

**Addendum
Board Meeting
May 27, 2021**

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BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Via Video Conference – Google Meet
May 20, 2021 - 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sonya Spaulding (BC) – Chair
Alice Farrell (BT) – Vice Chair
Guy Isabelle (At-Large) - Clerk
Gina Akley (BT)
Renee Badeau (BT)
Tim Boltin (BC)
Chris Parker (BT)
Sarah Pregent (BC)
Abigayle Smith (BC)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

David Wells, Superintendent
Mary Ellen Simmons, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
Emmanuel Ajanma, Director of Technology
Josh Allen, Communications Specialist
Hayden Coon, BCEMS Principal
Chris Hennessey, BCEMS Principal
Jennifer Nye, BTMES Principal
Erica Pearson, BTMES Principal
Lisa Perreault, Business Manager

GUESTS PRESENT:

Dave Delcore – Times Argus	Heather Battistoni	Ainsley Burroughs	Josh Howard	Ted Mills
Dan Morrison	Heather Slayton	Diane Solomon		

As the meeting was held via video conferencing, a roll-call vote was taken for each action item. Each Board Member was individually polled and voted to approve all motions that are listed as unanimously approved.

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mrs. Spaulding, called the Thursday, May 20, 2021, Special meeting to order at 5:31 p.m., which was held via video conference.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Add 5.1 Personnel – Superintendent Search

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mrs. Akley, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Agenda as amended.

3. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

3.1 Public Comment

A community member voiced concern regarding personal information shared in the Board packet.

3.2 Student Voice

None.

4. Current Business

4.1 FY22 Budget Revisions 2 Approval (Draft 5)

A document titled 'FY22 BUUSD Proposed Budget, Draft 5, Revote June 9 – Revisions 05/18/21' was distributed.

A document titled 'BUUSD Budget 2021 – 2022 Draft 5 Revote June 9, 2021 – Projected Comparative Tax Rate Calculations 05/18/21' was distributed.

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Mrs. Perreault provided an overview of Draft 5 which was reviewed by the Finance Committee earlier in the week. Draft 5 represents a reduction in expenses of \$425,451 and use of an additional \$100,000 from the tax stabilization fund. The ballot language would ask that the voters approve an expenditure budget of \$49,947,503 (this amount is the general expense budget, with grants). This draft brings the equalized pupil spending amount to \$15,344, which is 1.95% higher than the per pupil spending for the current academic year. This equates to a general fund increase of \$1,322,535 (an increase of 2.9%). The list of reductions is included in the meeting packet. Mrs. Pregent advised that overall, the draft budget utilizes \$600,000 from the Tax Stabilization Fund, which is concerning to some because the fund balance is currently \$644,000. It should be noted that the projected surplus for FY21 is \$1,400,000, and there will be an option for the Board to transfer some of that money to the Tax Stabilization Fund and or the Capital Improvement Fund. Mrs. Pregent advised that each of the proposed line item cuts were identified by administrators. Mr. Wells advised that reduction #12 (Reduce BC SRO by \$30,000) has been discussed further based on new information, and it has been decided that the SRO position at BCEMS should be retained, but that the \$30,000 reduction will be added to line 14 (Administrators will determine areas for savings (supplies, equipment, or staffing)). It was agreed that the additional reductions will be identified, such as not to negatively impact students or result in staff reductions. Mr. Isabelle wants assurance that the budget does not compromise student safety and security in the schools and wants assurance that the budget allows equity of safety measures amongst the schools. Additionally, Mr. Isabelle wants assurance that the elimination of the Assistant Coaches does not cause student safety issues for athletes, advising that some teams are larger than others and he does not want safety compromised. It was noted that this reduction does not preclude teams from having Assistant Coaches, but they would need to be unpaid volunteers. It was suggested that research be performed regarding labor laws that may prevent school employees from volunteer work within the district. Mr. Isabelle wants assurance that there is adequate supervision of athletes. Additional discussion was held regarding reductions, including; reductions for BTMES field trip transportation. BCEMS fund raises for field trip transportation. This reduction to the BTMES portion of the budget will result in equity for field trip transportation amongst the elementary/middle schools. Mrs. Farrell advised that she wants the community to know that going forward, even with these reductions in place, administrators and the Board will continue to be fiscally responsible and will monitor the budget looking for additional reductions that can be made without negatively impacting students (curriculum, instruction and safety). A community member queried regarding how many more reductions could be identified if administrators spent an additional week looking for cuts. Mrs. Spaulding advised that additional cuts at this point would most likely have a negative impact on students and that in an effort to warn the 06/09/21 vote, and have adequate time for printing of ballots; the budget must be finalized quickly. Mrs. Spaulding invited Mr. Howard to participate in future budget discussions, and join the process at the beginning. Mrs. Spaulding advised that she is not reading the chat section of the meeting and will not respond to those comments. Participants may raise hands to ask questions or make comments. Mrs. Spaulding called the vote.

