

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING**

January 24, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

In-Person: Spaulding High School, 155 Ayers Street, Barre

Virtual Option: Click this link to join the meeting remotely:

Meeting ID: meet.google.com/vxi-arvi-mgb

Phone Numbers: (US)+1 929-777-4801 PIN: 769 689 006#

PLEASE NOTE: If you attend the meeting virtually and the video link fails, we will still proceed with the meeting at the assigned in-person location. You must state your name for the record to satisfy the Open Meeting Law.

Public comment is welcomed and limited to 2 minutes per agenda item. The board will hear public comments and questions, but won't respond directly during public comments. This can feel impersonal, but is in place to allow the board to stay on task and address the work of the board for that meeting.

AGENDA

- 6:00 1. Call to Order
- 6:05 2. Pledge and Mindfulness Moment
- 6:10 3. Additions or Deletions with Motion to Approve the Agenda
- 6:15 4. Comments for Items Not on the Agenda
 - 4.1. Public Comment
 - 4.2. Student Voice
- 6:30 5. Faculty/Staff - Reports/Presentations
 - 5.1. CIA Plan Update
 - 5.2. Special Education Staff and Child Count Data Report
- 7:15 6. Consent Agenda
 - 6.1. Special Meeting Minutes - January 4, 2024
 - 6.2. Regular Meeting Minutes - January 10, 2024
 - 6.3. Warrant Approval: [January 4, 2024](#) & [January 11, 2024](#)
- 7:20 7. Building Reports
 - 7.1. BCEMS, BTMES, SHS, SEA
 - 7.2. Superintendent Report
- 7:30 8. Current Business
 - 8.1. New Hires [**ACTION**]
 - 8.2. Announced Tuition [**ACTION**]
 - 8.3. Enrollment/Home Study
- 7:45 9. Old Business
- 7:50 10. Committee Reports
 - 10.1. Finance Committee: Met: January 4, 2024; Next Meeting: February 19, 2024
 - 10.2. Facilities/Transp. Cmt: Met: January 8, 2024; Next Meeting: February 5, 2024
 - 10.3. Policy Committee: Met: January 17, 2024; Next Meeting: February 21, 2024
 - 10.4. Curriculum Committee: TBD
 - 10.5. CVCCSD Board: Met: January 8, 2024; Next Meeting: February 12, 2024
- 8:05 11. Future Agenda Items
- 8:10 12. Next Meeting Dates: February 14, 2024, Spaulding High School Library and via Google Meet
February 28, 2024, Spaulding High School Library and via Google Meet (vacation week)
- 8:15 13. Executive Session
 - 13.1. Superintendent Evaluation

14. Adjournment

PARKING LOT OF ITEMS

- A. Community Building (added by Mrs. Spaulding Dec. 20)
- B. Procedures and Processes and How Behavior Issues are Reported (added by Mr. Boutin Oct. 25)
- C. Follow up on Middle School Athletic Program (Quarterly)(added by Mrs. Spaulding Oct. 25)
- D. Procedures for F3 & F4 Policies (added by Mrs. Leclerc Oct. 11)
- E. Consolidation of Buildings (Articles 3 & 4) (November)
- F. 5-Year Capital Plan (Ongoing)
- G. SHS Athletic Fields (Ongoing)
- H. Board Member Participation in Exit Interviews (added by Mr. Boutin, June 2023)
- I. Enrollment/Home Study (Quarterly: Nov., Jan., Apr. and June)
- J. CIA Plan Update (Quarterly: Nov., Jan., Apr. & June)
- K. Special Education Staff and Child Count Data Report (Quarterly Nov/Jan/April/June)
- L. Discipline Data (Quarterly Nov/Feb/April/June)
- M. Behavior Committee (added by Mr. Boutin Nov. 29)

ITEMS FOR COMMITTEES

- A. Electronic Storage (Finance Cmt First)(added by Mrs. Leclerc Oct. 25)
- B. Total Compensation Package (added by Mrs. Leclerc Sept. 2023; Finance Cmt First)
- C. Update New Accounting Software (added by Mrs. Leclerc Aug. 2023; Finance Cmt First - November)
- D. Student Weighting Formula - Budget Development (Finance Cmt: Aug. 21)

BOARD RETREAT ITEMS

- A. New Governance Standards (added by Mrs. Reynolds Sept 2023; New Standards go into Effect July 2025)

MEETING NORMS

- 1. Keep the best interest of the school and children in mind, while balancing the needs of the taxpayers
- 2. Make decisions based on clear information
- 3. Honor the board's decisions
- 4. Keep meetings short and on time
- 5. Stick to the agenda
- 6. Keep remarks short and to the point
- 7. Everyone gets a chance to talk before people take a second turn
- 8. Respect others and their ideas

Winter STAR assessment stats to date (window closes on 2/2)					
Reading					
School	Participation - Not Tested	Participation - Tested	Proficiency - At/Above	Proficiency - Below	
Barre City	33%	67%	31%	69%	
Barre Town	32%	68%	35%	65%	
Math					
School	Participation - Not Tested	Participation - Tested	Proficiency - At/Above	Proficiency - Below	
Barre City	33%	67%	29%	71%	
Barre Town	30%	70%	48%	52%	

NAEP Comparison "The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is a congressionally mandated project administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) within the U.S. Department of Education and is the largest continuing and nationally representative assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in select subjects."

Our students' proficiency is "not significantly different from the nation" to "higher than the nation"

Reading		
4th Grade	Nation's Report Card Reading	32% Proficient
8th Grade	Nation's Report Card Reading	29% Proficient
Math		
4th Grade	Nation's Report Card Mathema	35% Proficient
8th Grade	Nation's Report Card Mathema	26% Proficient

K-8 Progress Monitoring Update:

Quarter 1 saw an average of 62.39% of our students make progress.	Quarter 2 (to date) has an average of 88.89% students who made progress.
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BUUSD Special Services Board Report January, 2024

Special Education Staffing and Child Count Data: The shortage of qualified special education teachers and support staff continues to be a concern. Please see the table below for data on our district's Child Count (number of students eligible for special education) and special education staffing numbers from 2019 to present.

