place through collegeboard.org and is recommended for all prospective college-bound juniors. The next ACT testing to be held at SHS will be on April 4th. Students need to register for the ACT through act.org no later than February 28th.

Students and families are responsible for the fees, but scholarships are available for those with financial needs. Please contact Ry Hoffman, Head of School Counseling, at rhoffshs@buusd.org for more information or for support in the registration process.

Scholarships

Seniors considering college or post-secondary programs should apply for our in-house scholarships. Spaulding High School is fortunate to have the SHS Scholarship Trust that manages generous donations for the benefit of our students' post-secondary aspirations. Students can not be considered for scholarship if they do not apply, however!

Applications will be available January 31st and are due by April 10th and will be available on our school website at <https://www.spauldinghs.org/academics/counselingguidance-office>. Questions about the scholarship application process can be directed to John Lewis at jlewishs@buusd.org or Ry Hoffman at rhoffshs@buusd.org

Veggie Van Go – Expanded Time!

We are excited to welcome Veggie Van Go to Spaulding! Fresh produce and vegetables will be made available to any students and parents from 7:30 AM – 9:00 AM on the third Tuesday of each month.

Last month, we had potatoes, apples and cabbage – all free for the taking. Unfortunately, we do not know in advance what produce and fruit will be available, but we encourage families to stop by in the morning and grab the fresh options, along with learning about recipes incorporating such options. Parking will be identified near the entrance of Pendo Field, and there is a short walk to the exterior of the cafeteria. If there are questions or handicap needs, please feel free to contact Brenda Waterhouse, Principal, at bwateshs@buusd.org for more details.



SUPPORT OUR WINTER TEAMS



in an effort to create a world
with less cancer and more birthdays!

ATTEND

one of the games listed below and make a minimum donation of \$3
so you can create a luminaria bag for
a loved one or friend who has or had cancer.

Leave your bag with one of our Student Representatives at the game
or the Main Office by Thursday, February 13th
in order for your luminaria bag to be a part of our community display.

Wrestling

JV/Varsity Boys Basketball

Boys & Girls Hockey

JV/Varsity Boys Basketball

JV/Varsity Girls Basketball

Wrestling

Boys & Girls Hockey

Wed., January 8th

Mon., January 20th

Wed., January 22nd

Thurs., January 23rd

Fri., January 24th

Tues., January 28th

Wed., January 29th

then join us at

A NIGHT OF HOPE

Community Display of Luminaria Bags

Saturday, February 15th at the Boys & Girls Hockey



FOR TIMES, GO TO THE ATHLETIC WEBPAGE



Barre City Elementary & Middle School

Hayden Coon, PK-4 Principal
 Christopher Hennessey, 5-8 Principal
 Office (802) 476-6541
 Fax (802) 476-1492

50 Parkside Terrace
 Barre, VT 05641

Pierre Laflamme, PK-8 Assistant Principal
 Counselors (802) 476-7889
 Nurse (802) 479-6920

January 9, 2020

Dear Barre Unified Union School District Board,

We would like to begin by offering a sincere thanks to all of you for the warm reception our student presenters got when they shared the new BC Middle School Social Contract last month. This group of students was very proud of their work and the impact this contract will have on our community. Consistent implementation is the next key step! We are looking forward to having the Origins team rejoin us later this month to help us with this essential next phase of our Developmental Designs work. Please feel free to share your thoughts on our new contract, and we welcome you to spread the word in the community as well! For your review, the BC Middle School Social Contract:

BE KIND AND RESPECTFUL...

- **Treat people the way you want to be treated**
- **Respect people's property, voice, space and feelings**
- **Accept others for who they are. Be tolerant!**
- **Contribute positively to your community and encourage your classmates**

BE RESPONSIBLE AND PARTICIPATE...

- **Keep an open mind! Be creative!**
- **Come prepared and available to learn to all your classes**
- **Growth mindset: try your best and accept respectful feedback**
- **Use your hands and your brain to learn and have fun!**

BCEMS IS A JUDGEMENT FREE ZONE!

The holiday break provided many folks with the opportunity to rest, reset and enjoy time with family and friends. For us, the non-student days also provided some much needed time to reflect on our first year and a half here at BCEMS, while also allowing us to assess our community's needs and develop a strong plan going forward. Coming up with a plan that both meets the needs of our community while being fiscally responsible is always a challenge of course, but we are as committed to doing so now as the day we started.

We recently completed a survey of all of the teachers participating in the Professional Learning Groups (PLG's). Based on the feedback and data in this survey, it became clear to us that this team approach to problem solving has been extremely beneficial to student learning. As we continue our mission to be able to better serve all of our learners, there is no doubt that the PLG teams are an invaluable and vital component of our work together. We look forward to continuing this PLG work with the Great Schools Partnership in the coming months!

A Few Updates and Announcements

The weather didn't cooperate initially, but the rescheduled middle school concert was a huge success despite the postponement! Music Director **Morgan Osinaga** led our talented 6th, 7th, and 8th grade musicians and singers in a beautiful night of seasonal and holiday songs. All who attended loved the experience! Our 5th grade performers will be having their concert on the evening of January 22. We have a large and growing group of 5th grade band and chorus students (a great sign!), so we thought a special night for them would be a great idea -- please feel free to join us and show your support!

Long time principal **James Taffel** visited BCEMS on the Friday before break. As part of a long standing tradition, the staff sang seasonal and holiday songs while James played the piano for the morning arrival. Students young and old were surprised and delighted to see Jim as they came in to get their breakfast!

We wish you all a Happy and Healthy 2020, and we thank you for your support!

Respectfully,

Hayden and Chris

“Doing Whatever It Takes to Ensure Success for Every Child”

Barre Town Middle & Elementary School



Building Report

January 9, 2020

5-8 Drama Club: Our drama club is off and running! They are gearing up for their performance of Disney Junior's "The Little Mermaid" in the Spring.

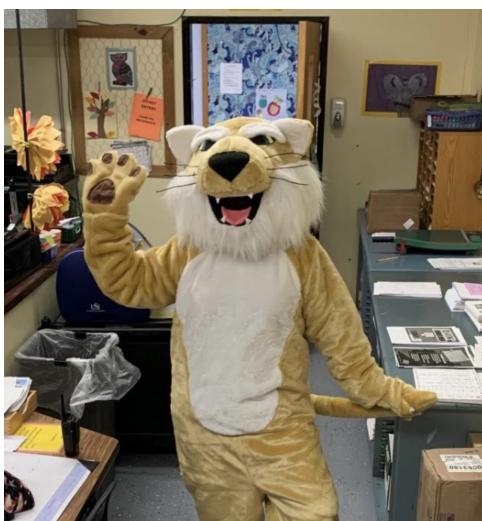
Hour of Code: On Friday, December 13th, many of our students took part in the Hour of Code. Hour of Code is designed to demystify "code" and show that anyone can learn the basics. The link showcases some of the terrific work our students created - <https://wke.lt/w/s/FLjPOk>. Amazing work by everyone involved!

Math Menu Course: Monday, January 6, 2020 is the first day of the final Math Menu Course. Once this course has been completed, all elementary and middle school special educators and teachers of math will have received this math professional development across the BUUSD.

National Board Certified Teacher: Please join us in congratulating elementary special education teacher Alison Grogran who is now a Nationally Board Certified Teacher! Way to go, Alison!

Report Cards: Quarter 2 will end on Friday, January 17th. Report cards will be sent home with students on Friday, January 24th.

Special thanks to our PTO: The BTMES PTO fundraisers have been very successful and they were able to order our school a brand new Bobcat Mascot costume.

**Upcoming Dates/Events:**

Monday, January 20th - Staff Development Day--No School for Students
Wednesday, February 5th - 100th day of School (barring no additional snow days)

Barre Town Middle and Elementary School

January 2020 Newsletter

70 Websterville Road
Barre, VT 05641
802-476-6617
FAX: (802)479-5723
www.btmes.org



Happy New Year!



Dear Barre Town Families,

Welcome 2020! We hope that everyone had time over winter break to connect with loved ones and to celebrate the holiday season.

We are excited to share that we were able to enter into a contract with Barre Town Police to have a School Resource Officer on campus for up to 10 hours a week. While we await the day when we can announce that we have a full-time School Resource Officer, we are grateful that we have secured this amount of time. Chief Dodge and his department continues to partner with us to ensure a presence here at school as often as possible.

School Resource Officers are a cornerstone of community-based police forces across America. Community-based policing or community-oriented policing is both a philosophy and an organizational strategy that allows the police and the community to work together to solve problems of crime, disorder and safety issues and to improve the quality of life for everyone in that community.

What do School Resource Officers do? The main goal is to create relationships with students and families which leads to partnerships between the community and our police department. The basic duties of a school resource officer include creating awareness for law-enforcement education related to the school's safety, monitoring those who visit schools, providing assistance for disruptive students, enforcing rules, and supervising the campus of the institution. You may see an Officer outside with students on the playground, partaking in physical education class, speaking with students in a health class, or working with students on projects in any classroom, or in our parking lot.

If you have any questions regarding School Resource Officers please don't hesitate to reach out to either one of us.

Warm regards and best wishes for a wonderful 2020,

Erica Pearson,
BTMES Co-Principal
eppearbte@buusd.org
802-476-6617 ext. 6309

Jennifer W. Nye,
BTMES Co-Principal
jnyebte@buusd.org
802-476-6617 ext. 6308

P.S. With the start of a new year, this is a great time to check the batteries in your smoke detectors! Remember, having at least one per floor is best and you want to ensure that your smoke detector is photoelectric - if it also detects carbon monoxide that is even better!

Inside this issue:

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Student Art on Display

Students have been busy completing a variety of projects ranging from printing to painting to collage. Many of these works are now on display for everyone to enjoy. Congratulations to the students listed below whose art is featured at the following locations!



