



BARKER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Board Room
Monday, April 6, 2020

PRESENT R. Atwater, M. Clemens-Harris, H. Ecker, J. Sweeney, V. Voss

EXCUSED C. Gancasz, L. Mead

ALSO

PRESENT J. Reimer, M. Carter, C. Heiligenthaler
Public: 2

**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 Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Ecker, to approve the agenda as presented.
Yes: 5, No: 0
Motion carried.

**ACCEPT
MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the minutes of March 9 and March 30, 2020 as presented. Mr. Atwater asked for a clarification on Page 3 of the March 30, 2020 minutes with regard to his question about the savings from the energy performance pieces being proposed to clarify it pertained to annual savings. As such, the sentence was amended as follows: Mr. Atwater inquired if the annual savings for the HVAC and lighting would be at least approximately \$50,000.

After further review, a motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Ecker, to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting dated March 6, 2020 as presented and the March 30, 2020 as amended was made.

Yes: 5, No: 0
Motion carried.

**PUBLIC
FORUM**

None.

**PRESENTATIONS**Curriculum Update – Dr. Kramer

Mr. Reimer noted that Dr. Kramer was excused from the meeting.

Principal's Update – Mr. Carter

Mr. Carter noted that the District handed out 50 hotspots and 100 Chromebooks to students today and the following staff assisted: Mrs. Lakeman, Mr. Gendrue, Mrs. Thibault, Mrs. Donovan, Mrs. Podgers, Miss Pattison, Miss Hinton, and Mr. Scofill. This increase in the digital platform will hopefully enhance ongoing communication between teachers and students with this technology. Some of the different methods the teachers are using to communicate electronically with the students include Zoom, Google Classroom, and other platforms. He commented that Administration is incredibly impressed with the hard work our faculty is doing staying in contact and continuing the learning process through this entire situation.

Mr. Carter stated that tomorrow the Board of Regents is expected to put out details and guidance regarding the cancellation of the Regents exams in June. Information on this will be provided to faculties and families as appropriate to keep them up to date.

Mr. Carter noted that the school is having a virtual school spirit week. Today was get caught reading day. Students and faculty have been sending in pictures of themselves reading. The activities of the week and photos of the participants are being posted to the website. Tomorrow is get outside, with photos of students doing outdoor activities. Mrs. Bundrock and Mrs. Thibault have done a great job putting it all together. He commented that Administration would also like to thank the community for being flexible and understanding through this ever-changing process. He also commented that we know there are still a lot of questions, but everyone has been very positive and responsive to the entire process.

Financial Update – Ms. Heiligenthaler

Mrs. Heiligenthaler noted that no update was made to the budgeted projections given the number of economic unknowns as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak. She also noted that the District still has 90 mifis available to distribute to students and staff. The mifis and associated data plans through Verizon were contracted through BOCES which will allow the District to receive aid on this. Also, DSS will be here on Wednesday to install some additional access points to improve the wifi from the District parking lots for the community.

Mr. Atwater inquired if Administration thought there would be more or less expenses for the current year. Ms. Heiligenthaler noted it would be about the same. The District continues to pay staff and provide benefits. The cost of transportation may be less for this year but would result in less transportation aid for next year. Mr. Reimer noted that it may be a little less because of the utilization of less utilities and supplies. Ms. Heiligenthaler also noted that she will be able to submit to FEMA for the recovery of some of the supplies and overtime pay used to clean the school.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S****REPORT**

Mr. Reimer stated that given the school closures, the Governor's orders require schooling to continue over Spring break in order to meet the 180 requirement waiver. He also noted that Regents exams have been cancelled. He is waiting to here about graduation requirements at this time.

Mr. Reimer then provided an update on the projected EPC savings estimates which Mr. Atwater inquired about at the last meeting. Based on the information in hand, the number projected of a \$50,000 annual savings is actually more in the \$75,000 per year range depending on what work could be done.

With regard to the Somerset Plant closure, we will not be eligible to accept the Energy Cessation Fund this year as the plant closed after the last payment was due.

POLICIES

Upon motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, to approve the following policies:

Policy #/Name

- 7570 Supervision of Students;
- 7610 Special Education: District Plan;
- 7611 Children with Disabilities;
- 7612 Grouping by Similarity of Needs;
- 7613 The Role of the Board in Implementing a Student's Individualized Education Program;
- 7614 Preschool Special Education Program;
- 7615 Least Restrictive Environment;
- 7616 Pre-referral Intervention Strategies in General Education (Prior to a Referral for Special Education); and
- 7617 Declassification of Students with Disabilities.

Yes: 5

No: 0

Motion carried.

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

Policy #/Name

- 7620 Students with Disabilities Participating in School District Programs;
- 7621 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
- 7631 Appointment and Training of CSE and CPSE Members, Appointment and Training of Committee on Special Education (CSE)/ Subcommittee on Special Education Members;
- 7632 Appointment and Training of Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) Members;
- 7640 Student Individualized Education Program (IEP): Development and Provision;



- 7641 Transition Services;
- 7642 Extended School Year (July/August) Services and/or Programs;
- 7643 Transfer Students with Disabilities; and
- 7660 Parent Involvement for Children with Disabilities.

