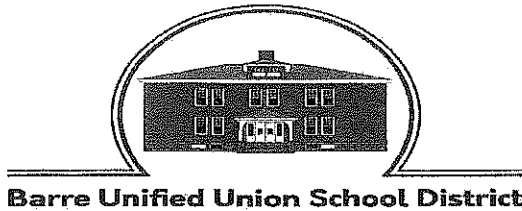


Addendum
Board Meeting
October 27, 2022



Chris Hennessey, M.Ed.
 Superintendent of Schools

A rock solid education for a lifetime of discovery.

**Spaulding High School
 Barre City Elementary and Middle School
 Barre Town Middle and Elementary School**

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

Barre Unified Union School District – Town of Barre

SERVICES AGREEMENT

This Services Agreement is made between BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT, herein after referenced as "School District:" and Town of Barre.

In consideration of the promises and mutual covenants and Agreements contained herein, the parties agree as follows:

Work to Be Performed

The School District needs the Town of Barre to perform, and the Town of Barre agrees to perform, the following work:

Serve as the School Resource Officer at Barre Town Middle and Elementary School, services provided not to exceed \$1,315.00 per week. Officers will be assigned to the school between the hours of 6:00 AM and 4:00 PM or any variation thereof, based on Officer availability. Any work performed outside these hours will be at the request of the school.

Term of Agreement

The services called for under the Agreement shall commence on August 19, 2022 and terminate on June 16, 2023.

Terms of Payment

The School District shall pay the Town of Barre according to the following terms and conditions:

- 1. The Town of Barre's rates/hours shall not exceed \$1,315/week or \$50,000 annually, and will be invoiced based on officers' salary and benefit costs.**

Reimbursement of Expenses

The School District shall not be liable to the Town of Barre for any expenses paid or incurred unless otherwise agreed to in writing.

Tools and Instruments

The Town of Barre will supply all tools, equipment and supplies required to perform the services under this Agreement.

Obligations of the School District

The School District agrees to meet the terms of all reasonable requests of the Town of Barre necessary to the performance of the Town of Barre's duties under this Agreement.

Federal, State and Local Payroll Taxes

The School District shall not withhold or pay federal or state income taxes or payroll taxes of any kind on behalf of the Town of Barre. The School District shall not treat the Town of Barre as an employee with respect to the services performed hereunder for federal or state tax purposes.

Notice to Independent Contractor About Its Tax Duties and Liabilities

The Town of Barre understands that it is responsible to pay, according to law, federal and state incomes taxes, and that School District is not withholding or paying any portion of the Town of Barre's taxes. If the Town of Barre is not a corporation, the Town of Barre further understands that the Town of Barre may be liable for self-employment (Social Security) tax, to be paid by the Town of Barre according to law.

Responsibility for Workers Compensation

No workers' compensation insurance shall be obtained by the School District covering the Town of Barre. The Town of Barre shall comply with the workers compensation law. The Town of Barre will provide proof of coverage or exemption from the need for coverage or other acceptable documentation as determined by the School District upon request.

Termination of Agreement

This Agreement may be terminated at any time by the School District or the Town of Barre, by written notice to the other party. Notice shall be deemed to have been sufficiently given either when served personally, when sent by email or by first class mail addressed to the parties at the addresses set forth in the vendor setup form. The School District shall not be liable for any expenses incurred, nor shall the Town of Barre be liable to perform any services after the receipt of notice of termination.

The performance of the Agreement by either party shall be subject to force majeure, including but not limited to acts of God, fire, flood, natural disaster, war or threat of war, acts or threats of terrorism, civil disorder, unauthorized strikes, governmental regulation or advisory, recognized health threats as determined by the World Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control, or local government authority or health agencies (**including but not limited to the health threats of COVID-19 pandemic and the government response, or similar infectious diseases**). The Agreement may be cancelled by either party, without liability, damages, fees, or penalty, and any unused deposits or amounts paid shall be refunded and any amounts owed paid, for any one or more of the above reasons, by written notice to the other party. In such event, the parties may, at their discretion, enter into a new written agreement for limited services to be provided and paid for on a prorated basis.

Independent Contractor Status

The Town of Barre expressly represents and warrants to the School District that:

1. An officer is not and shall not be construed to be an employee of the School District and the Town of Barre shall be solely responsible for its officers' actions and inactions. Officers are not supervised by a BUUSD or BTMES employees nor the BUUSD Board. Any complaints regarding actions of the officers shall be addressed to the BTPD Chief of Police;
2. The Town of Barre shall act solely as an independent contractor, not as an employee or agent of the School District; and
3. The Town of Barre is not authorized to enter into contracts or Agreements on behalf of the School District or to otherwise create obligations of the School District to third parties.

Confidential Matters and Proprietary Information

The Town of Barre understands and agrees that in the course of its working relationship with the School District with it may receive and become aware of information, projects, practices, employee information, relating to School District business. The Town of Barre hereby acknowledges the sensitivity and confidential nature of such information, and covenants and agrees to keep all such information strictly confidential. In this regard, the Town of Barre shall not at any time or in any manner, either directly or indirectly, divulge, disclose, communicate, or use the information it obtains or is otherwise exposed to as a result of its working relationship with the School District.