The Chiropractic Office of Dr. Curt Healey

(K) Rory Boston, Lissa Day, (1st) Hudson Lytle, Alayna Owen,
(3rd) Katelyn Bisson, Ava Kennedy, Shaelyn McGowan,
(4th) Emileigh Fisk, Brooklyn Kearney, Thia Uthmann,
(5th) Aubrey Boyce, Rowan Moran

At BTMES:

Mrs. Nye's Office

(K) Carson Bliss, Josie Munroe, (1st) Tarah Carten, Lilo DeJesus, Calahan Farnham, Gavin Jones,
(2nd) Juliet Rousse, Courtney Smith, (3rd) Charlotte Clark, Carter Folsom, Chloe Geno, Rhys Verret, (4th) Cameron Aldrich, Clayton Bell, Aiden Meredith

The Nurse's Office

(K) Scott Hebert, Bailey Shea, (1st) Michael Anderson, Faith Kingzett, (3rd) Caleb Longo, Quinn Munukka, Justin Semprebbon, Eva Van Orman, (5th) Lily LaPerle, Brayden Masure

The Gallery At Barre Town

(K) Mrs. Burrough's class, (1st) Ms. Pratt's class, (2nd) Mrs. Custer's class, (3rd) Ms. Zapora's class, (4th) Ms. Lane's class, (5th) Mrs. Thomas' class

The Elementary Art Room

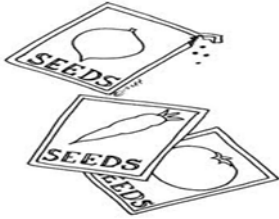
(2nd) Mrs. LeCours' class

And, a special "Thank You" to parent helper, Shannon Kirkpatrick, and BTMES alum, Madison Hebert, for their help in preparing work for these shows.

Ms. Leeds, K-5 Art Teacher



Crops by Kids



Some years snow blankets the ground, some years we have had green peeping through in January. Today it is COLD, well below zero! Who knows what the temperature will be when you read this.

Regardless of the weather, it isn't too early to think of all the plants you want to grow this summer. We hope many of you are anticipating the annual Crops by Kids **seed fundraiser**.

Last year, for the first time, the seeds came from **High Mowing Seeds**. This was the most successful fundraiser yet. Be looking for the seed order forms by mid-January. If you don't receive one, and would like to, email dcurtisbte@buusd.org with your child's name and homeroom teacher. We want to support your gardening needs and we'd like you to support ours.

Hope you had a chance to see the full moon in December, it was the last one of the decade. The full moon in January is called the Wolf Moon or sometimes the Ice Moon.

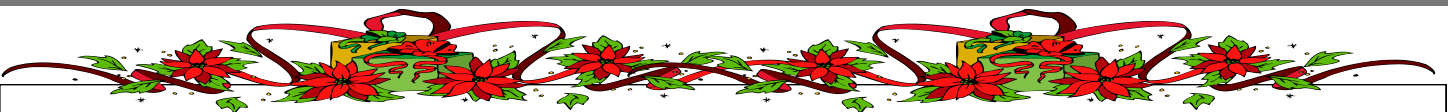
So here's hoping for a winter with the hope of plenty of snow to cover the garden and for plain 'ol fun in the snow.

A quote for the month, "When oak trees, bend with snow in January, good crops may be expected". Taken from *Wit, Wisdom, and Practical Advice: Useful Tips and Fascinating Ideas for Everyday of the Year*.

Happy Gardening...

Deb Curtis, dcurtisbte@buusd.org

David Stefaniak Holiday Food and Gift Drive



As Coordinators for the David Stefaniak Holiday Food and Gift Drive, we want to thank everyone who participated. Anything you contributed; a can of vegetables, a box of food, blankets under our tree, monetary donation or perhaps, you sponsored a family... we thank you! We could not have done it without your help!

This year we were able to make the holidays a little easier for 15 Barre Town families which included 40 children. With Student Council collecting an astonishing 4,529 food items, we were able to provide enough food for these families to help them over the long holiday break and create a food shelf for our students to access. This type of care and support is why the school and the community are often referred to as a "Barre Town Family".

Thank you for taking care of our Barre Town Family.

Kim Benson and Bridgett Apfel



News from the Nurses' Office

As the excitement of the holiday season unwinds and we begin to truly settle in for winter, we may find ourselves ready to focus our energy inward. Mindfulness is the act of being truly present in the moment and being in touch with what is happening around us and how we are responding to whatever that may be. It calls for pausing and reflecting before reacting. Mindfulness is wonderful for both adults and children. Children can develop lifelong skills and techniques to help them manage their emotions and reduce their stress. Randy Taran, CEO and founder of Project Happiness, has these eight suggestions to help you bring mindfulness into your family.

1. Take on a Family Mindfulness Challenge: When you model the mindfulness you want to see in your children, they understand it on a whole new level. So, give it a try. You can sit on a chair or floor with your back straight but not tense. Close your eyes and use your other senses, like listening. A simple minute of **mindful breathing** is one great way to start. There are also **free apps and websites** available to help guide your practice, which can be great for beginners.

2. Choose a "Mindfulness Corner": It could be in a bedroom or main area. Make it special and uncluttered. You can have everyone in your family put a personal symbol, like a pillow, photo or blanket, in the middle of the room so it becomes like a "zone of peace" that is there at any time. Designating a physical location literally "holds the space" for mindfulness to become a regular family habit, much like sitting down together to eat a meal.

3. Set a Time: Just like athletes schedule practice sessions to improve their skills, having a designated mindfulness time helps make it a go-to habit. Before bed is a wonderful time, as the mindfulness practice relaxes everyone into a more peaceful state. Some families use a special chime to take turns bringing everyone together. As your family gets used to practicing mindfulness, the special space in your home can serve as a good place to go when anyone in the family needs to take a break from anger, or frustration. If you practice moments of calm, it makes going to that space in moments of stress easier.



4. Have Mindful Mornings: Getting out the door for school is stressful. Consider ways to de-stress, like waking up a little earlier for some quiet time, or encouraging your children to help (as they can) to pack their lunches the night before. Dr. Christine Carter of **Greater Good Science Center** prepares for the morning rush by placing sticky notes on her fridge. They are reminders to NOTICE emotions, NAME the emotion, ACCEPT what is going on, and BREATHE (pausing to take a few deep breaths) before jumping into action.

Check out our Parent's Guide to learn more about how to better manage your emotions.

5. Practice Mindfulness Around the Table: Remember how good it feels to express gratitude at the Thanksgiving table? What if you could do this once a week? Schedule a time where everyone talks about what they are grateful for in their life and something they appreciate about others at the table. This is all about being in the moment and taking time to notice the good stuff (there's always good stuff, even if it's just a hot meal or the smile on your child's face!). It will uplift everyone there.

News from the Nurses' Office (con't)

6. Designate Mindful Boundaries: Having established boundaries promotes a feeling of consistency and safety. They provide a perimeter, within which children can exercise their autonomy. If the boundaries are mindfully thought out in advance, then there is less reason for you to constantly say no. It's equally important to create situations where your child can experience autonomy (e.g., "You can be the leader on the hike."). In *Mindful Discipline*, Dr. Shauna Shapiro makes the case that children need *both* boundaries and autonomy. Shapiro asserts that children need a degree of autonomy to develop a sense of responsibility over their lives. They also need clear boundaries, which gives them a sense of safety, and a clear idea of who is the parent and who is the child. The author suggests that you ask yourself, "What is most needed in this moment? Is it space, autonomy, or a boundary? Or maybe it's some of each: you can run around the park, but here's a line you can't cross—a non-negotiable line."

7. Be Mindful with Discipline: There's no getting around it - discipline is part of parenting. Why not address it mindfully? If you see discipline as teaching, rather than confrontation, the first step is pausing enough to be mindful of what your child is feeling. In *No-Drama Discipline*, Dr. Dan Siegel and Dr. Tina Bryson suggest:

- Communicate comfort so your child feels safe to open up. Get down to your child's eye level, and put your hand on his arm or hug to give him a sense of reassurance. You can also tell him, "It's hard, isn't it? Can you tell me about it?"
- Validate and say something like, "If I were in your shoes, at the same age, I might feel the same way."
- Listen. Rather than lecture, breathe.
- Reflect. Say back what you hear like, "I understand that you're upset because you don't want to go to bed right now."
- Redirect. After you understand what was happening internally to your child, you can determine what you want to teach and how best to do it. For example, you may want to say, "If you get your rest now you won't feel tired at school tomorrow. Would you like to read one more book and then we can tuck you in so you can go to bed?"

8. Share Your Experiences: The more you and your child practice mindfulness, the more natural it becomes. You will draw on it in all aspects of life. If you used mindfulness when you felt your emotions rising, (in traffic, at the office, with friends), and you were able to pause before reacting, share that experience with your child. Encourage her/him to do the same. You will inspire one another in ways you might not even imagine.



Midnight Mountain

Midnight Mountain Program



As our 8th Grade students start to prepare for their transition to Spaulding High School, some have some mixed emotions and natural anxieties regarding that upcoming transition. Additionally, research proves that a successful Freshman year at High School can aid greatly in a student's ability to successfully complete their high school education, as well as positive future endeavors. To this end, both the Barre Town Middle and Elementary School and the Barre City Elementary and Middle Schools have adopted a transition program called "Midnight Mountain".

Midnight Mountain is a 6 day program (three days during the school year and three days in the summer) intended to help build healthier skills for transitioning to the 9th grade at Spaulding High School. Additionally, completion of the program earns ½ SHS elective credit. Through the use of experiential learning activities aimed at building self-esteem, body awareness, and personal relationships, 15 students from BTMES and 15 students from BCEMS will be able to take advantage of this fantastic program. In addition to the Midnight Mountain staff, members of the Spaulding High School staff also take a leadership role at this program, allowing students an opportunity to build relationships with their future teachers.

Our 8th grade students will learn more about this program on January 10th with a presentation during the school day from SHS counselor Peggy Portelance, Georgie Stapleton, and previous students of this program. All 8th graders will have an opportunity to get an application for Midnight Mountain on January 10th. If you or your student is interested in the program, please be sure to complete the application and turn it into Mrs. Goodrich. This is a first-come, first served application process!

