



BARKER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Board Room
Monday, June 14, 2021

PRESENT R. Atwater, M. Clemens-Harris, H. Ecker, C. Gancasz, E. Gow, J. Sweeney, V. Voss

EXCUSED None

ALSO

PRESENT J. Reimer, M. Carter, M. Eadie, C. Heiligenthaler, M. Kramer
Public: 7

CALL TO ORDER

President Atwater welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge to the Flag was given.

APPROVE AGENDA

The agenda was reviewed. Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, to approve the agenda as presented.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

ACCEPT MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes. A motion by Mrs. Ecker, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz, to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meetings dated of May 10, 2021 as presented.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. Kathryn Prynne stated her views on communication to the learning community, the needs of the students, and the usage of the federal stimulus funds.

PRESENTATIONS

Principal's Update – M. Carter

Mr. Carter provided an update on a number of events pertaining to year-end. Prom was held Friday, June 11th at Spring Lake winery and went very well. He thanked Ms. Moffitt and Mrs. Ober for coordinating the event given the ever-changing guidance. High School Honors and Awards will be held this week on Tuesday and Friday. He thanked Messrs. Gendruue and Cantella, Mss. Lakeman and Wing, and



the community for putting together the program and the support of it. National Honor Society inducted twenty-five members and the eligibility was extended through 10th grade. He also noted Mr. O'Sullivan did a nice job taking over that program when Mrs. Bundrock left the District. The Senior dinner will be held tomorrow at Bond Lake and he thanked Miss McIntyre. The Senior breakfast is being coordinated by the parents and he thanked them and Mmes. Ecker and Voss for coordinating this even on June 25th. The Senior Parade through Pratt Elementary, which did not occur last year as a result of the pandemic, took place today with most Seniors participating and wearing their caps and gowns. It is a very special tradition that continued once again with the help of Miss McIntyre. As the traditional Moving Up Day did not occur last year, the staff put together a Past, Present and Future Day for all the students with special activities coordinated by Mrs. Thibault. The 6th grade will also have an orientation time that day in addition to a more robust orientation at a later date. Regents and exams have started this week.

With regard to graduation, given the most recent guidance, attendance has been expanded and Mr. Carter invited the Board of Education to attend if they desired. Currently, it will be at the stadium with Seniors in the bleachers and guests in the field. He explained seating and the priority being that guests be able to sit in the best part of the field to see their children, while staff and the Board, he requested, be on the sides. He also covered the current social distancing and mask guidance. The event will not be livestreamed like last year but rather recorded so individuals may view at a later date. Mr. Carter discussed the guests bringing their own seating and the reason behind not providing chairs. He noted that special accommodations will be made for elderly or handicapped individuals. He then inquired with the Board on their views pertaining to a few requests from Seniors. One was to decorate their caps. After discussion, the Board concurred that as long as it is done within the guidelines of the Code of Conduct and dress code, they were fine with the Seniors decorating their caps. The second request came from Seniors in the BOCES programs to wear their tassels and sash if they had ordered one. The Board also concurred that the Seniors would have the ability to wear their BOCES graduation items. The processional and recessional practice run for the graduation will take place on Friday after the Senior Breakfast. He noted there will be no teachers this year in the processional. Mr. Carter then discussed the distribution of diplomas noting that historically staff with a relative or child graduating handed them the diploma if they chose to. Mr. Carter asked the Board their view on this this year given logistically to have them participate would take more time given it is in the field this year vs. auditorium. He noted that he was open to both having them participate or not. After discussion, the Board concurred not to have staff participate this year. Mrs. Voss thanked the Administration and staff for all the work they have done under crazy circumstances this year and that it is appreciated.

Curriculum Update - M. Kramer

Dr. Kramer stated that the District received the \$10,000 Kindergarten transition grant and information will be sent home to the elementary students about an information night to be held on July 26, 2021 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. RSVP will be required. This grant will help students transition through the summer, as well as educate parents/guardians so they understand the expectations for their children.



Data has shown that this type of program will lead to higher graduation percentages, higher number of proficient readers by the time students reach third grade, as well as less discipline issues.