Background Checks

Barre Town police officers, WILL have unsupervised contact with school children. If they are intended to have unsupervised contact with school children they are required by law to go through a background check, including a Criminal Record Check process at their expense prior to engaging in services to the district. The School District will assist the Town of Barre in completion of the process, but will not provide reimbursement for the expenses of either fingerprinting required or background check process itself.

Non-Assignment

This Agreement shall not be transferred or assigned, in whole or in part, by the Town of Barre without the prior written consent of the School District.

Choice of Law

Any dispute under this Agreement, or related to this Agreement, shall be decided in accordance with the laws of the state of Vermont.

Agreement

This Agreement supersedes all prior oral or written Agreements, if any, between the parties and constitutes the entire Agreement between the parties. The Agreement cannot be changed or modified orally. This Agreement may only be supplemented, amended, or revised in writing by the Agreement of the parties.

Partial Invalidity

If any portion of this Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall nevertheless continue in full force without being impaired or invalidated in any way.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Contract by causing their names to be signed hereto on the dates shown.

APPROVED BY: Chris Hennessey DATE: AUGUST 25, 2022
BUUSD Superintendent

ACCEPTED BY: Carl Rogers DATE: August 25, 2022
Town of Barre Manager



**Spaulding High School
Barre, VT**

10/25/2022

Schedule of Value

General Conditions	\$680,720.00
HVAC Equipment	\$638,810.00
Design	\$133,350.00
DEMO Abatement	\$254,000.00
Masonry	\$39,900.00
Steel Support	\$99,750.00
Carpentry	\$99,750.00
Roofing	\$66,500.00
Drywall	\$254,000.00
Ceilings	\$469,900.00
Mechanical	\$1,968,500.00
Sprinkler	\$890,270.00
EMS	\$393,700.00
Electrical	\$1,079,500.00
Crane	\$63,500.00
Contractors Contingency	\$165,100.00
Bonds	\$88,900.00
Permits	\$60,000.00
Total Project	\$7,446,150.00
Deduct Admin Unit (Heat Pump, ERU 105, Ceilings)	-179,000.00
Total	\$7,267,150.00



**Spaulding High School
Central Vermont Career Center
Barre City Elementary and Middle School
Barre Town Middle and Elementary School**

Chris Hennessey, M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools

A rock solid education for a lifetime of discovery

120 Ayers Street, Barre, VT 05641
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October 26, 2022

Dear BUUSD School Board,

As I write this, we are approaching the end of the first quarter of the 2022-23 school year, and our students, families, and staff are settling into the routine of what has been a return to normalcy for our schools in so many ways. We hope that the Weekly Showcases that we've been sharing with the community are opening a window to the incredible opportunities we are providing for our students in the arts, academics, and athletics every day, and we have been excited to connect each of these to our BUUSD Strategic Plan in each of our updates. One of the major ways in which we haven't returned to normal however, concerns an issue we know all too well: staffing shortages.

I have shared the impact of our continued staffing shortages with you and the community many times, and I don't feel compelled to do so again here. Instead, I'll share some of the strategies we're putting into place (or are considering) to alleviate the challenges. Here is a partial list:

- * Special education case managers are in short supply everywhere, and we are down six in the district. One solution to this is that we are using many of our literacy and math interventionists at BTMES and BCEMS to assist with case management and specifically deliver services to our students on IEPs.
- * We are working closely with the Vermont AOE to make the licensing process for new candidates easier. We are also providing support to all candidates in helping them navigate the process.
- * Director of Special Services Stacy Anderson, the principals, and I are working closely with our BUUSD colleagues and regional social services agencies to come up with creative and collaborative strategies and solutions to meet the unmet needs of all of our students. Together.
- * Instead of having to close school, we are looking at creative alternative daily schedules at each of the schools to be put in place in the event that staffing shortages on any given day would make traditionally opening undoable or unsafe. This is still very much a work in progress, but other districts are considering similar measures.
- * We are collaborating with each of our schools' Substitute Coordinators to determine if we can logistically share our pool of permanent substitutes and daily subs on a daily basis, based on daily building needs.
- * Above all else, our administrators, teachers, behavior teams, academic interventionists and coaches, various support staff, ... everyone, really, are stepping up on a daily basis to fill the holes that the staff shortages and day to day absences present each school day.

In short, we are getting it done, but on many days only barely. As I mentioned last month, we are all concerned about the sustainability of this. At this point, we have only had to close a school once, and that was SHS on October 3. Given the wave of illnesses that hit the region in late September and early October (and are still stubbornly lingering), we have been very fortunate to not have had to close more often. (It's important to note that the sicknesses going around this fall are relatively normal historically; what's not normal is that we don't have a pool of people to replace those that are absent each day.) All credit is due to the principals and staff of our schools for making it work on a daily basis! But, having people spread so thin is definitely having an impact on our ability to function both academically and operationally to the degree we expect, particularly at our PreK-8 schools. We wanted to make you aware of what we're facing, and we certainly welcome your thoughts.

