

Addendum
BUUSD Board Meeting
March 13, 2024



Barre Unified Union School District

ACTION ITEM BRIEFING MEMO

BUUSD BOARD AGENDA ITEM

BOARD AGENDA: 03/13/2024

Consent Item No: _____ **Discussion Item No:** _____ **Action Item No:** 7.3

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION: Consolidation of Schools-Feasibility Study

SUBJECT: Approve the superintendent to get bids for a feasibility study of the consolidation of schools

SUBMITTING STAFF PERSON or BOARD MEMBER: Sonya Spaulding & Michael Boutin

RESOURCES NEEDED INCLUDING STAFF TIME: Funds will be needed to hire a consultant to see how we can consolidate elementary and middle schools, and make better use of our buildings (including SHS with CVCC potentially moving in the next 5 years)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

DESIRED OUTCOME: Allow the Superintendent/Central office administrators to find a consultant to study the feasibility of consolidating schools.

BACKGROUND/SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: With Act 46, the merging of districts was the first step. The continued increase in costs is a prime reason to explore how the consolidation of schools will be more efficient and save money. The continued concerns with academic achievement are another prime reason to explore how consolidating elementary and middle schools is better for student success. Multiple board members have discussed the benefits of consolidating schools at different points over the last 2 years, including a preliminary 10 year plan discussion, the need to amend or eliminate Articles 3 and 4 from the Articles of Agreement, and combining middle school athletics.

LINK(S): [11/10/22 Minutes, item 6.8 \(10 year plan\)](#) Terry Reil, [09/13/2023 Minutes, item 7.3 \(Articles of Agreement: Articles 3 and 4\)](#) Michael Boutin, [10/11/2023 Minutes, item 9.2 \(Consolidation of buildings Articles 3 & 4\)](#), [10/25/23 Minutes, item 5.1 \(Combining Middle School Athletics\)](#) Sonya Spaulding. [Articles of Agreement](#)

ATTACHMENTS:

Sections from minutes noted above, and articles of agreement

INTERESTED/AFFECTED PARTIES: Central office staff directly involved in bid process

RECOMMENDED ACTION/MOTION: Motion to allow the Superintendent or his designee to get bids for a feasibility study to consolidate schools.

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

Barre Town Middle and Elementary School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
November 10, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sonya Spaulding (BC) – Chair
Alice Farrell (BT) – Vice Chair
Chris Parker (BT) - Clerk
Tim Boltin (BC)
Giuliano Cecchinelli, II (BC)
Nancy Leclerc (At-Large)
Paul Malone (BT)
Sarah Pregent (BC)
Terry Reil (BT)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

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

GUESTS PRESENT:

Dave Delcore – Times Argus	Mel Battah	Jeff Blow	Stacy Boltin	Michael Boutin
Brandon Campo	Linda Couture	Erika Dolan	Pragya Donovan	Alice Harding
Sarah Helman	Josh Howard	Donald Koch	Tom Koch	Brandy Kolling
Prudence Krasofski	Colleen Kresco	Kerri Lamb	Kayla Link	Joan McMahon
Sue Paxman	Heather Slayton	Diane Solomon	Kevin Spaulding	R. Lee Walther
Cameo Wells	802****93			

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mrs. Spaulding, called the Thursday, November 10, 2022, Regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was held at the Barre Town Middle and Elementary School Library and via video conference.

2. Pledge and Mindfulness Moment

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The Board held a Mindfulness Moment. Mrs. Spaulding read the Meeting Norms. Mrs. Spaulding thanked community members for their attendance and read the public comment guidelines.

3. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Add 6.9 Procedures
Add 6.10 SEA Building Site Location for Board Meetings
Add 6.11 Quarterly Staff Exit Survey
Add 6.12 Statement

It was agreed that some Agenda Items will be taken out of order

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Mrs. Farrell, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Agenda as amended.

4. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

4.1 Public Comment

Mr. Boutin requested follow up relating to the “Battah FOIA” request, advising that he has not received a response to his inquiry regarding whether or not the District can tell if people looked at the document.

4.2 Student Voice

None.

5. Consent Agenda

5.1 Approval of Minutes – October 27, 2022 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Leclerc, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the October 27, 2022 Regular Meeting.

6. Current Business

6.1 New Hires

The resume and BUUSD Notification of Employment Status Form for Joshua Barber was distributed.

A copy of a letter from the Superintendent to the Board (dated 11/07/22) was distributed. This document will also be utilized for Agenda Item 6.6

Mr. Hennessey provided an overview of the candidate, and answered questions from the Board. Brief discussion was held regarding the 'criteria' for mid-year resignations. It was noted that if a licensed individual resigns from a Vermont public school mid-year, they cannot be hired by another Vermont public school for the remainder of that academic year.

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Pregent, the Board unanimously voted to approve the hiring of Joshua Barber.

6.2 Rescind Admission of Resident Students Policy (C31)

Copies of policies referenced in Agenda Items 6.2 through 6.5 were distributed.

Ms. Parker advised regarding why policies C31, C32, and C43 are presented for rescinding.

On a motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mrs. Pregent, the Board unanimously voted to rescind the Admission of Resident Students Policy (C31), the Eighteen Year-Old Students Policy (C32), and the STI and Pregnancy Prevention Policy (C43).

6.3 Rescind Eighteen Year-Old Students Policy (C32)

Action taken under Agenda Item 6.2

6.4 Rescind STI and Pregnancy Prevention Policy (C43)

Action taken under Agenda Item 6.2

6.5 Rescind Use of Restraint and Seclusion Policy (C34)

Discussed after Agenda Item 7.3.

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Farrell, the Board unanimously voted to rescind the Use of Restraint and Seclusion Policy (C34).

6.6 Behavior Data

See documentation distributed under Agenda Item 6.1

Mr. Hennessey provided a brief overview of the documentation, noting that it is important to understand that staffing issues have prevented administrators from performing a thorough analysis of behavioral issues and that the shortage of support staff also has an impact on behavior. Mr. Hennessey advised that a more thorough analysis will be performed at the end of the semester.

Mr. Hennessey answered questions from the Board and advised that data from all behavioral categories are reported to the AOE. Brief discussion was held including; increased social/emotional issues, the impact behavioral disruptions have to other students in the classrooms, possible expansion of the SEA Program, data by grade, the implementation of targeted interventions, and a query regarding professional development on managing classrooms and behaviors,

6.7 First Draft FY24 Budget (Including Board Goals/Limits/Parameters)

A document titled BUUSD FY24 Budget Summary – Draft 1, 11/09/22, was distributed.

A document titled FY24 Budget Development Narrative – Updated 11/09/22 was distributed.

Mrs. Leclerc advised regarding work of the Finance Committee, advising that they have trimmed the initial first draft from 9.11% to 8.67% (an increase of a little more than \$4,000,000). Salary and benefits account for 74% of the increase. Some Board Members have advised they would like a level funded budget, though given the rate of inflation that does not seem doable. There is concern regarding how large of an increase tax payers can tolerate. Mrs. Perreault advised regarding the summary and narrative documents included in the packet and requested input from the Board. Mrs. Perreault advised that the District is very interested in hearing from community members and advised regarding the 11/17/22 public listening session and a survey that will be conducted. Mr. Hennessey advised regarding how the District plans to distribute the survey to reach as many community members as possible. In response to a query from Mr. Malone regarding a recent request for information, Mr. Malone was advised to provide the specifics of his inquiry in the Budget 'Question/Answer' section on the web site. Mrs. Perreault cautioned that the budget is usually passed by the voters prior to the teachers' contract being ratified. In response to a query, Mrs. Perreault advised that the narrative provides insight into absolute necessities vs. items that are perhaps not 'essential'. The budget draft continues to be a work in progress. Mrs. Pregent cautioned that if Universal Free Meals are not continued in FY24, the cost to the District to continue providing free meals is approximately \$800,000. Mrs. Pregent would like to hear from the community regarding this matter. Additional discussion included; proposed SEA increases, concern regarding disparities in spending between schools (extra-curricular, libraries, and principals' office line items), concern that

the Board has not set budget increase parameters, clarification that the percentage of the budget increase does not directly correlate to any resulting tax increase, the need for the Board to be cognizant that portions of the formula (to calculate taxes) are not known until after the budget development process has concluded, a request for clarification related to some of the positions listed in the narrative, and questions related to the increase in the number of special education students. It was noted that the AOE does not provide rules or guidelines related to budget increases. The Board agreed to set budget goals after the public listening session (11/17/22).

6.8 Discussion of 10 Year Consolidation Plan (Evaluation of Staffing, Enrollment, Facilities, Building Capacity, and Combining BCEMS and BTMES Sports)

Mr. Reil provided a brief overview of the reasons he suggested the District consider creating a 10-Year Plan. Mr. Reil stressed the importance of hearing from all stakeholders and holding objective discussions on this matter (which is in a conceptual state). Lengthy discussion was held regarding development of a 10-year plan, including; a suggestion that the length be shortened (5-year plan?), a suggestion of forming an ADHOC committee, the numerous areas that require research (including but not limited to: facility logistics, transportation, sports, instructional practices, and technology), holding community forums, holding preliminary discussion at the committee level, caution that those opposed will speak more strongly, and the need to get additional information prior to deciding the timeframe for a plan.

6.9 Procedures

Mr. Malone advised that he believes the Board should, as part of its routine business, add review of procedures. Mr. Malone suggests reviewing six procedures a month (until caught up). Mr. Malone suggested that procedures for new policies, be presented at the Second and Final readings of those policies. Mr. Malone believes the Board needs to chip away at the outstanding procedures until all are reviewed (as advised by legal counsel). Mr. Malone advised that his understanding of the legal perspective is that the Board needs to review procedures, and confirm that there are procedures in effect for the policies, and that the procedures are effective/working. It was suggested that each policy have an indicator that advises regarding the status/existence of associated procedures. It was suggested that a column be added to the Policy Index to advise regarding the status of procedures. It was suggested that the District contact VSBA to inquire regarding how other districts handle procedure review. Mrs. Leclerc stressed the importance of having up-to-date procedures to assure policies are adhered to, the importance of the Board reviewing procedures to assure they 'mesh' with the policy, that procedures are dated & notations present when updates are in progress and the importance of having a link to procedures on the policy page. It was noted that procedures related to rescinded policies may need to be revised (procedures still necessary though policy may not need to be in place). It was reiterated that legal counsel advised that the Board needs to see the procedures, know what they are, and see that they are being complied with. The Board is responsible for seeing that procedures are legally compliant and being followed. It was stressed that written procedures are critical for each policy to help assure consistency within each school and between schools. It was noted that there is a Board directive that all procedures be linked on the policy page (of the web site).

6.10 SEA Building Site Location for Board Meetings

Complaints have been received regarding the audio quality of Board meetings held at the SEA Building. The Board agreed to have the Policy Committee discuss amendments to the policy that would remove the SEA Building from the meeting rotation. Mr. Boutin suggested that all Board meetings be held in one location, and advised that the SHS Library is the most central location and is easily accessible for those with disabilities.

6.11 Quarterly Staff Exit Survey

Brief discussion was held. It was noted that some employees decline to take the Exit Survey. Concern was voiced that if data is presented quarterly, it might provide personally indefinable information (given the small number per quarter). It was suggested that Exit Survey data for the year be provided at the end of the year. It is important for the Board to know the reasons why teachers are leaving (identify trends). It was agreed that Exit Survey information will be provided at the end of the year and that the Board will receive timely resignation updates throughout the year.