Should any parent or student have questions regarding this program, please feel free to contact Mrs. Goodrich directly at sgoodbte@buusd.org or 476-6617 ext 6240.

Other Events and Happenings

HOCKEY NIGHT IN BARRE IS BACK!

Come cheer on your local hockey players! Each Barre Blades hockey team will host a Friday night game, that will include a light show, music, entertainment, giveaways, Chuck-a-Puck, 50/50 raffle, face painting, and whole lot of fun!

Friday Night Lights Games will all start at 7:15pm at the B.O.R.
This is a free event.

Schedule:

January 3rd - U10 Blue

January 17th - Mites

January 31st- U14



Sat. Feb 8th
11am-2pm

Free Entry!!

VERMONT GRANITE MUSEUM

2020 Winter Festival!

Saturday February 8th
11am-2pm

Enjoy free indoor and outdoor fun at the Vermont Granite Museum!

- Snow Painting
- Valentine Creation Station
- Warm up by our Bonfire with a S'mores
- Hot Chocolate, Cider and treats!



Bring your snowshoes or cross country skis and enjoy all our 12 acre property has to offer!

January

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 Holiday Vacation	2 Back to School	3
6	7	8	9 BUUSD Board Mtg, BTMES Library—5:30pm	10
13	14 PTO Bookstore 7:30am-12:00pm—Lobby	15	16	17
20 Staff Development Day - No School for Students	21 PTO Meeting, Library 6:00 p.m.	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31 Grade 4 Band Concert 10:30am



February

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5	6 Winooski Valley Music Festival	7 Staff Development Day - No School for Students
10	11 PTO Bookstore 7:30am-12:00pm—Lobby	12	13 BUUSD Board Mtg, BTMES Library—5:30pm	14
17	18 PTO Meeting, Library 6:00 p.m.	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
Vacation				



DIRECTOR CTE BYTES

- ❖ 11-13-2019: Stefanie Seng and Sarah Capron attended a FERPA/ Data Security training.
- ❖ 11-16-2019: CVCC hosted the 2nd annual scholarship fundraiser, **upscale/resale event**. This event raised \$200.
- ❖ 11-26-2019: 31 students received Quarter 1 Student Choice or Teacher Choice awards. Recipients received certificates to a lunch in the LunchBox, catered by Culinary Arts students. 36 students received Perfect Attendance awards and were entered into a raffle for the end of year drawing.
- ❖ 12-02-2019: Tim Hammond, Exploratory Technology Teacher, presented to the **RAB group**.
- ❖ 12-05-2019: CVCC hosted the annual **Open House**. About 400 visitors attended, from 7 school communities. The silent auction fundraiser to help support scholarships and awards raised \$848. CVCC received great feedback from visitors about the event and CVCC as a whole.
- ❖ CVCC Teachers ended their **Information Day visits to sending schools** in December. Teachers presented information about their programs to students through videos, displays, and table talk with interested students.
- ❖ **SkillsUSA**: 3 programs are currently signed up to participate.
- ❖ Clifton Long, the Plumbing and Heating instructor, wrote a published article titled **CTE and the Benefits of a Single, Statewide Career and Technical Education District**. <https://design.education.vermont.gov/wordpress/?p=189>
- ❖ Adult Education is offering classes in January for woodworking, google, basic excel and word, and basic automotive skills. Regular LNA courses are still available. <http://www.cvtcc.org/cvcc--adult-education.html>
- ❖ Regular meetings: CVCC Team Leader meetings, staff meetings, Literacy meetings, and events team meetings took place.

Out of State FIELD TRIPS=3 (all trips are supported via Associated/Fund Raised money)

Construction Trade Show: Boston, MA – February 6th (one day): 3 programs attending: Building Trades, Plumbing and Electrical. Approximately 50 people (3 staff and 47 students) – free of charge and a bus is provided.

Building Trades Program Trip: Louisiana – Hurricane Relief Work – April 9-17, 2020. 3 staff and 12 students attending.

Cosmetology II Trip: May 30-June 2, 2020 Hair Show in Orlando, FL (10 students and 2 adults)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

There were 5 local field trips in December, in addition to the Exploratory students who are shadowing programs throughout the career center. 2 field trips were college visits related to the program field of study.

Baking Arts: Students in baking arts have been busy providing treats to local area businesses. For example, Nelsen's Hardware hosted a special event and supported surrounding businesses by having their wares represented. Treats from the BakeShop were represented at the local table and were a big hit.

Cosmetology 2: 3 special guests have come in so far this year. In October Pulp Riot Hair company came in for a color theory class, Cory Kwansiak shared with students basic theory for color and a lot of tricks and tips to help with formulating. In November a Sexy Hair company representative taught a product knowledge class, Margaret McClellan explained everything so easily and made the class very relatable to the industry. December was Pretty in a Minute styling class, Anthony Gallo was very inspiring and motivating. Students were really engaged with his lesson. He demonstrated using different styling tools and students were able to try them out.

Digital Media Arts 1: students have been mastering photography as well as graphic design and are soon to start their filmmaking unit. Aiming to create professional-quality work, students have captured photography in the studio, with portraits, out on field trip adventures, and beyond! In our design unit, students have focused on graphics that can be used to communicate visually, especially in terms of marketing, advertising, and branding. Students have been showcasing their work on a class website, which can be accessed at www.cvccdigitalmediaarts.com

Human Services Program: Four students are halfway through the semester at CCV. They are enrolled in an Introduction to Human Services class. In January, all students will be enrolled through Fast Forward at CCV taking Fostering Creative Learning Experiences in Early Childhood Education. All students have successfully completed their first round of job shadows in the preschool classrooms at BCE and BTE schools.

Medical Professions: Students participated in the Stop the Bleed certification course offered at Waterbury Ambulance. Each student received a certificate of completion. Medical professions students handed out self-care kits to staff. All items in the kit were handmade and created using multiple program resources/skills. Cosmetology 2 and Medical Professions students teamed up to provide staff wellness care clinics to staff at CVMC.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Spirit Week December 16-20 - Student Leadership collaborated to put together this year's Spirit Week themes for CVCC students: Mon. CVCC school Color day, Tuesday 1970s style, Wed- Flannel, Thurs- Dress up like a teacher or staff member and Fri- was Program Switch Up. Students and staff participated.

Student of the Month - for a full description visit the CVCC office to see the student of the Month board.

November:

Tina Taylor is an adult student, in her 3rd year at CVCC. What she likes most about Baking Arts is having her own space to work and being able to compare the different recipes she prepares. She says that the Career Center has helped her find her own voice. Her teacher, Wendy Clark, said Tina has set the bar for maturity in the program and works well with classmates. She is always prepared, assignments are turned in on time and are thorough.

Ben Thomas is a Senior in Automotive. He is independent, detail oriented, positive and a good role model for his peers. Ben plans to work in automotive and welding as a means to fund his years in college. He plans to eventually attend law school.

December:

Dalton Cody is a Senior at CVCC and a Co-op student. He is completing an internship at Rehab Gym in Barre where he is learning to be a personal trainer. Dalton is a motivated student who is focused on his career path. His employer said Dalton is friendly and always willing to help.

North Hodgson is a 2nd year CVCC student. North is participating in the Co-op program working for SD Ireland in Williston in the welding, fabrication, and small engine departments. North has been described by his Co-op instructor as punctual and a person with the technical skills combined with the employ-ability skills businesses are looking for. He is polite, friendly, an independent worker, and willing to help out.

Upcoming events: 01-17-20 Quarter 2 Awards, 01-20-20 All staff in-service, 02-06-20 parent/teacher conferences

If you have any further questions or comments please contact

Penny Chamberlin
Director
802.476.6237
ext. 1138

Scott Griggs
Assistant Director
802.476.6237
ext. 1045

Respectfully Submitted 12.23.2019 by

Administrative Assistant



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BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Barre Unified Union School District Central Office – First Floor Conference Area
December 16, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Andrew McMichael (BC Community Member)
Jon Valsangiacomo – (BT Community Member)

ADMINISTRATORS AND STAFF PRESENT:

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

OTHER BOARD AND PUBLIC MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins, called the Monday, December 16, 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

Add 5.4 Changes to Board Procedures – discuss procedures related to when a quorum of the Board is present at a Committee meeting. This item will be discussed after Agenda Item 4.1 (Approval of Minutes).

Mr. Griggs advised that he has one change to a policy reference.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – October 21, 2019 Policy Committee Meeting

The Committee agreed by consensus to approve the Minutes the October 21, 2019 Policy Committee Meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 Review of BUUSD Policy Manual Index

A copy of the VSBA Model Policy Index for Section C: Students (dated 12/06/19) was distributed.

A copy of the BUUSD Policy Manual Index was not distributed. Committee Members were asked to reference the document they received at October's meeting (if they brought their copy with them).

5.2 Discuss Including or Removing Legal References

Brief discussion took place under Agenda Item 5.3.

5.3 Review and Revisions: Section: Students

Copies of the following policies were distributed;

C1 – Education Records

C3 – Transportation

C5 – Firearms

C6 – Participation of Home Study Students

C7 – Student Attendance

C8 – Pupil Privacy Rights

C9 – Federal Child Nutrition Act Wellness Policy

C11 – Student Freedom of Expression in School-Sponsored Media

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For the above list policies, the BUUSD policy wording, for the most part, matches the VSBA wording. VSBA has reviewed the policies, and the only change that was made was removal of the legal references. Is removal of legal references considered a substantive change? **Mr. Pandolfo will get an answer regarding whether or not the Board needs to approve by First and Second Reads, policies whose only change is the removal of legal references.** If First and Second Reads are required, these policies could be added to the January Agenda for First Reads.

The BUUSD has all of the VSBA required student policies and most of the VSBA recommended student policies. The BUUSD does not have policy C22 (not needed), or policy C26 not needed (only needed for schools that don't have a designated high school).