I have a few other updates to share this month:

Update: Homelessness in the BUUSD Now that we are approaching the end of October, I wanted to update you on our most recent data and review what our responsibility is to educate children whose families may qualify for homeless benefits under the McKinney-Vento Act. I hope you find the following information helpful:

First, for your review: under the McKinney-Vento Act, the Local Education Agency (LEA, which is the BUUSD for all of our kids in a homeless situation) needs to ensure that there is stability for kids who are going through homelessness. Residency rules are very tight under state statute, and homeless families used to find themselves in a game of ping pong bouncing from school to school while going through unbelievable stress and instability. The MVA was put in place to ensure that kids didn't miss school and families had a degree of control and stability, at least as far as school was concerned. If a BCEMS, BTMES, or SHS student suddenly finds themselves homeless and the parent wants them to stay in that school (even if they're living in a motel in Montpelier, on a couch in Plainfield, or in a tent in Groton), they stay in that school and it's on the LEA 100% to make it work for them for at least the rest of that school year. This includes providing transportation to and from school regardless of where the family is staying. The idea here is that the child remains in the one stable place (with trusted teachers, known friends, routines, etc.) that we have some control over, and this is a good thing!

Here is a solid two page summary of how the McKinney-Vento Act works: [McKinney-Vento Act: Quick Reference](#)

Next, here is a snapshot of the latest MVA numbers for the district, with last year's numbers above them to provide some context.

21-22	# STUDENTS DEEMED HOMELESS	# STUDENTS DEEMED HOMELESS	# STUDENTS DEEMED HOMELESS
	BY 12/31/2021	BY 3/15/2022	BY 5/20/22
PRE-K	6	7	9
BCEMS	31	48	64
BTMES	9	14	14
SHS	11	14	19
TOTALS	57	83	106

22-23	# STUDENTS DEEMED HOMELESS
	BY 10/17/22
PRE-K	4
BCEMS	54
BTMES	6
SHS/SEA	13
TOTALS	77

For the purpose of this update, it's most instructive to compare our numbers now (as of October 17) to those from December of last year. As you can see, the rise in homelessness has grown significantly in the last ten months, specifically at BCMES where we are currently approaching 7% of our total student population qualifying for benefits under the McKinney-Vinto Act. Unfortunately, we are anticipating and expecting these numbers to only go up during the winter and through the end of the school year, just like they did last year.

I also want to point out that our McKinney-Vinto team of **Dawn Poitras, Stacy Anderson, and Sue Cioffi** continues to do an incredible job of acting quickly and getting any resources possible to these families! Their efforts are making a huge difference in the lives of many.

State Assessment Update From the Vermont Agency of Education: Farewell to SBAC On October 5, the Agency of Education shared a press release to announce that the state was no longer going to be using the SBAC as the statewide assessment for ELA, Math, and Science. The AOE has selected Cognia to replace the SBAC. The full press release detailing the reasoning behind this decision is below:

[New Assessment Implementation for SY23](#)

Candidly, we are waiting on information from the AOE regarding specifics of this plan and how this new assessment will be implemented and used. As we mentioned last spring, the ramifications of Covid have essentially compromised statewide data for the last two years, and the AOE is urging caution in how any of this data is interpreted as a result. As we know, teachers and students missed many days of instruction the last two plus years, and scores will be adversely impacted for us and schools across Vermont and the nation for this year and probably many years ahead. As such, our plan to use more timely and frequent local assessments to inform our instruction to meet the needs of *all* students is a sound approach, and it will help us paint a much more accurate picture of how students are progressing and where the needs are.

We hope to have some more details about Cognia when our Curriculum Committee meets next week, and we will have some results from some of our fall local assessments to share then as well.

Two Upcoming Literacy Nights in the BUUSD! One of the key goals of our Strategic Plan is Community Engagement, and a major objective of that goal is to engage families and the community about our curriculum goals and student learning outcomes. Well, I am happy to report that we have two Literacy Nights coming up in the next few weeks! The first is welcome to all BUUSD PreK-8 families and is occurring at BTMES on the evening of November 9, and the next event takes place at BCEMS the following week on the 16th. Details for both events are being shared with PreK-8 families now!

This Week's BUUSD School Showcase I always like to end my report with the latest school showcase, because it gives all of us an opportunity to keep perspective on what's most important! For all of the tough news above, I continue to be thrilled to go into our schools every day and see and hear what our students are experiencing. The latest message to the community in case you missed it (and please note that we will continue to emphasize our Strategic Plan in all of these updates):

"For this week's Showcase, we have a "Two For One Special", giving you an opportunity to both join an outstanding middle school Social Studies class at BCEMS and celebrate the beginning of the fall sports playoff season at Spaulding High School!

"Our Strategic Plan Guides the Work of *Every* Member of Our Community."

