



BARKER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Board Room
Monday, June 8, 2020

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

EXCUSED None

ALSO

PRESENT J. Reimer, M. Carter, M. Eadie, C. Heiligenthaler, M. Kramer
Public: 3

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 no changes were recommended. Motion by Mr. Mead, 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 Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting dated of May 11, 2020 as presented.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

PRESENTATIONS

Principal's Update – Mr. Carter

Mr. Carter reported that it has been busy ramping up for the end of the term and school closure. Saturday, August 1, 2020 has been scheduled for graduation. Guidance was released last week and more subsequently with regard to how graduation may look. At this point, the District is unable to determine whether it would be a formal event in the auditorium as traditionally held. Mr.



Carter stated that they will keep everyone informed as appropriate. Being that it is in August may allow for different options for graduation than currently available. Based on a questions from Mrs. Clemens-Harris regarding another school's graduation which had students stay in the car and then one at a time get out to receive a diploma, Mr. Reimer noted that based on guidance received today it was very clear that no one would be allowed to exit their vehicle for graduation events. He noted that counties may have different guidelines. Mr. Reimer also noted that Administration is looking at all options from indoors to outdoors for the ceremony. Mr. Carter then discussed the drive-in event on June 15th which is a Senior Night and not graduation. Tickets for Monday's event will be distributed June 9, 2020. Mr. Carter noted that Mr. Costello is working on a video for the event which will then be followed by a movie selected by the Senior Class.

With regard to staffing, Mr. Carter noted that Mrs. Ashley Atwater was selected for the Special Education position that will be presented to the Board this evening. The Science position has also been filled. The Technology Teacher position has begun its second round of candidates. He highlighted the interview process given the current Covid-19 conditions which involved Zoon sessions on lessons and participation with students and teachers.

June 14 and 15, 2020 have been scheduled and communicated out as the days for student to return District property and pick-up any remaining belongings that they had left since March. Mr. Carter noted the locations and how the process would work, as well as his appreciation to the staff that assisted in preparing and will work the two-day event. Mr. Sweeney inquired about how the District is dealing with belongings not returned or picked up. Mr. Carter noted that it is not expected that everyone will be able to come on the two dates, and as such, afterwards, calls will be placed and communications issued.

Mr. Carter also noted that the yearbooks will be distributed to Seniors at the drive-in, next Tuesday will be made available for families in the Jr./Sr. High to pick them up, and the Elementary will be placed with their belongings.

Curriculum Update – Dr. Kramer

Dr. Kramer noted that on Friday, June 5, 2020, Governor Cuomo released an Executive Order to hold summer school only for special education students and expires July 6, 2020 BOCES Special Education Directors had a state meeting. BOCES decided that they will not do face to face schooling over the Summer and will teach virtually and through use of packets. Why Special Education is allowed to be face to face given they are the most vulnerable of our student population has not been explained. Currently, day camps are allowed but there is not a lot of guidance on them other than they can't be on school property. As such, the District will not be holding summer recreation this year. Summer School for District students will be done virtually. CPSE related services will also be held virtually. Dr. Kramer stated that meetings are being held every other week with the O/N BOCES Special Education Group she is involved with to discuss ongoing guidance and how to best address the needs of the students



now and moving forward. With regard to instruction, the last day for students will be Friday, June 12. Ongoing discussions continue relative to what classes will look like in the Fall and there are still many unknowns Dr. Kramer stated.

Financial Update – Ms. Heiligenthaler

Ms. Heiligenthaler noted that the devices provided to student and the mifis through BOCES will be collected but that the summer school students needs will be coordinated with Mrs. Goodlander and would not be part of the upcoming collection process.

She noted that the year-end audit was moved up to July as a result of Central Business Office changes.

With regard to FEMA paperwork processing as noted during the Audit Committee meeting, Ms. Heiligenthaler noted that she has already processed the request for assistance and have an assigned account for the District as well as an assigned representative that is helping her to complete the actual application process. She is optimistic at this time, that the costs associated with distance learning will be considered a covered expense.

The cafeteria meal distribution remains busy even with a slight decrease in meals being provided. To date the District has served a total of 23,913 meals.

