



BARKER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 8, 2023 - Board Room

Present R. Atwater, D. Carnes, C. Gancasz, J. Harris, E. Gow, J. Sweeney, V. Voss

Excused None

Also Present J. Reimer, M. Carter, C. Cornwell, M. Eadie, C. Heiligenthaler, S. Kordish
Public: 3

Call to Order President Atwater welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approve

Agenda The agenda was reviewed. Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Gow, to approve the agenda as presented.
Yes: 6, No: 0
Motion carried.

Mrs. Voss joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Accept

Minutes The Board reviewed the minutes. Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz, to accept the minutes as presented from the Regular Board Meetings dated of April 17 and April 25, 2023.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Public Forum None.

Presentations Science Presentation - Mr. Strong highlighted the Science Department's teachers' professional experience, reviewed the course offerings and electives available to the students. He discussed the New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards (NYSP12SLS) which were developed in 2010 and adopted 2016.

The New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards (Standards) are a series of performance expectations that define what students should understand and be able



to do as a result of their study of science. The Standards are based on the Framework for K–12 Science Education developed by the National Research Council and the Next Generation Science Standards². The framework outlines three dimensions that are needed to provide students a high-quality science education:

1. Science & Engineering Practices
2. Disciplinary Core Ideas
3. Crosscutting Concepts

He noted that much of what the Science Department does already addresses these concepts but the implementation of these standards will make it become more formalized. The biggest change he felt was incorporating practices and crosscutting concepts. He reviewed the timeline for development, adoption, and implementation of these standards. He noted that work was done over the summer with the Grade 5 and 6 teachers' curriculum to prepare the students to move forward and take the Grade 5 and Grade 8 Science Exams. He also discussed the work on the science curriculum in the various grades, the STEM room creation, as well as club activities available to the students and information available through the Barker website.

Director of Instructional Services' Update – S. Kordish

Ms. Kordish discussed a Harris Beach Law conference she is participating in May 9, 2023 regarding recent legal topics and developments in special education, including: specialized reading instruction for students with disabilities; providing special education services to students over the age of 21 and related the latest legal developments; dual child-find obligations; pattern and manifestation determinations; and the new U.S. Supreme Court decision on a parent's obligation to exhaust administrative remedies before initiating court proceedings. She also discussed reports she was working on, noting the ESSA was finished, and the Annual Medicaid Training will be completed by May 31st. She highlighted work with Ms. Tasker with regard to New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT).

Coordinator of Curriculum & Prof. Learning/AP's Update - C. Cornwell

Mr. Cornwell thanked Mr. Strong for his presentation and commented that it is good to see the students doing investigative learning techniques. He discussed the NYS grades 3-8 testing as those students have taken the NYS ELA and Math Assessments which are connected to the new Next Generation Standards. Overall, testing went well. He commented that it will be interesting to see how our students did on these assessments tied to these new standards. Once scored, data will be shared with the teachers to see how it might impact the District's instruction moving forward. He noted the 8th grade science testing and Regents exams for HS students are still to be done. On May 4th, Mr. Cornwell and Mrs. Luthart, along with other component districts, participated in a curriculum program review at Orleans Niagara BOCES. Every



program that BOCES offers needs to be reapproved on a five-year cycle by New York State. This year, there were 3 programs up for renewal. As part of this process, the participants examined written curriculum, resources, and materials, along with visiting classrooms and labs to see the curriculum being implemented with students.

Mr. Cornwell then discussed that the related areas of computer science and digital fluency (CSDF) have been combined under one umbrella to create a comprehensive, cohesive set of learning standards that represents the essential knowledge and skills that students should possess upon graduation in order to be successful in college, careers, and citizenship in the 21st century. The CSDF Standards' vision is for every student to live safely and productively in a digitally demanding world. This includes understanding the essential features of digital technologies, their inner workings, and how to communicate and create using those technologies. There are five areas of focus within these standards and they are designed to be implemented in grade level bands throughout the K-12 spectrum. Credit bearing computer science courses must be aligned with these standards by the Fall of 2024. As such, he noted he will be reviewing what the District is currently doing, and what needs to be done to build up to accomplish this by the Fall of 2024.