The BUUSD has policies C30 through C34.

The BUUSD has policies C40 through C43 that are BUUSD 'only' policies.

Policy C3 – Transportation - can be brought to the Facilities and Transportation Committee for review.

Policy C5 refers to the “Vermont Commissioner of Education”. Mr. Pandolfo will see that the wording is changed to “Secretary of Education”.

VSBA was supposed to review and revise Policies C10, C20, C21, C24, C25, C27, C30, and C34 by early December, but has been unable to complete the review process.

Though the Committee is slated to review additional Section C policies in January, the BUUSD may be in a holding pattern, waiting for the VSBA.

Upcoming revisions to policies C4 and C10 are expected to contain substantive changes and will require First and Second Readings prior to adoption.

VSBA may possibly write Surveillance and Transgender Policies.

Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins queried regarding whether or not we need to confirm that all procedures are in place and documented.

C10 – Prevention of Harassments, Hazing & Bullying Policy

This policy is not on tonight's agenda. It has not been reviewed by VSBA.

Mr. Aither requested that Policy C10 be amended to have the word “Retaliation” in the title. Mr. Aither believes that fear of retaliation prevents students from reporting issues. Though retaliation is addressed in the policy, it is not in the title. If the word Retaliation is not in the VSBA revised policy, Mr. Aither would like it added to the title of the BUUSD version of the policy.

5.4 Changes to Board Procedures

Three documents were distributed:

A draft of the BUUSD Board Procedure on Complaints Regarding Students, Parents, Employees, School, or District

A draft of a flow chart to be added to the Procedure on Complaints Regarding Students, Parents, Employees, School, or District

A draft of the BUUSD Board Procedure for Board and Board Committee Operation

Mr. Cecchinelli queried regarding procedures for when a Board quorum is present at a Committee meeting, and asked if under those circumstances, should the Board be called to order? Mr. Pandolfo believes calling the Board to order under those circumstances could be problematic, as a Board meeting was not warned. If the Board were called to order without the meeting being warned, the Board may be in violation of Open Meeting Laws. Mr. Pandolfo advised that if the Board Procedures (drafts are in this meeting's packet), are followed, legal counsel believes there should not be a problem. Mr. Pandolfo can explore this issue more if the Committee wishes.

Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins provided an overview of the flow chart drafted by Mrs. Akley. It had been suggested that a flow chart would be beneficial to parents. Brief discussion was held regarding updates to the flow chart and procedures, which include addition of events that occur off campus, at athletic events, extra-curricular activities etc. Mr. Aither is concerned that the flow chart is for students, but is titled for others also. **Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins will advise Mrs. Akley regarding the requested changes.** Mrs. Kerin-Hutchins suggested the Committee consider hot-linking procedures to policies and vice-versa. Mr. Pandolfo advised of one concern relating to hot-links. Could there be legal issues if procedures change? Mr. Cecchinelli queried regarding the existence of a handbook of procedures. Mr. Pandolfo advised that many procedures are in a handbook, but are also located in many other areas. It will be a large undertaking to consolidate all procedures in one location, but it will be a worthwhile endeavor.

6. Old Business

None.

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7. Other Business

Mr. Griggs advised that Policy D30 (Field Trips) should reference Policy B2 (Volunteers and Work Study Students), not D7. Mr. Pandolfo will see that the correction is made. The Field Trips Policy, D30 may be addressed when working on Section D. The BUUSD should consider deleting this policy per the VSBA September 2018 Newsletter.

8. Future Agenda Items

- Removal of Legal References
- Continued Review of Section C – Student Policies
- Review Draft Procedures
- Board Procedures (this will be a ‘standing’ Agenda Item)

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is Monday, January 20, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the BUUSD Central Office in the First Floor Conference Area.

10. Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin

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BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

Spaulding High School - Room 10
December 11, 2019 - 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Victoria Pompei, Chair (BT)
Anthony Folland (BC)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Gina Akley, Vice-Chair (BT)
Tim Boltin (BC)

ADMINISTRATORS AND STAFF PRESENT:

Jessica Barewicz, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
Chris Hennessey, Principal (CEMS) – arrived at 5:50 p.m.
Jennifer Nye, Principal (BTMES)
Brenda Waterhouse, Principal (SHS)
Erin Carter
Venus Dean
Christine Farnham

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Malone

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mrs. Pompei, called the Tuesday, December 11, 2019, BUUSD Curriculum Committee meeting to order at 5:39 p.m., which was held at Spaulding High School in Room 10.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

None.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Review / Approval of Minutes- October 22, 2019 BUUSD Curriculum Committee Meeting

The Committee agreed by consensus to approve the Minutes of the October 22, 2019 BUUSD Curriculum Committee Meeting.

5. Committee Business

5.1 PK-12 Math Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Presentation (led by Erin Carter – SHS Department Chair and Venus Dean – PK – 8 Math Coordinator)

Three documents were distributed;

A document titled 'ALL LEARNERS NETWORK'

A document titled 'BUSUD Math Self-Reflection for Inclusion and Differentiation in Mathematics Instruction'

A copy of the Power Point presentation from August 28, 2017 titled 'Pre-K – 8 Mathematics in the BSU'

Ms. Carter addressed the Committee and provided an overview of her role at Spaulding High School, advising that she has been the Mathematics and Statistics Department Chair for the last 9 years. Ms. Carter provided an overview of the curricular area, advising of Common Core standards, and the Common Core Mapping Project that was undertaken to assure that all required standards are covered in Algebra (A & B), Geometry, and Algebra 2. Ms. Carter advised regarding the scope and sequence of the SHS Mathematics Program, advising that students who start at SHS who are not ready for Algebra 1, are enrolled in Connections or Foundations. Students who have completed Algebra/Honors Algebra and Geometry/Honors Geometry, can enroll in Honors Pre-calculus, AP Calculus AB/BC, and Statistics/AP Statistics. New electives include Robotics, Engineering, and Computer Science. Ms. Carter provided an overview of Standards, both long-form and 'student friendly'. Ms. Carter also provided an overview of standards by standards rubrics that are shared with students. Ms. Carter spoke briefly on lesson plans. Ms. Carter provided an overview sampling of assessment data for 2019, which indicates that SHS students are near or above the Vermont student average. Math interventions

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available to students include; Math Tutorial (every morning and afternoon, except Tuesday), a Math Interventionist in Tide Pool, one para-educator for IEP students, Special Educator support in the Connections Program, and Math Club and Math League (two extra-curricular activities to challenge the strongest learners). Students may also opt to take the UVM Math Exam which is held every March. Ms. Carter provided an overview of the process for placement of incoming freshmen and transfer students, and advised regarding the breakdown of placement by level. The presentation also included a brief overview of Professional Development, past and present. Future wants and needs include; more advanced computers for the Computer Science Program, addition of Advanced Robotics, staffing to assist with SAT preparation, graphing calculators for all students, additional math proficient para-educators, CCV concurrent enrollment statistics, and coordination for Credit Recovery and Alternative Pathways Programs. The Committee discussed various ways to obtain graphing calculators. Ms. Carter was thanked for her presentation to the Committee.

Mrs. Dean and Ms. Farnham introduced themselves to the Committee and advised regarding their roles at the BUUSD and their years of service in the BUUSD (16 and 20 years respectively). The goal by the end of 8th grade is to have all students prepared to take Algebra 1 when they enter high school. The Committee was advised about staff training led by John Tapper, Ph.D., and of the goal for all students to have access to grade level mathematics through conceptually based teaching strategies. The ideal lesson structure includes; Launch (a mini-lesson), the Main Lesson (grade level instruction), Math Menus (students select problems from their menus), and a Debrief. The Committee was advised regarding 'Number Talks' and participated in a 'Number Talks' lesson/session. 'Number Talks' involve mental math (improving efficiency, accuracy, and flexibility), help build fluency and math understanding, and promotes the sharing of ideas and strategies (students learn from each other). Professional Development includes completion of the Inclusion and Differentiation Course, focused curriculum work time (creation of low floor, high ceiling tasks, creation of number talks, identifying formative assessments, and creating math menus), reviewing student work and making instructional decisions, access to three Curriculum Camps during June, Professional Development on Number Talks, and participation in the All Learner's Cohort meetings and conferences. A brief overview of the Self-Reflection form was provided. The Self-Reflection form is used for identifying strengths and areas for growth. Continued needs includes; continued efforts to improve inclusion and differentiation, improved content knowledge, longer math class periods (in middle school and for some elementary grades), continued work on Number Talks, expansion of Number Talks to middle school, continued curriculum work that is focused on adapting current mathematics programs to incorporate components learned from Inclusion and Differentiation for Mathematics, and money for family engagement and equity of opportunities (BCEMS has grant money to fund family math nights, BTMES does not). Mrs. Nye advised that BCEMS and BTMES have been working to align the amount of time spent in classes. Mrs. Pompei advised that Mr. Boltin, who could not be in attendance this evening, would like to know how staff identify and provide opportunities for advanced students. Mrs. Dean advised that staff do not go out of their way to identify students who excel.

5.2 Review of Annual Work Plan

A document titled 'Curriculum Committee FY20 Annual Work Plan (revised based on September 2019 Curriculum Committee feedback)' was distributed.

Mrs. Pompei would like to discuss Proficiency Based Grading and teacher expectations for reporting. Literacy has been moved to the January meeting. The regular February meeting falls during February break and will need to be rescheduled.

6. Other Business

None.

7. Items for Future Agendas

PK -12 Literacy Curriculum, Assessment Data, Current Programs, and Support Services

8. Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting is Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the BTMES Library.