Ms. Heiligenthaler then review a budget summary. Last month's projection for year-end expenses was \$16,470,823 which was further reduced by \$488,184 to end 2019 – 2020 projected expenses at \$15,982,639. \$380,000 of the reduction was attributed to transportation contract with a remaining \$108,000 due to a variety of things such as coaches and officials salaries, utilities, no additional allowances for the purchase of supplies, repairs, SRO, substitutes, and extra duty assignments. Overall, as compared to last year, the expenditures are approximately \$525,000 less than 2018 – 2019.

Ms. Heiligenthaler also reviewed the budget transfer requests being presented at the meeting for approval which she had grouped together by related items. The first was an appropriations transfer request to correct various payroll accounts, transfers between legal accounts, and transfers of money from bond interest to bond principal. The second appropriations transfer addresses corrections to BOCES codes for additional services purchased throughout the 2019 – 2020 school year. Some of the items resulting in the need for the transfers included but were not limited to Frontline's Evaluation and Absence Management programs, costs associated with upgrading servers, cabling for cameras, various software purchases, mifis, and the additional fees for the mental health counselor.

Mr. Atwater inquired about the fund balance as a result of year-end projections. Mr. Reimer commented that he and Ms. Heiligenthaler have reviewed all the numbers over the past four days, are confident in the expense figures, and the



difference in the amount required from the projected fund balance will roll over to the next year.

Mr. Sweeney inquired about the \$380,000 transportation reduction savings. This represented a 25% reduction per the projected amount and Mr. Reimer reviewed how it will be used to appropriate for next year. The impact in a year to year comparison was discussed as it will look like a significant increase in transportation year over year but in actuality it will not be given 2019 - 2020 was not a full year expense comparison.

POLICIES Upon motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mr. Mead, to approve the following policies:

Policy #/Name

- 7670 Impartial Due Process Hearings/Selection of Impartial Hearing Officers;
- 7680 Independent Educational Evaluations;
- 7690 Special Education Mediation;
- 8110 Curriculum Development, Resources and Evaluation;
- 8120 Request for Part 100 Variance or Part 200 Innovative Program Waiver From Commissioner's Regulations;
- 8130 Equal Educational Opportunities;
- 8242 Civility, Citizenship and Character Education/Interpersonal Violence Prevention Education; and
- 8243 Credit for Interscholastic Athletics.

The first readings scheduled for June have been postponed to later meetings.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Reimer provided an update on a number of topics. With regard to the budget vote and election, an Executive Order received yesterday extended the vote and election to June 16, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. prevailing time. He explained the usage of NTS by many districts to perform the absentee mailing for them and the resultant shortage of materials resulting in a delay of the ballot mailings which could jeopardize district votes being invalidated due to lack of time. Barker chose not to use NTS' services and did the mailing in-house resulting in an economic savings to the District. Given the Executive Order received, absence any further clarification, receipt of ballots in person must be by tomorrow at 5:00 p.m. prevailing time, after such time ballots may only be received through the mail by June 16. Ballots postmarked June 16 and received after such time will not be able to be counted as part of the vote. The election inspectors and workers will be in District June 17th at 9:00 a.m. to count the ballots. This year's election process was very difficult to plan for as guidance continually changed. Results of the election will be made as early as possible on June 17th.



Mr. Reimer discussed the end of the school year, which as noted by Dr. Kramer, for students would be June 12th. Staff will report until June 18th in order to meet the 187 day requirement. Meals for the District community will continue through June 26th. Mr. Reimer noted he has been letting families know and it will be communicated out through updates too. At this time, it is not anticipated that the school will provide meals through the Summer for a number of reasons including staffing and State aid.

With regard to the budget, Mr. Reimer noted that the District is looking to use \$1.1 - \$1.2 million use of the fund balance. This amount may increase as payments have not been received to date from the Somerset plant PILOT. He has reached out to the plant numerous times via phone and email, and no response has been received to date. There might be potential to litigate the PILOT payment. The impact of the plant is being looked at with regard to assessment of taxes based on the amount the District would receive if placed on the tax rolls. It is likely the plant will be billed individually for its properties, and will most likely contest its assessment using the 2019 – 2020 18.56 tax rate resulting in a payment of approximately \$2,746,201 which is more than the \$1.7 million then on the PILOT. If \$183 million is added to the tax roll, the tax rate would decrease approximately 22% and the community would see a tax payment decrease while the plant would see an increase.

