

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING**

Via Video Conference – Google Meet  
March 30, 2021 - 5:30 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Renee Badeau, Chair (BT)  
Alice Farrell, Vice-Chair (BC)  
Tim Boltin, (BC)

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:**

David Wells, Superintendent  
Mary Ellen Simmons, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction  
Scott Griggs, CVCC Assistant Director  
Chris Hennessey, BCEMS Principal  
Brenda Waterhouse, SHS Principal

**OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Clifton Long                      Jennifer Luck-Hill                      Gerard Reymore

**1. Call to Order**

The Superintendent, Mr. Wells, called the Tuesday, March 30, 2021, BUUSD Curriculum Committee meeting to order at 5:40 p.m., which was held via video conference.

**2. Organize Chair/Vice Chair**

Mr. Wells asked for nominations for the position of Committee Chair.

**On a motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Boltin, the Committee unanimously voted to appoint Ms. Badeau as Chair of the Curriculum Committee.**

Ms. Badeau chaired the remainder of the meeting. Ms. Badeau requested nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.

**On a motion by Mr. Boltin, seconded by Ms. Badeau, the Committee unanimously voted to appoint Mrs. Farrell as Vice-Chair of the Curriculum Committee.**

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

Agenda Item 6.5, Updates from CVCC will be discussed out of order. Discussion will occur after Agenda Item 6.1  
Delete Agenda Item numbering for 9.1. Only topics for discussion in the current meeting are to be listed with agenda numbers.

There was a brief review of Agenda protocols; Meeting Norms should be included at the end of each Agenda, All documents being presented should be included in the Agenda packet, rather than by links listed on the Agenda (the entire packet, including all ‘back-up’ documents, need to be posted online), and it was noted that the Agenda for this evening’s meeting has not been posted on line (this was an issue last month as well).

**4. Public Comment**

None.

**5. Approval of Minutes -**

**5.1 Meeting Minutes from January 26, 2021 and February 23, 2021**

**The Committee agreed by consensus to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2021 BUUSD Curriculum Committee Meeting. The Committee agreed by consensus to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2021 BUUSD Curriculum Committee Meeting.**

**6. New Business**

**6.1 Review Group’s Working Agreements**

A link to the Board/Committee Meeting Norms was listed in the Agenda. Ms. Badeau provided an overview of the “Board/Committee

Meeting Norms". It was noted that the list of Norms is set by the Board and the Board and Committees all utilize this list.

### **6.2 Assessment Update and Review of Results**

Mr. Wells advised regarding struggles caused by COVID-19, as well as acknowledging that some students were struggling prior to COVID-19. All school districts are in the process of assessing students and are required to provide results to the State by 04/15/21. In addition to reporting data, districts should begin identifying actions steps that will assist with student recovery. Review of data is essential to identify student needs. The State is also requesting information relating to student engagement, truancy, and social/emotional health. Tonight's presentation is reporting on academics (math and literacy for students in grades 3 – 8). The Star 360 Assessments were performed in February and included testing of remote, hybrid, and virtual academy students. Mr. Wells advised that the data being presented (Star 360 data), includes reporting of how BUUSD data compares to state-wide data. Mr. Wells provided a historical overview of testing within the BUUSD, including the effort to vertically align testing and data. Ms. Simmons advised regarding the schedule for assessments, including additional assessments for those who are struggling. Mr. Wells advised that District-wide there needs to be a common approach to assess data and develop strategies. Mr. Wells queried regarding the Committee's prediction on the results, and proceeded to display and provide an overview of the results. Mr. Wells advised regarding preliminary actions steps that have been identified by teachers and administrators as part of developing the Recovery Plan – (Barre 35). Mrs. Waterhouse advised regarding a cross-walk between assessment results and placement tests (for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who will be entering SHS). Mr. Hennessey advised that review of data is a critical when developing intervention practices. Mr. Wells advised that many gaps were identified and the system is being honed to better utilize data and develop concrete steps towards closing gaps. Mr. Wells advised that there are dedicated staff members who are meeting to build the Barre 35 Plan. Development of an engaging and robust summer program is almost complete. The program will be run at BTMES. The summer program is grant funded and there are no costs for families. Mrs. Waterhouse advised regarding the expansion of academic offerings over the summer (for high school students). The expansion includes a program covering 4 content areas (history, science, literacy and math), and will also include a study skills component for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and current freshman. The scheduling is flexible and will allow students to sign up for/participate in multiple programs over 4 weeks. There will also be a component focusing on social/emotional health. There is also the potential to offer a leadership/mentoring program. If this program can't be started over the summer, it will be implemented in the fall. Mr. Hennessey advised that BCEMS is looking into a program for older (middle school) students that cannot access the YMCA program.

