

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD RETREAT MEETING**

Community National Bank, Community Room, 316 Main Street, Barre, VT  
July 29, 2021 - 4:30-8:30 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Gina Akley (BT)  
Tim Boltin (BC)

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:**

Chris Hennessey, Interim Superintendent

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Dave Delcore – Times Argus (arrived at 6:26 pm)     Josh Howard (arrived at 5:08 pm)

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair, Mrs. Spaulding, called the Thursday, July 29, 2021, Retreat to order at 4:31 p.m., which was held at the Community National Bank Community Room.

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

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Ms. Parker, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Agenda as presented.

**3. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

**3.1 Public Comment**

None.

**3.2 Student Voice**

None.

**4. Current Business**

**4.1 Strategic Goals Review**

Discussed the Design Team goal matrix and will have a standing agenda item for board meetings to be review progress and continue to monitor our strategic goals.

**4.2 Committee Structure**

The board discussed committee structures and whether we should continue to have community members serve as committee members, whether they should be advisory or allowed to vote, what the process would look like if we want to allow community members to serve on committees, and whether we should add student representatives to committees. This item will be further discussed at a future board meeting.

**4.3 Board Meetings**

Board meetings were discussed, specifically around issues such as length of meetings, addendums, virtual and/or in person meetings, number of meetings needed per month and the board norms.

7 pm to 7:20 pm the board and guests recessed for a dinner break

**4.4 Public Participation and Community Input**

The board discussed public participation and community input and specifically discussed the idea of one working board meeting per month and one listening session per month. Questions that were raised and discussed included how items would be added to a listening session agenda, who would be allowed to speak at a listening session or board meeting, and how this change may impact committee meetings and working board meetings.

#### **4.5 Student Participation and Voice**

The board discussed student participation and student voice. Specific concerns regarding student representatives on the board include the students not feeling that the items on the agenda were applicable to them and were not engaged due to the fact that student reps are not voting members of the board. Suggestions were made regarding how to get more students engaged and to be sure we are supporting all students and student voices.

#### **5. Next Meeting Dates**

BUUSD Regular Board Meeting – Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

#### **6. Adjournment**

**On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mrs. Smith, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:29 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Sonya Spaulding*