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to approve the FY22 Budget Draft 5 for an expenditure budget of \$ 49,947,503.

4.2 Approval of FY22 Budget Vote Warning - June 9, 2021 Vote

Two documents titled 'Barre Unified Union School District Warning For June 9, 2021 Vote' were distributed.

Mrs. Spaulding provided clarification regarding the two different increase percentages (per pupil vs. overall expense budget) and the tax rate implications. Brief discussion was held regarding the two Warnings contained in the packet. It was determined that the Warning with the per-pupil spending amount of \$15,334 will be presented for approval. Board Members were advised that they will need to sign the Warning at the BUUSD Central Office. In response to concerns of limited building access, it was noted that the door to the vestibule has been reprogrammed such that it will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mrs. Akley, the Board unanimously voted to approve the 'Barre Unified Union School District Warning for the June 9, 2021 Vote', with an expenditure budget of \$ 49,947,503.

4.3 New Hires

The resumes and BUUSD Notification of Employment Status Forms for Melissa Lindheim (Assistant Director of Special Services), Jayme Ducharme (BCEMS 3rd/4th grade teacher), and Kendra Pillsbury (BCEMS 5/6 Social Studies Teacher) were distributed.

Mr. Wells provided a brief overview of the candidates. Mrs. Farrell voiced concern that given the current lack of an approved budget, she would like additional discussion to take place prior to hiring for the position of Assistant Director of Special Services. Mrs. Farrell clarified that her concerns are not related to the candidate, but rather that she would like to have an approved budget prior to filling administrative positions.

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Ms. Smith, the Board voted 7 to 1 to approve the hiring of Melissa Lindheim. Mrs. Akley, Ms. Badeau, Mr. Boltin, Mr. Isabelle, Ms. Parker, Mrs. Pregent, and Ms. Smith voted for the motion. Mrs. Farrell voted against the motion.

On a motion by Ms. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Pregent, the Board unanimously voted to approve the hiring of Jayme Ducharme, and Kendra Pillsbury.

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5. Executive Session

5.1 Personnel – Superintendent Search

The Superintendent Search was proposed for discussion in Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Boltin, seconded by Mrs. Pregent, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session at 6:12 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 Mr. Boltin, seconded by Mrs. Pregent, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 7:12 p.m.

6. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Boltin, seconded by Ms. Smith, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin

May 25, 2021

Barre Unified Union School District Board
Sonya Spaulding, Chair
c/o David Wells, Superintendent
120 Ayers Street
Barre, VT 05641

RE: Resignation of School District Clerk

Dear Barre Unified Union School District Board:

Please accept this letter as an amendment to my resignation letter dated May 17, 2021. I would like to strike the effective date of June 30, 2021 and replace it with ~~June~~ ^{May} 19, 2021.

Thank you.



Donna J. Kelty
PO Box 568
South Barre, VT 05670

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Letter to the Editor

May 27, 2021

As we face the third round of voting on the Barre Unified Union School District budget, we would like to ask the taxpayers and the community to think about our students when they cast their absentee ballots over the next couple of weeks or vote in person on June 9th.

While it has been a challenging and stressful year for essential workers, parents, teachers and more, it has been just as challenging and difficult for the students. We have asked them to learn remotely, to learn by only attending school a few days a week, to have their parents or guardians explain math or science, to give up every day events like lunch with friends or special events like end of the year award ceremonies. We have asked them to be flexible. We have asked them to do their best.

Our students are amazing. Our parents are amazing. Our teachers and school staff are amazing. Our administrators are amazing and are always putting our students first. And now, we are asking you to be a part of this amazing community and vote.

While we could go into great detail about the percentage increase or the per pupil spending amount, we will simply ask you to consider how this budget will impact you and your family financially. You should know that the tax rate in Barre City is not increasing-not by a single penny. The tax rate in Barre Town is decreasing by 29 cents, but this is certainly more complicated to explain based on the recent re-assessment. So, while the tax rate is decreasing, the value of your home may increase, which makes it more difficult for us to help you understand how this tax rate will impact you personally. To be clear, the board is presenting a budget that will have no increase in the tax rate in Barre City and a 29 cent decrease in Barre Town (when the new assessments are filed).