Principal's Update - M. Carter

Mr. Carter thanked Ms. Heilenthaler for her Budget Hearing presentation. He reviewed the recent math testing, noting that 294 students participated in Grades 3-8 and 41 students opted out of the testing, of which, most were upper level students with 13-14% not participating. Mr. Carter noted that as Mr. Luckman is retiring December 2023, a Business Teacher position was posted, but there was a lack of qualified candidates. As a result, the District is looking at what options are available, which could include having some of the business courses taught by the Math Department such as the accounting curriculum. If this option is possible, it would result in not hiring a teacher and less expense for the District. Additional review of options continue.

Mr. Carter noted that the District has received really good numbers for the registration of PreK next year which should result in two full-time PreK classes. He noted that if this takes place, parents who only wanted a half-day would have the option to pick their child up mid-day as the District would not provide a bus run for the students.

He noted that the District will need to backfill some of its AIS services in Elementary but not before the end of the year.

Mr. Carter reviewed upcoming calendar events including the morning half day for elementary on June 20th, along with other events such as Moving Up Day, and Field Days.



Mr. Carter responded to Mr. Atwater regarding the Business Teacher posting and course work of that teacher; and a question from Mrs. Voss regarding opt-outs.

Financial Update - C. Heiligenthaler

Ms. Heiligenthaler discussed the Administrative Review of the cafeteria that will commence May 25, 2023, and is performed every three years by the SED. There was a lot of detailed documentation that was required which Mrs. Fuerch did an amazing and very thorough job coordinating. She commented that SED was very impressed with the breakfast program and program itself overall.

Ms. Heiligenthaler is working with the SED to provide documentation on the use of the federal monies received. She commented that this is not an audit but rather a monitoring process. A lot of documentation is required for this and completion of the upload to the portal is due by June 2, 2023.

The Brockport Migrant Program will again be utilizing the facilities during the summer.

She noted that the Medicaid Ruffell Reimbursements is being worked on and with approximately 3,600 transactions per year, it requires a lot of coordination.

Superintendent's

Information Mr. Reimer reported that the solar array is being connected today and should be fully energized at the end of the week. To date, there is no guidance on the energy program which could result to additional funds being received by the school.

He commented that the Sheriff's tower was put up in two days, and now the work for the antenna will be completed.

Thomas Tedesco, from the Lockport Union Sun & Journal, met with Mr. Reimer to learn about the tower, solar, Yorker House, and activities happening within the District and the community should see an article in the near future.

Mr. Reimer stated that The Banner will be delivered tomorrow now that the Budget Public Hearing took place this evening. It will include the budget notice, the propositions, and details about the budget.

With regard to the budget, Mr. Reimer noted that the projected foundation aid decreased approximately \$400,000 and results in a decrease over the next six years of a couple million dollars, and as a result, will change the District's projected fund balance differently sooner than anticipated. He noted that the District must now wait and see what the final figure will be. Based on a question from Mr. Atwater regarding why the projected dollars decreases, Mr. Reimer noted that the District will not know the actual impact until it is able to see the budget runs in a few months.



Mr. Reimer noted he had a very good meeting with the Lion's Club last week and he felt there was a lot of positivity around the various projects. He discussed the propositions and noted that community members appreciated having a say on the Yorker House and various items.

The UPK onsite review will take place the week of May 16th. Mr. Reimer anticipates a pretty favorable report. He noted that a lot of information was provided as part of this review.

Mr. Reimer then discussed the District's Raider name as the New York State Education Department has asked schools to drop any Native American logos, mascots or nicknames by the end of the year. He noted that he reached out in October/November to state representatives if this would impact the District given the Native American image as part of the school's logo has not been used for years. However, due to recent updates, he noted that there is now a 75% chance it will need to change. As such, he asked the Board for their views on the direction the school needs to go and address when the final guidance is received regarding the mascot, how you define Raider, and asked for feedback. Mrs. Gow noted that she was not a fan of the Raider name, noting that it was a cultural appropriation issue, and felt the logo does not go away even if not being used for years. Mrs. Gancasz agreed and also commented that she was not in favor of the Barker "B" to represent the District. Mr. Sweeney agreed with Mrs. Gancasz. Mr. Atwater noted he would foresee a wholesale change. Mrs. Carnes felt the time to make a change is now. Mrs. Voss noted she would go with the majority but preferred to wait. The other Board members spoke and the consensus at the end of the discussion was that the mascot, even through time, will continue to exist, and agreed it should be addressed regardless. They agreed that if a change is required to rebrand and have ready for the start of the year, especially with the impact to the capital improvement project. They further agreed that input from the students is necessary as it is their school. Mr. Reimer commented that based on the conversation, a discussion would take place next month which would give Administration time to pull information together and wait for further direction from the state.