There were not questions or comments brought forward with regard to the policies presented.

EDUCATION None.

PERSONNEL

ITEMS

Motion by Mrs. Ecker, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, to approve the resolution conferring tenure of T. Michael Carter in the area of School Administrator effective July 31, 2020, subject to that the employee must meet all requirements of the educational law and corresponding regulations.

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby confers tenure upon T. Michael Carter, in the School Administrator tenure area effective July 31, 2020, subject to that the employee must meet all requirements of the educational law and corresponding regulations.

Yes: 5
No: 0

Motion carried

Motion by Mrs. Ecker, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, to approve the resolution conferring tenure of Erin Goodlander in the area of Special Education K-6 effective September 1, 2020, subject to that the employee must meet all requirements of the educational law and corresponding regulations.

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby confers tenure upon Erin Goodlander, in the Special Education K-6 tenure area effective September 1, 2020, subject to that the employee must meet all requirements of the educational law and corresponding regulations.

Yes: 5
No: 0

Motion carried

Motion by Mrs. Ecker, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, to accept the resignation of Judy DeMaillie, Teacher Aide, with commendation and regret, for the purpose of retirement effective June 30, 2020.

Yes: 5
No: 0

Motion carried



The Board congratulated Mr. Carter and Mrs. Goodlander on their receipt of tenure, and Mrs. DeMaillie on her retirement. Mr. Reimer spoke highly of the individuals and their contributions to the District and classrooms.

**BUSINESS AND
FINANCIAL ITEMS**

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris and seconded by Mr. Sweeney, to accept the Warrant Report for April 6, 2020.

Yes: 5

No: 0

Motion carried

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris and seconded by Mr. Sweeney, to approve the resolution within regarding District employee salaries and reporting to work effective March 16, 2020.

RESOLVED, that the Barker Central School District Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of schools approve the following; effective March 16, 2020 during school closures occasioned by the Coronavirus (COVID-19), the Barker Central School District authorizes the continuance of regular salaries, wages and benefits for regular employees and long-term substitutes who have been expressly appointed by Board resolution for service in particular assignments. The Board directs the Superintendent to assign essential employees to perform work both onsite and remotely as needed.

Yes: 5

No: 0

Motion carried

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris and seconded by Mr. Sweeney, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Barker Central School District and the Barker Central School Central Cafeteria Staff Association dated April 3, 2020 and effective March 16, 2020.

Yes: 5

No: 0

Motion carried

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris and seconded by Mr. Sweeney, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Barker Central School District and the Barker Central School Central Central Services Association dated April 3, 2020 and effective March 16, 2020.

Yes: 5

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris and seconded by Mr. Sweeney, to approve the resolution pertaining the District's Proposed Capital Outlay Project which is subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act for the 2020 - 2021 school year.



WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Barker Central School District desires to embark upon the District Proposed Capital Outlay Project involving alterations to existing facilities including the Athletic Room, window replacements, and associated, mechanical, electrical, lighting, and other related building components within the Jr. Sr. High School.

WHEREAS, said Project is subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR); and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Barker Central School District hereby declares itself lead agency in connection with the requirements of SEQR; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Barker Central School District has examined all information related to the Project and has determined that the Project as a whole is classified a Type II action in accordance with 6 NYCRR Section 617.5 (c) (1) which constitutes the “maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility” and is therefore not subject to review under 6 NYCRR Part 617.

Yes: 5

No: 0

Motion carried.

The Board and Administration discussed changes at the State level, including the shift to school budget/elections to June 1st at the earliest. This is a unique situation but Barker’s budget for 2020-2021 is maintained at the current 2019-2020 year-end with a 0% increase. Governor Cuomo’s office has stated its ability to look at revenue levels throughout the 2020-2021 school year on a rolling basis and thus maintains the ability to reduce State aid as they determine. Mr. Reimer noted that as a result some districts are not approving budgets at this time as the extension has given them additional time to analyze the situation but noted the May meeting will not meet the 45-day requirement. He recommended to approve the budget as presented. The Board would be approving an expenditure/appropriation needs as in the current budget to meet programs. Any other budget would cut programs if the District were to spend less. He noted that the District does not have to spend the budget as proposed, and if need be, it could adjustment what is actually spent in the future.

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris and seconded by Mr. Sweeney, to approve the proposed budget of expenditures of the Barker Central School District for the 2020 - 2021 school year in the amount of \$17,254,712 and direct that such proposed budget of expenditures be submitted to the District voters as Proposition #1 tentatively scheduled on June 1, 2020 pending further State directives.

Yes: 5

No: 0

Motion carried.



Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris and seconded by Mr. Sweeney, to approve the Property Tax Report Card upon approval of the 2020 - 2021 Barker Central School Budget.

Yes: 5

No: 0

Motion carried

END OF PUBLIC

SESSION Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Voss, to end the Public Session and adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Motion carried.

Prepared by,

Mary H. Eadie, District Clerk