You can support your students and your schools knowing that there is either no increase or a decrease in the tax rate. Our amazing students will continue to get the supports and help they need to catch up and get back on track. Our community will continue to see the hard work and dedication of our students and will support them when they need it most.

Please support our students and our schools by voting in person on June 9th or by absentee ballot now. We need everyone to put our students first. We need everyone to help us continue this amazing work and vote.

Letter to the Editor

May 27, 2021

As we face the third round of voting on the Barre Unified Union School District budget, we would like to thank the residents of our community for your concern and interest in our students as you cast either absentee ballots over the next couple of weeks or vote in person on June 9th.

While it has been a challenging and stressful year for everyone, it has been equally challenging and difficult for our students. They have been asked to learn remotely, to learn by attending school a few days a week, to give up every day events like lunch with friends or special events like end of the year award and move up ceremonies. Both students, and the adults in their lives, have been asked to be flexible. They have been asked to do their best under highly unusual circumstances.

But yet, our students are amazing. Our parents are amazing. Our teachers and school staff are amazing. Our administrators are amazing and are always putting our students first. Now, we, the School Board, are asking you to be a part of this amazing community and vote.

Schools are the window to the past, the anchor of the present and the promise for the future. They are indeed, the center of community. And as that center, the residents of our city and town can support your students and our schools knowing that there is either no increase or a decrease in the tax rate.

Only through our continued work and support will our amazing students continue to enhance and expand their learning.

Please honor that support by voting in person on June 9th or by absentee ballot now. That support from everyone is needed to put our students first. The Board highly values that community assistance which is shown through your ballot and we continue to appreciate your input.

Ballots may be obtained by contacting the City or Town Clerk. In person voting is June 9. Thank you for your support.

Barre Unified Union School District

120 Ayers Street, Barre, VT 05641 • www.buUSD.org • Phone: 802-476-5011 • Fax: 802-476-4944 or 802-477-1132

Barre City Elementary & Middle School • Barre Town Middle & Elementary School • Spaulding High School • Central Vermont Career Center



Doing whatever it takes to ensure success for every child.

David Wells, M.Ed. - Superintendent of Schools

Mary Ellen Simmons, Ed.D. - Asst. Superintendent of Instruction

Stacy Anderson, M.Ed. - Director of Special Services

Lauren May, M.Ed. - Director of Early Education

Josh Allen - Communications Specialist

Lisa Perreault, SFO - Business Manager

Carol Marold - Director of Human Resources

Emmanuel Ajanma, MAT - Director of Technology

Jamie Evan - Director of Facilities

Annette Rhoades, M.Ed., CAGS - Asst. Director of Special Services

Jon Strazza, MS.Ed. - Asst. Director of Special Services

Rebecca Webb, M.Ed. - Act 166 Regional Coordinator

BCEMS PARTIAL ROOF REPLACEMENT-SUMMER 2021

Dayco, Inc.*	\$201,000
Evergreen Roofing LLC	\$269,176
Palmieri Roofing	Declined due to schedule

***Superintendent's Recommendation: Dayco, Inc.**

To: BUUSD Board
From: David Wells, Superintendent
Re: Phase 2: Recovery Planning and Implementation
Date: May 25, 2021

The BUUSD Recovery Plan is now in Phase 2 where plans and steps for implementation are outlined in greater detail. The attached Table represents the work of the Recovery Team and input from Assistant Superintendent Mary Ellen Simmons and Business Manager Lisa Perrault. The BUUSD Recovery Plan will be submitted to the AOE by the June 1st deadline.

The Recovery Plan is one of the key documents that will guide our ESSER Grant requests. It is required by the Agency of Education and takes the place of our annual Continuous Improvement Plan. BUUSD Directors and Administration are also researching other investments for the ESSER grant including construction projects. BUUSD Directors and Administration will be reviewing our overall ESSER Grant proposals on June 1st. The ESSER Grant proposals are due to the AOE by November 1, 2021. ESSER funding will be granted through September, 2024.