To begin, I was able to join BCEMS Social Studies teacher **Missy Wiggins'** 7th graders last week for a fun lesson in her Ancient Civilization class. "Student Engagement" is a key objective of our Strategic Plan, and it was great to see the kids using technology to engage in collaborative teamwork with their learning. Most of us will remember learning long vocabulary lists when we were students, but what you will see here is a perfect example of a traditional lesson made better with simple but creative and engaging methods. Ms. Wiggins made a vocabulary lesson come alive with an engaging and fun experience for her students, and the kids were all eager to share their work with us! You can check it out here:

[Ancient Civilizations](#)

For Part Two, we didn't want to wait until next week to celebrate the start of the fall SHS playoff season, because it will already be under way as you read this! Our Crimson Tide teams have had an exciting fall season, and the playoff rounds are beginning this afternoon with our girls soccer team playing Enosburg at the Barre Town Rec Field. SHS Athletic Director **Derek Cipriano** and I had a chance to catch up with all of the team captains and some of their teammates this afternoon, and they shared some highlights of their season and what we can look forward to in the days and weeks ahead:

[Fall Sports VIDEO](#)

Finally, we wanted to give a big Shout Out to Spaulding Junior Golfer **Garret Cameron**, who will be representing the State of Vermont at the New England Golf Championship match at Mohegan Sun Resort on Monday, October 31! What a tremendous honor and experience! Congratulations Garret, and good luck!

Thanks for joining us in highlighting some of the best of what academics and athletics can offer to the kids of Barre. Have a great rest of the week!

Chris"

That's a good place to end - a link to all communications from my office can be found on our website here: [2022-23 Superintendent Updates](#).

I welcome your thoughts and questions. I am honored to be leading my colleagues and serving the Barre community as your superintendent, and I thank you for your support.

Respectfully,

Chris

October 27, 2022

Dear Barre Unified Union School District Board,

We are now already at the end of the first quarter. Among the many positives, our soccer and Cross Country programs have wrapped up their seasons. Thanks to the dedication of our Athletic Director Jodi Bushway and her district colleagues, our students played soccer under Spaulding's lights as a community. Our growing Cross Country Team placed well in several meets, impressive for such a young program.

Barre City's Guidance Counseling team is continuing to build connections with our community partners. We are working with providers to offer on site counseling and intervention services to meet mental health needs. Through continued collaboration with agencies such as Washington County Mental Health Services, we are exploring ways to expand in-school supports for struggling students.

We feel the impact of staff shortages and unhired positions on a daily basis. Our Interventionists are having to fill multiple roles, including providing direct services in place of missing Special Educators. Curriculum Coaches are balancing improving all classroom instruction with providing direct support to a large cohort of new teachers. Our permanent substitutes and behavior staff also are supporting students that are in need of para or BI supports. Classroom Teachers are working hard to provide students with robust instruction while unpacking several new curriculums and managing student behaviors.

We are working with many students to address their dysregulation and conduct. When those behaviors are unsafe, we are addressing them with the student and parent. The communication between school and home in working collaboratively to improve these behaviors is critical.

The PTO has met again and we are building a core of dedicated members who will be carrying the work forward. The focus remains on defining the purpose and goals of the organization. While we are looking to bring back successful initiatives, we will also be looking to expand ways that the community can directly support the students and staff at BCEMS.

The Middle School will be welcoming parents, caregivers and community members to a Winter Concert in January. This marks the return of something we have not held for several years. We have had more students sign up to be a part of the band than we anticipated. Through generous donations we are ensuring that students can have access to instruments. Our music educators are collaborating to build a vibrant district-wide program.

Our teachers will be reaching out to families over the next few weeks in preparation for ParentTeacher Conferences. The conferences will be over a two week time from November 7 to November 18. The conferences will be flexible in format - phone conferences, google meets or in person and coordinated by the teachers. Please do not hesitate to reach out to counselors and case managers if interested in meeting with them as well.

There is a lot going on in the school to be proud of and we will continue to explore ways to showcase the talents of our students to the community. These events are an important step forward to involve parents and caregivers in their student's education. Again, please reach out at any time with questions, concerns and/or ideas; together, we can ensure a great school community for our children.

Respectfully submitted, Brenda Waterhouse and Pierre Laflamme



Spaulding High School

155 Ayers Street, Suit 1
Barre, Vermont 05641-4300
Phone: +1 802-476-4811
Fax: +1 802-479-435
Website: www.spauldinghs.org

Principal

Marlon Maylor, M. Ed.

Principal

Luke Aither, M. Ed.

Assistant Principal

Mari Goodridge Miller, MA, CAA

Tide Nation Update

Volume 1 - October 2022

Academics

Work Based Learning, under the guidance of Michelle LaFrancis completed a financial aid workshop.

SHS completed its second PAS (Planning for Academic Success), where students who are not meeting proficiency are allowed to demonstrate their learning.

SHS has worked with Great Schools to further build our Professional Learning Groups (PLGs), where we focus on the Effective Elements of Teaching.

Staff

SHS, under the leadership of Karen Fredricks and Sue Brennan, hosted Outright Vermont as they completed a three-hour Professional Development with our staff focusing on unpacking bias.

Jonathan Strong and Mari Miller lead the staff on a student management PD.