9. Adjournment

The Committee agreed by consensus to adjourn at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin

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**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**
BUUSD Central Office – First Floor Conference Area
December 10, 2019 - 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sonya Spaulding (BC) - Chair
Victoria Pompei (BT) – Vice Chair
Gina Akley (BT)
Anthony Folland (BC)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Paul Malone

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Josh Allen, Communications Director
Stacy Anderson, Co-Director of Special Services
Penny Chamberlin, Director Central Vermont Career Center
Hayden Coon, BCEMS Principal
Jamie Evans, Facilities Director
Chris Hennessey, BCEMS Principal
Donald McMahon, Co-Special Services Director
Jennifer Nye, BTMES Principal
Lisa Perrault, Business Manager
Brenda Waterhouse, SHS Principal

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dave Delcore, Times Argus Lori Hébert

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mrs. Spaulding, called the Tuesday, December 10, 2019 BUUSD Finance Committee meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., which was held at the BUUSD Central Office in the First Floor Conference Area.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Agenda Item 5.1 Communication Plan, will be discussed after Agenda Item 6.1.

3. Public Comment

Lori Hébert, Human Services Instructor at CVCC is present and will address the Committee under Agenda Item 6.1 FY21 Budget.

4. Approval of Minutes – November 12, 2019 BUUSD Finance Committee Meeting

The Committee agreed by consensus to approve as amended, the Minutes of the November 12, 2019 BUUSD Finance Committee meeting.

5. New Business**5.1 Communication Plan**

Mr. Allen believes the BUUSD can do a much better job of informing community members, and suggested that the budget be promoted in the Annual Report, at the schools, in local restaurants/coffee shops, and at school events, including sporting events. Mr. Allen would like to improve utilization of the Annual Report, and take steps to assure that it gets into every mailbox in the City and Town. The Annual Report should be in all mailboxes two to three weeks before the vote date. Mr. Allen provided an overview of how he is designing the Annual Report. Mr. Allen stressed the need to start getting out in the public now, and also stressed the need to get more active on social media starting immediately. Mr. Folland suggests doing voter registration at largely attended venues.

5.2 SEA Property

Mrs. Perreault advised that the BUUSD initiated a contract with realtor Michelle Gosselin. The BUUSD has consulted with legal counsel, who helped draft the contract with contingencies related to property inspection and voter approval. An offer has been made,

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a counter offer was made, a new offer was made, and the BUUSD is waiting to hear back. A site inspection was held today involving architect David Lauren, who will be speaking with an engineer from Dewolfe Engineering. Mr. Evans advised that the property has a lot going for it, including; three phase power, water, sewer, and close proximity to a fire hydrant. It is not known if the barn would be used or if a structure should be built next to it. Mr. Pandolfo advised that details regarding negotiations for the property should occur in Executive Session at Thursday night's Board Meeting.

5.3 Separate Articles

Mrs. Perreault advised that in addition to the regular BUUSD and CVCC budgets, Special Articles will be presented for the Revenue Anticipation Note, and possibly for the purchase of property.

6. Old Business

6.1 FY21 Budget

Eleven documents were distributed;

A document titled 'FY21 BUUSD Draft 2 Summary – December 10, 2019'

A document titled 'FY21 BUUSD Budget Development Highlights – December 10, 2019 – Revision #2'

A copy of the BUUSD FY21 Budget, Draft 2 (dated 12/10/19)

A copy of the BUUSD Projected Comparative Tax Rate Calculations for Barre City and Barre Town (for Budget Year 2020 – 2021

A revised version of the BUUSD Projected Comparative Tax Rate Calculations for Barre City and Barre Town (for Budget Year 2020 – 2021 With Universal Meals/Provision II \$750,000)

A document titled 'BUUSD FY20 Expense Report Summary (dated 12/10/19)

A copy of the BUUSD Expense Report (dated 12/04/19)

A copy of the BUUSD Central Vermont Career Center FY20 Budget (dated 12/04/19)

A document titled 'School Employee Health Insurance – Employee Commissioners' Proposal'

A document from Lori Hébert regarding the Human Services Program at CVCC, including 'Attachment A: Specifications of Work to be Performed, Evaluation, Reporting – for Program Name: Supporting Tech Centers in Building the Early Childhood Education (CTE) Workforce'

Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the insurance proposal document received from VSBIT earlier in the day. The document outlines health insurance benefits that will become effective July 2020. There are significant changes in Tiers of Coverage and Employer Out-of- Pocket Contributions. The new insurance benefits have a significant impact on the BUUSD budget causing an anticipated tax increase of 5¢ for the City and the Town, an increase of \$500 for each student (per pupil cost). Mrs. Spaulding is concerned about the amount of budget increases. In response to a query, it was noted that increases that are not under the BUUSD's control include Special Education, health care, and wages and salaries. The total of health care and wage/salary increases total approximately 3.3 million dollars. Mrs. Perreault advised that the property yield is likely to increase due to health care costs, which would be beneficial to Barre tax payers. Mrs. Perreault advised that there is no known date for when the State will provide updated information. Information may not be announced until after the legislature is in session. Additionally, Mrs. Perreault advised that the BUUSD is still waiting for the State to provide equalized pupil counts and the CLA. Mr. Pandolfo advised that high school seniors who enroll in college full time (a benefit under Act 77), can't be included in the BUUSD pupil count. It was noted that both the City and the Town are slated to perform reappraisals next year.

Ms. Chamberlin provided an overview of Draft 2 of the CVCC FY21 Budget, advising that based on the Regional Advisory Board's recommendation, she has reduced the budget to reflect a 7.1 % increase, which results in a tuition increase of 10.8%. Draft 2 of the FY21 Budget was ratified by the RAB Board. The majority of the reductions are achieved by combining the Baking Arts Program with the Culinary Arts Program, and eliminating the Human Service Program. If the Baking Arts Program leaves the site it occupies in Barre City, there is approximately \$100,000 worth of equipment that will be sold. Other reductions relate to a reduction for the literacy coordinator, and reduction of two lab assistant positions. In response to a query, it was noted that the RAB Board's recommendation does not have to be accepted. If the Board opts not to accept the RAB Board's recommendation, a letter must be submitted to the Agency of Education. Lori Hébert, Human Services Instructor, addressed the Committee requesting that the Human Services Program not be eliminated. Ms. Hébert advised that jobs in Early Childhood Education and ElderCare are in high demand. Though enrollment has been low for the last two years, efforts are underway to improve recruitment techniques and increase enrollment. Grant money will be available soon to assist with recruitment of students into the program. The grant money will be available for recruitment of students for the 2021 – 2022 academic year, and involves changes to the program to enable students to attain the Council for Professional Recognition's Child Development Associate (CDA) credential. It was reiterated that workers in the fields of child care and elder care are in high demand. The Human Services Program is comprised of 7 components. It was noted that enrollment declined when the on-site child care program was eliminated. Lengthy discussion ensued regarding whether or not this program should be eliminated. Ms. Chamberlin advised that the sending districts asked that tuition not increase by more than 10%. The RAB Board requested that Ms. Chamberlin eliminate the two programs that had the lowest enrollment. The majority of the Committee wants to keep the Human Services Program. Ms. Chamberlin was asked to look at other options, and bring draft 3 to the next meeting. Ms. Chamberlin will provide two scenarios; the first of which is to keep both programs 'as is' (Baking Arts and Human

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Services), the second is to keep Human Services, but combine Baking Arts with the Culinary Arts Program. Draft 3 should present a budget with an increase of no more than 10%.

Discussion began on the BTMES draft budget. In response to a query regarding equity between BTMES and BCEMS, it was noted that some differences can be attributed to grant funding that is available to BCEMS. The Committee was advised that creation of an itemized list of grant expenditures would be an extremely large undertaking. BCEMS administrators have been comparing BCEMS and BTMES budgets and have worked on some equity related items. Mrs. Spaulding reiterated her concern regarding the size of the budget, and her belief that it will not pass. Mr. Malone advised that most of the increase is due to non-educational related items, and he doesn't want to see the budget cut at the expense of the children. Mrs. Pompei reiterated the same concern, advising that it is not right or fair to cut educational programs because of budget increases that are not controlled by the Board. Lengthy discussion was held relating to adding Universal Meals to the budget. All BCEMS students currently receive free meals. Due to recent changes to regulations, 75 to 100 BTMES students no longer qualify for free/reduced meals. At SHS many students are concerned with the stigma associated with free/reduced meals, and therefore do not turn in the necessary paperwork. Many students at SHS are going without meals. Lengthy discussion was held regarding implementation of Universal Meals, including benefits to students, and the impact to tax payers. The Committee did not reach a consensus regarding adding Universal Meals to the budget. Mrs. Perreault provided an overview of the Projected Tax Rate Calculations, advising that with Universal Meals in the budget, the cost per equalized pupil for FY21 is estimated at \$15,733. The state-wide average cost per equalized pupil, (\$17,133) was projected without increases for health insurance. Mr. Pandolfo advised that once additional information is provided by the State, it may assist with determining the final budget. Mrs. Akley requested that Board/Committee Members be provided with a breakdown of increases (Board controlled vs not Board controlled).

6.2 Survey Results

No discussion.

7. Other Business

None.

8. Items for Future Agendas

- FY21 Budget
- Communication Plan
- Update on SEA (possible purchase of property)

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. (first Tuesday in January). The venue is to be announced. **The standing meeting date for the Finance Committee is changed to the first Tuesday of each month.**

10. Adjournment

The Committee agreed by consensus to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin

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**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING**
BUUSD Central Office – First Floor Conference Area
December 9, 2019 - 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Giuliano Cecchinelli, Chair - (BC)
Tim Boltin, Vice Chair - (BC)
Guy Isabelle – (At-Large)
Andrew McMichael – (BC)
Victoria Pompei – (BT)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Malone

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Luke Aither, SHS Assistant Principal
Hayden Coon, BCEMS Principal
Jamie Evans, Facilities Director
Scott Griggs, CVCC Assistant Director

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dave Delcore, Times Argus Pat McAskill

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Monday, December 9, 2019 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting to order at 5:30 p.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

Mrs. McAskill (bus monitor) addressed the Committee to advise regarding her concerns regarding the 15 MPH speed limit in the BTMES parking lot. Mrs. McAskill believes the posted speed limit is too high and is concerned that drivers are exceeding the posted limit. Mrs. McAskill's concerns relate to student safety. The Committee briefly discussed possible ways to address the concerns, including the possible installation of speed bumps. It was noted that speed bumps do cause difficulty during plowing, and that there are signage requirements associated with speed bumps.