The District was also awarded the National Lunch Award which will result in the replacement of one combi oven which costs over \$14,000, that will greatly assist and increase efficiency for the cafeteria as the current oven is over 20 years old and does not work. The convection ovens also need to be replaced (3/5 don't work all the time). The combi will help alleviate some of the cooking concerns until the District can replace the convection ovens.

Financial Update - C. Heiligenthaler

Ms. Heiligenthaler noted that expenditures are estimated to total approximately \$16.5 million at year-end as more invoices have been received, and numbers relating to transportation expenses, sick time and vacation payouts have been calculated.

The Audit Committee will meet on July 6, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. and John Schiavone of Lumsden & McCormick, LLP will present the 2021 Preliminary external auditor overview for the District.

She also noted that the cafeteria ended in the black this year.

POLICIES/ PLANS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S

INFORMATION Mr. Reimer noted that sports are closing up for the year and he was very glad to get in the various sports the District was able to as allowed based on federal, state and local guidance. He noted the sports and the accomplishments of the teams, as well as individuals receiving honors. In addition, he commented that June is one of the busiest months with wrapping up year-end and preparing for the start of the new school year.

Mr. Reimer discussed year-end activities, commenting that the Parade of Seniors was one of his favorite events, and how it was wonderful for the participates and to watch. Recent and upcoming events highlighted included the Prom, Senior Dinner, concerts. He noted that the concerts, some of which were outside, sounded terrific, the participants and spectators enjoyed them, and it was good to hear music as a group together again.

With regard to COVID 19, numbers for the area continue to decrease and the state is now close to the 70% vaccinated level. With the continued progress being made, barring no significant negative changes, Mr. Reimer was of the opinion that the District could possibly anticipate a pretty normal beginning of the school year and for extracurricular activities such as homecoming and more.

Mr. Reimer discussed a repair to a water main line which has been completed. Although not sure, he commented that it could have been caused by water pressure



change in the lines due to the recent fire. The repair will be partially covered by insurance.

Mr. Reimer updated the Board on the status of the Sheriff's tower. The project is close to being bid out. This process is controlled by the Sheriff's Department. A few companies have been out to the site to look at things as part of preparing bids.

The two EPCs continue to progress. It is anticipated they will commence during the summer and be completed by fall.

FEDERAL STIMULUS

PLAN

Mr. Reimer discussed the Federal Stimulus Plan being presented for review and approval by the Board. The District will receive a little less than \$3.1 million of federal funds through the American Rescue Plan and CRRSA. The plan, using the ARP funds, will consist of approximately \$2.4 million, and was developed based on input from the Administration, the union groups, as well as the community through two public forums held on May 27th and June 2nd. Mr. Reimer reviewed a spreadsheet developed as a result of the input, which provided options for the Board to consider based on the information received in order for them to determine the usage of funds for the plan. The categories suggestions were placed and allocated based upon some very specific guidelines. Mr. Reimer noted that these allocations are best-guesses as to where the suggestions were placed as guidance has yet to be finalized with the categories of spending being focused on learning loss, summer programming, and after school programs. Of the allocated funds, 12.5% must be spent per year (as done within the spreadsheet,) with a maximum of 62.5% in any given year. The Board needs to consider and decide how best to invest the funds for the long-term benefit of the District and in relation to being able to receive additional aid. The suggestions provided to Mr. Reimer and Administration totaled over \$4,044,136 vs. the proposed \$2,428,509 resulting in an overage of \$1,615,627. Mr. Reimer noted that the Board must determine the usage of the funds in the best interest of the students. He went through the spreadsheet noting the breakout of categories, estimated costs, etc. The spreadsheet had certain items bolded within the various categories each year as options on how to utilize the funds which Mr. Reimer reviewed. He then discussed the impact of retirements which were left vacant, not abolished, and not in the adopted budget but could be filled if the Board opted to do so with the expense being pulled from funds from the plan for math and reading. It was also suggested that an AIS position be created, which he noted could be used for math or another area. Mr. Atwater inquired that if funds were used for hiring to fill these three positions if the District would review if they were needed from year to year as students catch up from the impact of the pandemic. He was informed that they could be reviewed on an annual basis and a position cut if he Board opted to do so at a later date.

