



**BARKER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board of Education Meeting Minutes**  
**Board Room**  
**Monday, July 8, 2019**

---

**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: 12

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Atwater called the regular meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Being no changes were recommended to the agenda, a motion to approve the agenda was made by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Ecker.  
Yes: 7, No: 0  
Motion carried

**ACCEPT MINUTES**

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mr. Mead, to accept the minutes from the June 10, 2019 Board Meeting as presented.  
Yes: 7, No: 0  
Motion carried.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

No items were brought forward.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Financial Update

Ms. Heiligenthaler provided a year-end financial update. Year-end 2018 – 2019 projected estimated expenditures were \$16,424,850 which was \$670,000 higher than the prior year. Projected estimated revenues totaled \$14,795,014, an increase of \$61,000 from the prior year. Fund Balance use estimated to be \$1,629,836 compared to the \$1,021,215 of the year before. This resulted in an ending Fund Balance of approximately \$13,847,616. The approximate \$600,000 increase was due primarily in part to retirement incentives, regular



teaching salary step increases, sick and vacation time buyouts, and transportation cost increases.

Ms. Heiligenthaler also noted that the District has received all of its payment from the Somerset Plan included past due charges and interest penalties.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Reimer discussed the Strategic Plan (“Plan”) process which resulted in the document being presented for consideration and approval by the Board of Education this evening. Mr. Reimer stated that he met with the staff a number of times in June to draft the Plan with flexibility based on the goals developed by the Board which they want to achieve. The Plan will enable the administration and staff the ability to fine tune the components as the District moves forward over time to allow for continual improvement. He noted that there was a lot of sound discussion to make this the foundation going forward.

Mr. Reimer commented that there is quite a lot of planning in progress already this summer for the 2019 – 2020 school year to build from within and develop a theme for next year thereby continuing the momentum of the Spark theme. He stated that he asked the staff for input and ideas. Miss Kramer, who started last week, is working with Mr. Carter to implement a number of plans for the upcoming year.

Mr. Reimer noted that the administration is looking at peripheral programs, ie. before and after school, etc., while still trying to provide the same or better level of service as last year.

Mr. Reimer provided a detail update on the advocacy program being developed in order for the District to be successful going forward, primarily advocacy from the foundation aid perspective. The Board received a packet from Mr. Reimer for review of advocacy outreach component. He noted that Barker is the 67<sup>th</sup> most underfunded district in the State per pupil, and would be approximately \$2.5 million higher in funding if the allocation of aid was run strictly by the calculation without consideration of influencing factors. The advocacy packet would include sample letters and contacts which people could utilize to send letters to government agencies. He noted that the numbers of letters received is documented so the more we are able to send, the louder the voice would be for Barker. He asked the Board to provide feedback on the information they received as he would like to have the Board determine what and how to move forward at the August meeting. The Board commented that putting information on the school website and Banner would be advantageous. They also agreed with Mr. Reimer, that as some may not be familiar with developing a letter from various sources, sessions to work with those interested to assist in letter preparation would have a positive impact.

Mr. Reimer then introduced Mr. Engert, the Somerset Town Supervisor, to provide information on the proposed project at the Power Plant to help assist in