6.12 Statement

Mr. Hennessey advised that he has been asked by the Board to read a statement. Mr. Hennessey read the following statement; "In the spirit of building a better relationship between the administration and the Board, I want to acknowledge my role in the disruption to the community resulting from the events leading up to and including the August 25, 2022 Board meeting. I already apologized to the Board and recognize that the situation was not handled appropriately. I appreciate that we are moving forward, and that I will continue to work collaboratively with the Board to best serve the District in our shared focus of educating students. Thank you."

7. Old Business

Copies of policies referenced in Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.3 were distributed.

7.1 Second and Final Reading Policy on Nondiscriminatory Mascots and School Branding (F2)

Brief discussion was held regarding a formatting matter.

On a motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Malone, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Second and Final Readings of the Policy on Nondiscriminatory Mascots and School Branding (F2), the Electronic Surveillance Policy (F26), and the Use of Restraint and Seclusion Policy (C70), and agreed to adopt said policies. Mr. Boltin was not present for the vote.

7.2 Second and Final Reading Electronic Surveillance Policy (F26)

Policy adopted under Agenda Item 7.1.

7.3 Second and Final Reading Use of Restraint and Seclusion Policy (C70)

Policy adopted under Agenda Item 7.1.

7.4 VSBA Mini-Grant Update

Mrs. Farrell reported that the District was notified by VSBA that all the grant monies were awarded to other Districts. Mr. Hennessey advised that next Friday, he and Mrs. Anderson will be joining other regional superintendents and SPED Directors to discuss regional solutions, to bring in outside agencies and to look collectively at how to meet the needs of the students who are struggling the most. The focus of the discussion will be on grades K – 4.

8. Other Business/Round Table

Mr. Cecchinelli advised that he attended the Veterans Day Parade (on 11/05/22) and was very impressed by the combined BCEMS/BTMES Band.

Mrs. Farrell queried regarding more ardently pursuing a student representative(s) to the Board. Mrs. Farrell queried regarding the number of SPED students for academic years 21/22 and 22/23. Mrs. Farrell queried regarding the use of granite name plates (a past practice). It was noted that there are name plates for members who were previously on the Board. Name plates for new Board Members will be ordered by Mrs. Gilbert.

Mrs. Leclerc reminded the Board and community members of the upcoming Finance Committee meeting on 11/17/22 (SHS Library at 6:00 p.m.), noting that the focus of this meeting is a listening session, to receive budget input from members of the community.

Ms. Parker advised that she received community feedback regarding the band performances at the Veterans' Day Parade and the wonderful mentoring experience it was for the BCEMS/BTMES Band to watch the SHS Band perform.

Mr. Hennessey reminded the community that 11/11/22 is Veterans' Day and that many events will be occurring in the District's schools. Mr. Hennessey will be working with JROTC students on a new 'showcase', which is scheduled to be released at the end of the day. A regional JROTC competition will be held on Pendo Field (SHS) over the weekend and there will soon be an announcement regarding an appointment (of one of the District's students) to West Point.

Mrs. Spaulding reminded the community of the upcoming budget survey and she encourages community members to share this survey with friends and neighbors.

9. Future Agenda Items

December 1, 2022 Meeting:

- FY24 Budget – include Board Goals/Limits
- CIA Plan Update
- Enrollment Home Study Update
- Reconsideration of Possible Retreat Dates
- Legislative Breakfast(s)

Add to Retreat Parking Lot:

- Student Representative(s) to the Board (AF – 11/22)

Add to Parking Lot:

- Review Community Members on Committees Document (TR - 11/22)
- Consolidation Plan (Board) (SS/TR – 11/22)

10. Next Meeting Dates

Finance Committee Budget Listening Session: Thursday 11/17/22 at 6:00 p.m. in the SHS Library and via Google Meet.

Board Meetings:

Thursday, December 1, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the SHS Library and via Google Meet. (Special Meeting – replaces 11/24/22 meeting).

Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the SHS Library and via Google Meet.

Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the BUUSD Central Office and via Google Meet. (Special Meeting – replaces 12/22/22 meeting).

11. Executive Session as Needed

No items were proposed for discussion in Executive Session.

12. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Ms. Parker, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin

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

Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
September 13, 2023 - 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)
Ben Moore (BC)
Terry Reil (BT)
Emily Reynolds (BT)
Sonya Spaulding (BC)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Chris Hennessey, Superintendent
Carol Marold, Director of Human Resources

GUESTS PRESENT:

Dave Delcore – Times Argus	Martha Blaisdell	Mary Bowers	Sandra Cameron	Kristin Gilbar
Prudence Krasofski	Jessika Maurais	Andrea Poulin	Brody Priddy	Rachel Van Vliet

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 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

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Malone, the Board unanimously voted to add 8.1 Fuel Bids Authorization to the Agenda.

On a motion by Mr. Boutin, seconded by Mrs. Leclerc, the Board unanimously voted to add 8.2 Warrant Signature Page to the Agenda.

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Mrs. Leclerc, the Board unanimously voted to add 8.3 Community Correspondence Responses.

Brief discussion was held regarding the legal grounds (criteria) for discussing Agenda Item 12.1 (Personnel Matter) in Executive Session. Mr. Reil does not believe the item being presented for discussion falls under any of the categories listed as those that qualify for Executive Session. It was agreed to add an agenda item (7.8 Personnel Matter), in the event that discussion in Executive Session has the outcome that the matter be discussed in open session. Mr. Cecchinelli advised that the documents provided for Executive Session, are privileged information. Mr. Reil queried regarding the titles of the documents (without personal/personnel information). The document titles were not provided. Mr. Hennessey advised that he was prepared to discuss the personnel matter in Executive Session, but is not prepared to discuss it in the live portion of the meeting. At the suggestion that an Executive Session be held at the beginning of the meeting, Mr. Boutin reiterated his belief that all Executive Sessions be held at the end of the meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Leclerc, the Board unanimously voted to add 7.8 Personnel Matter to the Agenda.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Ms. Parker, the Board unanimously voted to take Agenda Item 7.6 (FY24 Superintendent's Evaluation) out of order.

Brief discussion was held regarding the addition of Test Scores, a status update on the hiring of an SRO for SHS, a status update on receipt of written legal opinions, and a status update on the 5-Year Plan

On a motion by Mrs. Leclerc, seconded by Mr. Malone, the Board voted 5 to 4 against the motion to add Status Update on 5-Year Plan to the Agenda

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

Mr. Cecchinelli advised he will add 'Status Update on 5-Year Plan' to the next Agenda.

On a motion by Mrs. Leclerc, seconded by Mr. Reil, the Board voted 5 to 4 to add 8.4 Update on Written Legal Opinions to the Agenda.

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

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

4. Executive Session (as needed)

No Executive Session was necessary.

5. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

5.1 Public Comment

Mary Bowers (BTMES teacher) addressed the Board advising that, contrary to what she has been advised, she does not believe that BTMES has air conditioning. Mrs. Bowers requested that if there is air conditioning at BTMES, it needs to be fixed, and if BTMES does not have air conditioning, she wants it installed. Additionally, Ms. Bowers believes it to be strange that the District only has one electrician on staff.

Mrs. Leclerc advised that she finds the agenda approval to be a painful process, and noted that the Parking Lot continues to grow. Mrs. Leclerc believes requested items are not being added to the agendas, and she would like to see more progress. Additionally, Mrs. Leclerc believes the agenda should contain more items pertaining to finances and the education of students.

Mrs. Spaulding queried regarding whether Public Comment is open for comments by Board Members or just community members.

5.2 Student Voice

Brody Priddy introduced himself, advised that he has been elected to represent SHS students at Board meetings, and provided a brief update on activities of the SHS Student Council.

6. Consent Agenda

6.1 Approval of Minutes – August 23, 2023 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Boutin, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the August 23, 2023 Regular Meeting, and the August 28, 2023 Special Meeting.

6.2 Approval of Minutes – August 28, 2023 Special Meeting

Action taken under agenda item 6.1

6.3 Warrant Approvals

Copies of Warrants for 08/31/23 and 09/07/23 were distributed.

Brief discussion was held regarding warrants pertaining to; a local landscaping warrant for over \$40,000 that Mr. Reil believes required Board approval, the purchase of 175 virtual seats (virtual high school), the draw down for SEA shop supplies, and architectural fees for the BCEMS roof.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Boutin, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Warrants dated 08/31/23 and 09/07/23.

Discussion moved to Agenda Item 7.6

7. Current Business

7.1 New Hires

The resumes and BUUSD Notification of Employment Status Forms for Lucas Heath Howe (SHS PE), and Jeff Amato (BCEMS 6th Grade ELA) were distributed.

Mr. Hennessey provided a brief overview of the SHS PE teacher candidate and advised that Mr. Amato has withdrawn his application for the BTMES position.

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mr. Boutin, the Board unanimously voted to approve the hiring of Lucas Heath Howe.

7.2 SHS Foundation Board Representation

Mr. Cecchinelli advised that he is currently filling the Board Representative position. It is likely that the Board Representative will provide minutes. Mrs. Spaulding, noted that she is currently only on one Committee, and volunteered to fill the position.

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mr. Boutin, the Board voted 7 to 1 to appoint Mrs. Spaulding as the BUUSD Board Representative on the SHS Foundation Board.

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

7.3 Articles of Agreement: Articles 3 and 4

A document titled BUUSD Action Item Briefing Memo was distributed.

A document titled The Barre Unified Union School District Articles of Agreement Amended February 19, 2019 was distributed.

Mr. Boutin would like the Board to approve having the Superintendent reach out to legal counsel regarding what needs to be done to have elimination of Articles 3 and 4 on the March 2024 ballot. Lengthy discussion ensued, including but not limited to; acknowledgement that Article 3 needs to be modified, rather than removed, possible benefits to reconfiguring the student populations at each building, clarification of the benefits of removing the Articles, acknowledgement of the differing opinions between the Town/City during Act 46 voting, a query regarding how the grades would be divided between BCEMS and BTMES, complications that could arise for families that would have students in both of the schools, a query regarding the need, a query regarding how the student populations would balance out, recognition that removal of the Articles does not necessarily mean that school restructuring would occur in the near future, a request to have this item discussed on a monthly basis, a request that there be full Board support of this initiative, and discussion of transportation. **Mr. Reil called Point of Order, noting that discussion has transgressed from the motion on the floor. Mr. Cecchinelli called the vote.**

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Mr. Boutin, the Board voted 6 to 2 to direct the Superintendent to get a written legal opinion regarding the pathway forward to get removal of Articles 3 and 4 on the ballot, and what if any risks are involved.

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

Additional discussion was held regarding the request to have this item as a monthly agenda item, concern that the Board will not be ready to put removal of Articles on the March 2024 ballot, the need to have a feasibility study, the need to provide the community with the information they will need to know to make an informed decision, concern over the number of unknown factors, the reasons the Articles were put in place, outstanding logistical issues, concern that raising this issue will have a negative impact on passing the budget, the benefits that monthly discussions may have in determining the next step, a suggestion that investigative work be done in each of the Committees, a suggestion that there be an ADHOC committee for this initiative,

On a motion by Mr. Boutin, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board voted 5 to 3 to have Discussion of Revisions of Articles 3 and 4 as a standing monthly agenda item.