Mr. Reimer noted that back in the Fall the five-year budget very purposefully did not include plant revenue in 2022 - 2024. If monies are received, it will better the projections as the budget was prepared under a worst-case scenario. Mr. Reimer continues to try to get in touch with the plant to understand their intent.

Mr. Reimer also noted that he has been asked to sit on a regional task force which is addressing the reopening of schools. He noted the makeup of the group and meeting dates currently scheduled for June 15, 22, 25. He represents small rural schools membership.

Mr. Reimer noted that Governor Cuomo released information on the waiver for APPR for this year via an Executive Order. As teachers usually have announced and unannounced observations the end of the school year made the ability to do so very difficult. This waiver means that it can't be used for tenure.

Mr. Reimer commented that the Banner will be issued towards the end of June beginning of July and will recap the year, Summer, and what the Fall may look like.

With regard to the Fall, he noted that there is no formal reopening committee at the school but there has been a group working on it since May. He noted it is very difficult to plan and be efficient when discussing what the framework could look like in order to make decisions as guidance and regulations have not been released and the situation continually changes. He stated that the District should be prepared for things to look very different than any other time than in the past. The school will likely need to redesign how it will look at least through the middle of next year to meet the needs of the students. He also circled back on if the Board understood



and were okay with the decision not to have Summer Recreation this year due to the lack of guidance. They concurred with the decision.

EDUCATION None.

PERSONNEL

ITEMS

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Mead, to approve the appointment of Ashley Atwater as a probationary Special Education Teacher effective September 1, 2020, 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. Probationary period effective September 1, 2020 through August 31, 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 \$41,591.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Mead, to approve the appointment of Cody Campbell as a probationary General Science Teacher effective September 1, 2020, as per the Agreement between the Barker Central School District and Barker Teachers Union. Initial Certificates in Chemistry Grades 7 - 12 and General Science. Probationary period effective September 1, 2020 through August 30, 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 \$53,505.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Mead, to approve the appointments of the following individuals as Summer School Teachers for the 2020 Summer School Program running from Monday, July 6, 2020 - Friday, July 31, 2020 with salaries outlined below:

Summer School Teacher	Emily Bisland	\$20.00/hour
Summer School Teacher	Annette German	\$20.00/hour
Summer School Teacher	Rachel Strickland	\$20.00/hour

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Mead, to approve the following individuals as 2020 Summer Instrumental Music Program Teachers at a rate of \$18.00/per hour from Monday, July 6, 2020 - Friday, August 7, 2020:

Teacher	Rate	Cap
Cheryl Johnson	\$18.00/hour	\$1,800.00
Jeff Rappold	\$18.00/hour	\$1,500.00
Elaine Rappold	\$18.00/hour	\$1,500.00
Amanda Burdick	\$18.00/hour	\$1,500.00
	Total	\$6,300.00



Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Mead, 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, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Mead, to accept the resignation of Janice Stoll as Senior Account Clerk and District Treasurer effective July 31, 2020.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Atwater thanked Mrs. Stoll for her years of service and congratulated Mrs. Atwater for her appointment as a Special Education teacher.

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL

ITEMS

Motion by Mr. Sweeny, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, to accept the Warrant Report dated June 8, 2020.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeny, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, to accept the Treasurer's Report dated May 2020.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeny, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, to accept the Extraclassroom Report dated May 31, 2020.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeny, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, to approve the year-end budget appropriation transfers requests as presented to correct various payroll accounts, transfer between legal accounts, transfer money from bond interest to bond principal, and to correct BOCES codes - additional services purchased throughout 2019 - 2020 school year.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeny, 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 2020 - 2021 school year.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeny, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, to approve the resolution adjusting the 2019 - 2020 School Calendar:



Resolved, that due to Covid 19, Education Law and New York State mandates, the 2019 - 2020 school calendar was adjusted at year end to reflect June 12th as the last day for students and June 18, 2020 as rating/closing day.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeny, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, to approve the Resolution in Support of State and Federal Support for Public Schools:

Resolution in Support of State and Federal Support for Public Schools to Prevent the COVID-19 Shutdown from Damaging Education In New York State

Whereas, New York State has reported a \$13 billion budget deficit which has been exacerbated by declining state revenues due to the COVID-19 crisis;