Regarding the Capital Improvement Project, proposed images of portions of the project have been put on the website and descriptive information about each. As more information is made available, the website will be updated. Links were put into The Banner regarding project updates and also to request for the community to provide feedback if they so choose. Phase I is expected to be sent to the SED at the end of June. Mr. Reimer noted that the work with regard to traffic and parking lots continues, commenting the District Office parking lot does not exactly separate how originally planned. Mr. Reimer will follow-up with the Facilities Committee for feedback with regard to the proposed designs. Mr. Atwater was informed, based on his question, that new District signage would not be part of Phase I.



Mrs. Gow also asked if the Board could be sent the two essays by students that result in a donation from Tops to their classrooms. Mr. Carter will follow-up.

Policies/Plans The second reading of the policies listed below was performed: 7110, 7111, 7120, 7121, 7122, 7130, 7131, 7132, 7133, 7140.

7110	Comprehensive Student Attendance Policy
7111	Release of Students to Custodial/Noncustodial Parents
7120	Age of Entrance
7121	Diagnostic Screening of Students
7122	Transfer Students/Credit
7130	Entitlement to Attend -- Age and Residency
7131	Education of Homeless Children and Youth
7132	Non-Resident Students
7133	Education of Students in Foster Care
7140	School Census

There were no changes to the policies as presented. Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded Mrs. Harris to approve the above referenced policies as presented.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion Carried.

The Board reviewed the first reading of policies: 7210, 7211, 7220, 7222, 7230, 7240, 7241.

7210	Student Evaluation
7211	Provision of Interpreter Services to Parents Who Are Hearing Impaired
7220	Graduation Requirements/Early Graduation/Accelerated Programs
7222	Diploma and/or Credential Options for Students with Disabilities
7230	Dual Credit for College Courses
7240	Student Records: Access and Challenge
7241	Student Directory Information

Based on a question from Mrs. Harris regarding Policy 7241, Mr. Reimer noted that student directory information with regard to rosters, online information provides information that is acceptable to have public. Personally identifiable information is not disclosed and FERPA is followed. If a parent/guardian or student does not want information disclosed, it will be pulled if the District is notified. After conclusion of the discussion, it was agreed that no changes were needed to that policy or the others presented.

Education Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve the resolution to amend the 2022-2023 school calendar to: (a.) close all District offices for staff and students on Friday, May 26, 2023, if no additional emergency school closings are used between today's date May 25, 2023; (b.) adjust the last day for



Elementary students to June 20, 2023 which will be a half-day in the morning for students, full-day for teachers and staff.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve to amend the 2022-2023 school calendar to: (a.) close all District offices for staff and students on Friday, May 26, 2023, if no additional emergency school closings are used between today's date May 25, 2023; (b.) adjust the last day for Elementary students to June 20, 2023, which will be a half-day in the morning, full-day for the teachers and staff.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve the 2023 Senior Class Trip to Toronto, Canada from June 7, 2023 - June 10, 2023 as presented.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Personnel Items

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Harris approve the appointment of Brooke Pattison as a full-time Central Office Clerical effective July 1, 2023, and the contract between Barker Central School District and the Central Office Clerical dated July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2025.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Harris approve the resignation of Brooke Pattison as a full-time Clerical effective July 1, 2023.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Harris approve the revised appointment for Timothy Leising with an effective hire of April 27, 2023 as a full-time Groundskeeper/Repairperson at a rate of \$22.50 per hour with a probationary period from April 27, 2023 through April 26, 2024.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Harris accept the resignation of William Callahan, Cleaner, with commendation and regret for the purpose of retirement effective July 31, 2023.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Harris approve the appointment of William Callahan as a Part-time Cleaner at the rate of \$14.20 effective July 31, 2023 commencing work September 1, 2023.



Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Harris accept the resignation of Sheri L. Rounds, Cleaner, for the purpose of retirement effective June 30, 2023.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Harris approve the appointment of Max Cool to be appointed as a probationary English 7-12 Teacher effective September 1, 2023, as per the Agreement between the Barker Central School District and Barker Teachers Union. His probationary period is effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027, with a tenure area of English 7-12. The expiration date is tentative and conditional only. In order to be eligible for and considered for tenure, the Mr. Cool must meet all requirements of the Educational Law and corresponding regulations. His annual salary rate at BA45, Step 2, \$48,029.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Harris approve the appointment of Jessica Bush to be appointed as a probationary Library Media Specialist Teacher effective September 1, 2023, as per the Agreement between the Barker Central School District and Barker Teachers Union. Her probationary period is effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027, with a tenure area of Library Media Specialist. The expiration date is tentative and conditional only. In order to be eligible for and considered for tenure, she must meet all requirements of the Educational Law and corresponding regulations. Her annual salary rate is \$54,321.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Harris approve the appointment of the following individuals as Summer School Teachers and Substitute Teachers for the program running through Wednesday, July 5, 2023 to Thursday, August 3, 2023. The teachers' salary will be the higher of \$32.00 per hour or their hourly rate based off their 2023-2024 contractual agreement, and Teacher Aides' will be paid based off their 2023-2024 hourly rate.

Teachers

Megan Black
Paul Dersarkissian
Leslie MocarSKI
Emily Smith
Virginia Hambruch
Karen Schian
Krista Beth Feltz



Adrienne Laufer
Jacquelyn Moffitt
Mary Dudek
Kyle Sosnowski
Mark Scofill
Vincent Strollo
Aileen Gilbert

Substitute Teachers

Jeffrey Pyskaty
Sara Thibault
Lori Costello

Teacher Aides

Amanda Lamb
Michelle Pask
Jamie Schwab

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Harris approve the appointment of the following individuals as Summer Music Teachers for the 2023-2024 school year at a rate of \$35.00 per hour with a total budget cap of \$10,000 for the program running from July 5, 2023 through August 4, 2023, with makeup lessons the week of August 4, 2023 if needed.

Cheryl Johnson
Jeffrey Rappold
Amanda Burdick
Judy Peterson

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Harris approve Vincent Strollo as a Substitute Teacher at the per diem rate and as a Substitute Teaching Assistant at the rate of \$14.20/hour for grades PreK-12 effective May 9, 2023.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Harris approve the following Parent/Community Volunteers: Beatriz Cruz, Jessica Flint, Kyle Flint, Garret Fuerch, and Kristin Sullivan with effective dates subject to receipt of reference and background clearance checks.

Yes: 6, No: 0, Mrs. Gancasz abstained.
Motion carried.



Mr. Reimer introduced Mrs. Bush and Mr. Cool and commented that they both went through a very rigorous interview process which was done in four stages and he was excited to have them join the District. Mrs. Bush and Mr. Cool then introduced themselves and provided information about themselves and their background and interest in Barker.

Business & Financial

Items

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Carnes to accept the Warrant Report dated May 8, 2023.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Carnes to accept the Treasurer's Report for April 2023.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Carnes to accept the Extraclassroom Report dated April 2023.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Carnes to approve the acceptance of a donation from Tops Markets, LLC in the amount of \$200 for Aiden Moen and Jimmy Cantella's participation and winning essays for Tops Black History Month Essay Writing Contest.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Carnes to approve the Municipal Cooperation Agreement to Provide Workers' Compensation Benefits for July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2028.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

End of Public

Session

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Gow, to adjourn public session at 8:27 p.m., and move into Executive Session for the purpose of collective negotiations pursuant to Article fourteen of the Civil Service Law with the Barker Teachers' Union.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Executive

Session

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Harris, to approve the adjournment of the Executive Session at 9:15 p.m., and return to Public Session.



Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Public Session/

Adjournment Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Harris, to approve the end of the Public Session and adjournment of the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Prepared by,

Mary H. Eadie
District Clerk