Special Ed Staff & ChildCount data					
	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23 (3/21/23)	23-24 as of 1/15/24
BCEMS SPECIAL EDUCATORS	17	18	17	14	15
BCEMS SpEd PARAS/BIS	52	40	34	36.5	35
BCEMS STUDENTS ON IEPS	224	223	209	221	221
BTMES SPECIAL EDUCATORS	12	12	12.8	13	14
BTMES SpEd PARAS/BIS	35	32	29	28	29
BTMES STUDENTS ON IEPS	159	159	176	194	209
SHS & SEA SPECIAL EDUCATORS	11	10.25	13	6 SHS 5 SEA	6 SHS 3 SEA
SEA TEACHERS	1	2	2	4	4
SHS & SEA SpEd PARAS/BIS	17	13.5	12.5	6 SHS 6.5 SEA	6 SHS 6.5 SEA
SHS & SEA STUDENTS ON IEPS	157	157	160	119 SHS 42 SEA	148 SHS 47 HS + 7 MS
BUUSD TOTALS	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
TOTAL SPECIAL EDUCATORS	40	40.25	42.8	38	39
TOTAL SpEd PARAS/BIS	104	85.5	75.5	78	76.5
TOTAL # STUDENTS ON IEPS	540	539	545	576	632
	BCEMS	BTMES	SHS	SEA	
UNFILLED SPECIAL EDUCATOR POSITIONS as of 1/15/24	2	0	1	2	
UNFILLED SPECIAL EDUCATION PARA/BI POSITIONS as of 1/15/24	6	6	1	0	

Vermont AOE Special Education Monitoring update:

On November 27, 2023, we submitted our AOE Monitoring data for the following three indicators still considered to be noncompliant for the BUUSD :

1. Indicator 11- Initial evaluations complete and report issued within 60 day
2. Annual IEP Review Dates and
3. Triennial Evaluation Review Dates

As of this writing, we are still awaiting our Monitoring Report for these three indicators.

BUUSD remains Compliant for the four additional indicators that were part of our original entry into the Monitoring cycle in the fall of 2021.

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BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
January 4, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Giuliano Cecchinelli, II (BC) – Chair
Chris Parker (BT) – Vice Chair
Paul Malone (BT) - Clerk
Nancy Leclerc (At-Large)
Sarah Pregent (BC)
Emily Reynolds (BT)
Sonya Spaulding (BC)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Michael Boutin (BC)
Terry Reil (BT)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Chris Hennessey, Superintendent

GUESTS PRESENT:

Jody Emerson

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Thursday, January 4, 2024, Special meeting to order at 5:30 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 Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mr. Malone, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Agenda as presented.

3. Current Business

3.1 Appoint New Member for CVCCSD Board

Mr. Cecchinelli advised that he is resigning his position on the CVCCSD Board as he cannot be employed by CVCCSD and also be on their Board. A new Board Member needs to be appointed.

Mrs. Pregent nominated Mrs. Spaulding for appointment to the CVCCSD Board. Mr. Malone seconded the nomination.

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mr. Malone, the Board voted 5 to 1 to appoint Mrs. Spaulding to the CVCCSD Board.

It was noted that this appointment is in effect until the March 2024 election, at which time a new appointment will need to be made.

**Mr. Malone, Ms. Parker, Mrs. Pregent, Ms. Reynolds, and Mrs. Spaulding voted for the motion.
Mrs. Leclerc voted against the motion.**

4. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Pregent, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 5:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin

DRAFT

BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
January 10, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Giuliano Cecchinelli, II (BC) – Chair
Chris Parker (BT) – Vice Chair
Paul Malone (BT) - Clerk
Michael Boutin (BC)
Nancy Leclerc (At-Large)
Sarah Pregent (BC)
Terry Reil (BT)
Emily Reynolds (BT)
Sonya Spaulding (BC)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Chris Hennessey, Superintendent
Karen Fredericks, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
Stacy Anderson, Director of Special Services
Luke Aither, Principal
Emanuel Ajanma, Director of Technology
Rebecca Busker, Assistant Principal
Melissa Greenwood, Assistant Principal
Carol Marold, Director of Human Resources
Mari Miller, Assistant Principal
Ted Mills, Assistant Principal
Jennifer Nye, Principal
Erica Pearson, Principal
Brenda Waterhouse, Principal

GUESTS PRESENT:

Dave Delcore – Times Argus	Martha Blaisdell	Mary Bowers	Sue Brennan	James Carpenter
Erin Carter	Madison Cooley	Cassandra Demarais	Erika Dolan	Nora Duane
Dorinne Dorfman	Brendan Eason	Alice Farrell	Garrett Grant	Miranda Green
Karen Heath	Carol Hebert	Michelle Hebert	Sarah Helman	Darby Hiebert
Sarah Hill	Josh Howard	Guy Isabelle	Elien Kaye	Samantha Knudsen
Prudence Krasofski	Colleen Kresco	Jody Leone	Sherry Lewton	Eric Lindner
Karine Marineau	Ben Matthews	Jessica Maurais	Lauren May	Joan McMahon
Karen Moran	Mickey Morris	Nathan Phelps	Victoria Pompei	Andrea Poulin
Jackie Wheeler	Merrin Rousseau	Heather Slayton	Megan Spaulding	J. Starr
Rhonda Thygesen	Jan Zemba	Jeff Blow	Michael Gilbar	Brodey Priddy
Rachel Van Vliet	Larry McEnany	Mary Gaudreau		

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Wednesday, January 10, 2024, Regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

2. Pledge and Mindfulness Moment

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The Board held a Mindfulness Moment.

3. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Agenda Item 6.4 (Information Request) will be taken out of order.

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Agenda Item 7.1 (Second and Final Reading Personnel Recruitment, Selection, Appointment and Background Checks) (B20) will be taken out of order

Agenda Item 7.2 (Second and Final Reading Community Use of School Facilities) (E20) will be taken out of order

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

4. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

4.1 Public Comment

Dorinne Dorfman shared one of Barre's greatest accomplishments is our focus on providing reading instruction to all students who need help based on valid reliable assessment data that tells teachers and interventionists who needs instruction and what areas. In the 22-23 school year, Barre Town middle school students with special education and received their literacy services from an interventionist improved by 49 points on the Renaissance Star Assessment, a percentile increase of nearly 7.5 percent. Among the 55 students taught altogether 91% improved in word reading, 87% increased their reading rate and 69% increased their passage reading accuracy.

4.2 Student Voice

None.

5. Consent Agenda

5.1 Approval of Minutes – December 20, 2023 Special Meeting

On a motion by Ms. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board voted 8-1 to approve the Minutes of the December 20, 2023 Special Meeting. Mr. Malone voted against the motion

5.2 Warrant Approvals – December 20, 2023 and December 28, 2023

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mrs. Leclerc, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Warrants dated December 20, 2023 and December 28, 2023.

Discussion moved to Agenda items 6.4, 7.1, and 7.2

6.4 Information Request

Mrs. Leclerc requested number of hours for fiscal year 22-23, overtime pay cost for those number of hours, and hours that support the \$60,000 in overtime. Mr. Malone added – What are the justifications for adding \$60,000 to this budget line item and the backups that support that?

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mrs. Parker, the Board voted 5 to 3 to approve a request of the Business Manager to provide July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023 payroll overtime information for custodial staff and send it to the Board.

**Mr. Boutin, Ms. Parker, Mrs. Pregent, Ms. Reynolds, and Mrs. Spaulding voted for the motion.
Mrs. Leclerc, Mr. Malone, and Mr. Reil voted against the motion.**

7.1 Second and Final Reading Personnel Recruitment, Selection, Appointment and Background Checks (B20)

A copy of the policy was distributed

Selection number one was clarified to say that the cost of background checks will be borne by the school district not by the individual and that is what we currently do and what we want to continue to have done. Everything else is the same.