4. Approval of Minutes – November 4, 2019 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting

The Committee agreed by consensus to approve the Minutes of the November 4, 2019 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 Projects and Sharing of Updated 5-Year Plan

A document titled 'Barre Unified Union School District 5-Year Facility Draft Plan' (dated 12/06/19) was distributed. Mr. Evans advised that the dates indicated in the document refer to summer construction months. Mr. Evans provided an overview of some of the revisions to the document, and provided an overview of some of the listed projects.

Mr. Evans provided information relating to BCEMS projects, beginning with the Bus Loop Re-design Project. The project is very large, and will need to be estimated to determine if it can be completed in one phase or two. Mr. Evans advised regarding some of the changes, and noted that the BUUSD will need to consult with an architect or engineer to review rough plans that were previously drafted. The project will need to go out to bid, with construction anticipated for summer 2020. Mr. Coon queried regarding the cherry trees in the bus loop and whether or not they will be able to be 'saved' as part of the project. Relocation of the trees would most likely require the services of a professional arborist (due to the size of the trees). It was noted that if the inner bus loop is removed, much parking will be gained. Parking spots will likely be doubled. In response to a query, the Committee was advised that the proposed budget increase (for construction services) from 80¢ per sf to \$1 per sf does not have a significant impact to the budget. In addition to

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the bus loop project, BCEMS will need maintenance similar to that of the other schools (floor replacements and victallic fitting work (for the heating system)).

Mr. Evans provided information relating to BTMES projects, the main project being removal of the front canopy. In the future, there will be a redesign to the entry way for safety purposes. An RFP for the canopy removal will go out in early spring. In response to a query, Mr. Evans advised that the damage to the columns is mainly in the base of the columns, and he does not believe the engineers would approve leaving the columns in place after the roof is removed.

Mr. Evans provided information relating to SHS projects, advising that in the summer of 2020 work will be performed to the underground piping for the heating system. Mr. Evans advised that 90% of the building is being heated by the wood boiler, and that the gym is being heated with the oil boiler. Mr. Evans provided an overview of the underground piping system and advised that he would like to replace one additional section that is not under the parking lot. This piping has not failed yet, but given its age, it may be the next section to have issues. It is more cost effective to replace that piping as part of the summer project. The piping project will consume the majority of the SHS budget. Any monies remaining will be used for smaller projects, such as replacement of floor tiles. The existing fire alarm panel will be replaced over winter break. It is anticipated that the planned fire alarm panel replacement at SHS will cost less than the 'emergency' replacement of the panel at BTMES.

6. Old Business

6.1 Generator Discussion

Mr. Evans will be meeting with Jack Mitchell later this week to discuss the generator project. Mr. Evans has been in contact with representatives from Milton Caterpillar, who have agreed to review the old generator proposal, and provide a new price estimate. Though installation of a generator is a good idea, the current budget does not support the costs associated with installation and maintenance costs (fuel, maintenance, and inspections). There are annual expenses associated with having a generator, as it must be run (exercised) weekly. If BTMES would like to enter into an agreement with Green Mountain Power (similar to the agreement in place at BCEMS), a larger, more expensive generator would be required. For shelter purposes, a Tier 2 generator is required; the arrangement with GMP requires a Tier 4 generator. Mr. Isabelle queried regarding the Town's willingness to finance a generator. Mr. Isabelle advised that he is more concerned with installation of a generator and an enhanced UPS system at SHS, as that is required to assure that communications remain in place during power outages. Mr. Evans advised that it has been determined that the current UPS is too small and it will be upgraded. Additionally, Mr. Evans advised that he is looking into options for using Telsa units.

6.2 Transportation

Mr. Cecchinelli advised that the new buses currently do not have cameras installed. Mr. Griggs queried regarding 'outside' camera coverage for when the 'stop bar' is extended. It was noted that the buses have studded snow tires and no longer use automated chains. Mr. Coon advised that his experience shows that though chains assist with moving, they do not assist with stopping. Mr. Aither advised that SHS believes many truancy issues are related to lack of transportation, and would like transportation for SHS students added to a future agenda. Mr. Cecchinelli advised that busing for SHS would be added to next month's agenda and requested that the district busing directors be in attendance. Mr. Isabelle requested that a future agenda include transportation for students who participate in extra-curricular activities, including sports.

7. Other Business

A draft of a thank you letter to the Barre Granite Association (dated 12/12/19) was distributed. The Committee reviewed and approved the draft. Mr. Cecchinelli will have the letter brought to the Board for signatures on Thursday.

Mr. Evans advised that he and Linda Papineau attended a Front Desk Safety & Security conference. Mr. Evans felt the course was beneficial and informative. Mr. Evans noted that the BUUSD is currently practicing the majority of safety steps that were discussed. It appears that BUUSD safety and security measures are much more advanced than the procedures at other schools. Mr. Evans advised regarding the annual \$10,000 safety grant which is rotated between the district schools. It was noted that most outstanding safety issues do not relate to equipment, but rather relate to procedures, identifying risks, and de-escalation procedures. Mr. Evans provided a brief overview of after-hours security, noting that security at BCEMS and SHS is quite tight, but that security at BTMES needs to be enhanced. Mr. Aither highlighted the promotion of 'see something/say something', noting that this is how many risks are identified.

Mr. Aither advised that the new parking system on Ayers Street has been very successful.

Mr. Evans provided an update on the lead testing being conducted, advising that SHS is 100% clear, BCEMS has 3 taps to re-test, and BTMES has 6 taps to re-test.

8. Items to be Placed on Future Agendas

- Transportation for SHS Students
- Generator Update

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- Lead Testing Update
- Project Updates
- Transportation for Students in Extra-Curricular Activities and Sports

Mr. Cecchinelli requested that Committee Members advise him of any additional items they would like to discuss.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is Monday, January 13, 2020 at 5:30 p.m., at the BUUSD Central Office in the First Floor Conference Area.

10. Adjournment

The Committee agreed by consensus to adjourn at 6:41p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin

BUUSD FY20 EXPENSE REPORT SUMMARY - January 9, 2020

	Adopted Budget	Y-T-D Expenses	Encumbrances	Y-T-D Total	Balance
	7/1/19-6/30/20	7/1/19-1/2/20	7/1/19-91/2/20	7/1/19-1/20/20	1/20/2020
<i>1020 BTMES TOTAL</i>	\$ 7,939,684	\$ 3,403,999	\$ 4,085,261	\$ 7,489,260	\$ 450,424
<i>1276 SHS TOTAL</i>	\$ 8,798,152	\$ 3,957,313	\$ 3,424,751	\$ 7,382,064	\$ 1,416,088
<i>1381 BCEMS TOTAL</i>	\$ 8,534,126	\$ 3,856,162	\$ 4,253,199	\$ 8,109,361	\$ 424,765
<i>3097 CENTRAL SERV.</i>	\$ 3,068,265	\$ 1,703,066	\$ 1,224,976	\$ 2,928,042	\$ 140,223
<i>3097 TRANSPORTATION</i>	\$ 1,327,862	\$ 487,388	\$ 812,619	\$ 1,300,007	\$ 27,855
<i>3097 SPECIAL EDUCATION</i>	\$ 12,016,711	\$ 4,735,037	\$ 7,113,911	\$ 11,848,948	\$ 167,763
<i>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</i>	\$ 41,684,804	\$ 18,142,965	\$ 20,914,717	\$ 39,057,682	\$ 2,627,118
<i>5002 CVCC</i>	\$ 3,019,913	\$ 1,258,707	\$ 1,329,297	\$ 2,588,004	\$ 431,909

71 Onward Street
Barre, Vermont 05641

DEC 17 2019



December 16, 2019

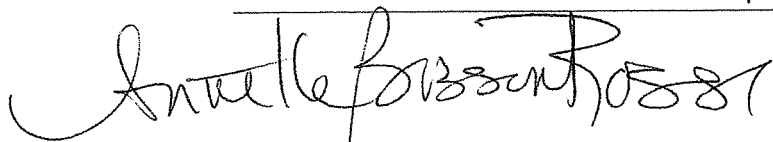
Dear John Pandolfo and Jen Nye,

I would like to inform you that I have met with Vermont State Teachers Retirement in Monpelier and set plans to retire in June 2020. This will be my final school year as a first grade teacher at Barre Town Elementary.

Thank you for your support and guidance in my role as a classroom teacher. I look foward to returning as a substitute when needed.

With care,

r



Annette Bisson-Rossi

Spaulding High School



155 Ayers Street, Suite 1
Barre, Vt 05641-4300
T: (802) 476-4811 F: (802) 479-4535

Luke Aither
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Brenda Waterhouse
PRINCIPAL

Jim Ferland
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Samantha Miskit
Spaulding High School Science Department

Handwritten signature and date: 12/19/19

December 17, 2020

Dear Samantha:

This letter is my official notification to you and to The Barre Unified Union School Board that my last day of work at Spaulding High School will be July 1 2020. On that day, I plan to retire.

After 43 years in education and 35 years of service to the Spaulding High School community I am looking forward to investigating and experiencing other opportunities.

Please let me know what I can do to help you with the transition of my position to others and will be happy to help you make a smooth transition.

Again, I have truly enjoyed working at Spaulding High School and will miss my coworkers and our workplace a great deal. I wish you nothing but the best for the future.

Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information. I will be meeting with HR shortly to finalize the details of my retirement, learn about any benefits that extend beyond retirement, and identify any assistance that I can provide in transitioning my job to another.