Whereas, States need significant support from the federal government to help ensure the immediate continuation of important and essential services such as public education;

Whereas, the federal-state partnership is the lynchpin to responding and recovering from the COVID-19 crisis;

Whereas, the State has the primary responsibility to fund public education;

Whereas, Article XI Section 1 of the New York State Constitution provides that the “The legislature shall provide for the maintenance and support of a system of free common schools, wherein all the children of this state may be educated”;

Whereas, state courts have upheld that the state has the legal responsibility to provide proper funding for public schools;

Whereas, the State on average provides less than 40% of the total revenues to school districts;

Whereas, public school districts are owed over \$3.8 billion in Foundation Aid for the 2020-21 school year;

Whereas, the legislature is considering multiple proposals that will raise much needed revenue for New York State, including increasing taxes for New York State;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Barker Central School District requests that the elected leaders in the State of New York act to preserve education programs and related jobs to ensure that the COVID-19 crisis does not damage the quality of public education in our state;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Barker Central School District urges the State Legislature to act and immediately pass legislation that will increase revenue before the end of this legislative session;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that we request the federal government to provide additional support to public education to assist states that have had revenue losses due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.



Motion by Mr. Sweeny, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, to approve the Lead Agency Resolution of the Barker Board of Education Pursuant to the NYS SOLAR SEQR

LEAD AGENCY RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BARKER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO THE NEW YORK STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT

WHEREAS, the Board of Education for the Barker Central School District (the “District”) has reviewed the proposed 2020 Capital Project to be completed within the District in accordance with the New York State Environmental Conservation Law (“ECL”), including ECL Article 8, as well as associated regulations including 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Section 617.1 et seq. (“SEQRA”) which includes: installation of an approximately 742,560 Watt DC solar array along the south side of Haight Road on District property on approximately 4 acres of the site and that such arrays will be connected by the developer to the electric grid on the north side of Haight Road thru collaboration with National Grid, with such arrays to be placed on the surface of said property as more fully set forth in plans for such project on file in the District’s offices (“the Project”);

WHEREAS, the District is required to review and evaluate the impact of the Project on the environment in accordance with applicable law including SEQRA to determine what impact the Project may have on the environment in accordance with SEQRA’s requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Board has preliminarily classified the Project as an Unlisted Action under SEQRA, and has arranged for part 1, of the Short Environmental Assessment Form (“EAF”) for the Project be prepared; and

WHEREAS, the District has determined to conduct a coordinated review under SEQRA of the Project, and as a result in accordance with applicable law and regulations it hereby ratifies and approves the District Superintendent’s submission to appropriate involved and interested agencies a notice of the District’s intent to act as SEQRA lead agency, with such notice including a copy of the completed EAF part 1 for the Project and a Project description;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. Based on the foregoing, including each whereas clause herein which is treated the same as the other findings in this resolution, the District finds that the Project at least on a preliminary basis constitutes an Unlisted under SEQRA as referenced above
2. The District acknowledges staff has filed and served the District’s notice of intent to act as SEQRA lead agency for the Project to interested and involved agencies, as appropriate, together with part I of the EAF and other documents in order to conduct a coordinated review of the Project by the Board of Education of the Barker Central School District 1628 Quaker Rd., Barker N.Y. 14012
3. The District further directs that District staff and its consultants take any additional steps needed to carry out the items referenced in Section 2 above,



and the District directs that notice of this resolution shall be filed and circulated to the extent required by applicable law.

4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sweeny, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, to approve the appointment of Erin Goodlander as the Director of Summer Recreation/Summer School for the 2020-2021 School Year, dates to be determined, with a stipend of \$2,200.00

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried

Mr. Atwater thanked Mr. Mead for his 15 years of public service. Mr. Mead responded and thanked him and noted he felt it was time for new blood and ideas, thanked everyone and stated he enjoyed his time on 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 7:50 p.m. for the purpose of negotiations and discussing the Superintendent's evaluation.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE

SESSION Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, to approve the adjournment of the Executive Session at 8:48 p.m. and return to Public Session.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

**PUBLIC SESSION/
ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz, that the Board approve the end of the Public Session and adjournment of the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Yes: 5, No: 0

Motion carried.

Prepared by,

Mary H. Eadie
District Clerk