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Second and Final Reading of the Personnel Recruitment, Selection, Appointment and Background Checks Policy (B20).

7.2 Second and Final Reading Community Use of School Facilities (E20)

A copy of the policy was distributed

Section 2 G – Option to allow or prohibit possession or use of a firearm or to permit it for a specific reason. Reached out to attorneys and their response mentioned there is additional risk of liability if you allow guns on campus for any reason that said the option to permit is valid particularly if you limit it to gun safety courses approved by the school which falls under an exception to the laws around guns in schools. You should state that limitation expressly.

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Mr. Boutin, the Board voted 7-1 to approve the Second and Final Reading of Community Use of School Facilities (E20) with the firearms provision. Instructional purposes (e.g. gun safety courses as approved by the district).

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Mr. Reil, Mr. Boutin, Ms. Parker, Mrs. Pregent, Mrs. Leclerc, Mr. Malone and Mrs. Spaulding voted for the motion. Ms. Reynolds voted against the motion.

Discussion returned to 6. Current Business

6. Current Business

6.1 New Hires

None

6.2 FY25 Budget Approval

A document titled “Act 127 Impact on BUUSD” was distributed.

A document titled “Budget Modeling Update 1/8/24” was distributed.

Superintendent Chris Hennessey presented the Act 127 impacts on BUUSD and Budget Modeling information which had been updated. The presentation was followed by discussion by board members, community input, and answering questions posed.

Mr. Malone moved to call the question. Mrs. Pregent seconded it. The vote was called by the Chair.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mrs. Pregent, the BUUSD Board voted 5 to 4 to approve the proposed budget of \$58,888,532.

Mr. Cecchinelli, Mrs. Spaulding, Mrs. Pregent, Ms. Parker, Ms. Reynolds voted for the motion.

Mr. Reil, Mr. Boutin, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Leclerc voted against the motion.

6.3 FY25 Warning Approval

A document titled “Barre Unified Union School District Warning for March 5, 2024 Vote” was distributed.

Amendments discussed: Article I – Strike last line and add Two Barre Town district directors for the term of 3-years; Article 3 change to \$11,795, Information below Article 5 – Change informational meeting to Annual meeting on Monday, March 4, 2024. Change last sentence dates from January 13, 2024 to January 10, 2024 and change January 14, 2024 to January 11, 2024

On a motion by Mr. Boutin, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board voted 5 to 3 to approve the Warning with amendments.

Mr. Boutin, Mrs. Spaulding, Mrs. Pregent, Ms. Parker, Ms. Reynolds voted for the motion.

Mr. Reil, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Leclerc voted against the motion.

7. Old Business

Discussion of items 7.1 and 7.2 took place prior to 6. Current Business

8. Future Agenda Items

None

11. Next Meeting Dates

Regular Meeting - Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Spaulding High School Library and via Video Conference (Google Meet). – Packet will be sent Friday with Addendums on Monday.

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Spaulding High School Library and via Video Conference (Google Meet).

12. Executive Session as Needed

Personnel Updates (1 VSA section 313 A4) proposed for discussion in Executive Session.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Ms. Parker, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session, with Mr. Hennessey in attendance, at 7:41 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 A4 to discuss the items proposed for discussion.

The remaining information was provided by the Board Clerk.

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On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 7:50 p.m.

13. Adjournment

On a motion by Ms. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Gilbert

Barre City Elementary & Middle School

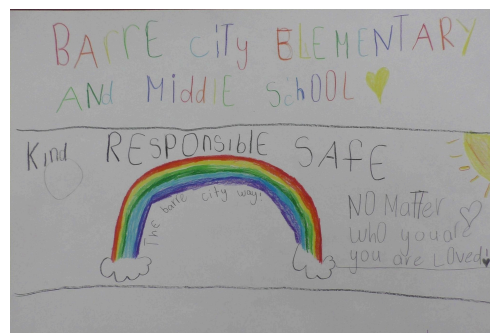
Principal's Report
January, 2024



December was a busy month. With multiple weather events, including our having to do an unscheduled early dismissal, our staff, students and families were incredibly flexible and responsive to making sure student safety was always prioritized. We had a community Spaghetti Dinner supported by the PTO, followed by our Middle School Winter Concert. The concert was incredible with a large turnout and terrific student performances. We also had our [Elementary Sing Along](#) filled with festive cheer. A special shout out to **Andrea Cechak** and **Rob Pettis** for all of their hard work in rebuilding our elementary and middle school music programs. The growth in these programs even since last year is remarkable.

The Barre City Way (BCW) - to be Kind, Safe and Responsible, held our [Solstice Celebration](#) on December 21. Solstice, a celebration of light, is celebrated with the least and greatest lengths of daylight. Many have been learning about the Solstice, which culminated in our students and staff having a bonfire and hot chocolate.

The students of Studio BC, led by **Mike Martin**, also held a poster contest open to all students to make a poster about the BCW. There were over twenty entries!



The winners are:

Grade 2:

1st - **Willow Byrd** (pictured right), 2nd - **Alaric Austin-Bradley**, 3rd - **Carson Larrabee**

Grade 3:

1st - **Marcella Falcaro** (pictured in the middle), 2nd - **Beatrice Planck**, 3rd - **Matson Romeo**

Grade 4:

1st - **Karson Boardman** (pictured left), 2nd - **Edward Flynn**, 3rd - **Mackenzie Dayton & Zoey Ferrari**

Our Students on the Move, organized by **Dawn Poitras**, was featured in the [Bridge](#) recently. Students on the Move (SOTM) is open to middle school students wanting to lend their voice and be involved in action steps. Our SOTM also organizes our spirit weeks and assemblies. Many thanks to Dawn for all of her hard work and helping students develop their leadership skills.

We have made gains in our staffing, having all of our classroom teacher positions filled for the first time this year. Our current outstanding regular education positions are three behavior interventionists and a transportation coordinator. We also have a long-term substitute teacher posting for an anticipated leave in April.

We have several different groups we are trying to work with around mentoring our young people. We currently have several students matched up with folks from Youth First Mentoring. We have been in contact with Everybody Wins - a program that BCEMS worked with in past years. Unfortunately, we are awaiting a site coordinator (if anyone knows someone who may be interested, please contact me!) to implement this wonderful opportunity to match adults from the community with some of our students who would benefit from a little extra 1:1 adult engagement. We are also in the beginning phases of implementing the DREAM Project. The DREAM Project is a grant that students from SHS acquired to start a mentoring program with the vision that the program will continue the mentoring relationship through the elementary student's time at BCEMS. We are starting with a cohort from third grade and hope to build from there.

There are many things happening in our busy school. Please see our latest newsletters: [November 27](#), [December 4](#), [December 11](#), [December 18](#), [January 2](#), [January 8](#), and [January 16](#).

Barre Town Middle & Elementary School



Building Report January 24, 2024

Crops by Kids Garden: 'Tis the season to start thinking about this year's garden! A seed sale through High Mowing Seeds is/will soon be underway. Funds will help support our school and community garden by replacing the door on the garden shed, distributing fresh mulch, and distributing general gardening supplies.