Sincerely,

D. Thomas Mc Sweeney

Handwritten signature of D. Thomas Mc Sweeney

Dear John, Jen and Erica,

DEC 20 2019

[Handwritten signature]
12/20/19

December 20, 2019

It has been my privilege to serve as Instrumental Music Teacher at Barre Town School for the past twelve years. I was hired in the summer of 2008 by Mr. Tim Crowley. He articulated his desire for me to be able to "spark" the Band program at Barre Town. I hope I have lived up to and exceeded the standard set for me by Mr. Crowley.

This year marks my thirty-fourth as a Music Educator. My first seventeen were spent teaching 4-12 Instrumental Music at Peoples Academy and Morristown Elementary School followed by four years teaching 5-8 Choral Music and General Music/Composition at Barre City School and one year as the 4-8 Instrumental Music Teacher at Albert D. Lawton School and Thomas Fleming School in Essex Junction prior to coming to Barre Town School.

I am writing this letter to inform you that I will be officially retiring from the teaching profession at the end of this current school year. I trust that with this prior notice, you will be able to secure the best person available to help maintain and grow the well-established 4-8 Instrumental Music program at Barre Town School.

The Barre Town School Music Department has a strong reputation among area schools, one that was established for many years before I came to teach here. I have worked hard to build on that reputation by helping our students present challenging and enriching performances and by involving our Bands in local, regional and statewide music and civic events at every opportunity. As one of the few teachers at Barre Town who has the privilege of being able to teach students for five to six consecutive years, it has been rewarding to witness my students' personal and musical growth in that timespan.

It is my strong hope that a new teacher is hired who is empowered to continue providing quality Band instruction to grades 4-8, as has been the case for many years. The students of Barre Town School deserve for this to continue, as does the Barre Town community. New teaching energy and your support for a Band class schedule that promotes high level instruction will provide a renewed boost to our Band program and, with our local reputation, be able to help students accomplish great musical things for years to come.

Thank you for your support and leadership. I could not have picked a better school at which to teach. I have worked with hundreds of tremendous colleagues and thousands of wonderful students over 34 years. I submit my retirement letter with mixed emotions, but I know this is the right time for me to move on to other endeavors.

Respectfully submitted,

[Handwritten signature: Brent R. White]

Brent R. White

Agreement to Join the Winooski Valley & Statewide
Choice of Public High School Collaborative
for the 2020-2021 School Year
Under Act 129 (Sec. 34. § 822d 2A)

_____ **Spaulding** _____ High School agrees to join the Winooski Valley & Statewide Choice of Public High School Collaborative for the 2020-2021 school year. We will abide by the conditions outlined in the attached Articles of Agreement.

Our High School will agree to accept no more than 20 students and will send no more than 40 students* for the 2020-2021 school year.

** Please make sure this number agrees with the guidelines provided by Act 129 Sec. 34. § 822a.(b)**

For the Board of School Directors of Barre UUSD - Spaulding High School:

Signature & Title: _____

Dated: _____

Please fill in the name of the school contact who will send out & receive applications (usually the Principal or Guidance Director) for your school.

School Contact Name & Postion: Ry Hoffman – Guidance Head

E-mail for School Contact: rhoffshs@buusd.org

The Vermont Statutes Online

Title 16 : Education

Chapter 021 : Maintenance Of Public Schools

(Cite as: 16 V.S.A. § 822a)

§ 822a. Public high school choice

(a) Definitions. In this section:

(1) "High school" means a public school or that portion of a public school that offers grades 9 through 12 or some subset of those grades.

(2) "Student" means a student's parent or guardian if the student is a minor or under guardianship and means a student himself or herself if the student is not a minor.

(b) Limits on transferring students. A sending high school board may limit the number of resident students who transfer to another high school under this section in each year; provided that in no case shall it limit the potential number of new transferring students to fewer than five percent of the resident students enrolled in the sending high school as of October 1 of the academic year in which the calculation is made or 10 students, whichever is fewer; and further provided that in no case shall the total number of transferring students in any year exceed 10 percent of all resident high school students or 40 students, whichever is fewer.

(c) Capacity. On or before February 1 each year, the board of a high school district shall define and announce its capacity to accept students under this section. The Secretary shall develop, review, and update guidelines to assist high school district boards to define capacity limits. Guidelines may include limits based on the capacity of the program, class, grade, school building, measurable adverse financial impact, or other factors, but shall not be based on the need to provide special education services.

(d) Lottery.

(1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (f) of this section, if more than the allowable number of students wish to transfer to a school under this section, then the board of the receiving high school district shall devise a nondiscriminatory lottery system for determining which students may transfer.

(2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (f) of this section, if more than the allowable number of students wish to transfer from a school under this section, then the board of the sending high school district shall devise a nondiscriminatory lottery system for determining which students may transfer; provided, however:

(A) a board shall give preference to the transfer request of a student whose request to transfer from the school was denied in a prior year; and

(B) a board that has established limits under subsection (b) of this section may choose to waive those limits in any year.

(e) Application and notification.

(1) A high school district shall accept applications for enrollment until March 1 of the school year preceding the school year for which the student is applying.

(2) A high school district shall notify each student of acceptance or rejection of the application by April 1 of the school year preceding the school year for which the student is applying.

(3) An accepted student shall notify both the sending and the receiving high schools of his or her decision to enroll or not to enroll in the receiving high school by April 15 of the school year preceding the school year for which the student has applied.

(4) After sending notification of enrollment, a student may enroll in a school other than the receiving high school only if the student, the receiving high school, and the high school in which the student wishes to enroll agree. If the student becomes a resident of a different school district, the student may enroll in the high school maintained by the new district of residence.

(5) If a student who is enrolled in a high school other than in the school district of residence notifies the school district of residence by July 15 of the intent to return to that school for the following school year, the student shall be permitted to return to the high school in the school district of residence without requiring agreement of the receiving district or the sending district.

(f) Enrollment.

(1) An enrolled nonresident student shall be permitted to remain enrolled in the receiving high school without renewed applications in subsequent years unless:

(A) the student graduates;

(B) the student is no longer a Vermont resident; or

(C) the student is expelled from school in accordance with adopted school policy.

(2) A career technical education (CTE) center serving the region in which a receiving high school district is located shall be the CTE center in which a nonresident student under this section is eligible to enroll. The nonresident student shall be eligible to use any transportation the district provides for resident students attending the CTE center.

(g) Tuition and other costs.

(1) Unless the sending and receiving schools agree to a different arrangement, no tuition or other cost shall be charged by the receiving district or paid by the sending district for a student transferring to a different high school under this section; provided, however, a sending high school district shall pay special education and career technical education costs for resident students pursuant to the provisions of this title.

(2) A student transferring to a different high school under this section shall pay no tuition, fee, or other cost that is not also paid by students residing in the receiving district.

(3) A district of residence shall include within its average daily membership any student who transfers to another high school under this section; a receiving school district shall not include any student who transfers to it under this section.

(h) Special education. If a student who is eligible for and receiving special education services chooses to enroll in a high school other than in the high school district of residence, then the receiving high school shall carry out the individualized education program, including placement, developed by the sending high school district. If the receiving high school believes that a student not on an individualized education program may be eligible for special education services or that an existing individualized education program should be altered, it shall notify the sending high school district. When a sending high school district considers eligibility, development of an individualized education program, or changes to a program, it shall give notice of meetings to the receiving high school district and provide an opportunity for representatives of that district to attend the meetings and participate in making decisions.

(i) Suspension and expulsion. A sending high school district is not required to provide services to a resident student during a period of suspension or expulsion imposed by another high school district.

(j) Transportation. Jointly, the superintendent of each supervisory union shall establish and update a statewide clearinghouse providing information to students about transportation options among the high school districts.

(k) Nonapplicability of other laws. The provisions of subsections 824(b) and (c) (amount of tuition), 825(b) and (c) (maximum tuition rate), and 826(a) (notice of tuition change) and section 836 (tuition overcharge and undercharge) of this chapter shall not apply to enrollment in a high school pursuant to this section.

(l) Waiver. If a high school board determines that participation under this section would adversely affect students in its high school, then it may petition the Secretary for an exemption. The Secretary's decision shall be final.

(m) Report. Notwithstanding 2 V.S.A. § 20(d), the Secretary shall report annually in January to the Senate and House Committees on Education on the implementation of public high school choice as provided in this section, including a quantitative and qualitative evaluation of the program's impact on the quality of educational services available to students and the expansion of educational opportunities. (Added 2011, No. 129 (Adj. Sess.), § 34; amended 2013, No. 56, § 4, eff. May 30, 2013; 2013, No. 92 (Adj. Sess.), §§ 97, 302, eff. Feb. 14, 2014.)

FY21 Announced Tuition - In accordance with Title 16, VSA, Section 826, the following tuition rates will be submitted to the Agency of Education and to sending schools by January 15, 2020.

	BUUSD FY21 Announced	BUUSD FY20 Announced
Grades K-6 Elementary	\$15,645	\$14,000
Grades 7-12 Secondary	\$16,082	\$14,500

	FY21 Announced	FY20 Announced
CVCC	\$17,531	\$15,940

LEA ID: U097
LEA NAME: BARRE UUSD

**State of Vermont
Announced Tuition FY 2020-2021**

Failure to satisfactorily complete and file the Annual Announced Tuition Report on or before January 15th, will result in the current year's announced tuition rate being applied to the next fiscal year per 16 V.S.A. 826(a).

In accordance with Title 16, VSA, Section 826, notice is hereby given that the tuition rate for non-resident students attending REGULAR programs in the above named district will be as follows:

REGULAR EDUCATION		Total Rate To Be Charged
KINDERGARTEN	Full-time Program Rate OR	15,645
	Part-time Program Rate	-
OTHER ELEMENTARY	(includes grades 1st through 6th)	15,645
SECONDARY	7th through 12th Grades	16,082

FOR VOCATIONAL ONLY In accordance with Title 16, VSA, Section 1552(d), notice is hereby given that the

Total Technical Center Rate To Be Charged*	17,531
--	---------------

* Technical Center allowable tuition Numbers are for Vermont students only

Person to contact with questions about these completed worksheets:

Name: Lisa Perreault

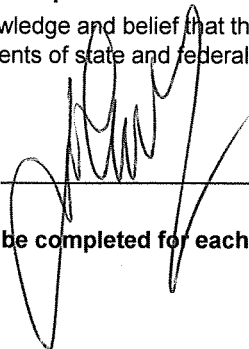
Phone: 476-5011, ext. 1009

Email: lperrbsu@buusd.org

Superintendent's Signature Required

I attest to the best of my knowledge and belief that the information is accurate and the school district is in compliance with all requirements of state and federal law.