Recovery Domain	Problem of Practice (from Needs Assessment)	Goal/Strategy	Specific activities	Implementation and evaluation plans	Human and material resources required and how to pay for them
SEL, Mental Health and Well-Being	Attendance	Increase student regulation and engagement <i>as measured by Attendance and SWIS</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide training and professional development to all faculty and staff. 	FY22 to fall of 2024 Evaluate each quarter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consulting fees to licensed clinician to provide training. \$50,000 per year.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students in Barre lack access to physical and mental health services as reported by school health offices and local service providers. 	Increase student access to medical and dental care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule a dental van to visit all three district schools. Established a tele-medicine program at Spaulding High School. Increase access to mental health services at all schools. 	FY22 to fall of 2024 Evaluate each quarter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fund dental van Fund tele-medicine Checking with CVMC for \$
	SWISS and IC discipline referral data Student rosters for out of school placements	Reduce referrals to outside placements for students facing social/emotional challenges by providing varied learning opportunities within each school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a second Restorative Classroom at BCMES for elementary grade students. Support Restorative practices at BTMES through an additional behavior specialist. Expansion of SEA program 	FY22 to fall of 2024 Evaluate each quarter	Two licensed staff to support Restorative Classroom. One BI to support the classroom. \$225,000 per year Behavior Specialist for BTMES \$75,000 per year. One year funding for 2 BIs at the SEA program \$70,000

<i>Engagement/Truancy</i>	Attendance	<p>Increase home/school coordination with area mental health and social work agencies (WCMHS, DCF, etc.).</p> <p>Focus on early years and supporting families. Birth to age 3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a social worker at each district school to work with students and families. • Parent education • Provide Family Engagement Coordinator to coordinate efforts across the district. 	<p>FY22 to fall of 2024</p> <p>Evaluate each quarter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Worker at BTMES \$88,000 • Social Worker at SHS 88,000 • Funding for parent education sessions. \$? • Family Engagement Coordinator \$50,000
		<p>Increase attendance and reduce truancy at Spaulding High School by providing transportation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with STA (busing contractor) to provide AM & PM bus routes for high school students. 	<p>FY22 to fall of 2024</p> <p>Monitor attendance trends</p>	<p>Contract with STA, SHS/SEA transportation budget line item \$?</p>
<i>Academic Achievement and Success</i>	Review of academic performance by demographics (Ex: SBAC.	<p>Third grade students who are below proficiency in math and literacy will show 20% growth each year until they reach proficiency as measured by the Star 360 assessment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase teacher capacity to provide classroom based interventions through PLG supports. • Provide additional training for administrators to support their role as instructional leaders. • Increase intervention staffing at both elementary schools to address student case-loads. • Provide increased opportunities for students to participate in 	<p>FY22 to fall of 2024</p> <p>Evaluate each quarter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 additional interventionists for grades K-8 8 x \$90,000=\$720,000/year • Funding for BUUSD/GBYMCA program for grades K-6. Five week, 8-5 summer program \$800,000 for K-12 summer programs. • Funding for work outside of contracted time to develop interventions \$15,000

			summer programming which meets academic and social/emotional needs.		
	Review of academic performance by demographics (Ex: SBAC.	Increase the number of middle school students who meet proficiency in math and literacy as measured by the Star 360 and SBAC assessments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase teacher capacity to provide classroom based interventions through PLG supports. • Provide additional training for administrators to support their role as instructional leaders. • Increase intervention staffing at both middle schools to address student case-loads. • Provide increased opportunities for students to participate in summer programming which meets academic and social/emotional needs. 	FY22 to fall of 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for Beta Masters coding/video gaming program for grades 7 & 8. (part of \$800,000 yearly funding) • Funding for summer PD group to develop PASS program and develop interventions \$25,000

	<p><u>GRAPH OF AP COURSE PARTICIPATION</u></p> <p>Annual Graduation Rates</p>	<p>Increase the number of high school students who meet proficiency goals to graduate from high school in four years as measured by annual graduation rates.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase teacher capacity to provide classroom based interventions through PLG supports. ● Provide additional training for administrators to support their role as instructional leaders. ● Increase intervention staffing at the high school to address student case-loads. ● Provide increased access to flexible pathways to graduation. ● Provide increased opportunities for students to participate in summer programming which meets academic and social/emotional needs. ● Enhance PASS program 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Funding for Spaulding High School summer program. (part of \$800,000 yearly summer funds) ● Funding for summer PD group to develop PASS program and develop interventions \$25,000
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<i>Equity</i>	Star 360 Data SBAC Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze student achievement data for poverty, race, and gender differences and focus on delivery of Universal Design, and MTSS resources to reduce assessment score differences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide PD (workshops, courses, etc.) for teachers and administration on the analysis of data to reach equity goals. Provide MTSS Coordinator for the district. Provide Equity Coordinator for the district. 	FY22 to fall of 2024 Evaluate each quarter	Substitutes Tuition funding \$15,000 Funding for MTSS Coordinator \$95,000 Funding for Equity Coordinator .5FTE \$50,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze curriculum to address inclusion, equity, poverty, disability, social emotional learning, gender, and racial justice issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide PD (workshops, courses, etc.) for teachers and administration on curriculum analysis. 	FY22 to fall of 2024	