Ms. Clemens-Harris inquired about additional mental health services. Mr. Reimer noted that it is not in the plan as it was already budgeted for in the general fund budget and the District was looking at adding services provided through BOCES for counselling and support to the students and families, and this would result in aid being received back. He noted that the District hired a 0.6 FTE mental health



counselor through BOCES this year and this person became part of the fabric of what the District did each day to support the students.

Mrs. Voss inquired about how many Chromebooks the District has and the refresh for the students. Mr. Reimer noted that each student is currently allocated a device, and the refresh for the students would be as needed but the devices usually last four – five years. The technology allocation in the plan also includes the replacement of classroom clear touch panels that are older.

Mrs. Voss also inquired about the after school salary and if it is for tenth period or after. Mr. Reimer noted that a teacher's day ends at 2:30 p.m. for assigned time and 2:30 – 3:15 p.m. is unassigned for which teachers could utilize it for AIS, after school help, catchup. Currently the after school salary is thought to be for AIS after 3:15 p.m. and extracurricular activities but there is not clarity on that to date.

Mrs. Ecker asked if the Board decides to add the three positions, would it be posted immediately and was informed it would be.

In response to Mrs. Voss' questions on transportation, it was noted that this was for summer transportation costs to pickup students which does not occur currently. With regard to summer school, if necessary the District could hire more people to support the students. Internally there were not enough people to cover summer school so it was posted externally. With regard to that, Mrs. Ecker noted that she heard teachers did not post for the positions as they were required to be interviewed and felt that if they were qualified to teach that that was not necessary. Mr. Sweeney had heard the same. Mr. Reimer noted that interviews of staff were not necessary and he would look into this.

The Board discussed the plan and had questions responded to. Mrs. Gancasz noted that a lot of work had gone into it and there was a good balance as learning loss which is so big and important. Mrs. Gow noted there are good questions being raised and it made sense. Mr. Sweeney stated he is confident with the staff and students, and the plan will help with learning loss and he liked that the staff can be reevaluated with only the decision to add be for the 2021-2022 school year. Mr. Reimer noted that the plan is designed to be fluid for spending within the categories as the suggested items are best guess costs based on looking at current costs, calling companies for quotes, etc. vs. very specific thing in order to monitor and adjust as needed over the next few years.

Mrs. Voss asked if the positions discussed would be noted as grant funded. The three positions would be probationary positions which the Board could abolish if they decide based on an annual review to determine where the students are on the basis of catching up due to the impact of the pandemic.

After discussion, a motion was made to approve the creation for the usage of the Federal Stimulus Plan funds by Barker Central School District by Mrs. Ecker, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.



EDUCATION A motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris to approve the following items be declared excess property and that the Superintendent, or his designee, be authorized to dispose of said items: (1.) a Sensit 11 Glass Front automated merchandising systems machine, AMS Model 39 VCF, Serial #081-1389C7 purchased in 2007; and (2.) a 2004 beverage vending machine, Dixie-Narco, Inc., Model 55XX, Serial #03XB50879 purchased in 2004.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Royalton-Hartland Central School District and Barker Central School District for the sharing of opportunities and resources of Interscholastic Wrestling at the Varsity and Modified levels for the 2021 - 2022 school year.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris to approve the AHERA six-month periodic Surveillance and Inspection Report as of June 14, 2021.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris to approve the Class of 2026 8th Grade Trip to Washington, D.C. on Monday May 23 - Thursday, May 26, 2022.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

PERSONNEL

ITEMS

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Voss to accept the resignation of Jane Hill, Food Service Helper, for the purpose of retirement effective May 31, 2021.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Voss to approve the appointment of Emily Bisland as a full-time probationary Special Education Teacher effective July 1, 2021, as per the agreement between the Barker Central School District and Barker Teachers Union. Initial Certificates in Students with Disabilities (Grades 1 – 6) and Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) Tenure area of Special Education, four-year probationary period effective September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2025. The expiration date is tentative and conditional only. In order to be eligible for and considered for tenure, Emily Bisland must meet all requirements of the Educational Law and corresponding regulations. Annual salary and step continuing per the BTU contract.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Voss to accept the resignation of Emily Bisland, Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2021.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.