Gutters: Long overdue; gutters are currently being installed on the backside of the woodchip building. For those who access our parent drop-off/pick-up line, you will no longer see the icicles hanging from the roof!

Looking Ahead: We are gearing up for a busy February!

February 7: [Global School Play Day](#)

February 8: [Family Engagement Night](#) for grades 3 & 4

February 12: 100th Day of School (pending no more snow/ice days)

February 20: BUUSD District Art Show Opening Reception

February 22 & 23: NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) Testing for grades 4 & 8

Mid-year Assessments: Mid-year local assessments are wrapping up with data being used to help guide supports and targeted instruction for Quarter 3.

Postings: Currently, we have two teaching vacancies for the 2024-2025 school year, both of which have been posted on SchoolSpring: Preschool Teacher and 7th grade Math

Quarter 2: K-8 Report Cards will go home with students on Friday, January 26, 2024. Looking ahead, parent/teacher conferences will take place in April. In the meantime, please contact your child's team if you have any questions.

Radon Results: K-D Associates, Inc. conducted a radon assessment on December 26 - 29, 2023, at BTMES. Per the findings, *"all test results were below the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) action level of 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L). No further testing or remediation is recommended when results are below the action level. It is recommended that buildings be retested every 5 years regardless of initial test results."*

School Buses: There continues to be a shortage of bus drivers. When a driver needs to be out, our contracted bus company, Student Transportation of America, does its absolute best to find coverage, with the last resort being closing a route for a run/day, etc. (which, up to this point we have not had to do). It would be important for your household to have a plan in place should your bus route need to close/cancel. Additionally, if you know anyone interested in learning more about becoming a bus driver, please have them contact STA directly.

SEA Board Report: January 2024

Student Learning

SEA staff continue to work hard to improve our collection and recording of student engagement data. As we head into Semester II we are getting closer to a more suitable and sustainable means for recording student engagement data using BUUSD's Infinite Campus student management system.

At the end of the first semester, the SEA has 7 students on track to graduate in Spring 2024; this number is equal to the program's best year, 2023. On the other end of the age spectrum we find new ways each week to engage the 7 middle school students in our program.

Some highlights of our project-based learning modules are:

- Reconstructing a garage door for a neighbor in Woodshop
- Learning to set and meet exercise goals in a community setting in Personal Fitness.
- Cooking multicultural fare using local farm ingredients...and setting up a new hydroponics garden to grow their own food in Farm-to School.
- Repairing miscellaneous items with new welding skills in Autoshop; Do you have a small project our students could learn on?

Student Support

There is a high degree of economic and social-emotional need within our student population. 16% of SEA's students are known to meet the Federal definition of homeless; with this come enormous hurdles in being available for academic learning.

SEA staff with the help of a generous and anonymous donor provided holiday gift bags to all SEA students. These bags included a Hannaford's gift card, foodstuffs, hygiene items, and winter items. Also SEA Staff and students partnered with the Barre Police Department in the *Christmas for Kids* program to buy, wrap, and deliver gifts to 150 deserving Barre kids.

Staffing

Although the SEA continues to operate with unfilled vacancies and high turnover, our five recent hires hold the promise of new energy and a more solid foundation as we enter Semester II. We continue to try to recruit new staff in critical areas including Special Education case management and student support.



**Spaulding High School
Spaulding Alternative Education
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
Phone: 802-476-5011
Fax: 802-476-4944 or 802-477-1132
Website: www.buUSD.org

January 17, 2024

Dear BUUSD School Board,

Now that the FY25 BUUSD budget has been approved by the board, our communication plan is starting in earnest. Our goal is to provide factual, easy to understand information on how our budget was developed, how Act 127 has directed our work, and how all of this will impact our taxes. To start, the following message is going out to the BUUSD community and on social media this week:

"Dear BUUSD Community,

The BUUSD administration has always worked hard to bring forward a fiscally responsible "needs based" budget that supports our school community to the best of our ability, doing our best to meet the needs of our students and our tax payers. For the FY25 budget, we have the added factor of Vermont's new education finance law Act 127 guiding our work, and we understand how confusing the impact of this law has been on everyone.

Act 127 is a very complex law, but the key thing to know is that the law has put a "cap" on increases to our tax rates. Though education taxes are going up for all communities in Vermont including Barre, the law benefits historically low spending districts like ours and allows us to provide resources to our students while capping the tax rate in the process. Basically, it's important to know that further cutting our needs-based budget won't have an impact on your tax bill with the tax rate capped, and if we don't take advantage of the cap this year, we will forfeit any opportunity to benefit from it in the years ahead. We have an opportunity to serve our students and school community with Act 127, and we believe this budget responsibly does so.

Again, we understand that is all very complicated and that a lot of information will be coming at you. In the coming weeks, we will be sharing factual and hopefully easy to understand information with you that puts all of this in perspective and gives you an accurate look into how our budget works and the impact it will have on your taxes. We will also be conducting a budget information meeting on Thursday evening, February 1, and we encourage you to attend to get helpful information and have your questions answered.

Finally, Town Meeting Day is Tuesday, March 5, but early voting starts on February 15! Vermont makes it easy to vote, and if you want to vote early or by mail you can! You can request your early or absentee ballot here: <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/early-absentee-voting/>

In the meantime, please reach out with any questions you may have.

Chris"

From there, here is the plan:

- * Short, easy to understand information with graphics included will be shared with the school community and social media between next week and February 15 (when early voting starts). Too much at once will be overwhelming, so we will break things down into manageable chunks over the course of the next 2-3 weeks.
- * We are planning a BUUSD Budget Information Night for Thursday evening, February 1. More information to follow on this, but the plan is to present the summarized information we have so far, get feedback, and answer peoples' questions.
- * A mailer card is going to be produced that will be sent out to the community in early February.
- * We are also looking to produce a short (2 minutes tops) budget information video that is engaging, filled with graphics, and easy to understand.

As budgets across the state are getting approved this week, we anticipate having accurate comparables for the region and statewide available by next week. This information will be very helpful in giving context and perspective to what everyone is facing this very challenging budget season.

A few other updates:

Covid Update: Yes, it has been a long time since we've had one of these! However, I wanted to let you know that Covid cases and other illnesses have really increased in the weeks following our Holiday Break. As a result, our student and staff attendance has really been disrupted. When we factor in our very low substitute pool, these absences are having a significant impact on our day to day operations. This has been particularly challenging for our PreK programs, both of which have been facing above average rates of classroom closures this winter. Our hope is that we get through this cold and flu season/Covid uptick surge as quickly as possible, but we wanted to keep you posted that this has been a challenge for the district as we start the new year.