A Data Point

Every week teachers give many different types of formatives to assess student learning. Once a week, they upload one formative into the grade book to provide a snapshot of how students progress. Using this data for students who show up to class, the vast majority demonstrated proficiency: Oct. 5: 82.4% ---> Oct. 12: 82.5% ---> Oct. 19: 84.3%

Athletics

Playoffs start this week, and our athletic teams are in solid positions to make a title run. Girls' Soccer secured the 4 seed and hosts Enosburg at 3pm on 10/25; Boys' Soccer has the 11 seed and plays at North Country at 3pm on 10/26; Field Hockey has the 4 seed and hosts Otter Valley at 3:30pm on 10/27, and Football heads to Bellows Falls for a 7pm game on 10/28. Cross country championships are at Thetford on Saturday, 10/29. Garret Cameron is representing SHS at the New England Golf Championship on Monday, 10/31. Follow our teams' progressions through the tournaments at www.vpaonline.org

DRAFT**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
October 20, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Nancy Leclerc (BT) - Chair
Terry Reil (BT) – Vice Chair
Michelle Hebert
John Lyons, Jr.
Paul Malone (BC)
Sarah Pregent (BC)

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

Sonya Spaulding

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Chris Hennessey, Superintendent
Luke Aither, SHS Co-Principal
Mary Goodridge Miller, SHS Assistant Principal
Marlon Maylor, SHS Co-Principal
Lisa Perreault, Business Manager

PUBLIC MEMBERS PRESENT:**1. Call to Order**

The Chair, Mrs. Leclerc, called the Thursday, October 20, 2022 BUUSD Finance Committee meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Mrs. Pregent, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the agenda as presented, with some items to be taken out of order.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes**4.1 Meeting Minutes From September 15, 2022**

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Pregent, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the September 15, 2022 BUUSD Finance Committee meeting.

5. New Business

None.

6. Old Business**6.1 FY24 Budget and Schedule**

A document titled BUUSD FY24 Budget Development Schedule – REVISED, 09/02/22 was distributed.

A document titled Draft Meeting Schedule was distributed.

After brief discussion of the Budget Schedule, the Committee agreed to; add a November 17, 2022 Regular Finance Committee meeting and to add 'Committee Listening Session' to that meeting. The label for the November 2, 2022 meeting will be changed to read 'Additional Meeting', and it will be noted that the 1st draft of the expense budget will be presented to the Board on November 10, 2022. The December 8, 2022 listing will be removed or labeled as 'Regular Board Meeting'. Discussion moved to Agenda Item 6.1.2.

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6.1.1 Budget Template

A document titled BUUSD FY 24 Budget Development – Draft 1 (10/02/22) was distributed. Discussion contained within Agenda Item 6.1.2.

6.1.2 Budget Numbers

A document titled FY24 Budget Development – 10/20/22 was distributed.

The Committee reviewed the Board's values and goals (for the budget) section of the document. It was noted that the budget considerations listed in the document have been submitted by administrators, based on how they feel the District can best serve students and staff. The draft budget increase is approximately 9.11%. The budget draft does not include the \$6,000,000 grant. Mrs. Perreault advised regarding a shift in expenses at SHS now that CVCC is independent (the CVCCSD). This shift is for the most part, 'a wash'. The Committee discussed District-wide considerations, including; salary and wage increases, and health/dental insurance premium increases (13% and 4% respectively). Concern was raised that the funding source for administrative salary increases no longer exists, and it was confirmed that the increase will need to be added to the budget. Insurance premium rates are usually set by the end of November. Mr. Lyons queried whether or not the total compensation package (salary/wages, benefits, tuition payments, contributions, HRA's, HSA's etc.) is calculated yearly. Mrs. Perreault advised that during negotiations, the salary increase and benefits are calculated, though that information is not typically shared with individuals. Mr. Lyons believes it's important that the total compensation package is shared. Mr. Malone noted that the mandated state-wide negotiation for health care has had a negative financial impact on the District. Mrs. Perreault advised that she will document the Committee's questions and areas of interest so that a list of questions can be centralized. Additional District-wide discussion included Fixed Facilities costs. The Committee agreed to lower the draft 1 proposed construction line increase from \$1 SF to 85¢ SF (currently funded at 75¢ SF). Mr. Reil believes the reporting of facilities expenses needs to be revised as he does not believe the number provided are accurate (too low). Brief discussion was held regarding the upcoming lighting project (that was recently approved by the Board). It was noted that Mrs. Perreault was able to secure a good price for fuel for the current year. The FY23 fuel budget is a little short due to the significant increase in fuel prices. The draft FY24 budget has an increase of approximately \$20,000 for fuel oil and wood chips. Mrs. Leclerc believes that amount may need to be increased. The draft includes an additional \$30,000 for security upgrades (cameras) at BCEMS, BTMES, and SHS (\$10,000 per building). Mrs. Perreault will amend the Considerations document to include dollar amounts associated with each increase/decrease being considered. The District anticipates an increase for snow plowing (a fixed cost expense). The current contract expires in FY23. It was noted that kitchen repairs and maintenance are funded by the food service surplus. Mrs. Perreault provided an overview of how the food service program is managed, advising that the District makes a profit from the managed food service program. Early Education considerations include an increase to permanent substitute lines (addition of 2 permanent substitutes) and addition of District-wide English-Language Learners support personnel (the District is looking for grant funding for this position).