A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Voss to approve the appointments of the following individuals noted within as Summer School Teachers for the 2021 Summer School Program running from Wednesday, July 7, 2021 - Thursday, August 5, 2021 at a rates noted.

| Area | Name | | Rate/Hour |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|
| Jr.-Sr. High School | Mary | Dudek | \$30.00 |
| Jr.-Sr. High School | Adrienne | Laufer | \$30.00 |
| Jr.-Sr. High School | Paul | DerSarkissian | \$30.00 |
| Jr.-Sr. High School | Cheryl | Tasker | \$30.00 |
| Jr.-Sr. High School | Karen | Schian | \$30.00 |
| Elementary | Amy | Podgers | \$35.00 |
| Elementary | Jessica | Annable | \$35.00 |
| Elementary | Krista Beth | Feltz | \$35.00 |
| Elementary | Carolyn | Waters | \$35.00 |
| Elementary | Kristen | Guarino | \$35.00 |

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Voss to approve the following individuals as 2021 Summer Instrumental Music Program Teachers at a rate of \$35.00/hour from Monday, July 5, 2021 - Thursday, August 5, 2021 not to exceed the caps as outlined below.

| Teacher | Cap Hours | Cap |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Cheryl Johnson | 40 | \$1,400.00 |
| Jeff Rappold | 70 | \$2,450.00 |
| Elaine Rappold | 25 | \$875.00 |
| Amanda Burdick | 45 | \$1,575.00 |
| | Total | \$6,300.00 |

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Voss to approve the resolution pertaining to the abolishment of positions as noted below:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Barker Central School District, has determined for reasons of economy and efficiency that it is necessary to abolish certain positions within the District.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following positions are abolished effective at the close of business on June 30, 2021:

- Title Tenure Area FTE(s)**
- Teacher science 1.0
- Teacher music .5

The Superintendent of Schools is directed to implement this reduction in force in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.



A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Voss to approve the appointment of James Cantella as Director of Community Education for the 2021 - 2022 school year with a stipend of \$6,400.00

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion was then made to create a full-time reading teaching position by Mrs. Ecker, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL

ITEMS

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to accept the Warrant Report dated June 8, 2021.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to accept the Treasurer's Report dated May 31, 2021.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to accept the Extraclassroom Report dated May 31, 2021.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to approve the close out and transfer of extraclassroom activities accounts.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to approve the budget transfers for the 2020 - 2021 school year for as outline below for Central Business Office Erie 2; Legal; Field Work; BOCES; Salary Reclassification; Retirement Incentives and Sick Time Payout; Special Education; and Workers' Compensation.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to approve the contract between the Barker Central School District and the Barker Central School School Lunch Manager dated July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2023.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to approve the Shared Employee Contract between the Barker Central School District and the Royalton-Hartland Central School District for Julie Fuerch as the School Lunch Manager effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to approve the contract between Barker Central School District and the Secretary to the Superintendent dated July 1, 2021 - June 20, 2023.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.



A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to approve the contract between the Barker Central School District and the Barker Central Cafeteria Staff Association dated July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2023.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to approve the contract between the Banker Central School District and the Barker Central School Central Services Association dated July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to approve the awarding of the Hay Cutting Contract with Duane J. Roberts beginning June 15, 2021, for a 3-year period, at an annual payment to the Barker Central School District in the amount of \$3,000 per year.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to approve the results from the 2021 - 2022 School Budget & Election Vote.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to accept the Donation from the Estate of Clayton R. Albright in the amount of \$44,386.43. Mr. Atwater asked about the usage of the funds and was informed it would be applied to the general fund with the District to determine how best to spend. Mrs. Ecker noted that there needs to be something to commemorate the sizable donation.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Atwater brought up an inquiry from another district related to the merging of sports programs. Mrs. Ecker noted she would want to hear from coaches on their views of other sports sharing opportunities. Mr. Sweeney noted that the District is already combining with Royalton-Hartland Central School District and although he liked the idea, the District would need to be careful. Mr. Atwater asked Mr. Reimer to continue to discuss and provide information back to the Board.

END OF PUBLIC

SESSION Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, to end the Public Session and enter into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of negotiations, discussing the Superintendent's evaluation and to discuss potential litigation.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE

SESSION Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz, 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 Mrs. Ecker, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz, that the Board 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