Update: The McKinney-Vento Act and Homelessness in the BUUSD We last shared district wide homeless information with you at the end of November, and we have updated information for you below as we head into the winter. As predicted, our numbers are going up as the winter progresses, with our unhoused population nearly doubling since the end of September. For review, here is a solid two page summary of how the McKinney-Vento Act works: [McKinney-Vento Act: Quick Reference](#)

Here are the latest official numbers for this school year:

23-24	# STUDENTS DEEMED HOMELESS	# STUDENTS DEEMED HOMELESS	# STUDENTS DEEMED HOMELESS	# STUDENTS DEEMED HOMELESS
	BY 9/21/23	BY 10/23/23	BY 11/30/23	BY 1/16/24
PRE-K	5	6	10	11
BCEMS	41	46	52	57
BTMES	8	11	14	18
SHS/SEA	14	20	32	35
TOTALS	68	83	108	121

BUUSD School Community Liaison **Rebecca Baruzzi** has done an incredible job of acting quickly and getting all resources possible to these families. She will be joining us at an upcoming board meeting to share some of this work with the community.

Update: Plans for April 8 Total Solar Eclipse As most people are aware, central Vermont is going to be a popular part of the earth on April 8. There will be a very rare total solar eclipse that day, and our part of the world will be a perfect place to see it!

Here is an excellent description of the event from UVM's [Space Grant Consortium](#):

[Total Solar Eclipse](#)

The timing for the event is not good for our school day unfortunately, with the prime time for viewing taking place right at dismissal. Due to this timing, we will be holding an Early Release day for all students and staff on Monday, April 8. An already scheduled early release day for March 27 will now be a full day. Families will be notified early next week.

That's a good place to end! I welcome your thoughts and questions, and I am honored to be leading my colleagues and serving the Barre community as your superintendent. Thank you for your support.

Respectfully,

Chris

Background on Announced Tuition, 1/8/24

See link to statute: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/16/021>

Soon after January 15th AOE posts tuition rates for all Vermont public schools, representing the anticipated net cost per pupil for the upcoming school year. This tuition amount is to be paid to the district in which the student attends public school by the district in which the student is a resident. Following the completion of the school year, and the collection of school finance data (Statbook), AOE calculates the actual net cost per pupil, also known as the maximum tuition rate, or allowable tuition. If a payment made to a school district is three percent more or less than the net cost per pupil, as determined by the allowable tuition calculation, then the district shall be reimbursed, credited, or refunded pursuant to section 836, Title 16.

FY25 Announced Tuition

Form used to collect Announced Tuition Data

Vermont Agency of Education Announced Tuition Data Entry Form

Due Date: January 16th, 2024 per 16 V.S.A §826 (moved to the first business day since the 15th is a holiday)

Choose District: SU061: BARRE UUSD(U097)	SU Number SU061	LEAID U097
--	---------------------------	----------------------

Data Entry

District Name
BARRE UUSD

**Update the Grade
Range (if necessary)**
PK-12

**The Prior year Announced tuitions will default in to each tuition.
Update any tuition you wish to change for FY25.**

Kindergarten: Full-Time
18,000.00

Kindergarten: Part-Time
0.00

Elementary
18,000.00

Secondary
18,500.00

Technical Center
0.00

Announced Tuition FY 2025 Signature Page

Failure to satisfactorily complete and file the Annual Announced Tuition Report on or before January 16th, 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

Kindergarten Full-Time
18,000.00

Kindergarten Part-Time
0.00

Elementary
18,000.00

Secondary
18,500.00

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

Technical
0.00

* Technical Center allowable tuition Numbers are for Vermont students only

Person to contact with questions about these completed worksheets:

Contact Name
LISA PERREAULT

Phone
(802) 476-5011

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

Date
1/2/2024

Christopher Hennessey

Superintendent
CHRISTOPHER HENNESSEY

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

Once Signed on the previous page, please click the Submit button below to submit this form to the AOE, this is the only submission needed for notifying AOE of a regular education tuition change. Be sure to also notify all sending districts by the statutory deadline of Jan 16th, 2024.

January 2024

District Enrollment/Staffing

Class Size Policy Limits				Barre City Enrollment					Barre Town Enrollment					
Grade	Min	Ideal	Max	Students	Teachers	Avg.	Outside Placed	Total Grade Level	Students	Teachers	Avg.	Outside Placed	Total Grade Level	
PK	12	15	17	78	3	26.00	24	102	90	3	30.00	25	115	
K	15	16	18	73	5	14.6	0	73	87	5	17.4	0	87	
1	15	18	20	81	5	16.2	0	81	82	5	16.4	0	82	
2	15	18	20	68	5	13.6	1	69	88	5	17.6	1	89	
3	15	18	20	68	5	13.60	2	70	85	5	17	1	86	
4	15	20	22	58	4	14.5	1	59	91	5	18.2	0	91	
5	15	20	22	81	5	16.20	4	85	79	4	19.75	0	79	
6	15	20	22	74	4	18.50	0	74	74	4	18.5	1	75	
7	15	23	25	75	4	18.75	4	79	83	4	20.75	1	84	
8	15	23	25	75	4	18.75	2	77	72	4	18.00	4	76	
								BC PK-8 Total						BT PK-8 Total
January 2024				731			38	769	831			33	864	
December 2023				731			38	769	829			34	862	

SHS Enrollment						
Grade	SHS	Early College	Outside Placed	SEA	TECH CTRS	Total
9	164		9	21	1	195
10	126		6	12	5	149
11	109		5	7	33	154
12 +15	73	20	9	12	29	143
January	472	20	29	52	68	641
December	473	20	30	52	68	643

Students Enrolled
2106
Outside Placed Total
100
District Total
2274

Updated 12/28

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

Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
January 4, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sonya Spaulding (BC) – Chair
Paul Malone (BT) – Vice Chair
Michelle Hebert
John Lyons, Jr
Sarah Pregent (BC)
Emily Reynolds (BT)

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

Michael Boutin
Giuliani Cecchinelli
Nancy Leclerc
Chris Parker

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Chris Hennessey, Superintendent
Jamie Evans, Facilities Director
Carol Marold, Director of Human Resources
Lisa Perreault, Business Manager

PUBLIC MEMBERS PRESENT:

David Delcore, Time Argus	Jeff Blow	Alice Farrell	Michael Gilbar	Josh Howard
Victoria Pompei	Jan Trepanier	Rachel Van Vliet		

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mrs. Spaulding, called the Thursday, January 4, 2024 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

Postpone Agenda Item 4 (Approval of Minutes) as minutes were not included in the packet.
Discussion of Budget Informational Meeting will be held under Agenda Item 6.1 FY25 Budget Development

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

Postponed.

5. New Business

None.