The Committee discussed the BTMES considerations (an increase of 8.25%). Mr. Hennessey noted that the consideration of 9.5 interventionists is not a change or addition (no budget impact). There is currently a 1.5 FTE vacancy, but these positions need to be filled. Mr. Hennessey cautioned that this document is an initial draft and that additional changes should be anticipated. Mr. Reil queried regarding the availability of an overall staffing report. Brief discussion was held regarding staff-to-student ratios, and whether class sizes which are below the ideal student-to-teacher ratio, could be 'bulked' up to the ideal ratio in an effort to eliminate the need for additional teachers. Brief discussion was held regarding shifting staff positions, by eliminating consistently unfilled support staff positions (para-educators), and having more professional staff (interventionists) provide services. The district currently has 15 to 17 unfilled para-educator positions. There are currently 6 vacant special educator positions. Special educator positions are very difficult to fill. In response to a query, Mr. Hennessey advised that he can find out the number of substitutes in the District. Mrs. Marold should have a master list of substitutes. Mrs. Perreault advised that over the past few years, the schools have been hiring more permanent substitutes. Permanent substitute positions are deemed as more attractive as they include benefits. Brief discussion was held regarding the addition of 1 FTE behavior interventionist (a non-contracted, unlicensed, hourly position). Hiring for this position in-house is much less expensive than using an outside contractor. It was noted that increased capacity at the SEA Building, would be much less expensive than sending students out of district, but many students would benefit more from remaining at BTMES (if additional support is in place).

The Committee discussed the SHS considerations (an increase of 6.80%). Brief discussion was held regarding off-sets related to the Career Center becoming a separate school district, reinstatement of a music accompanist, reinstatement of an SRO, the increase of a .5 FTE Work Based Learning Community Service Coordinator, an increase to Work-Based Learning contracted services, the addition of a behavior specialist (previously ESSER funded), camera replacement, and the lighting project lease payment (which should be offset by reduced power bills). It was noted that the Barre City Police Department is also dealing with staffing shortages, and Mr. Malone queried regarding paying for services that are not provided. In the past, the District paid for an SRO who was often pulled off site for Barre City police matters. Mr. Aither advised that an SRO plays many roles within the building and assists with building community comfort and community awareness. Mr. Aither stressed that the school will need an SRO who is consistently on site. Additional discussion was held regarding the proposal to add staff to the Work-Based Learning Program (including transportation and promotion), addition of a behavior specialist and a student support specialist, as well as camera replacements and the Lighting Project,

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which should be off-set by savings in electricity costs. Concern was voiced that the District has advised that ESSER funded positions would, in the future, be funded by attrition, but some of these positions are now being added to the budget, which may cause push-back from the community. Administrators from BCEMS and BTMES will be invited to a future meeting to provide feedback regarding their budget considerations.

The Committee discussed the BCEMS consideration (an increase of 5.93%) for the addition of an administrative assistant. BCEMS used to have an office manager in the budget. The position was cut from the budget, and it has become apparent that it needs to be added back in.

The Committee discussed the Central Services and Special Education considerations (an increase of 12.11%). Mrs. Leclerc requested a breakdown of the increase between the Central Office and SPED increases. It was noted that the heading does not reflect the considerations. Special Education considerations are included in a different section of the document. The Committee discussed the addition of 2 Curriculum Coordinators, the addition of a Grants & Data Coordinator, Technology (including addition of a cybersecurity line item, an increase for software for online and blended learning, and classroom instructional technology hardware (which has not been increased, but is necessary to assure that technology remains current)). An increase is proposed for the Business Office (.5 FTE) to accommodate additional work involved with administering the Food Service Program. There is a reduction for the Board line item, as the expense of audit services has decreased under the unification of the District. The HR Department proposes an increase for advertising related to job posting/recruitment. It is likely that universal free meals will be continued in 2024, but if they are not, the cost to continuing to provide breakfast and lunch to students is approximately \$800,000 (this amount has not been added to draft 1).

The Committee discussed Special Education Services considerations (including the SEA Program). Discussion included an overview of incorporating instructional interventionist services into the SPED budget, the addition of 2 Special Services Assistants, a decrease to the para-educator line item (to more accurately reflect the current status – unfilled positions), an increase for Extended School Year services (summer school), an increase for occupational therapy contracted services (due to need), and the addition of 2 student support specialists and 2 special educators for the SEA Program (to support the addition of middle school students).

Brief discussion was held regarding student counts and it was noted that students enrolled in ‘early college’ does cause a reduction in the equalized pupil count.

Brief discussion was held regarding the estimated \$6,000,000 in grant funding. This amount includes ESSER funding. In response to a query, Mrs. Perreault advised that the \$7,000,000 in ESSER funding for HVAC Projects will be spent over three years (FY23, FY24, and FY25). The IDEA grant is approximately \$800,000 and the CFP grant is approximately \$2,000,000.

In response to a request, it was agreed that Mr. Hennessey will contact administrators to provide additional detail regarding budget considerations and that numbers will be ‘attached’ to considerations. Administrators will be available for discussion at a future Board meeting.