the determination by the Board on their level of involvement and how to move forward if appropriate. Mr. Engert provided history on other projects proposed for the area. The current project proposed would result in a capital investment of \$550 million and \$100 million for the conversion of the power plants in Somerset and Cayuga respectively into a data center. He then provided context to the project and the three main challenges that would need assistance with. He discussed the potential economic benefit if the project were to materialize. He also noted current groups in support of the project including Sierra Club, Mothers Out Front, and Builders Trade Union. He discussed past and planned events to support the project in order to keep it moving. He noted a rally is being planned at the end of the month to give community members the opportunity to show their support. The Board asked questions to which Mr. Engert responded. Mr. Reimer recapped his and the Board's awareness of the project to date, including discussion with the school's attorney on the same, and discussed what the school, as a district, is able to do and should not do. The school is prohibited to support private business and must be extremely careful not to set a precedence of support per Education Law. A District also cannot use its resources to support a private entity and could be liable depending on the direction it takes on a subject. He recommended to send to the attorney for review any statement prior to releasing it with regard to support of the project so it can be reviewed to see the level of potential liability and if it is in compliance with Education Law. Mr. Atwater asked each Board member to provide his/her views on the matter. Mr. Sweeney thought it was a good project, noting the current economic condition of the area and limited opportunities, and was in support of the project personally from a project and financial opportunity perspective. Ms. Clemens-Harris stated she felt it was a great opportunity for the area, commenting that with regard to the District, it must be careful with language related to the project, and personally supported it. Ms. Voss stated that research on ways to support it by working through the attorney was important given the potential impact to the school. She noted that if the language for the project from the Board is not strong, it would be better not to say anything. She also noted that consideration is important as far as what other businesses would say with regard to the Board's support of this or other projects which may or could result in liability. She personally is in support and would become involved. Mrs. Eckert concurred with Mrs. Voss' view on the subject. Mrs. Clemens-Harris noted that she was in favor of a statement supporting climate for economic development without naming any company in particular. Mrs. Gancasz and the Board agreed to follow the direction of the lawyers who have the experience on this and that on a personal/community level individual support is good. Mr. Mead supported the project from a Board and personal perspective. The Board discussed the views and questions were responded to. Overall, the members were individually, as community members, in favor of the project but concurred on the importance of following attorney recommendation and being cognizant of Education Law. Mr. Reimer was asked by Mrs. Clemens-Harris to look at similar past issues, how it was handled at a district level and any resultant issues, or if it set a precedence. Mr. Reimer noted that personal and community is allowable. The current statement, read



by Mr. Atwater, with regard to the data center project was reviewed by the attorney, and stated:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Barker Central School District supports the conversion of the local coal plant into a use that will benefit the economy and the environment of this region.

Mr. Atwater felt the current statement would lend a strong voice without naming a company with the language recommended by the attorney. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the resolution statement as read.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

The Board then reviewed a Leaf, Inc. and The Council conference approval request from Mr. Reimer.

Upon motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to approve Superintendent, Jacob L. Reimer's attendance and related expenses for the Leaf, Inc. & The Council 2019 Fall Leadership Summit - September 22 - 24, 2019, Saratoga Springs.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

**POLICIES**

Mr. Atwater noted the policies for a second reading and discussed Policy 5511 – Maintenance of Fund Balance. Mr. Reimer’s suggested change was further explained, which would allow the most flexibility in financial planning while staying within policy with regard to the fund balance.

Policy #	Policy Name
5322	Use of the District Cell Phone
5323	Reimbursement for Meals/Refreshments
5330	Budget Transfers
5340	Borrowing of Funds
5410	Purchasing: Competitive Bidding and Offering
5413	Procurement: Uniform Grant Guidance for Federal Awards
5441	Procurement of Goods and Services
5412	Alternative Formats For Instructional Materials
5510	Accounting of Funds
5511	Maintenance of Fund Balance
5512	Reserve Funds



Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Mead the Board agreed to move the second reading and approve the following policies with the recommended changes as noted: 5322, 5323, 5330, 5340, 5410, 5413, 5441, 5412, 5510, 5511, 5512.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the first reading of policies: 5520, 5530 5540, 5550, 5560, 5570, 5571, 5572, 5573, 5610, 5620, 5630, 5631, 5632, 5640, 5650, 5660, 5661, 5670, and 5671. Mr. Atwater made a suggested edit to Policy 5630, under "Inspections" that the paragraph should include "water". The Board concurred with this change. There were no additional suggestions, nor any questions raised by the other Board members.

**EDUCATION** Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Voss to approve the BCS International Exchange Club exchange with students from Colegio San Viator in Vitoria-Galteez, Spain being hosted in Barker from Sunday, September 1 - Saturday, September 7, 2019 and with Barker students traveling to Spain over the April 2020 Spring break.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Voss to approve the Cross Country Team invitational trip from Friday, September 20, 2019 - Saturday, September 21, 2019 in Plattsburgh, NY.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Voss to approve the Field Hockey Team overnight trip to Mt. Lebanon High School and Upper St. Clair High School near Pittsburgh, PA to play non-league games, Saturday, September 7 - Sunday, September 8, 2019.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Voss to approve the Summer Transportation contract between Barker Central School District and Dawn and Frank Croisdale.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

## **PERSONNEL**

### **ITEMS**

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve Amy Dewart as a Substitute Teacher for Grades Pre-K - 12 effective July 9, 2019 at a per diem rate.