6. Old Business**6.1 FY25 Budget Development**

Seven documents were distributed;
A letter to the BUUSD Finance Committee dated January 2024
Proposed FY25 Expenses Budget – 12/28/23
Budget Modeling
Frequently Asked Questions to Understand Pupil Weights
FY25 Budget Development Narrative – Draft 2 – Updated 01/02/24
BUUSD Warning For March 5, 2024 vote – Draft

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BUUSD Budget 2024 – 25 – Proposed & Estimated 1/4/24 Comparative Tax Rate Calculations Using \$700,000 Toward Revenue

Mr. Hennessey and Mrs. Perreault provided a brief overview of what is contained in the packet and an explanation of the documents. Discussion included; a query regarding information included in the draft Warning, appreciation for inclusion of per-pupil spending, concern that the budget is not palatable to tax payers, is not sustainable, and needs to be reduced, concern of absorbing numerous positions that have been grant funded, the lack of a confirmed CLA, the shrinking of the City Grand List due to flooding, a 10% income tax increase being considered by the State, other unknown factors, a suggestion that a number of items be reduced or eliminated, confirmation that the BTMES budget shows a negative increase due to shifting of positions to the Central Office and funding a sound system in FY24 rather than FY25, a query regarding percentage increases being missing for departments, a query regarding custodial overtime data (hours/expenses), changes to water/sewer and supply budgets (based on prior years' experience), the proposed grant writer position, a suggestion to consider outsourcing the grant writing position, acknowledgement that a portion of the tax rate increase is not within the control of the District, acknowledgement that the increase is daunting, and it would take significant cuts to lower the tax rate (due to the cap under Act 127) and that the District needs to address the needs of students, concern regarding the number of positions that were added to the budget, provision of some suggested reductions, audit results (total expended in FY23 and fund balances), support for the SRO position at SHS, unexpected revenue that was received for Special Education, a belief that the facilities budget does not need to go from 75¢ SF to 1.00 SF, a query regarding what would be a comfortable amount to keep in reserves, discussion of the new grant writer position vs the current grant manager position, concern that over half of ESSER Funds were utilized for facilities projects, a belief that there is no justification for a \$10,000 increase for legal services, amounts budgeted for staff appreciation and professional development day meals, leasing of vehicles (will be discussed at the facilities meeting), clarification of facilities line items in the Central Office budget (as well as other departments, a suggestion that some FY25 items be financed in FY24, a suggestion to drop the facilities line item back to 75¢ SF and put additional surplus monies in the Capital Improvement fund, concern that ESSER positions being added to the budget are needed, acknowledgement that the homeless population count has increased significantly over the last 5 years (resulting in higher needs), a belief that staffing positions should not be cut, the purpose of Act 127 and the resulting 'fiscal cliff' that will come into play in five years, acknowledgement that the monies above the Act 127 cap still need to be made up, concern that 50% of Barre City housing is rental housing and renters do not benefit from homestead rebates and landlords will need to increase rents to cover additional taxes, concern that renters will be 'priced' out of the city, acknowledgement that Barre has challenging demographics and the District is not trying to 'game' the system, a belief that for the past decade, the District has been 'kicking the can down the road' (under the belief that the communities can't afford high increases) and now is the time to correct the funding to provide services that students need, a preference to err on the side of what students' need rather than what makes tax payers happy, a belief that in previous years salaries were not competitive, the need to attract and retain employees, the importance of safety related positions, the belief that in the two years following consolidation, the construction line item was funded at \$1.00 SF, the need to finance for deferred maintenance, including playgrounds that are 'tired' and not ADA compliant, acknowledgement that though buildings are well maintained, two are over 50 years old, a new industry facilities budgeting standard (2% to 4% of replacement value), a belief that the District does not have the lowest spending per pupil if calculated using the actual dollar amount expended, divided by the physical number of students (equates to approximately \$30,000 per student), information regarding the State funding formula (dictated by statute) to determine cost per pupil, the intent of Act 127, community concern that the funding formula isn't accurately reflecting the cost, acknowledgement that State and Federal grants are also funded by the taxpayers, so grant funds are still being paid for by tax payers, reiteration over the concern of the fiscal cliff that was warned of in previous years, acknowledgement of \$16,000,000 in increases over the past few years, support and lack of support for the budget, concern over 20% salary increases, a request that the true tax impact be conveyed to tax payers and that tax payers can't afford an 11.7% increase, a request that the increase be capped at 5%, the importance of providing a safe academic place for students, a belief that if funds were available, there would be no question of approving the budget, but the proposed increase may not be passed by voters, a belief that the current budget reflects an increase between \$20 and \$50 per month and that due to the Act 147 cap, more than \$1,300,000 would need to be cut to impact the tax rate, a query regarding how much of the 12% increase is going towards new educational ideas, policies and educational outcomes, expression of lack of trust in administrators, a request for more targeted funding, and a community member's request that the Barre Town representatives on the Finance Committee take serious consideration to the affordability of the people in their community.

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Ms. Reynolds, the Committee voted 3 to 3 on the motion to move draft 2 as proposed by administration, to the Board for a proposal to the voters. The motion failed.

**Mrs. Pregent, Ms. Reynolds, and Mrs. Spaulding voted for the motion.
Ms. Hebert, Mr. Lyons, and Mr. Malone voted against the motion.**

Brief discussion was held regarding when to hold a budget informational meeting. It will be important to hold the meeting early (possibly early in February) to accommodate early voters.

6.2 FY24 Revenue/Expense

A document titled FY24 Expense/Revenue Summary Report – 01/04/24 was distributed.

A document titled BUUSD GF Finance Expense Report by Function (dated 12/31/23) was distributed.

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Mrs. Perreault advised regarding the projection as of 12/31/23; a \$650,000 surplus. It was clarified that there was a suggestion to fund some FY25 items (wrestling mats, football uniforms, and sound system at BTMES) using the current year's funds (FY24 surplus), so the projected amount is likely to decrease as some line items will be knowingly over spent. It was noted that fund raising may reduce the amount necessary for these projects. It was clarified that the FY24 projected surplus does include the use of \$700,000 from the tax stabilization fund. Brief discussion was held regarding purchasing practices and a community member queried regarding how current monies are being spent to assure successful outcomes for the students and assure that they are prepared for fall of 2024 (use this year's money to prepare for next year). Mr. Malone queried regarding presentation of test scores. Mr. Hennessey advised that State assessment scores are still embargoed, but localized assessments are available.

7. Items for Future Agendas

- FY25 Budget Communication / Questions
- Understanding of Meeting Norms When Receiving Threats from the Public
- Policies F20 and F23
- FY24 Expenses/Revenue
- Total Compensation Package

8. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is Monday, February 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

9. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Ms. Reynolds, the Committee unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin

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**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
January 8, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Giuliano Cecchinelli, II, Chair – (BC)
Terry Reil, Vice Chair - (BT)
Mary Jane Ainsworth (BT Community Member)
Sarah Pregent - (BC)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Andrew McMichael (BC Community Member)

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nancy Leclerc

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Chris Hennessey, Superintendent
Jamie Evans, Facilities Director

GUESTS PRESENT:

Stacy Emerson Josh Howard

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Monday, January 8, 2024 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was held in the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Agenda Item 5.3 BUUSD Transportation Discussion – Discuss out of order.

Add 5.4 Facilities Use Question – Policy E20

Agenda Item 5.2 Review Central Office Building Assessment Report – postpone until next meeting. Full page copies will be provided in the packet.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – December 4, 2023 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Mr. Reil, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the December 04, 2023 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting.

Discussion moved to Agenda Item 5.3

5. New Business

5.1 Facilities Director Report

A copy of the Director’s Report will be posted as an addendum.