Mrs. Leclerc advised that she will send her questions to Mrs. Perreault, and advised others to send their questions to her or Mr. Reil. Mrs. Leclerc and Mr. Reil will coordinate submission of questions so that duplicate questions are not submitted. Mrs. Perreault plans to create a shared Google document that contains a record of all questions and answers.

6.2 Special Articles - Surplus

A document titled Special Articles was distributed.

The Committee discussed FY22 unaudited fund balances. Mrs. Leclerc provided an overview of the funds by account. It was noted that the \$600,000 not utilized in FY22 is included in the listed amount of the Tax Stabilization fund, though \$700,000 is reserved for FY23. Mrs. Perreault recommends that the FY24 budget also utilized a similar amount (to FY23), and that the remaining anticipated surplus amount be split as follows; 500,000 to Tax Stabilization and the remaining balance to Capital Projects.

6.3 Funding for School ERP Pro

A document titled ‘Migrating our financial accounting system to the next generation: School ERP Pro’ was distributed.

Mrs. Perreault advised that she was notified in late September that it was not allowable to use ESSER funds for the new financial accounting system. Mrs. Perreault advised that there is \$450,000 in ‘Indirect’ funding which can be used for any type of general expense. Mrs. Perreault suggested that \$88,000 to \$90,000 of implementation costs be funded through ‘Indirect’. The annual license fee of \$12,000 is less than the cost of the current system and is built into the Business Office budget. The system that the District is migrating to is not the ‘failed’ system that the State was mandating.

6.4 Fuel Update

A document titled Irving Fuel Oil and Propane – Update 10/20/22 was distributed.

Discussed under 6.1.2

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6.5 Lighting Project Financing Update

A copy of a letter from MLC (Municipal Leasing Consultants) to Lisa Perreault (dated 09/21/22) was distributed. Mr. Reil advised that more accurate numbers are now available. Mrs. Perreault has provided all the requested information and the District has a signed contract. Mr. Malone voiced concern regarding the numbers associated with lighting upgrades at SHS. Mr. Reil advised that the Facilities Committee will be holding a special meeting on Tuesday 10/25/22 at 2:00 p.m. to discuss the project and components that have increased the cost.

7. Other Business

None.

8. Items for Future Agendas

November 2, 2022:

- FY24 Budget Development
- Plan for Listening Session for FY24 Budget

9. Next Meeting Date

Upcoming meetings;

Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Mr. Malone, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin

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BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
October 17, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chris Parker, Chair (BT)
Giuliano Cecchinelli, II, Vice Chair (BC)
Tim Boltin (BC)
Alice Farrell (BT)
Jon Valsangiacomo – (BT Community Member)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Thomas Kelly (BC Community Member)

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nancy Leclerc
Terry Reil

ADMINISTRATORS AND STAFF PRESENT:

Chris Hennessey, Superintendent
Luke Aither, SHS Co-Principal
Pierre Laflamme, BCEMS Principal

GUESTS:

Josh Howard Andy McMichael William Toborg

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Ms. Parker, called the Monday, October 17, 2022, meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference - Google Meet.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

None.

3. Public Comment

Concern was voiced that Policy E1 (Title I) is not on the October Agenda. VSBA indicates the policy was changed on 09/24/21, which means the District has been out of compliance for over a year. Policy E1 will be added to the November Agenda.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – August 15, 2022 Policy Committee Meeting

On a motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Cecchinelli, the Committee unanimously agreed to approve the Minutes of the August 15, 2022 Policy Committee Meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 Review of BUUSD Policy Manual Index

A copy of the BUUSD Policy Manual Index (dated 10/12/22) was distributed.

In response to a query regarding the location of the indexes, it was noted that these working files are maintained by Mrs. Gilbert (not currently public documents).

5.2 VSBA Model Policy Index Review

A copy of the VSBA Model Policy Index was distributed.

A document titled ‘VSBA Policy Work – BUUSD Status – Updated 10/12/22’ was distributed.

In response to a query regarding how policies are selected or review, Ms. Parker advised that some come from the Parking Lot, some from the VSBA website (recently updated list), and some are noted by Mr. Hennessey and Mr. Aither based on changes and needs of the District. Mrs. Farrell queried regarding a review of the entire list, and possible identification of policies that may have been overlooked or older policies that may need to be updated. Ms. Parker advised that the District can request that VSBA do a policy review for the District. Additionally, VSBA can advise regarding upcoming work. It was noted that the District is far ahead of most districts, as a benefit of the extensive review facilitated by Mr. Pandolfo in preparation for Act 46 consolidation.

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5.3 Admission of Resident Students Policy (C31) – Consider – VSBA Removed

A copy of the policy was distributed.

Ms. Parker advised that VSBA is removing this policy from their manual because it is covered under statute. Brief discussion was held, including discussion of ‘adult’ students, and procedures for families to prove residency.

On a motion by Mr. Valsangiacomo, seconded by Mr. Cecchinelli, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend to the Board that Policy C31 be rescinded (deleted).

5.4 Eighteen Year-Old Students Policy (C32) – Consider – VSBA Removed

A copy of the policy was distributed.

Ms. Parker advised regarding VSBA’s removal of this policy. Brief discussion was held.