### **6.3 Barre Rocks Reading Focus Results**

Ms. Simmons advised regarding this reading initiative, which included a raffle for students who read books. Over 1000 books were read. Many students received raffle prizes. Ms. Simmons thanked community businesses for their support, including Mr. Boltin (Delicate Decadence) and the Rotary Club.

### **6.4 Vision, Mission, and Strategic Plan Update**

Mrs. Farrell advised that this project is coming to a close. Mr. Goodrich will be meeting with the Design Team to formalize the Vision and Mission Statements (drafts), which will then be presented to the Board. Mrs. Farrell advised that this has been a very successful project, with involvement from many in the community.

### **6.5 Updates From CVCC**

Mr. Griggs advised regarding tonight's presentation, and introduced CVCC staff members who will assist with the presentation. Mr. Griggs began the presentation advising regarding the ongoing application of skills, which includes academics and workplace learning. CVCC programs prepare students for post-secondary education as well as for careers. Jennifer Luck-Hill advised regarding the Middle School Initiative, advising of resources and curriculum available. Much information is available under 'Destination CVCC'. It was noted that the plan was for Ms. Luck-Hill to present in person at the various schools, but at the present time COVID restrictions prevent this from happening. Mr. Reymore advised regarding on-line learning platforms and certification of staff to teach on those platforms. Mr. Long advised regarding Suite 360, which provides students with academic content more in-line with CVCC programs. An overview was provided of the Remote Student Google Classroom, including details of various projects. The presentation included a link to one of the student's final projects. The importance of individual program projects was stressed. Mr. Long advised regarding projects performed in the Plumbing/Heating Program (utilizing supplies provided by CVCC), and the benefit of Mr. Long's opportunity to work with students on-line to assist with their projects. Mr. Reymore highlighted the Medical Professions Program, advising of an anatomy component that involved dissection of pig hearts. There was a brief presentation on graduation proficiencies. Programs are currently aligned with proficiencies and those proficiencies are approved by the sending schools. In addition to proficiencies, the State also requires Competencies. A sample list of competencies was displayed. CVCC collaborated with VSAC Aspirations, and utilizing grant funds, students were able to experience virtual job shadowing. Each CVCC Student has a digital Personal Learning Portfolio, which allows them to showcase their learning, and presentations, and also maintains a record of their certifications. PLPs document student growth over time. The PLP 'goes with the student' after they leave CVCC. The presentation included an overview of the CVCC transcript, which documents standards, certifications, and credentials. Mr. Griggs lauded CVCC staff for their preparedness and ability to continue working with students during the COVID emergency closure of schools. It was noted that under the emergency move to remote learning, most students remained engaged, with only a few requiring extensive outreach from staff. Ms. Luck-Hill will send a copy of the presentation to Jessica Adams, so that it may be posted with the Agenda. CVCC staff members were thanked for their attendance and presentation.

## **6.6 Barre 35 Growing Learners; Closing Gaps**

Discussion held under Agenda Item 6.2.

## **6.7 Equity, Racial Justice and Inclusion Task Force Updates**

Ms. Simmons advised that the Barre community has been working to bring equity to the schools. This initiative has involved working with two Vermont Law School students to develop an equity policy. Three community forums were held to assist with development of the draft policy. The task force has reviewed the draft and provided feedback. A second draft will be written. Once the 'draft' is finalized, it will be presented to the Policy Committee and the Board. Once the policy is approved/adopted, work will be performed to write procedures and institute professional development. A five session workshop (Cultivating a Culture of Equity and Excellence) with Dr. Luvelle Brown, will begin this Thursday (04/01/21). Attendees will include community members, parents, teachers and administrators.

## **7. Old Business**

None.

## **8. Other Business**

None.

## **9. Items for Future Agenda**

- Updates From Elementary Math – How Are We Addressing COVID Math Slide?
- Implementation Plan for the Student Recovery Plan

Ms. Simmons advised regarding items on the existing Annual Work Plan. Committee Members were encouraged to contact Mr. Wells or Ms. Simmons with any additional items they would like to see on future agendas.

Mrs. Waterhouse congratulated Mrs. Poulin, advising that there has been a recent announcement naming David Poulin as the Class of 2021 Valedictorian.

## **10. Next Meeting Date**

**The next meeting is Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. via video conference – Google Meet**

## **11. Adjournment**

**The Committee Agreed by consensus to adjourn at 7:26 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Andrea Poulin*