Mr. Evans provided an overview of the Facilities Director’s Report, including receipt of a \$60,000 SHARE grant to be used at BCEMS to upgrade the wood chip boiler system, approval of grant funding for storm-water mitigation at SHS, PCB and Radon testing, BCEMS roof work, anticipated repairs to the SHS gym roof, and anticipated work on the SHS heating loop that feeds the CVCCSD section (currently appears to be losing water – water needs to be added daily). It was agreed that in the future, a copy of the Report will be included in the Committee packet. Project information will be added to the 5-Year Plan once additional information is available. Mr. Evans provided a brief overview of the storm-water mitigation project at SHS.

~~**5.2 Review Central Office Building Assessment Reports**~~

DRAFT

5.3 BUUSD Transportation Discussion

A copy of a letter from Mr. Hennessey to the Facilities Committee, dated 01/02/24, was distributed.

Ms. Emerson was welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Hennessey advised regarding documentation included in the packet and opened the floor for discussion. Ms. Emerson advised regarding a document submitted to Mr. Hennessey via e-mail. The document was displayed on screen. Ms. Emerson provided historical and current information regarding STA's role in providing transportation to the District, including a reduction in the bus fleet (due to collaboration between BCEMS and BTMES), increased wages to promote driver recruitment/retention, use of 3 Suburbans and 2 accessible vans, ridership, routes, coordination with other districts for transportation of students being transported out of district, and other services provided by STA. Ms. Emerson answered questions from the Committee relating to use of Suburbans, ridership, route reviews (performed annually), regulations related to bus stops and, combining of routes with few riders. Mr. Hennessey answered questions related to the District's lease of Suburbans (in addition to those owned by STA), bus 'riders' (monitors – District employees), use of taxi services, and transportation for students covered under the McKinney-Vento Act (11 students currently need transportation).

5.4 Facilities Use Question – Policy E20

Mr. Reil advised regarding a query he received regarding whether or not the policy contains a provision for waiver of the use of facility fee. It was noted that waiver information is contained on the form. Mr. Reil will forward the e-mail to Mr. Hennessey who will reach out to the submitter for clarification and to provide information.

6. Old Business

None.

7. Items for Future Agendas

- EEI Financials
- Central Office Assessment Report
- Review of Capital Asset Schedules

8. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is Monday, February 5, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

9. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Pregent, seconded by Ms. Ainsworth, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin

CVCCSD Board Meeting

Monday, January 8 · 6:00 – 8:00pm

Virtual Only

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/kye-ttio-pzf>

Or dial: (US) +1 929-249-4763 PIN: 691 480 392#

Virtual Only

UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present

Jill Remick, Chair - MRPS
Jason Monaco - Cabot
Lyman Castle - MRPS
Janna Osman - Twinfield
J. Guy Isabelle - BUUSD
Terri Steele - WCUUSD
Sonya Spaulding - BUUSD
Ashley Wood - HUUSD
Flor Diaz Smith - WCUUSD
Jim Halonovich - HUUSD

Board Members Absent

Administration Present

Jody Emerson - CVCCSD Superintendent/Director
Michelle Leeman - CVCCSD Business Manager

Guest Present

ORCA Media

- 6:00 1. **Ms. Jill Remick called the Monday, January 8, 2024, Regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was held via video conference.**
- 1.1. Reception of Guests: The board welcomed Sonya Spaulding to the CVCCSD Board as the Barre Supervisory Unified Union representative.
 - 1.2. Review Board [agreements/norms](#): The board reviewed the agreements and norms.
 - 1.3. Agenda Revisions/Board Comment: Ms. Emerson informed the board that the Student Representative would not be present at tonight’s meeting and there will be no program presentation tonight.
 - 1.4. Public Comments & Correspondence: No public comments or correspondence were made at this time.

- 6:15 2. Consent Agenda (Discussion/Action)
- 2.1. Approval of Minutes from [12.11.23](#) **On a motion by Terri Steele, seconded by Flor Diaz Smith, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the Monday, December 11, 2023, Regular Meeting with the edit to attendance of having Terri Steele as marked as present.**
 - 2.2. Approval of Executive Session Minutes [11.13.23](#) and [12.11.23](#) **On a motion by Guy Isabelle , seconded by Terri Steele, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the Executive Session minutes of the Monday, December 11, 2023 and Monday, November 13, 2023, Regular Meeting with the correction of adding Terri Steele marked as present to the meeting.**
 - 2.3. Student Appointees to Board - Student Leadership: No students were present to speak to the CVCCSD School Board.
 - 2.4. Program Presentation: Plumbing & Heating: No program presentations were made at this time.
 - 2.5. Remaining [Policies](#) Second Reading: The board reviewed the second reading of each of the listed policies. Discussion surrounding clarification of language utilized and outdated onboarding of School Board members was discussed.

On a motion by Sonya Spaulding, seconded by Ashley Woods, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the second reading of the remaining policies of Role and Adoption of School Board Policies, Board Member Education, School Visits by Board Members, Board Relations with School Personnel, Student Medication, Eighteen Year-Old students, student Assessment, Restraint and Seclusion - Model Policy, Search, Seizures and Interrogation of Students by Law Enforcement Personnel or other Non-School Personnel, Sexual Transmitted Infections (STI) and Pregnancy Prevention Education Policy, Field Trips, Selecting Library Material, Selection of Instructional Materials, School-Community Relations, Budgeting, HIV Policy, Scholarship Award Policy with edits for third reading at the next School Board Meeting.

On a motion by Sonya Spaulding, seconded by Ashley Woods, the Committee unanimously voted to approve to remove background checks needed of CVCC School Board Members from Policy A33.

A discussion around language for policy was discussed. A call for the word Principal in the following policies, A33, A34, & C42 to be changed to Director was made. A call for the language in D32 to be changed from Master Agreement to Collective bargaining Agreement was made. The board discussed the necessity of having board approval for out of state field trips as SkillsUSA and Cosmetology has out of state field trips. A member inquired about CVCCSD's access to a Sexual Health and Pregnancy Prevention

. Restraints are not reported to the board, but to the state. Functional Behavioral Assessment: Special Education evaluation.