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

7.4 Allocation of Board Stipend for Staff Appreciation

A document titled BUUSD Action Item Briefing Memo was distributed.

A document titled 'Board Member Stipend Waived/Redirected' was distributed.

Mr. Boutin made a motion to allocate School Board Director Michael Boutin's stipend to an event for the benefit of BUUSD staff, with details being worked out with Carol Marold and Michael Boutin. Mr. Reil seconded the motion.

Discussion included; the document titled Board Member Stipend Waived/Redirected, concern that there be a legal opinion on this matter, concern that there might be an escheat issue, concern that the Board is spending time on this matter, a suggestion that Mr. Boutin accept the stipend, pay taxes, then donate back to the District, concern that the funds would be better dedicated to something student oriented (e.g. AP exam fees, scholarships), Mr. Boutin's practice of donating his City Counsel stipend for the employee Christmas party, Mr. Boutin's wish to do something nice for the teachers, gratitude to Mrs. Perreault for providing information on the distributed document, appreciation for the 'spirit' of the donation, a suggestion that there be a budgetary line item for teacher 'appreciation' events, concern that the suggested donation sets a 'weird precedent', clarification that the only way for Mr. Boutin to donate the full amount (pre-tax) requires that the Board allocate the funds, and concern over what happens to the funds if Mr. Boutin does not accept the funds (escheatment issues),

On a motion by Mr. Boutin, seconded by Mr. Reil, the Board voted 5 to 3 to allocate School Board Director Michael Boutin's stipend to an event for the benefit of BUUSD staff, with details being worked out with Carol Marold and Michael Boutin.

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

7.5 November 22nd/December 27th Meeting Dates

After lengthy discussion, including coordination with the Finance Committee (budget season), and a suggestion that January and February meetings also be review/revised, **it was agreed that Mr. Hennessey and Mrs. Perreault will draft a schedule and present it for approval at the next Board Meeting.**

7.6 FY24 Superintendent Evaluation

Sandra Cameron addressed the Board, providing an overview of the process and answering questions from the Board. Ms. Cameron advised that the process which includes tools that reflect Standards for Educational Leaders, a rubric with rating scales, the option to embed current Superintendent goals, and the timeline (4 to 6 weeks). The goal is to issue surveys to stakeholders (generally all Board Members, the Administrative Team, the Leadership Team, and the Superintendent). Feedback is anonymous. The survey is generally open for 2 weeks, but can be extended if necessary. Feedback is analyzed and summarized, at which point, some areas for goals are eliminated and some are identified. The summary report includes identification of possible goals. The process usually involves the use of an evaluation committee. Themes and goals are discussed in meetings, with the Superintendent involved in the process. An annual evaluation of the Superintendent is legally required. In response to a query, Ms. Cameron advised that the role of the committee is to coordinate and communicate the process, and that all Board Members will have the opportunity to provide feedback. The VSBA utilizes a tool to perform the evaluation and Ms. Cameron will be bringing a report back to the Board and the Superintendent. The report will evaluate feedback from all stakeholders. Clarification was provided regarding stakeholders and it was confirmed that principals are included as part of the leadership team. It was confirmed that a committee is not necessary for smaller boards but can be beneficial for larger boards. The final report will contain 3 sections (Board, Administrator, and Superintendent), and a 'total' section. Discussion was held regarding meeting dates. **It was agreed to hold the first meeting on October 12, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. at SHS (if a room is available), and there will be a virtual option.** A member of the Committee will be responsible for taking/providing minutes. It was noted that a quorum of the Board will be present. The Committee meetings will be warned. Ms. Cameron will need to have a point of contact. The contact person will be decided at first meeting.

Discussion moved to Agenda Item 7.1.

7.7 VEHI/VSBIT Annual Meeting Info/Proxy Forms

A document titled 'Exhibit B – VSBIT Proxy or Certificate of Authority' (for unemployment insurance)
A document titled 'Exhibit B – VSBIT Proxy or Certificate of Authority' (for multi-line insurance)

Brief discussion was held.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Malone, the Board unanimously voted to authorize Superintendent Chris Hennessey to appear and vote on behalf of the BUUSD for the VSBIT Unemployment Program, and the VSBIT Multi-line Program.

The Board recessed at 7:58 p.m. and resumed the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

7.8 Personnel Matter

No discussion.

8. Old Business

8.1 Fuel Bids Authorization

On a motion by Mrs. Leclerc, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to direct the Business Manager to solicit additional bids from Suburban and Bourne's fuel vendors, to continue to monitor fuel prices and authorized the Business Manager to enter into a contract when she believes the best rate has been offered.

8.2 Warrant Signature Page

A copy of an e-mail from Lisa Perreault to Pietro Lynn (dated 08/23/23), titled Warrant Process/Signature Page, was distributed. This document was originally labeled belonging under Agenda Item 6.3.

It was noted that this matter was discussed at the Finance Committee meeting, and the document is the result of that meeting.

Mrs. Leclerc does not believe that the warrant procedures are a finalized matter. Lengthy discussion was held regarding the current warrant approval process, including, but not limited to; concern that the procedure does not match statute, that the procedures do not reflect the current process, a request for clarity on the process for submitting questions and answers on warrants, a request that the Business Manager be present for discussion of warrant procedures, acknowledgement that legal counsel has advised that he sees no issues with the current process/procedures, expressions of frustration that this matter is a continual subject of discussion, discussion of the Board's obligation to review procedures, know that they follow statute, and that they are followed, the Board's obligation to provide fiscal oversight, concern that the question posed to legal counsel was not the correct question, reiteration of the request for the Business Manager to be present for discussion of warrant procedures, and a query regarding clarification of Mrs. Leclerc's concerns.

Mr. Reil called Point of Order and requested that the Chair regain control of the room. (unrecognized speakers). Discussion continued, and included; reiteration that discussion was held at the Finance Committee and the Business Manager contacted legal counsel (as requested), reiteration of the concern that the correct question was not posed to legal counsel, reiterated expressions of frustration that this matter continues to be a topic of conversation.

Mrs. Spaulding made a motion that the Board stop talking about warrant procedures because she is fine with them.

Mr. Moore seconded the motion.

Discussion included concern that the topic needs continued discussion in order to resolve some outstanding issues with the procedures, and concern that a motion to tell Board Members to not ask questions, or discuss or communicate about procedures is not appropriate, a reading of the attorney's response, a query regarding clarification on what the concerns are, clarification that procedures are not policy, clarification that the Board can require that procedures be changed if they feel that procedures do not match statute or meet the District's needs, concern that the Board has sought legal advice and is ignoring that advice, reiteration of the concern that the proper question was not posed to the attorney, and concern that the Board not be allowed to discuss a matter and instruct administration on a matter they believe poses an issue.

Mrs. Spaulding withdrew the motion.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Ms. Reynolds, the Board voted 5 to 3 to postpone indefinitely, discussion of Warrant Procedures.

Mr. Moore, Ms. Parker, Mr. Reil, Ms. Reynolds, and Mrs. Spaulding voted for the motion.

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

Mr. Reil moved to reconsider the question. Mrs. Leclerc seconded the motion.

Discussion included; concern that the intent of the motion is to quash debate, a suggestion that the Superintendent facilitate a meeting between the Business Manager and Mrs. Leclerc, and report back to the Board, vs. quashing discussion when a Board Member clearly has concerns, agreement that the Board does need to move on from this subject, a suggestion that the Board respond to legal counsel, accepting his offer to provide a more lengthy legal opinion, concern regarding the cost of obtaining a more lengthy legal opinion, a belief that the new warrant process was working smoothly until the procedures were written and distributed, acknowledgment that the procedures were created jointly (by the Superintendent and Business Manager) because they felt that questions were less about warrants and more about questioning the professionals who have been hired by the Board to do this work, questioning competence, motives and integrity, and that is administrators biggest concern, a request for clarity on the warrant question process (who is to be responded to – full Board or individuals), frustration that administrators don't know who they are really responding to, a request from administrators, that the Board as a whole, provide guidance, a belief by administrators that their competence is being questioned on any line item that's in the budget, a belief that discussion regarding warrant questions was fairly resolved at the Finance Committee meeting, but in terms of some specific questions that have been asked, Mr. Reil advised that some of his specific questions (regarding expenses and processes) have not been answered and he believes these questions on process and decisions are well within the scope of his oversight role as a Board Member, and is not judgement on employees ability, but rather is his attempt to achieve clarity and

understanding of the process that is behind some of the decision making. Mr. Reil reiterated that he wishes to reconsider the motion because he does not believe it is appropriate to tell people that they can't participate and ask questions, or speak about a topic. Mrs. Spaulding believes that this topic has been discussed ad nauseam and she, as Finance Committee Chair, is willing to have a meeting with the Business Manager, the Superintendent, and any Board Member who has concerns, but she does not believe this item should come back to the Board. Mr. Malone noted that if the legal response had included a link to the statute, it may have resolved the issue, and reiterated that he has asked for this information at multiple meetings. Mrs. Leclerc advised that warrant questions submitted to the District, are simply questions related to warrants and have nothing to do with questioning the competency of employees. Mr. Boutin suggested that if there are problems with the procedure, a recommendation should be made to change them and the Board can vote on that. Mrs. Leclerc believes getting warrant detail information is problematic.

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Mrs. Leclerc, the Board voted 7 to 0 to Call the Question.

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

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by, Mrs. Leclerc, the Board voted 4 to 3 against the motion to reconsider the question.

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

8.3 Community Correspondence Responses

Mr. Reil advised that 2 ½ weeks ago, he advised regarding a community member who had submitted a question and has not received a response or reply. As of today, the community member still hasn't received a reply. Mr. Reil advised that the District does have a policy and procedure regarding responding to community correspondence, and he would like to know when and who is going to reply to the community member. Mr. Cecchinelli advised that Mr. Evans (Director of Facilities) was supposed to respond to the community member. Mr. Cecchinelli advised that he will speak with Mr. Evans and resolution will occur on 09/14/23.

8.4 Update on Written Legal Opinions

It was agreed that Board Members will submit their legal questions to Mr. Cecchinelli, and he will compile a list and distribute it to the entire Board. Mr. Malone requested written legal opinions on 'The Salary Metrics' (including the authority from the Board to approve individual contracts), the issue that deals with "The Issue Between an Individual Board Member and the Board Chair" ("and whether or not that is a public discussion that is allowed, as the Board just had a discussion on what we can talk about in Executive Session and what can be talked about in public"), and "Where We Are in Communication" (a detailed roster will be provided later).

9. Round Table

Mr. Reil advised that at the last meeting, he would look into the 'appeal matter'. On the appeal subject on whether the Board can appeal the Chair's decisions, appeals is a Robert's Rules thing (Section 24-5) and it only applies to rulings by the Chair, not decisions. Rulings would be items that pertain to 'Point of Order' rulings or when someone makes a motion or is out of order and the Chair makes a ruling. If someone wants to appeal one of the Chair's decisions, it's done through motions, motions to amend, other types of motions, and/or Board Member discipline processes that are defined in Robert's Rules. Mr. Cecchinelli advised that he has taken that a step further, and advised regarding the process for the Board to appeal the Chair's decisions (e.g. Agendas).

Mr. Reil advised that a community member sent him a picture of a social media post where a Board Member replied to someone else's post. Mr. Reil is concerned that a Board Member may be inciting discontent amongst the Board, noting that that is inappropriate and does not align with meeting norms. Mr. Reil does not believe Board Members should be out on social media attacking other Board Members, he believes it is inappropriate and needs to stop.

Mr. Boutin advised that there will be a Curriculum Committee meeting in October, and that Karen Fredericks will present on the AP courses and Work Programs. The date will be announced.

Mr. Boutin expressed appreciation to Mrs. Waterhouse for reaching out to him regarding his concern on truancy issues.

Mr. Boutin appreciates Ms. Bowers for speaking to the Board this evening (regarding BTMES air conditioning issues), and suggested that perhaps the Board should discuss this matter in the future.

Mr. Malone, referencing the Warrant issue, advised that a Board Member recently submitted a list of questions (to the Business Manager), and there was a questions as to why that was done. Mr. Malone noted that the Board was asked to submit their questions in writing. Mr. Malone is concerned that a Board Member was being attacked for sending questions in an email format, as that is what the Board was directed to do. Mr. Malone finds it disturbing that there was a direct violation of Open Meeting Law, as the Board Member

who ‘attacked’ the other Board Member, copied the entire Board on their email. Mr. Malone would like the Board Chair to exercise his prerogative to see that this doesn’t happen again, as the Chair had advised that he will take these matters seriously, including ‘fines’. Mr. Malone has a budgetary concern, noting that in the new fiscal year, there are a number of line items that are already over budget, and there are a number of line items that have encumbrances listed that will also go over budget. Mr. Malone finds it concerning that a number of line items are already significantly over budget this early in the year. Mr. Malone encourages all Board Members to be reviewing finances. Mr. Malone would like an explanation as to why line items are already significantly over budget. Mr. Malone advised that this information will be very important for the FY25 budgetary process.

Mrs. Leclerc echoed Mr. Malone’s sentiments, advising that she also finds it concerning that after following the Business Manager’s request to send questions via email, she received an email claiming that it was not appropriate for her to submit questions (and that this email was copied to the entire Board). Given this chain of events, Mrs. Leclerc believes the Board needs to hold a discussion regarding the process for getting warrant questions answered.

Mrs. Leclerc, advised that with regard to Open Meeting Law, VSBA advises that Board Members should utilize the ‘blind copy’ email function to assure that Board Members don’t violate Open Meeting Law. Mrs. Leclerc advised that a Board Member advised they would no longer reply to Mrs. Leclerc’s emails because they include ‘blind copies’. Mrs. Leclerc noted that using blind copy is the safest way to communicate.

Mrs. Leclerc advised that the Board Retreat Meeting Minutes, from April 12, 2023 are still not posted on the District web site.

Mrs. Poulin, referring to previous discussion where some believed ‘Other Business’ is a category, not an agenda item, advised regarding the definition of Other Business/Any Other Business “The last item on the agenda for a meeting when any matter not already dealt with has been raised.”, also “Subjects that need to be discussed at a meeting after all subjects on the agenda official list, prepared before the meeting, have been discussed.”. Mrs. Poulin stands by her assertion that Other Business is an agenda item, not a category, and noted that it is common on agendas, including the most recent VSBA Annual Meeting Agenda, as well as other municipalities, etc. Mrs. Poulin noted that it was stated that Other Business would no longer be on the Agenda and that only Round Table will be included. It was stated that Round Table is for discussion of “congratulatory’ types of information and that no Board business can be discussed. Mrs. Poulin noted that though Other Business is not on the Agendas, Board business has continued to be raised under Round Table. Mrs. Poulin queried, that given that Board Business is regularly being introduced under Round Table, is the Board going to add Other Business back to the agenda, or is the Board going to stop discussing Board business under Round Table? Mrs. Poulin advised that this is all very confusing to the public and is in direct conflict with what was announced. Mrs. Poulin, as a community member, would like clarification on this matter. Mr. Cecchinelli advised that if there is confusion, he can remove it (Round Table) from agendas.

10. Future Agenda Items

September 27, 2023 Meeting:

- Status Update on 5-Year Plan
- November 22nd/December 27th Meeting Dates
- Combining Middle School Athletic Programs (Parking Lot Item G)
- Update on Paying Vendors Via ACH
- Education Update

Add to Parking Lot:

- Consolidation of Buildings (Articles 3 & 4) – keep in Parking Lot. Will be added to Agendas monthly.
- Total Compensation Package (Added by NL 09/13/23 – discuss at Finance Committee first)
- New Governance Standards (Added by EWR 09/13/23 – new standards go into effect in July)
- Special Education Staff and Child Count Data Report (quarterly Nov/Jan/Apr/June) (added by Board)

11. Next Meeting Dates

Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Spaulding High School Library and via Video Conference (Google Meet).

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Spaulding High School Library and via Video Conference (Google Meet).

12. Executive Session as Needed

12.1 Personnel Matter (08/09/23 Meeting)

12.2 Superintendent Evaluation

Items proposed for discussion in Executive Session include a Personnel Matter and the Superintendent’s Evaluation.

On a motion by Mr. Boutin, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board unanimously agreed to find that premature general public knowledge of the items proposed for discussion would clearly place the Barre Unified Union School District at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public.

On a motion by Mr. Boutin, seconded by Ms. Reynolds, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session, with Mr. Hennessey and Mrs. Marold in attendance, at 9:11 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the items proposed for discussion.

The remaining information was provided by the Board Clerk.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mrs. Leclerc, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 10:06 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board voted 6 to 3 to agree that the evaluative process of accepting the Superintendent's response was complete.

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

13. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Boutin, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 10:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin

BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
October 11, 2023 - 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)
Ben Moore (BC)
Terry Reil (BT)
Emily Reynolds (BT)
Sonya Spaulding (BC)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Chris Hennessey, Superintendent
Jamie Evans, Facilities Director
Karen Fredericks, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
Carol Marold, Director of Human Resources
Rebecca Busker, SHS Assistant Principal
Mari Miller, SHS Assistant Principal
Ted Mills, BTMES Assistant Principal
Kristin Morrison, BCEMS Assistant Principal
Lisa Perreault, Business Manager
Ashley Young, Assistant Business Manager

GUESTS PRESENT:

Dave Delcore – Times Argus	Peter Anthony	Martha Blaisdell	Dale Burnash	Jody Emerson
Michael Gilbar	Sarah Helman	Jen Hutchinson	Brandy Kolling	Prudence Krasofski
Michelle Leeman	PJ LaPerle	Dan Morrison	Joelen Mulvaney	Dawn Poitras
Andrea Poulin	Brody Priddy	Monica Tolman	Rachel Van Vliet	1 802-***-***93

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Wednesday, October 11, 2023, 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

Add 8.7 Report to Board on The Generator, STEAM, and Work Based Learning
Add 8.8 Warrants – Online Document Storage
Amend 9.1 to include Appointment of Voting Delegate and Alternate Voting Delegate
Discuss update on Procedures for Policies F3 and F4 (during policy First Reads discussion).

On a motion by Mr. Boutin, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Agenda as amended.

4. Executive Session (as needed)

No items were proposed for discussion in Executive Session.

5. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

5.1 Public Comment

Mr. Moore advised that tonight's meeting will be his last Board meeting, as he is moving out of the District and is resigning his position. Mr. Moore was thanked for his service.

Mrs. Poulin queried regarding where to find the required procedures for Policies F3 and F4. Mr. Cecchinelli advised that this matter will be discussed during policy First Readings discussion.

Mr. Morrison addressed the Board, and advised regarding positive interactions his students are having at BTMES, and reported regarding the success of the recent BTMES Open House.

5.2 Student Voice

None.

6. Faculty/Staff Reports – Reports/Presentations

6.1 Student Assistance Professionals Presentation

A copy of a document titled '2021 Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey Report' was distributed.

PJ LaPerle and Dawn Poitras (Student Assistance Professionals) introduced themselves to the Board and provided brief overviews of their education and experience, as well as their roles within the District, which includes assisting students with the transition to high school. Mr. LaPerle and Ms. Poitras provided an overview of the results of the Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey Report, noting that the data seems to look a bit skewed, noting that the number of responses (lower than usual) causes them to question the validity. Mr. LaPerle advised that he believes there needs to be some incentive to assure that most students complete the survey and answer it as truthfully as possible. It was noted that this is a national survey (created by the CDC) and is taken in every state. Results are not received in a timely fashion, most likely due to schools holding the surveys at different times throughout the year, and that all surveys must be submitted prior to data being compiled. Mr. Boutin suggested that instead of relying on the Federal Government, the District perform its own in-house survey. Mr. LaPerle advised regarding the numerous safety checks built into the current survey. Mrs. Spaulding, noting that her comment is not specific to this survey, advised that for future packets, data not be shared by putting 4 pages of data on one page (the data is too small and can't be read). In response to a query, it was noted that the survey is held every two years. In response to a query, it was acknowledged that receiving data that is 2 years old prevents education from being provided in a timely fashion. Mr. LaPerle and Ms. Poitras advised of the process of reviewing data with students and discussing ways to change behaviors (the group discusses the 'why', students work to find solutions). It was noted that data is contained in a public document (healthvermont.gov). Parents do have the right to opt their students out of taking the survey. The survey is now conducted electronically. In response to a query, Mr. LaPerle advised that he cannot pinpoint highlights (deficits and/or positives) of the data and noted that the data reflects not only what occurs at school, but also community/family issues. Work will be performed to find ways to incentivize students to complete the survey. Ms. Mulvaney advised that many different entities utilize this data to identify ways to make improvements in the communities. Ms. Poitras and Mr. LaPerle were thanked for the important work they perform and for presenting to the Board. It was noted that the survey is given also given to students in grades 6 through 8. Only high school data is being presented this evening. Mr. Boutin suggested that perhaps the Curriculum Committee could assist with developing curriculum to address identified issues. Ms. Poitras advised that teachers within the District use the data to assist with curriculum development. Data from the survey is also used to assist with securing grants. Ms. Poitras and Mr. LaPerle encouraged Board Members to contact them with additional questions or comments.

6.2 Food Service Presentation

A copy of a presentation titled 'BUUSD Food Service Presentation School year 2023-2024' was distributed.

Ashley Young (Assistant Business Manager) introduced herself and advised that Lexington representatives were also in attendance and have provided food for the meeting. Jenn Hutchinson (Manager of Food Programs) is also in attendance. Mr. Hennessey displayed the Power Point Presentation titled 'BUUSD Food Service Presentation School Year 2023-2024'. The presentation included information on; Food Service Financials, the RFP Process for the next FSMC contract (criteria and scoring rubric provided by the AOE), an overview of Ms. Hutchinson's background, the self-operated food service site at the SEA Program, Professional Development and Training, the receipt of the Healthy Meals Incentives Grant (\$146,000), acquisition of new equipment, creation of a 2nd new position (BCEMS Cafeteria Wellness Coordinator), food samples, the Farm to School Institute (a \$5,000 grant and attendance at the Institute), a Farm to School Project Learning Initiative (at SEA), and the Summer Food Service Program (20,000 meals at 9 sites). Ms. Hutchinson answered questions from the Board, including the Food Service Surplus Fund (currently \$1,100,000), rules pertaining to the Fund, current grant funding for the BCEMS Cafeteria Wellness Coordinator, the existence of the Culinary Program at SHS (run by CVCCSD), restructuring of the role of the Nutrition Specialist, future enhancements to food service programs at all schools, confirmation that employees listed in the financial information are BUUSD employees (2 FT, and one ¼ FTE), the cost difference between the SEA Program and programs at other schools (significantly higher), unknown implications of the upcoming food service contract, the length of the lunch period (20 minutes), efforts to increase recycling and composting, the timetable for the

new contract (RFPs created in November, with final approval by the Board in March), the possibility of expanding the Farm to Table program to all schools, and a community query regarding assisting with access to dental care (can be looked into).

Discussion moved to:

Storm Water Mitigation at SHS.

This item is not on the Agenda (information was provided in the addendum), but was not added during Agenda Item 3 – Additions and Deletions to the Agenda.

A document titled ‘Narrative, Location Map, and Soils Map – Spaulding High School Stormwater Treatment Design for 3-Acre Permit’ was distributed. A copy of the design plans from Dubois & King was also distributed.

Mr. Evans provided an overview of discussion at the Facilities Committee and provided a brief overview of the detailed design plans, answered questions from the Board, and advised that Board approval is necessary in order to move forward with the application process. In response to a query from Mrs. Spaulding, it was noted that the Board has already approved submission of applications for BCEMS (permit in hand) and BTMES (permit currently under review by the State). The estimated costs for the SHS project are not known at this time, though it is believed that grant funding will cover approximately 90% of this State mandated work. Mr. Evans provided an overview of the projects planned for BCEMS and BTMES.

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board unanimously voted to approve moving forward with submission of the permit application for the SHS Storm Water Mitigation Project.

The Board recessed at 7:56 p.m. and reconvened at 8:03 p.m.

7. Consent Agenda

7.1 Approval of Minutes – September 27, 2023 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board unanimously voted to approve as amended, the Minutes of the July 26, 2023 Regular Meeting.

7.2 Warrant Approvals (09/28/23 and 10/05/23)

Copies of the Warrants were distributed.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mrs. Leclerc, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Warrants dated 09/28/23 and 10/05/23.

8. Current Business

8.1 New Hires

The resume and BUUSD Notification of Employment Status Form for Denise O’Neill (BTMES Pre-K), was distributed. Mr. Hennessey provided an overview of the candidate, and answered questions from the Board.

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board unanimously voted to approve the hiring of Denise O’Neill.

8.2 First Reading Volunteers and Work Study Students Policy (B2) Required

A copy of the policy was distributed.

Ms. Parker provided a brief overview of the formatting changes proposed for the policies.

Mrs. Leclerc queried regarding the existence of procedures for policies listed under Agenda Items 8.2 through 8.6. Mrs. Leclerc would like assurance that procedures are being kept up to date and suggested that the Board review amended procedures for changed policies, as well as procedures for existing and new policies (to assure they are accurate and in compliance with statute).

Mr. Cecchinelli advised that he believes the Board just needs to be aware that the procedures exist. Mrs. Leclerc advised that legal counsel has advised that the Board needs to review procedures. Mrs. Spaulding queried regarding policy B4 as she believes it is covered by statute. Ms. Parker advised that the VSBA notes indicate that only formatting changes are being made. Mrs. Spaulding noted that sometimes in the past, VSBA has deleted some policies, noting that the policies are covered by statute. Mrs. Spaulding queried regarding some information (on policy C3) that appears to be duplicated. This item will be researched prior to the Second and Final Reading. Mr. Reil reported that he called VSBA regarding this matter and they may discuss removing the policy the next time they review it. Mr. Reil queried regarding Policy C3, pertaining to transportation for out of district students (conflicts with administrative procedures – direction from the Board and decisions by the Superintendent). Mrs. Poulin queried regarding which title will be used for Policy F26, as the policy and the agenda conflict (Electronic Surveillance will be utilized). Mrs. Poulin advised that under the Transportation Policy (C3), the verbiage pertaining to ‘providing transportation to out of district students, as authorized by the Board’, was added to the policy because the District was trying to increase the number of out of district students (tuition paying students) and directed that transportation be provided. Mrs. Poulin is concerned that within that policy (administrative responsibilities D) there is a clause allowing the superintendent to, based on enrollment on August 1st, decide whether or not transportation will be

provided to out of district students. Mrs. Poulin advised that this presents a problem, because some students may have chosen SHS because transportation is provided, and to yank transportation less than one month before school starts (which happened last year), leaves a really bad taste in the mouths of sending districts and is perceived as a 'bait and switch'. Mrs. Poulin advised regarding previous discussion relating to the millions of dollars of lost revenue that occurred when other districts started providing transportation and students migrated to those schools. Mrs. Poulin believes the District should be more aggressive in recruiting out of district students. Mrs. Poulin is uncomfortable that the District would offer transportation, and then pull it back at the last minute. Additionally, Mrs. Poulin reminded the Board that in February 2022, legal counsel advised that the Board needs to review all procedures, know that they align with statute, and that they are being adhered to. Mrs. Poulin finds it concerning that since that advice from counsel; the Board has not reviewed even one procedure. Mrs. Poulin would like VSBA to reconsider the rescinding of policies that are covered by statute, noting that not all administrators, staff members, or parents, know all of the statutes and when they are revised, and without policies in place, there may be unintended violations of statute. Mrs. Leclerc noted that the legally required procedures for policies F3 and F4, are not on the web site and have not been reviewed by the Board. Mrs. Leclerc believes reviewing the procedures for these policies, would be a great place to start the process of Board review of procedures. Mr. Boutin queried regarding whether or not the Board was going to 'pull back' the approval of the Transportation policy. It was noted that this is only the First Reading of the policy and it can be discussed further before adoption.

On a motion by Mr. Boutin, seconded by Ms. Reynolds, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Readings of the following policies; Volunteers and Work Study Students Policy (B2), Drug and Alcohol Testing of Transportation Employees Policy (B4), Tobacco Prohibition Policy (B7), Transportation Policy (C3), and Electronic Surveillance Policy (F26).

8.3 First Reading Drug and Alcohol Testing of Transportation Employees Policy (B4) Required

A copy of the policy was distributed.

See discussion and vote under Agenda Item 8.2.

8.4 First Reading Tobacco Prohibition Policy (B7) Required

A copy of the policy was distributed.

See discussion and vote under Agenda Item 8.2.

8.5 First Reading Transportation Policy (C3) Required

A copy of the policy was distributed.

See discussion and vote under Agenda Item 8.2.

8.6 First Reading Security Cameras Policy (F26) Recommended

A copy of the policy titled Electronic Surveillance was distributed.

See discussion and vote under Agenda Item 8.2.

8.7 Report to Board on The Generator, STEAM, and Work Based Learning

Mr. Malone addressed the Board and provided information regarding a recent visit to The Generator. Mr. Malone and Ms. LaFrancis met with various administrators. Mr. Malone believes it is critical that these opportunities (The Generator, STEAM, and WBL) continue to be provided to students, advising of the benefits of working with these companies. Mr. Malone advised regarding a number of students who benefited greatly from these opportunities. These opportunities also assist students with qualifying for SHS scholarships. Mr. Moore provided additional information regarding utilization of The Generator, including information on student a student lead project and other opportunities offered at The Generator. Additionally, Mr. Malone advised regarding substantial monetary awards for students as well as other benefits of the Work Based Learning Program (including career paths). Mr. Malone advised regarding a number of community partners. Mr. Boutin departed the meeting at 8:34 p.m. Ms. LaFrancis was lauded for her efforts implementing and overseeing these successful programs.

8.8 Warrants – Online Document Storage

Mrs. Leclerc advised she wishes to entertain the concept of electronic storage, which saves paper, paper handling, improves efficiency, and provides easy access to data. Mrs. Leclerc advised that with some of the warrants, the detail is not available (online) and needs to be manually researched. Mrs. Leclerc reiterated her request that utilizing electronic storage be investigated. Mrs. Spaulding believes electronic storage would be very beneficial, and suggested that this matter be discussed at a Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Malone reported on how the Town Of Barre utilizes electronic storage. Additionally, Mr. Malone advised that electronic storage would mitigate the issue of damage to documents (water damage, etc.). Mr. Boutin rejoined the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

9. Old Business

9.1 VSBA Resolutions and Appointment of Voting Delegate and Alternate Voting Delegate

A document titled '2023 – 2024 VSBA Resolutions Report to the Membership' was distributed. The document includes a summary of resolutions as well as detail and recommendations for each resolution.

The Board agreed to discuss each resolution prior to voting. Brief discussion was held for each resolution and the voting is as follows;

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Leclerc, the Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation of the VSBA, not to pass Resolution #1 (Elimination of the Requirement of Federal Grant Assessment for Vermont School Districts).

On a motion by Mrs. Leclerc, seconded by Mr. Malone, the Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation of the VSBA, not to pass Resolution #2 (Use of Surplus Education Funds).

On a motion by Mr. Boutin, seconded by Mr. Malone, the Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation of the VSBA, not to pass Resolution #3 (Collaboration to Benefit all Students).

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Leclerc, the Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation of the VSBA, not to pass Resolution #4 (Non-Residential Tax Rate Equal to Homestead Tax Rate).

On a motion by Mrs. Leclerc, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board voted 7 to 1 to accept the recommendation of the VSBA, to pass as a Regular Resolution, Resolution #5 (Non-Residential Tax Rate Equal to Homestead Tax Rate).

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

On a motion by Mrs. Leclerc, seconded by Ms. Reynolds, the Board voted 6 to 2 to accept the recommendation of the VSBA, to pass as a Regular Resolution, Resolution #6 (Flavored Tobacco Products).

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

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board voted 5 to 3 to accept the recommendation of the VSBA, to pass as a Regular Resolution, Resolution #7 (Separation of Church and State).

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

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board voted 5 to 2 to accept the recommendation of the VSBA Board, to pass as a Regular Resolution, Resolution #8 (Restraint and Seclusion).

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

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board voted 5 to 3 to accept the recommendation of the VSBA, Board, to pass as a Regular Resolution, Resolution #9 (Remote School Board Meetings).

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

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Ms. Parker, the Board voted 5 to 3 to accept the VSBA Committee and Board recommendation to delete Resolutions I.C. and I.J., and to amend Resolutions II.N1, III.D., and III.E., as presented.

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

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board voted 7 to 1 to accept the VSBA Committee and Board recommendation to delete Resolution II.S., to amend Resolution I.L., as presented, and to continue Resolutions; I.M., I.O., I.P., II.E., II.F., II.O., II.T., III.J., AND V.E.

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

Mr. Reil voted against the motion.

On a motion by Mr. Boutin, seconded by Mr. Malone, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Mrs. Leclerc as the voting delegate for the Barre Unified Union School District, at the VSBA 2022 Annual Meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Boutin, seconded by Mr. Malone, the Board voted 7 to 1 to appoint Mrs. Spaulding as the alternate voting delegate for the Barre Unified Union School District, at the VSBA 2022 Annual Meeting.

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

Brief discussion was held and it was agreed that the voting delegate(s) agree to vote as the Board voted.

9.2 Consolidation of Buildings (Articles 3 & 4)

Mr. Hennessey advised that the opinion conveyed to the Board from legal counsel has been share with the Board via e-mail. Mr. Cecchinelli advised that any advice from legal counsel is privileged information, and once shared in public, attorney / client privilege is nullified. Mr. Hennessey advised that the proposal to bring Articles 3 and 4 to the community needs to happen (Amend Article 4, reconfigure Article 3). The biggest concern going forward is that this is a very political issue and much work would need to be done prior to the March vote. Any vote in March 2024 does not change the schools in any way, but asks to change the way in which planning for changes can occur. Lengthy discussion was held including; a request for identification of a time-line (with benchmarks), confirmation that school reconfiguration can be discussed with the current Articles in place, concern that there is not enough time to thoughtfully plan and present Article changes in March 2024, the enormous political effort involved, administrative support for discussing consolidation, the thought that it is irresponsible to rush this issue to a vote, the loss of over \$5,000,000 by not consolidating voluntarily (under Act 46 – the City supported consolidation, the Town did not), concern that Article changes will be a ‘big sell’, the need to identify the benefits of consolidation and answer questions from the community, a belief that changing the Articles would pass, the importance of providing equity to all students, confirmation that to change the Articles requires of majority of the voters within the BUUSD (BC and BT combined), a belief that research needs to be performed prior to presenting any changes to voters, a reminder that consolidation of middle school sports will be discussed at the next meeting, concern by a community member that there is no information in the packet regarding this matter, confirmation that Consolidation of Buildings is a standing agenda item that will be discussed once per month and that Committees will begin discussing the impacts to their specified areas (facilities, finance, etc.), a belief that community members will support doing what is right, and reiterated concern from a community member, that no information is included in the packet and though other previous meetings may have had documentation, that does nothing to assist community members attending this evening (who were not present during earlier discussions).

10. Future Agenda Items

A request that when Consolidation of Buildings is on the Agenda, it be placed much earlier in the Agenda (meeting).

It was noted that Mr. Moore should submit a written resignation.

It was noted that items requested at the last meeting were not on this evening’s agenda and were not added to the Parking Lot. It was requested that those items be added to the Parking Lot. Ms. Reynolds briefly advised regarding upcoming legislation that will go into effect in July 2025 (Parking Lot item D).

October 25, 2023 Meeting:

- Interview Process for Open Barre City Board Seat
- Board Chair Not Communicating or Responding to Certain Board Members
- Electronic Storage of Documents
- F3 and F4 Procedures (or a date when they will be available)
- Second and Final Readings
- Executive Session for a Personnel Matter

November 8, 2023 Meeting:

- Enrollment/Home Study Quarterly Report

11. Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Spaulding High School Library and via Video Conference (Google Meet).

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Spaulding High School Library and via Video Conference (Google Meet).

12. Executive Session as Needed

Mr. Cecchinelli advised there was a personnel matter to discuss in Executive Session. It was suggested that this item be postponed (given the late hour and that this item was not warned). The Board agreed to put this item on the next Agenda

13. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Malone, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 10:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING**

Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
October 25, 2023 - 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)
Terry Reil (BT)
Emily Reynolds (BT)
Sonya Spaulding (BC)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Vacant Position (BC)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Chris Hennessey, Superintendent
Luke Aither, SHS Co-Principal
Carol Marold, Director of Human Resources
Mari Miller, SHS Assistant Principal
Jennifer Nye, BTMES Principal
Erica Pearson, BTMES Principal
Brenda Waterhouse, BCEMS Principal

GUESTS PRESENT:

Dave Delcore – Times Argus	Jody Bushway	James Carpenter	Alice Harding	Sarah Helman
Josh Howard	Pierre Laflamme	Dan Morrison	Andrea Poulin	Sarah Pregent
Brody Priddy	Jessica Van Orman			

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Wednesday, October 25, 2023, 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

Add 8. 3 VEHI Proxy or Certificate of Authority

Superintendent Evaluation Committee Report will be discussed under Committee Reports.

Add 13.2 Personnel Item - Executive Session Items are VSA 313 (a) (3) and VSA 313(a) (4)

Add 8.4 Board Governance

Change 10.1 to read that the next Finance Committee meeting is November 13, 2023.

On a motion by Ms. Parker, seconded by Mr. Reil, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Agenda as amended.

4. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

4.1 Public Comment

None.

4.2 Student Voice

None.

5. Faculty/Staff – Reports/Presentations

5.1 Combining Middle School Athletic Programs

Mr. Hennessey advised that administrators have been reviewing the possibility of combining middle school athletics. A list of the pros and cons is contained in the Superintendent's Report. Mr. Hennessey displayed the list and provided an overview of the pros and cons identified by administrators. Information is broken down under the current 'landscape', including the list of current teams and cultivation and payment of coaches. Lengthy discussion was held, including, but not limited to; differences in the current landscape, current issues with teams not having enough players to field teams, concerns regarding 'cutting' students from teams, a suggestion to have 'A and B' teams (in an effort to let all students play), a suggestion to work through the list of cons in an effort to provide equity to students, difficulty in scheduling games when there are too many teams, a suggestion that rivalry builds character, transportation considerations/costs, a suggestion that the District should be moving towards combining sports, a suggestion that combining teams requires a lot of research, and perhaps should be included in a larger discussion, a query regarding allowing students to join teams when their school does not have a particular sport (currently this is allowed), the importance of having a sense of community, a query regarding the process for allowing students from one school to join the other school's team (and the impact if numerous students want to join), concern that currently, not all students are given the opportunity to learn and play and are not prepared to play at the high school level, the belief that no child should be denied the ability to play sports, logistics related to differing school end times, clarification that administrators do not see any of the cons as 'insurmountable', parental input regarding concerns that their students are not able to participate in sports, information that other schools in the state have combined middle school sports and a suggestion to speak with those districts regarding how they manage their programs, a previous situation where due to the high number of players, players did not get sufficient playing time, the difficulty of scheduling multiple games with other teams, school pride, the relationships built between coaches (teachers) and students, the purpose of middle school sports, a suggestion that programs in Barre be expanded at younger grades, disagreement with some of the cons expressed, and a belief that some of the commentary comes from a place of privilege, a belief that BCEMS students do not have enough teams and are not provided with enough opportunity, a belief that combination of teams needs to be resolved sooner rather than be pushed out to the future, reiteration of the difficulty of scheduling games when there are multiple teams per school (including VPA regulations), confirmation that BCEMS students have played on the BTMES field hockey team, brief discussion of BYSA sports, a suggestion that the caveats and possible solutions be explored, difficulties being encountered with the large number of students currently joining the BTMES basketball teams, member to member agreements, the need for a fulltime athletic director (if sports are expanded), the importance of having a building based athletic director (building relationships and supporting students), the importance of using a 'problem solving lens' to research this matter further, a belief that there is unity when students merge at the high school, and the understanding that combining of middle school sports will continue to be investigated.

6. Consent Agenda

6.1 Approval of Minutes – October 11, 2023 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Mrs. Leclerc, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the October 11, 2023 Regular Meeting.

6.2 Warrant Approval (10/12/23 and 10/18/23)

Copies of the Warrants were distributed.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Ms. Parker, the Board voted 6 to 1 to approve the Warrants dated 10/12/23 and 10/18/23.

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

Mr. Reil voted against the motion.

7. Building Reports

7.1 Building Reports; BCEMS, BTMES, SHS, SEA

Copies of Building Reports were distributed.

BCEMS; discussion included confirmation of a recent resignation at BCEMS (science department), a query regarding inclusion of behavioral issue information (in the report) and a request for confirmation that the information will be included, concern that inclusion of the behavioral information on a monthly basis would be cumbersome, confirmation that information will be shared quarterly, and appreciation to Mrs. Waterhouse for the smooth start to the school year.

BTMES: discussion included; kudos for recognition from the VTPBIS State Team and Scholastic Book Fair sales, budgetary considerations for a new sound system and replacement of playground equipment, and appreciation for the work of administrators.

SHS: discussion included; positive staff response and support for '6 Seconds' training/program, appreciation for installation of new benches and planters (which are well utilized), credit to Ms. Busker for her efforts to meet the needs of all students (both those that need to be 'called back to class' and enrichment for those who don't), thanks to staff and administrators for all they do, notification that the Reynold's Scholarship has been updated and will (beginning January 2024), include six \$40,000 awards, and notification that next week's Showcase will be on the SHS Enrichment Program.

SEA: It was noted that there was no report from SEA, but today's Showcase focuses on the Farm to Table Program at SEA. Various representatives were present to celebrate the Program.

7.2 Superintendent Report

A copy of the Superintendent's Report was distributed.

A copy of an undated letter from Mr. Hennessey and Ms. Fredericks, to BUUSD District Families was distributed. This letter refers to VTCAP Assessments.

Discussion included; confirmation that VTCAP Assessment results are being sent to families in early November, a belief that the State will release statewide data in December, confirmation that there is a plan in place to answer questions from families, a query regarding equity between BTMES and BCEMS ECO classes (different models are used at the two schools), and a brief overview of ECO at BCEMS (currently K-4 (various levels based on teacher expertise), with a goal to grow the program and expand green space. BCEMS Middle school has an elective Environmental class.

8. Current Business

8.1 New Hires

The resume and BUUSD Notification of Employment Status Form for Lori Daugherty (English Language Learners) was distributed. Mr. Hennessey provided an overview of the candidate and advised that the new position is funded through a Medicaid grant.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Reil, the Board unanimously voted to approve the hiring of Lori Daugherty for the position presented.

8.2 Interview Process for Board Seat

Mr. Cecchinelli advised City Council of the vacancy. The ad is posted in the Times Argus and will be posted for two weeks. Letters of interest are to be submitted to Carol Dawes with a deadline of November 7, 2023 at noon. Interviews will be held on November 8, 2023.

8.3 VEHI Proxy or Certificate of Authority

Documents titled Exhibit B (VEHI Proxy or Certificate of Authority for Health and Dental) were distributed. Mr. Cecchinelli provided a brief overview and clarification was provided regarding what is being voted on.

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Mrs. Leclerc, the Board unanimously voted to authorize Superintendent Chris Hennessey to appear and vote on behalf of the BUUSD for the VEHI Health and Dental Programs.

8.4 New Governance Standards

Mrs. Leclerc noted that the Standards are effective 07/01/25 and Board priorities need to be defined by that deadline. Mrs. Leclerc advised of the work that needs to be performed (definition of Board priorities in a number of categories and sub-categories) Mrs. Leclerc provided a brief overview of some of the categories and requested that the Board organize 'carving out' a portion of each category each month. Mrs. Leclerc acknowledged former Board Member Alice Farrell for her work in drafting these new standards. Brief discussion was held, including discussion of this matter at the Board Retreat.

9. Old Business

Copies of the policies referenced in Agenda Items 9.1 through 9.5 were distributed. Ms. Parker advised that there was an outstanding question on policy C3. The Board agreed to discuss that policy separately.

9.1 Second and Final Reading Volunteers and Work Study Students Policy (B2)

On a motion by Mr. Malone, seconded by Ms. Reynolds, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Second and Final Readings of Policies B2, B4, B7, and F26 and agreed to adopt said policies.

9.2 Second and Final Reading Drug and Alcohol Testing of Transportation Employees Policy (B4)

See action under Agenda Item 9.1.

9.3 Second and Final Reading Tobacco Prohibition Policy (B7)

See action under Agenda Item 9.1.

9.4 Second and Final Reading Transportation Policy (C3)

Discussion included; the question from Mr. Reil regarding contradictions with the last sentence in the Statement of Policy, and verbiage in 'D' under Administrative Responsibilities, suggested changes from Mr. Hennessey and Ms. Parker, (adding "and authorized by the Board" under letter 'D', a reading of the amended section of the policy, a suggestion to strike the last sentence from the Policy Statement, and a request that the policy be re-drafted and presented at the next meeting. Community feedback included concern that taking transportation away from out of district students (in early August) does not help market SHS and a request that the Board decide

whether or not it wants to commit to providing transportation. It was agreed that a clean copy will be provided at the next Board meeting.

9.5 Second and Final Reading Electronic Surveillance Policy (F26)

See action under Agenda Item 9.1.

10. Committee Reports

Mr. Cecchinelli advised he sent the Superintendent Evaluation Committee minutes to Board Members. In response to a query, Mr. Cecchinelli advised that filling the vacancy on this Committee needs to be addressed. Ms. Parker advised of a minor adjustment that should be made to the minutes.

10.1 Finance Committee

Minutes from the October 16, 2023 meeting were distributed. No discussion.

The next meeting is Monday, November 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

10.2 Facilities & Transportation Committee

Minutes from the October 2, 2023 meeting were distributed.

It was noted that Mr. Reil is listed as both a Committee Member and a Board Member.

The next meeting is Monday, November 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

10.3 Policy Committee

Minutes from the October 18, 2023 meeting were distributed. No discussion.

The next meeting is Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

10.4 Curriculum Committee

Minutes from the October 4, 2023 meeting were distributed.

It was noted that Mrs. Leclerc is listed in the minutes as both a Committee Member and a Board Member.

The next meeting is Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

10.5 CVCCSD Board

Minutes from the October 16, 2023 meeting were distributed. No discussion.

The next meeting is November 13, 2023.

11. Future Agenda Items

- Procedures and Processes and How Behavior Issues are Reported
- Follow-up on Middle School Athletic Program (quarterly)
- Presentation of the New Financial Software System
- Electronic Storage of Documents
- Board Chair Not Communicating or Responding to Certain Board Members

Brief discussion was held regarding Parking Lot Items that are slated for November.

In response to a query regarding a timeframe for when the Board can review procedures for policies F3 and F4, Mr. Hennessey advised that procedures are in the Crisis Response Manual and in Handbooks. Mr. Hennessey will forward that information to Mrs. Leclerc. Brief discussion was held regarding the best time (before or after the budget passes) to add Presentation of the New Financial Software System.

12. Next Meeting Dates

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

13. Executive Session

13.1 Personnel

13.2 Personnel

Items proposed for discussion in Executive Session include two personnel issues.

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Mrs. Leclerc, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session, with Mr. Hennessey and Mrs. Marold in attendance, at 7:47 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the items proposed for discussion.

The remaining information was provided by the Board Clerk.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Ms. Parker, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 8:57 p.m.

14. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Boutin, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin

THE BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
AMENDED ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT
Approved by Voters February 19, 2019

Pursuant to the State Board of Education's final Statewide Plan dated November 28, 2018 and issued on this 30th day of November, 2018 as required and authorized by 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 46, Sec. 10(b), as amended ("Act 46"), the Barre Unified Union School District ("New Union District") is created to provide for the prekindergarten through grade 12 education of its resident students.

Article 1 – Creation of New Union District

A. Forming Districts

The Barre City School District, the Barre Town School District, and the Spaulding Union High School District (collectively "the Forming Districts") are merged to create the New Union District.

B. Temporary Legal Name

The New Union District shall be known by the name "the Barre Unified Union School District" unless and until the New Union District changes it.

C. Resident Students

The New Union District is responsible for the prekindergarten through grade 12 education of students residing in the towns of Barre City and Barre Town.

Article 2 – Grades Operated and/or Tuitioned in Academic Years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021

In academic years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, the New Union District shall operate schools for the grades for which the Forming Districts operated schools in academic year 2018-2019 and shall pay tuition for any grades for which the Forming Districts paid tuition in that year.

Article 3 – School Restructuring and Closing

Any proposal by the board of the New Union District to restructure the district's current elementary school configuration into one elementary and one middle school may not be implemented without the approval of the electorate of the Barre Unified Union School District. Any proposal by the board of the New Union District to close any school in the district may not be implemented without the approval of the electorate of the Barre Unified Union School District.

Article 4 – Redistricting/Choice

Students in elementary schools (PreK-8) will not be required to attend school outside of their current town of residency. Students and their families may voluntarily request assignment at another elementary school (PreK-8) according to policies on intra-district choice established by the Board.

Article 5 – Finances

A. Indebtedness, Including Capital Debt

The New Union District shall assume all indebtedness that may exist on June 30, 2019, including capital debt and including both principal and interest, of the Forming Districts.

B. Operating Fund Surpluses

The New Union District shall assume all operating surpluses, deficits, and fund balances of the Forming Districts that may exist at the close of business on June 30, 2019.

The New Union District shall apply any reserve fund for the fund's specific purpose, if identified, unless otherwise determined through appropriate legal procedures.

C. Transfer of Debt and Funds

The Forming Districts shall transfer the debt and funds specified in this Article to the New Union District on or before June 30, 2019 in accordance with procedures and timelines established by the New Union District Board.

Article 6 – Real and Personal Property

A. Transfer of Property to the New Union District

No later than June 30, 2019, the Forming Districts shall convey to the New Union District, for the sum of one dollar, and subject to the encumbrances of record, all of their school-related real and personal property, including all land, buildings, and contents.

B. Subsequent Sale of Real Property to Town in which it is Located, in Any Year in the Future

*Subject to any requirements relating to school building closure in **Article 3** and to the sale of buildings in Title 16 or any other Title of the Vermont Statutes Annotated, if the New Union District Board determines, in its discretion, that the real property, including land and buildings, conveyed to it by one or more of the Forming Districts will not be used for direct delivery of education in at least one grade or for any other purpose related to operation of the New Union District, then the New Union District shall offer for sale such real property to the town in which the real property is located, for the sum of one dollar, subject to all encumbrances of record, the assumption or payment of all outstanding bonds and notes, and the repayment of any school construction aid or grants required by Vermont law.*

The conveyance of any of the above school properties shall be conditioned upon the town owning and using the real property for community and public purposes for a minimum of five years. If the town elects to sell the real property prior to five years of ownership, then the town shall compensate the New Union District for all capital improvements and renovations initiated after July 1, 2019 and prior to the sale to the town.

If a town elects not to acquire ownership of such real property, then the New Union District shall sell the property pursuant to Vermont statutes and upon such terms and conditions as established by the New Union District Board.

C. Subsequent Sale of Real Property Conveyed by Forming District that was a Union School District, in Any Year in the Future

Notwithstanding Paragraph (B) of this Article 6, and *subject to any requirements relating to school building closure in **Article 3*** and to the sale of buildings in Title 16 or any other Title, if the New Union District Board determines, in its discretion, that the real property, including land and buildings, conveyed to it by a Forming District that was a union school district on June 30, 2019, will not be used for direct delivery of education in at least one grade or for any other purpose related to operation of the New Union District, then the New Union District shall sell the property pursuant to Vermont statutes and upon such terms and conditions as are established by the New Union District Board.

Article 7 – Transportation, Employees, and Contracts in Academic Year 2019-2020

In academic year 2019-2020, the New Union District shall provide for the transportation of students, assignment of staff, and implementation of curriculum in a manner that is consistent with the contracts, collective bargaining agreements, and provisions of law that are in effect during that academic year.

The New Union District, through its Board, shall comply with 16 V.S.A. Chapter 53, subchapter 3, regarding recognition of the representatives of employees of the respective Forming Districts, and the SU if applicable, as the representatives of the employees of the New Union District, and the SU if applicable, and shall commence negotiations pursuant to 16 V.S.A. Chapter 57 for teachers and 21 V.S.A. Chapter 22 for other employees. In the absence of new collective bargaining agreements on July 1, 2019, the New Union District shall comply with the pre-existing master agreements pursuant to 16 V.S.A. Chapter 53, subchapter 3.

The New Union District shall honor all individual employment contracts that are in place in the Forming Districts on June 30, 2019 until their respective termination dates; provided, however, that if a Forming District enters into the contract on or after November 1, 2018, then this paragraph shall apply only if the contract expires on or before July 1, 2020.

Article 8 – Organizational Meeting of New Union District

A. Date of Meeting and Public Notice

On or before January 29, 2019, the voters of the New Union District shall hold an organizational meeting within the district on a date and at a location to be determined by the Superintendent.

The Superintendent shall post notice of the day, hour, and place of the meeting in at least one public place in each town identified in **Article 1(C)** and publish it at least once in a newspaper circulating within the New Union District. Publication and posting shall be made not more than 40 days nor

fewer than 30 days before the date of the meeting. The New Union District shall bear the cost of giving notice.

The Secretary of Education shall draw the warning for the organizational meeting.

B. Business to be Transacted

The Secretary or the Secretary's designee shall call the organizational meeting to order. The voters of the New Union District shall transact the following business at the organizational meeting, with all votes conducted "from the floor:"

- i.** To elect a temporary presiding officer and clerk of the New Unified District from among the qualified voters of the district.
- ii.** To swear in the members of the Transitional Board created in **Article 9**, who shall immediately assume office and serve until the voters of the New Union District elect the initial members of the Board of Directors and those members are sworn in and assume their duties.
- iii.** To adopt Robert's or other rules of order, which shall govern the parliamentary procedures of the organizational meeting and all subsequent annual and special meetings of the New Union District.
- iv.** To elect the following officers of the New Union District from among the qualified voters of the district, which officers shall assume office upon election and serve for a term of one year or until their successors are elected and qualified:
 - Moderator
 - Clerk
 - Treasurer
- v.** To determine a date and location for the first annual meeting of the New Union District and all subsequent annual meetings, which shall be not earlier than February 1 and not later than June 1 in each year.
- vi.** To determine whether to vote on the New Union District's budget and all other public questions by Australian ballot.
- vii.** To determine whether to elect members of the New Union District Board by Australian ballot.
- viii.** To determine and approve compensation, if any, to be paid to officers of the New Union District.
- ix.** To determine and approve compensation, if any, to be paid to members of the New Union District Board.
- x.** To establish provisions for the payment of any expense incurred by the New Union District before it becomes fully operational on July 1, 2019 under a voter-approved budget for the fiscal year beginning on that date.

- xi.** To authorize the New Union District to borrow money pending receipt of payments from the State Education Fund by the issuance of its notes or orders payable not later than one year from date: provided, however, that the District is authorized by Vermont Statutes to borrow sufficient funds to meet pending obligations.
- xii.** To determine whether to authorize the Board of School Directors, pursuant to the provisions of 16 V.S.A. § 563(10) & (11)(C), to provide mailed notice to residents of the availability of the Annual Report and proposed school budget in lieu of distributing the Annual Report and proposed budget.
- xiii.** To address any other business determined to be necessary or advisable and warned as required in Paragraph (A) of this Article 8.

Article 9 – Transitional Board

A. Creation of Transitional Board; Term of Existence

*Until the voters of the New Union District elect the members of the initial Board of Directors as set forth in **Articles 10 and 11**, and those members are sworn in and assume their duties, the individuals serving on July 1, 2018 as Chair and Clerk of the board of directors of each Forming District identified in **Article 1**, including the board of any Forming District that is a union school district on that date, constitute the transitional board of directors for the New Union District (“Transitional Board”); provided, however, that by majority vote the board of a Forming District may designate another board member or members to serve on the Transitional Board instead of the Chair, or the Clerk, or both.*

B. Initial Meeting of Transitional Board

The Superintendent of the supervisory union of which a majority of the Forming Districts are members shall convene the first meeting of the Transitional Board to occur no later than 14 days after the organizational meeting convened pursuant to **Article 8**. The agenda for this first meeting of the Transitional Board shall include the election by the Transitional Board members of:

- i.** One of their members to serve as Chair of the Transitional Board; and
- ii.** One of their members to serve as Clerk of the Transitional Board.

C. Purpose and Authority of Transitional Board

During the period of its existence, the Transitional Board shall serve as the New Union District’s school board and shall perform all functions required of, and have all authority granted to:

- i.** The Transitional Board in Paragraph (D) of this Article 9; and
- ii.** The New Union District Board in these Articles of Agreement and otherwise by law.

D. Specific Duties of Transitional Board

In addition to any responsibilities of the New Union District Board that can, should, or must be performed before the initial members of that Board are elected and assume office, the Transitional Board shall perform the following functions:

- i. First Draft of Proposed Budget: Prepare a *draft* of the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 budget of the New Union District, which the Transitional Board shall provide to the New Union District Board for consideration at the first meeting of the New Union District Board convened pursuant to **Article 11(B)**.
- ii. District Meeting Warnings: Prepare for and warn the following items as one or more special meetings of the New Union District:
 - a. Election of Initial Board Members: A meeting of the New Union District at which the voters shall elect initial Board members as set out more detail in **Articles 10 and 11**, in the manner determined by the voters at the organizational meeting pursuant to **Article 8(B)(vii)**.¹
 - b. Amendments to Default Articles if Intended to be Effective on or before July 1, 2019: A meeting of the New Union District, which the Legislature has required to occur no later than February 28, 2019, at which the voters shall consider whether to approve any amendments to the Articles of Agreement that may be proposed by the committee authorized in 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 46, Sec. 10, as amended by 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 49, Sec. 8(d), and which is addressed in more detail in **Article 14(B)(i)**.

Article 10: Board of School Directors Representation

The Board of School Directors shall have nine (9) members, with four (4) residing in and representing Barre City; four (4) residing in and representing Barre Town; and one (1) elected at-large by the voters of both municipalities. The Barre Town and Barre City specific numbers of directors are consistent with current census figures. Each time there is a new decennial census, the proportionality of the Barre Town and Barre City specific numbers of directors shall be aligned to the new counts if necessary.

The at-large Board member shall be elected by the voters of the entire New Union District, with the candidate receiving the highest vote total prevailing. The eight Board members representing a specific municipality shall be elected by the voters residing only in their municipality of residence, with the candidate(s) receiving highest vote totals prevailing.

¹ See 16 V.S.A. chapter 11 for statutes addressing the process for appointing individuals to fill vacant school board seats. See also 2018 Spec. Sess. Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. E.500.8, which temporarily replaces those statutes with a different process.

Article 11: Initial Directors

A. Terms of Office

School directors will be elected for three year terms, except for those initially elected at the time of the formation of the New Union District. In the initial election of school directors, the terms of office will be as follows:

Town	Term ending March <u>2020</u>	Term ending March <u>2021</u>	Term ending March <u>2022</u>
Barre City	2	1	1
Barre Town	1	2	1
At- Large	0	0	1

The terms of the initial school directors indicated above will include the months in between the organizational meeting and the first annual meeting.

Nominations for the office of School Director representing a specific town shall be made by filing, with the clerk of that district/town proposed as a member of the New Union District, a statement of nomination signed by at least 30 voters in that district/town or one percent of the legal voters in the district/town, whichever is less, and accepted in writing by the nominee. A statement shall be filed not fewer than 30, nor more than 40 days prior to the date of the vote.

Nominations for the office of the at-large School Director shall be made by filing a statement of nomination signed by at least 60 voters residing in the New Union District with the clerk of any district/town proposed as a necessary member of the Unified District. A statement shall be filed not fewer than 30, nor more than 40 days prior to the date of the vote.

Pursuant to the provisions of 16 V.S.A. §706j(b), directors initially elected to the New Union District shall be sworn in and assume the duties of their office.

Thereafter, members of the Board of School Directors will be elected at the Barre Unified Union School District's Annual Meeting. Terms of office shall begin and expire on the date of the school district's annual meeting. In the event the district's annual meeting precedes Town Meeting Day, the Director's terms shall expire on Town Meeting Day.

B. Swearing-In and Assumption of Duties

Within 14 days after the initial Board members are elected, the Superintendent shall:

- i.** Arrange for the Clerk of the New Union District and/or one or more town clerks within the boundaries of the District to swear in the initial elected members of the Board, who shall assume office upon being sworn in; and
- ii.** Convene the first meeting of the initial members of the New Union District Board, at which time the Transitional Board created in **Article 9** shall dissolve.

- iii. At the first meeting of initial members of the New Union District Board:
 - a. The members shall elect a Chair of the Board and Clerk of the Board.
 - b. The members of the former Transitional Board shall present the draft Fiscal Year 2020 budget to the New Union District Board required in **Article 9(D)(i)** together with any supporting data or other documentation.

C. Preparation and Presentation of Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Budget

Pursuant to the provisions of Title 16, V.S.A., the New Union District Board shall prepare and distribute a proposed Fiscal Year 2020 budget (academic year 2019-2020) and the voters of the New Union District shall vote, at a special meeting of the district that the Board warns for the purpose, to appropriate the sums necessary to meet the district's expenses.

Article 12 – Commencement of Operations

The New Union District, through its Board, has and shall exercise all of the authority that is necessary for it to prepare for full educational operations beginning on July 1, 2019. On or before June 30, 2019, the New Union District Board shall perform all planning, transitional, and other related duties necessary to begin operations of the New Union District on July 1, 2019, including preparing for and negotiating contractual agreements, and transacting any other lawful business that comes before the Board, provided however, that the exercise of such authority by the New Union District shall not be construed to limit or alter the authority or responsibilities of each Forming District, which shall remain responsible for providing for the education of its resident students until July 1, 2019.

Article 13 – Dissolution of Forming Districts; Supervisory Union

A. Dissolution of Forming Districts

On July 1, 2019, when the New Union District becomes fully operational and is solely responsible for providing for the education of its resident students, the Forming Districts shall cease all educational operations on July 1, 2019 and shall remain in existence after that date for no more than six months for the sole purpose of completing any audits or any other task that the New Union District is legally unable to perform. Such business shall be completed as soon as possible; provided, however, that upon completion or on December 31, 2019, whichever is earlier, the New Union District shall supplant the Forming Districts and the Forming Districts shall cease to exist.

B. Supervisory Union

The Vermont State Board of Education assigns the New Union District to the Barre Supervisory Union pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 706h as of the date of these Articles until the New Union District is fully operational on July 1, 2019.

The Vermont State Board of Education designates the New Union District a supervisory district pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 261(c) as of July 1, 2019. The Barre Supervisory Union (the “SU”) will transfer its funds, debt, and property to the New Union District in the same manner as the Forming Districts in Articles 5 and 6. The SU shall cease to exist on December 31, 2019.

Article 14 – Amendments

A. Authority to Amend Articles

- i. The substance of the following Articles cannot be amended by the electorate of the New Union District, the elected board of the New Union District, the Transitional Board, or the electorate or board of any Forming District, except as expressly authorized by the Vermont General Assembly:
 - Initial Paragraph (statement of creation)
 - Article 1, Paragraph (A) (identity of Forming Districts)
 - Article 5 (financial transfer to New Union District)
 - Article 6, Paragraph (A) (real property transfer to New Union District)
 - Article 7 (continuity of contractual obligations)
 - Article 8 (organizational meeting for the new district)
 - Article 9 (transitional board to warn special meetings and prepare first draft of FY2020 budget until first board is elected)
 - Article 11, Paragraph (B) (swearing in and assumption of duties)
 - Article 11, Paragraph (C) (preparation and presentation of FY20 budget)
 - Article 12 (initial board must prepare for full operations)
 - Article 13 (dissolution of Forming Districts; SU)
 - **This Article 14, Paragraph (A)(i)**
 - Article 14, Paragraph (B) (processes by which articles are amended)
- ii. The substance of the following Articles can be amended only by a majority of the voters of the New Union District present and voting at an annual or special meeting of the District warned to address this issue:
 - a. Article 1, Paragraph (C) (towns of residence for which New Union District is responsible); provided, however, that such amendment must proceed pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 721 (addition of new member town) or § 724 (withdrawal by member town in year two or after)
 - b. Article 3, (school restructuring and closure)
 - c. Article 4, (redistricting/choice)
 - d. Article 6, Paragraph (B) (sale of building to town for \$1 in all years in the future)
 - e. Article 6, Paragraph (C) (sale of existing union school building, if any, in all years in the future)
 - f. Article 10, (board membership)
 - g. Article 11, Paragraph (A) (staggered terms for initial board members)
 - h. **This Article 14, Paragraph (A)(ii)**
- iii. The substance of the following Articles can be amended only if approved by the voters of each town identified in Article 1(C):
 - a. Article 2 (continuity of grades operated / tuitioned in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021)
 - b. **This Article 14, Paragraph (A)(iii)**
- iv. The substance of the following Articles can be amended by the Board of the New Union District; provided, however, that the Board may present questions to the voters, either in the Board's discretion or upon petition of the voters:

a. Article 1, Paragraph (B) (name of New Union District)

.....

b. **This Article 14, Paragraph (A)(iv)**

B. Process for Amending Articles of Agreement

- i. Amendments Presented to the Electorate for a Vote **on or before February 28, 2019**: At a meeting warned by the Transitional Board pursuant to **Article 9(D)(ii)(b)**, any proposed amendments to the Articles of Agreement developed pursuant to 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 46, Sec. 10, as amended by 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 49, Sec. 8, shall be presented to the voters of the entire New Union District pursuant to the process set forth in subsection (d)(1)-(2), which states:

(1) After the State Board of Education issues the statewide plan ..., districts subject to merger shall have 90 days to form a committee with members appointed in the same manner and number as required for a study committee under 16 V.S.A. chapter 11, and which shall draft Articles of Agreement for the new district. During this period the committee shall hold at least one public hearing to consider and take comments on the draft Articles of Agreement.

(2) If the committee's articles are not approved within the 90 day period, then the provisions in the State Board's default articles of Agreement included in the statewide plan shall apply to the new district.²

- ii. Amendments Presented to the Electorate for a Vote **later than February 28, 2019**: At an annual or special meeting warned for the purpose, any proposed amendments to the Articles of Agreement shall be presented to the voters pursuant to the process set forth in 16 V.S.A. chapter 11.

² The lead-in language to subdivisions (1) and (2), which is not directly applicable to this Article 14, is as follows:

(d) The statewide plan required by subsection (b) of this section shall include default Articles of Agreement to be used by all new unified union school districts created under the plan unless and until new or amended articles are approved.