Signature of Superintendent



Date

12/30/19

***This signature page must be completed for each supervisory union or district.**

LEA ID: VC002
LEA NAME: CENTRAL VERMONT CAREER CTR

State of Vermont

Announced Tuition FY 2020-2021

Failure to satisfactorily complete and file the Annual Announced Tuition Report on or before January 15th, will result in the current year's announced tuition rate being applied to the next fiscal year per 16 V.S.A. 826(a).

In accordance with Title 16, VSA, Section 826, notice is hereby given that the tuition rate for non-resident students attending REGULAR programs in the above named district will be as follows:		
REGULAR EDUCATION		Total Rate To Be Charged
KINDERGARTEN	Full-time Program Rate OR	
	Part-time Program Rate	-
OTHER ELEMENTARY	(includes grades 1st through 6th)	
SECONDARY	7th through 12th Grades	
FOR VOCATIONAL ONLY In accordance with Title 16, VSA, Section 1552(d), notice is hereby given that the		
Total Technical Center Rate To Be Charged*		17,531
* Technical Center allowable tuition Numbers are for Vermont students only		

Person to contact with questions about these completed worksheets:

Name: Lisa Perreault

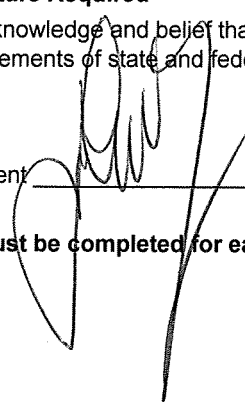
Phone: 476-5011, ext. 1009

Email: lperrbsu@buusd.org

Superintendent's Signature Required

I attest to the best of my knowledge and belief that the information is accurate and the school district is in compliance with all requirements of state and federal law.

Signature of Superintendent



Date

12/30/19

***This signature page must be completed for each supervisory union or district.**

BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Barre City Elementary & Middle School
Barre Town Middle Elementary School
Spaulding High School
Central Vermont Career Center

January 9, 2020

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Board and Board Committee Operation

Full Board Meetings

- Meetings will follow Roberts Rules of Order
- Changes to the Agenda will occur following Motion, Second, and Discussion
- Approval of Minutes will occur following Motion, Second, and Discussion
- Entering Executive Session will occur following Motion, Second, and Discussion
- All other Action taken will occur following Motion, Second, and Discussion
- Adjournment will occur following Motion and Second

Board Committee Meetings

- Meetings will follow Roberts Rules of Order
- Attendees will be recorded as follows:
 - Board Committee Members present/absent
 - Other Board and Public Members present
 - Administrators and Staff present
- Changes to the Agenda will occur by Consensus
- Approval of Minutes will occur by Consensus
- Any recommendation for Action by the Full Board will occur by consensus
 - Consensus will be duly noted in the minutes, and relayed to the full board by the committee chair
 - Any discussions which do not result in consensus will be duly noted in the minutes, included which attendees took a particular position on the recommendation, and will be relayed to the full board by the committee chair
- Entering Executive Session (i.e.; for Negotiations Committee) will occur following Motion, Second, and Discussion
- Adjournment will occur by Consensus

Discussions at all committee meetings will be limited to committee business as defined on the agenda for the purpose of maintaining a clear distinction between a meeting of a board-defined committee and any perception of a full board meeting, regardless of how many total board members are present.

BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Barre City Elementary & Middle School
Barre Town Middle Elementary School
Spaulding High School
Central Vermont Career Center

January 9, 2020

DRAFT

Complaints Regarding Students, Parents, Employees, School, or District

As defined in statute, the role of the School Board is to set vision and policy for the district, to prepare and distribute an annual budget, to maintain the schools in good repair, to employ such persons as may be required to carry out the work of the school district. Among other functions, the School Board must act as a quasi-judicial body in certain circumstances related to student and employee conduct and discipline. Because of these statutorily defined duties, it is appropriate that a chain of command is followed for concerns and complaints regarding students, parents, employees, schools, and/or the school district.

Before a concern or complaint is addressed by the school board, it should be brought to the attention of persons as close to the source of the issue as possible, and work up the chain of command as outlined below:

- The concern should initially be brought to the attention of persons as close to the source of the issue as possible:
 - If the concern relates to a student and at the classroom level, it should be brought to the attention of the classroom teacher.
 - If the concern relates to a student and a common area of the school, it should be brought to the attention of the Homeroom or Advisory Teacher.
 - If the concern relates to a student and a situation outside of school such as a bus route, field trip, co-curricular, etc., it should be brought to the attention of the responsible staff member (i.e.; transportation coordinator, field trip supervisor, coach or club advisor, etc.)
 - If the concern is of a general nature, or if you do not know who to bring it to, please contact the school main office or the district office.
- If the concern is not addressed to an appropriate level of satisfaction at that level, and it occurred at Spaulding High School, it should next go to the Department Head.
- If the concern is not addressed to an appropriate level of satisfaction at that level, it should next go to the Building Administrator. This would be the Assistant Principal or Principal, or the Assistant Director or Director at the Central Vermont Career Center. For concerns not resolved to satisfaction at the Assistant Principal or Assistant Director level, they should then go to the Principal or Director.
- If the concern is not addressed to an appropriate level of satisfaction at that level, it should next go to the Central Office Administrator. This might be the Superintendent, or it might be the Directors of Special Education, Early Education, Curriculum, Technology, or Facilities. For concerns not resolved to satisfaction at the Director level, they should then go to the Superintendent.
- For concerns not addressed to an appropriate level of satisfaction by the Superintendent, the Chair of the School Board may be contacted. The Chair can then determine the appropriate next step to address the concern, including whether the issue needs to be discussed at all at a board meeting, and if so whether an executive session will be required.

BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Barre City Elementary & Middle School
Barre Town Middle Elementary School
Spaulding High School
Central Vermont Career Center

January 9, 2020

DRAFT

Public Comment at Board Meetings

As stated in BUUSD Policy A21; Public Participation at Board Meetings, it is the policy of the Barre Unified Union District Board to encourage public participation at its meetings. The policy states that reasonable rules of participation may be used to ensure that meetings are conducted in an orderly fashion and that the business at hand is completed in a timely manner. Such rules may take into consideration such things as length of each speaker's presentation and the number of times each speaker may comment.

Persons Who May Address the Board include:

- Any district resident
- School staff members, students and parents
- Individuals who have been requested by the superintendent or the board to present a given subject
- Persons who are directly affected by matters on the board agenda
- Others at the discretion of the board

When the number of people wishing to speak is large, the board may authorize the chair to use a speakers' list. Members of the public will be given an opportunity to sign the speakers' list, indicating which agenda item will be addressed.

The board meeting agenda includes an item for "Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda". Any person who would like to make brief public comment may use this time for that purpose, while respecting the following guidelines:

- The person commenting will sign the Visitor List managed by the board recorder or clerk.
- The time allotted to each person commenting will be assigned by the chair.
- The person commenting will not hand out any printed materials that have not been previewed by the chair in advance of the meeting.
- The person commenting will use respectful and appropriate language.
- The person commenting will not breach the privacy or other rights of students, parents or school employees, including using any personally identifiable information in public session.
- If the comment is a complaint against a student, a parent, an employee, a school, or the district, the person commenting shall have already completely followed the board procedure on complaints, shall not breach the privacy or other rights of individuals as specified above, and/or shall have already requested an executive session in advance through the board chair.
- The chair shall rule out of order any comment to the board which does not follow these guidelines.

For items that are included on the agenda, any person interested in commenting should hold comments until that agenda item is discussed. The chair will ask for public comments on that agenda item before action is taken by the board.

Article 11: Initial Directors

A. Terms of Office

School directors will be elected for three year terms, except for those initially elected at the time of the formation of the New Union District. In the initial election of school directors, the terms of office will be as follows:

Town	Term ending March 2020	Term ending March 2021	Term ending March 2022
Barre City	2	1	1
Barre Town	1	2	1
At- Large	0	0	1

The terms of the initial school directors indicated above will include the months in between the organizational meeting and the first annual meeting.

Nominations for the office of School Director representing a specific town shall be made by filing, with the clerk of that district/town proposed as a member of the New Union District, a statement of nomination signed by at least 30 voters in that district/town or one percent of the legal voters in the district/town, whichever is less, and accepted in writing by the nominee. A statement shall be filed not fewer than 30, nor more than 40 days prior to the date of the vote.

Nominations for the office of the at-large School Director shall be made by filing a statement of nomination signed by at least 60 voters residing in the New Union District with the clerk of any district/town proposed as a necessary member of the Unified District. A statement shall be filed not fewer than 30, nor more than 40 days prior to the date of the vote.

Pursuant to the provisions of 16 V.S.A. §706j(b), directors initially elected to the New Union District shall be sworn in and assume the duties of their office.

Thereafter, members of the Board of School Directors will be elected at the Barre Unified Union School District's Annual Meeting. Terms of office shall begin and expire on the date of the school district's annual meeting. In the event the district's annual meeting precedes Town Meeting Day, the Director's terms shall expire on Town Meeting Day.

Terms Expiring March 2020:

- Boltin – Barre City
- Folland – Barre City
- Kerin-Hutchins – Barre Town

Forms and Information:

- Barre City: <https://www.barrecity.org/annual-town-meeting-election.html>
- Barre Town:

http://www.barretown.org/departments/finance_and_adminstration/town_clerk/election_infomation.php