- 2.5.1. [Role and Adoption of School Board Policies](#)
- 2.5.2. [Board Member Education](#)
- 2.5.3. [School Visits by Board Members](#)
- 2.5.4. [Board Relations with School Personnel](#)

- 2.5.5. [Student Medication](#)
- 2.5.6. [Eighteen Year-Old Students](#)
- 2.5.7. [Student Assessment](#)
- 2.5.8. [Restraint and Seclusion](#)
 - 2.5.8.1. [Model Policy](#)
- 2.5.9. [Search, Seizures, and interrogation of Students by Law Enforcement Personnel or other Non-School Personnel](#)
- 2.5.10. [Sexually Transmitted Infections \(STI\) and Pregnancy Prevention Education Policy](#)
- 2.5.11. [Field Trips](#)
- 2.5.12. [Selecting Library Materials](#)
- 2.5.13. [Selection of Instructional Materials](#)
- 2.5.14. [School-Community Relations](#)
- 2.5.15. [Budgeting](#)
- 2.5.16. [HIV Policy](#)
- 2.5.17. [Scholarship Award Policy](#)
 - 2.5.17.1. CVCC Scholarships
- 2.6. VSBA Policy Audit **On a motion by Flor Diaz Smith, seconded by Lyman Castle, the Committee unanimously voted to have the Vermont School Board Association audit the policies.**
- 2.7. Committee Reports
 - 2.7.1. Finance: The Finance Committee met on January 2, 2024 to review the budget development. The committee moved to recommend to the board to accept the Budget. The budget presentations to the sending school regions went well with a show of support for the Central Vermont Career Center. Ms. Michelle Leeman shared the progress of the Audit at the moment. The committee is looking at the Annual Report.
 - 2.7.1.1. Budget Approval **On a motion by Flor Diaz Smith, seconded by Guy Isabelle, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the Budget as presented.**
 - 2.7.1.2. Announced Tuition Approval: Ms. Emerson and Ms. Leeman explained that the tuition is calculated. **On a motion by Janna Osman, seconded by Flor Diaz Smith, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the Announced Tuition being \$18,901.**
 - 2.7.2. Facilities: The facilities met and has a project timeline from Truex Cullins. They answered all questions brought forth by Truex Cullins. Truex Cullins will have a project proposal at the end of the month to be presented to the School Board.
 - 2.7.2.1. Project Timeline of a New Building: Mid 2029
 - 2.7.3. Program Quality: Program Quality met on January 8, 2024 to discuss that Electrical Technology is out of enrollment compliance. The committee brought forth the recommendation of the board to **accept the consequences of being out of compliance in order to maintain the current enrollment in Electrical Technology for the 2023-2024 School Year.** A question was asked what the consequences would be for being out of compliance. As of right now, there are a total of 16 students in the class along with CO-OP students bringing the total to 21 students. Policy states that there is a strict

cap of students for programs that instruct for hazardous occupations. The board discussed and deliberated this situation. To mitigate, a lab assistant is assigned to the program while CO-OP students are present.

On a motion by Janna Osman, seconded by Sonya Spaulding, the board unanimously voted to continue being out of compliance in order to maintain the current enrollment in Electrical Technology with the decision regarding current enrollment on consequences of the Agency of Education.

- 2.7.3.1. Design & Fabrication: The committee discussed putting Design and Fabrication on hold for the 2024-2025 school year. Ms. Emerson explained that she will be researching the Perkins Fundings in regards to program size and scope. Due to enrollment for Design and Fabrication, the enrollment is under the requirements. With a transition of Instructors and a heavy buy-in currently from Industry partners, Ms. Emerson is looking to see if it would be beneficial to pause the program and focus on marketing or having the program run and grow the program. Ms. Emerson will be researching how Perkins will dictate this decision. Ms. Emerson discussed that the board did recommend closing Design and Fabrication to open Welding as a program. As of right now, with changes made and if applicants apply in the second round, the budget could manage keeping Design and Fabrication with a focus on building this program and opening a Welding program that currently has 30 applicants.
- 2.7.4. Negotiations : The negotiations committee will give an update to the board in Executive Session.
- 2.8. [FY25CVCCSD Budget and Warning](#) Approval **On a motion by Ashley Woods, seconded by Terri Steele, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the Fiscal Year 25 CVCCSD Budget and Warning with edits made to reflect Lyman Castle as the Chair.**
Ms. Emerson reminded board members to come to CVCC to sign the documents needed within the next 2 weeks.
- 2.9. [FY25 CVCCSD Ballot Language](#) Approval **On a motion by Janna Osman, seconded by Ashley Woods, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the FY25 CVCCSD Ballot Language.**
- 2.10. [FY25 Annual Meeting Warning](#) Approval **On a motion by Ashley Woods, seconded by Guy Isabelle, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the Fiscal Year 25 Annual Meeting Warning.**
- 2.11. March Board Meeting Date: The March Board Meeting Date was discussed due to Town Meeting and to Re-convene the Board due to elections on Town Meeting Day. New appointments would be available by March 18, 2024. Ms. Emerson recommended that the Board meet on March 18th with the new Cabot Board member available to meet in April with Jason sitting in on the March 18th meeting. The board approved March 18, 2024 CVCCSD School Board Meeting tentatively with the Program Quality Committee meeting on March 18, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
- 2.12. [Superintendent's Report](#): Ms. Emerson reported to the board that the first draft of the annual report was given by RavenMark today which was emailed to the Board this afternoon. There has been a record number of 291 applicants for the 2024-2025 school year. This is more evidence of the need to expand CVCC. The Emergency Medical Services 2 students completed a 12 credit course at VTSU. They are

beginning their next course in Paramedicine at VTSU. CVCC Carl Matteson is the Lead Instructor on Thursdays at the Williston Campus overseeing not only his CVCC students, but 20 VSU students as well. Every student in that program is currently volunteering on a local ambulance service. Guilianno has taken the role of Design and Fabrication instructor. His connections to the Granite Industry has been influential on the program. Staff is continuing to work on the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment. The Program of Study is what is being worked on at the moment. The Mobile Home has been delivered to the CVCC campus that was affected by the July flood in Johnson, VT. All programs in Heavy Trades and Exploratory met in order to create a timeline to remodel this mobile home. The state requires CVCC to sell the mobile home and to pay back the 24,000 dollars given in order to start this project with any additional funds going back to CVCC.

2.12.1. [Legislative Update](#): The committee reviewed the legislative updates provided by Ms. Jody Emerson.

2.13. Staffing/Personnel update: Ms. Emerson was sent resignation by Literacy Interventionist, Marty McMahon. Ms. Emerson recommends the Board accept the resignation. This position will be posted as soon as possible with an updated position description to reflect the responsibilities of the position.

2.14. Accounts payable (December): The Board reviewed the accounts payable for the Month of December.

7:45 3. Executive Session(s)

3.1. **On a motion by Jason Monaco, "I move that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of a Negotiations Update as premature general public knowledge would clearly place the board and the association involved at a substantial disadvantage, in addition we'd like to invite Superintendent Jody Emerson into the executive session." , seconded by Ashley Woods the Committee unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session at 7:21 p.m.**

2. On a motion by Guy Isabelle, seconded by Ashley Woods, the board unanimously voted to leave the Executive Session at 7:32 p.m with no actions taken place during the Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Flor Diaz Smith, CVCC Board Clerk

8:30 4. Future Agenda Items

- Board development & Goal Setting (June)
- Placement into the workforce from programs - current process (Invite Coop Coordinator)
- Program Presentations (Throughout school year)

8:35 5. Reflection & Summary of Meeting/Next Steps

6. Adjournment: **On a motion by Guy Isabelle, seconded by Jason Monaco, the board unanimously voted to adjourn the Monday, January 8, 2024, CVCCSD Regular meeting at 7:36 p.m**

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Olsen