



**Barker Central School District
Board of Education Meeting
Auditorium
Monday, September 21, 2020 - 7:00 PM**

PRESENT R. Atwater, H. Ecker, C. Gancasz, E. Gow, J. Sweeney, V. Voss

EXCUSED M. Clemens-Harris

ALSO

PRESENT J. Reimer, M. Carter, M. Eadie, C. Heiligenthaler, M. Kramer
Public: 27

**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 and under the Business & Financial the Extraclassroom Report (Item 10.B) was deleted until the next meeting, and the approval of the 2020 Year-end Audit was added. With no further additions or changes, a motion was made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Ecker to approve the agenda as amended.
Yes: 6, No: 0
Motion carried.

**ACCEPT
MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the minutes. Mr. Atwater asked that two items be changed as follows: (1.) to remove "complete" from the sentence regarding the 20% potential loss of aid on page 5; and (2.) under the Policies section, the approval should state the Board approved the following "policies" vs. plans as noted in the draft. A motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Ecker, to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting dated of August 31, 2020 as amended.
Yes: 6, No: 0
Motion carried.

**PUBLIC
FORUM**

None.

**PRESENTATIONS**Principal's Update – Mr. Carter

Mr. Carter discussed an update he will be providing to the families with students in grades 7 – 12. Beginning the week of October 5, instruction in academic classes will be transitioning to a four-day per week synchronous model. This is already occurring in some courses. Cohort 3 (fully remote) will also need to synch in four days per week. He stated that this will provide students with the most teacher to student facetime and instruction. It will also create a more consistent framework for the students and teachers and allow them to begin moving through instruction at a better pace. This change does not include specials such as physical education or technology and art at this point. In addition, Wednesday office hours will remain in effect. If a student is absent from synching in to a remote class, then an independent assignment will be posted to the Google classroom. This could be a video recording of the class, an independent reading assignment, or something else. However, the expectation is that students remotely attend all of their academic courses.

Mr. Carter noted that the week of October 5 will also be the start of 10th period which will enable students who need help to be able to stay later with a teacher. Transportation home will be provided. Mr. Carter also noted that the morning buses may now be arriving at homes a few minutes later as the District adjust back the staff reporting times given the process for students entering the building has become quicker and more efficient.

Regarding other items, Mr. Carter state that athletics have begun today and is following the current guidance; Austin Devin, who is in attendance this evening, is on the agenda for approval as the new Science Teacher; and the immunization deadline is today. Mr. Carter noted that three letters were sent to family during the summer and one today regarding the requirements for the students in regard to immunization and if not met, the students will be unable to attend in person until their immunization meets the requirements. He also noted that Spirit Week is being held this week with themes for each day. Overall, since opening, the school day continues to become more efficient each day as the staff and students begin to get into the rhythm of being back.

Curriculum Update - M. Kramer

Dr. Kramer noted that the past two weeks have been focused on dealing with device distribution to students and technology support for students and families. She provided the Board with the breakout of the distribution of devices and those remaining. Two devices have been replaced and repaired to date but there was insurance on them.

Dr. Kramer noted that ELA and Math screening started this week and the District will be reviewing the results and impact of being remote may have had. The Social/Emotion components commence in October and Mrs. Ecker is on that Committee. She also commented that work is beginning to review what the District will use as a screener and be used to determine additional professional development opportunities for the staff.

Financial Update - C. Heiligenthaler

Ms. Heiligenthaler noted that tax bills went out three weeks ago and 24% have been collected as of today. There has been good usage of the lockbox to date by the community which is checked and emptied at different times throughout of the day.

She noted that due to the transition of reporting to BOCES, and with one BOCES employee out, the Extraclassroom reports and other reports were delayed but will be caught up for October.

Ms. Heiligenthaler then reported that the District, in conjunction with Rite Aid, will be providing flu shots on Wednesday, September 30, from 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Due to Covid and building restrictions on visitors, the District is only able to accommodate staff this year.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Mr. Reimer noted that the District continues to move forward with the Solar EPC. All the necessary components will be together to provide to the State in about 6-8 weeks. The process was slowed as a result of changes on size limitations imposed after the proposal was finalized. Mr. Reimer commented that the District wanted to ensure it would be able to fit as much on the lines as possible. At this time, it is anticipated the project will start in the Spring unless something unforeseen occurs. He noted that the equipment will be installed on the site using pilings vs. concrete which would allow for easier removal in the future if need be. The HVAC and lighting EPC with Day Automation is on the agenda for approval. This proposal was the one of the three that will have the greatest potential for the highest return for the District as discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Reimer provided an update on the Sheriff's proposal for the tower on the campus. He noted that as a result of Covid and staffing issues at SED, the classification process of the project was delayed until there was someone who knew how to do that process. The Sheriff's Department will be handling the SEQR process and the school will be listed as an interested party. Once they receive confirmation and there are no issues with the site chosen, an inter-municipal agreement or other form of agreement will be executed for the sharing of the space. It is anticipated that the State review will take 4-6 weeks vs. a capital project review which usually takes 4-6 months to complete.