On a motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Cecchinelli, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend to the Board that the policy be rescinded (deleted).

5.5 Electronic Surveillance Policy (F26) – Recommended

A copy of the policy was distributed.

Mr. Aither provided a brief overview of the need to revise this policy due to CVCC becoming a separate school district (renting a portion of the SHS building from the BUUSD). Mr. Aither advised that the amended policy has been legally vetted.

On a motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Valsangiacomo, the Committee unanimously voted to approve Policy F26 as amended and to present it to the Board for a First Reading.

5.6 Public Participation at Board Meetings (A21) – Recommended

A copy of the policy was distributed.

A document titled ‘VLCT Mode Rules of Procedure for Municipal Boards, Committees, and Commissions’ was distributed.

Mr. Cecchinelli advised that while reading this document, he believes it is more detailed than what is contained in policy, and thought it might be beneficial to amend Policy A21 to include some of these details. Mr. Cecchinelli believes the document covers issues that have been problematic for the Board, including information pertaining to public meeting laws. Discussion included section C5 which states that a motion will only pass if it receives the votes of a majority of the total membership of the body. It was noted that this document appears to conflict with Robert’s Rules which sometimes has other ratios for the passing of motions (e.g. 2/3 majority for some types of motions), and that Robert’s Rules passes votes based on those present at the meeting, not the total membership of the body. Concern was voiced related to including procedures within the policy. Concern was raised that the Board wants policies to match VSBA policies as much as possible and adding this information conflicts with that. Concern was raised that public participation should be the least restrictive as possible and any methods to further restrict public input would be detrimental. It was noted that the Board Chair is supposed to know the rules on how to operate meetings. If meetings are not being run efficiently, the Board Chair should have additional training. It was suggested that legal counsel review the document. It was suggested that the Board hold discussion on possibly having this document be a procedure. It was noted that most of the document pertains to procedural operations of the Board rather than policy. Mr. Aither advised that administrators on the Procedures Committee are working on section C (student related policies). Ms. Parker suggested that Mr. Hennessey have legal counsel review the document.

5.7 Policy on Non-discriminatory Mascots and School Branding Policy (F2) – Required – New VSBA Policy

Copies of the VSBA Model Policy and a draft of the BUUSD Policy were distributed.

Ms. Parker noted that this is a new VSBA policy effective August 2022. Brief discussion was held and it was noted that the District is not responsible for ‘policing’ of mascots of other schools (even though they may be present on BUUSD property). In response to a query, it was noted that the Board is responsible for determining what is/is not discriminatory. If a complaint to the Board is not resolved to a complainant’s satisfaction, they can appeal to the Agency of Education. A few minor formatting amendments were suggested and agreed to.

On a motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Valsangiacomo, the Committee unanimously voted to approve Policy F2 with amendments as discussed, and to present the policy to the Board for a First Reading.

5.8 STI and Pregnancy Prevention Policy (C43) – BUUSD Policy

A copy of the policy was distributed.

Ms. Parker noted that Policy C43 is a local policy and that it is covered in statute. Mr. Hennessey advised that the policy appears to be redundant to statute and agrees that the policy should be rescinded. In response to a query, it was noted that the District’s definition of secondary school (high school) differs from statute (7 – 12). Statute clearly defines what grades cannot be subject to opting out.

On a motion by Mr. Valsangiacomo, seconded by Mr. Cecchinelli, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend to the Board that Policy C43 be rescinded (deleted).

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6. Old Business

6.1 Use of Restraint and Seclusion Policy (C70) – Recommended – Replaces Policy C34

A copy of existing BUUSD policy C34 was distributed. A copy of a draft of policy C70 was distributed.

Ms. Parker advised that VSBA changed the coding of the policy to reflect it being changed from a 'to be considered' policy, to a 'recommended' policy, and noted that VSBA has changed the coding structure to allow for expansion of the number of policies in the 'recommended' category (20 – 29 and 70 – 79). Ms. Parker noted that the definitions section differs from the current policy, as it does not list the narrative definitions. Mr. Hennessey advised that though the reporting requirements for '4500' have been changed, he does not believe the premise of the statute has changed. The Committee agreed to a minor amendment to 'Section 2. Definitions'. Mrs. Farrell queried regarding how rule 4500 is distributed to staff. Mr. Laflamme advised that all paperwork that has to be filled out, has the information spelled out. Brief discussion was held regarding required annual reporting by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Mr. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Valsangiacomo, the Committee unanimously voted to amend Policy C70 as discussed, and to present the Policy to the Board for a First Reading.

7. Other Business

None.

8. Future Agenda Items

Brief discussion was held regarding Policy C28 - Transgender and Gender Non-conforming Students, and it was agreed not to review this policy until VSBA has completed their review of the policy.

November:

C27 – Student Distribution of Literature Policy

C13 – Students Who Are Homeless Policy

A22 – Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy

E1 – Title I, Part A: Parent and Family Engagement Policy

A33 – School visits by Board Members Policy

A34 – Board Relations with School Personnel Policy

D32 – Selection of Instructional Materials Policy

D22 – Selection of Library Materials Policy

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is Monday, November 21, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Cecchinelli, the Committee unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin