

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet  
March 27, 2025 - 6:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Michael Boutin (BC) – Chair  
Giuliano Cecchinelli II (BC) - Vice Chair  
Emily Wheeler Reynolds (BT) - Clerk  
Alice Farrell (BT)  
Catherine Whalen (BT)  
Jackie Wheeler (At-Large)  
Garrett Grant (BC)  
Ian Campbell (BT)  
Jeff Eddy (BC)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:**

JoAn Canning, Superintendent  
Jamie Evans, Facilities Director  
Denise Maurice, Principal SHS

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

David Delcore - Times Argus, Lindsey Wells, Michaela Morris, Pamela Tower, Rachel Van Vliet, Sandra Cameron - VSBA, Shane Hinkley, Sharon Jacobs, Steven Thompson

**1. Call to Order**

The Superintendent, Ms. Canning, called the Wednesday, March 27, 2025, meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Spaulding High School Library, Barre, and via video conference.

**2. Pledge and Mindfulness Moment**

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

**3. Additions and/or Deletions with Motion to Approve the Agenda**

Add 5.5 Teacher Contracts Approval  
Add 6.3 Students Homelessness Status  
Add Round Table as 7

**Mrs. Farrell made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Whalen, to approve the agenda with amendments; the motion passed unanimously.**

**4. Public Comment**

None

Mr. Boutin, on behalf of Andrea Cechak (BC Music Teacher), read a Governor's proclamation stating that March is Music in our Schools month.

**5. Consent Agenda**

- 5.1. Regular Meeting Minutes:** March 12, 2025
- 5.2. Warrant Approval:** March 13, 2025, March 20, 2025
- 5.3. New Hire FY26:** Pamela Tower (Special Educator at SHS)
- 5.4. Monthly Expenditure Reports:** February 2025
- 5.5. Teacher Contracts Approval**

**Mr. Grant made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler Reynolds, to approve the consent agenda with amendments; the motion passed unanimously.**

## **6. Current Business**

### **6.1. FY26 School Calendar**

It's being provided to the board as information; will be finalized within the next week.

### **6.2. BCEMS Stormwater Project RFP Approval**

Ms. Wheeler Reynolds made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eddy, to accept the superintendent's recommendation to use Mudson Earth Moving Corporation for the BCEMS Stormwater project and approval for \$45,877 to be paid out of the Capital Improvement Fund, which is the BUUSD's 10% share of the \$458,766 cost; the motion passed unanimously.

### **6.3. Student Homelessness Status**

This school year, we started with 60 homeless students PK-12; by the end of March, the number was up to 88. The number is better than in previous years, but the number is still significant. McKinney Vento is the federal regulation that sets out the rules for how we need to monitor, support, and provide assistance to students who are homeless. Ms. Canning will look into the possible closing of hotels so we are proactive about any of our students being affected by it.

## **7. Round Table**

- Mrs. Farrell - At Tuesday night's City Council meeting, Ayers St. resident addressed student parking on Ayers St.
- Mrs. Wheeler - Getting to the Why presentation - Great student-led presentation.
- Ms. Wheeler Reynolds - SHS Drama Club performance next week - "We Will Rock You"
- Mr. Grant - the Student Art Show is still up until Monday, April 7th, at the Aldrich Library
- Ms. Canning - Encore - Solar Project program presented SEA with a \$10,000 check, which they had promised. Invest in work-related skill development. Shout out to the Music Conductors and talented students on their Music Festival, which was very successful. Board Retreat location options: SHS Library, The Aldrich Library, or the Barre Social Club. The board chose the Barre Social Club.

Mrs. Wells - referenced summer school being removed due to the end of ESSER funds. Should the Board consider using funds to fund the summer school for kids not eligible for extended-year summer services?

## **8. Executive Session**

### **8.1. Personnel 1 VSA 313 (a)(1)**

### **8.2. Contracts 1 VSA 313 (a)(1)**

### **8.3. Superintendent Evaluation 1 VSA 313 (a)(3)**

### **8.4. Superintendent Search 1 VSA 313 (a)(1)**

**Mr. Cecchinelli made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Farrell, to find that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the BUUSD public body or person involved at a substantial disadvantage; the motion passed unanimously.**

Rest of the information provided by the Board Clerk

**Mr. Grant made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Farrell, to enter into an executive session, inviting in Sandra Cameron (8.3) and JoAn Canning (8.1 & 8.3); the motion passed unanimously.**

**Mrs. Farrell made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wheeler, to exit the executive session at 9:03 p.m.; the motion passed unanimously.**

## **9. Adjournment**

**On a motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Grant, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn.**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Tina Gilbert*