Mr. Reimer noted that the District is now in its third week of classes and it has been fantastic to get into the classrooms and see how all the work put into the Reopening Plan by the District was put into place, and how it is working. The District is also starting to adjust schedules as noted by Mr. Carter as well as other adjustments in processes to make things as efficient as possible. He noted that some individuals have been sent home due to symptoms they were exhibiting but there were no positive Covid tests, so no need to go backwards. As such, the District continues to move forward at this point in time and follow the Plan in place. He noted that it has taken a lot of dedication by everyone to keep the District moving forward.

Mr. Reimer stated that there have been positive Covid cases in other districts but they have not closed to date. He then reviewed the 5% trigger in attendance



variance discussed at the last meeting and the correlation to other schools, Barker and colleges. The District continues to monitor the situation and follow the Plan based on the restrictions in place. He also noted that Ms. McKee is doing a very good job assessing various individuals as needed.

With regard to athletics and Section 6, Messrs. Carter and Carberry have been doing a lot of planning to implement the process in place. Mr. Reimer stated that although Barker has begun its athletic program for the Fall, not all sections across the state have commenced athletics.

Extracurricular activities are being reviewed but are not being offered at this time as social distancing and separation issues needed to be addressed as they vary between the different types of activities, and the impact on building usage has to be reviewed very closely. For that same reason, outside requests for building usage are not being accepted at the present time. Mr. Reimer stated that this transition is moving forward slowly to keep moving in a positive direction, and he would keep the Board updated.

POLICIES Mr. Atwater presented the following policies for first review and comment:

Policy #	Policy Name
6100	Goals and Objectives of the Personnel System
6110	Code of Ethics for Board Members and All District Personnel
6111	Testing Misconduct and Mandatory Reporting Requirements
6120	Equal Employment Opportunity
6121	Sexual Harassment of District Personnel
6130	Evaluation of Personnel
6140	Employee Medical Examination
6141	Staff Wellness

Mr. Reimer noted that as there are a District Wellness Policy (5661) and Staff Wellness Policy (6141), he recommended that the policy being presented be incorporated into the District Wellness Policy and subsequently be retired upon approval of the District Wellness Policy in October.

EDUCATION Motion by Mrs. Ecker, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the transportation agreement between the Barker Central School District and Stephanie Williams for the 2020 - 2021 school year.

Yes: 6, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Ecker, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the adjustment to the 2020-2021 School Calendar to change Friday, October 2, 2020 from a Superintendent's Day to a regular school day and move the Superintendent's Day to Wednesday, October 14, 2020.

Yes: 6, No: 0
Motion carried.

**PERSONNEL****ITEMS**

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Voss to approve the appointment of Austin Devlin, to be appointed as a probationary General Science Teacher effective September 22, 2020, as per the Agreement between the Barker Central School District and Barker Teachers Union. Initial Certificate in Earth Science Grades 7 - 12. Probationary period effective September 22, 2020 through September 21, 2024. The expiration date is tentative and conditional only. In order to be eligible for and considered for tenure, the employee must meet all requirements of the Educational Law and corresponding regulations. Annual salary rate of \$43,042.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Voss to approve Grayce Weller to present to or shadow Mr. Burke and the Music Education classes as part of her post-secondary music education program requirements at the University of Buffalo.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Voss to approve Deanna Luckman to present to or shadow Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Dissek and the Elementary Education classes as part of her post-secondary elementary education program requirements at SUNY Buffalo State.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Voss to approve the following Parent/Community Volunteers:

- Charlotte Clause;
- Mary Trakas;
- Ashton Watts-Lanighan;
- Debbie Wheat; and
- Sapphire Wittcop.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Voss to accept the resignation of William R. Bodine, Microcomputer Specialist, effective October 12, 2020.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Atwater welcomed Mr. Devlin to the staff.

BUSINESS & FINANCIAL**ITEMS**

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Ecker to accept the Warrant Report - September 21, 2020.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Ecker to approve the Agreement between New Directions Youth and Family Services and Barker School District for the 2020 - 2021 school year.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.



Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Ecker to approve the Resolution for the Energy Performance Bid Contract with Day Automation.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the scope of work and services reflected in the proposed Energy Performance Contract with Day Automation for the performance of services identified in the Energy Performance Contract, and authorizes the Superintendent of Barker Central School District to execute such contract. A copy of such contract shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Ecker to accept the School Safety Excellence Award at the Titanium with Honors level in the amount of \$500.00 from Utica National Insurance Group.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Ecker to approve the 2020 Year-end Audit performed by Lumsden & McCormick, LLP.

Yes: 6

No: 0

Motion carried.

END OF PUBLIC

SESSION A motion by Mrs. Ecker, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, to end the Public Session and enter into Executive Session at 7:27 p.m. for the purpose of discussing particular legal matters.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE

SESSION Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Ecker, to approve the adjournment of the Executive Session at 8:55 p.m. and return to Public Session.

Yes: 6, 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 8:56 p.m.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.

Prepared by,

Mary H. Eadie
District Clerk