Yes: 7



No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve Rosayln Tondera as a Substitute Teacher at a per diem rate and as a Teaching Assistant at a rate of \$11.10/hour for Grades Pre-K - 12 effective July 9, 2019.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve Melissa Bundrock as the Director of Summer Recreation with a stipend in the amount of \$2,200 effective from Monday, July 8, 2019 - Friday, August 2, 2019.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the Donna Weeks and Lisa Thilkey as Parent/Community volunteers.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Barker Central School and Samuel C. Monaco effective through June 30, 2020.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Ecker to approve the appointment of Emily Bisland, to be appointed as a probationary Elementary Education Teacher effective September 1, 2019, as per the Agreement between the Barker Central School District and Barker Teachers Union. Initial certificates in Childhood Education Grades 1 - 6 and Students with Disabilities Grades 1 - 6. Probationary period effective September 1, 2019 through August 30, 2023. 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 \$40,831.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

The Board congratulated Ms. Bisland on her appointment, and she provided a brief summary of her background and noted her excitement to be part of the Barker school system.

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Ecker to approve the following individuals as Advisors for the 2019 - 2020 school year as listed below:



Club	Advisor	Category	Step
Senior Class Advisor	Heather McIntyre	B	Step 4
Junior Class Advisor (co-share)	Jacquelyn Moffitt	B	Step 4
	Sherri Ober	B	Step 3
Sophomore Class Advisor	Mary Dudek	D	Step 4
Freshman Class Advisor	Adrienne Clark	D	Step 1
American Field Service (AFS)	Amy Dewart	A	Step 4
International Exchange Club	Amy Dewart	B	Step 4
JH Student Council Advisor	Ronda Baronich	D	Step 4
Latrator/Yearbook	Michelle Wing	A	Step 4
Latrator/ Yearbook Business Advisor	Michelle Wing	B	Step 4
National Honor Society	Melissa Bundrock	D	Step 4
SH Student Council Advisor	Jacquelyn Moffitt	D	Step 4
Varsity Club	Ryan Carberry	A	Step 2
Jazz Band Club	Jeff Rappold	E	Step 4
Entrepreneurs Club	Krista Beth Feltz	E	Step 4
Musical Director/Producer	Cheryl Johnson	A	Step 4
Elementary Store	Jamie Weller	E	Step 4

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Ecker to approve James Cantella as Director of the Community Adult Education program for the 2019 – 2020 school year at a rate of \$6,400.00 per year.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Ecker to approve the following Community Adult Education appointments for the Fall 2019 school year from Monday, September 23, 2019 – Monday, November 25, 2019 as listed below:

Antique Auto	Mallon, Thomas	\$12.00
Basketball	Morgan, Jared	\$12.00
Basketball (Substitute)	Phillips, Shane	\$12.00
Beginner Knitting	Davis, Karen	\$12.00
Beginner Knitting (Substitute)	Niethe, Lois	\$12.00
Body Sculpting/Stretch & Tone	Mathison Trisha	\$12.00
Book Folding	Dudek, Mary	\$12.00
Ceramics for Beginners	Feltz, Krista Beth	\$12.00
Greeting Card Class	Kersch, Mary	\$12.00
Greeting Card Class	Martell, Loriann	Volunteer
PM Workout	Dent, Tyler	\$12.00
Quilting Class	Stoll, Janice	\$12.00
Staff/Supervision (Substitute)	Costello, Lori	\$12.00



Staff/Supervision (Substitute)	Lamb, Sharon	\$12.00
Staff/Supervision (Substitute)	Wilson, William	\$12.00
Stained Glass	Diez, Laura	\$12.00
<b><i>Swim Lessons/ Water Aerobics:</i></b>		
Life Guard	Bruning, Natalie	\$16.00
Life Guard	Dent, Tyler	\$16.00
Life Guard	Dergel, Heidi	\$16.00
Life Guard	Sandolini, Paige	\$16.00
Life Guard	VeRost, Alexandra	\$16.00
Life Guard/Walter Aerobics	VeRost, Beth	\$16.00
Life Guard/Water Aerobics	Wilson, Lynne	\$16.00
Life Guard/WSI	Wilson, William	\$16.00
Volleyball	Harris, James	\$12.00
Volleyball (Substitute)	Morgan, Jared	\$12.00
<b><i>Special Programs:</i></b>		
AARP SMART Driver	Laskey, George (Not paid by District)	\$0.00

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mrs. Ecker to approve the acceptance of the resignation of Bruce Spring, Director of Facilities I, effective July 2, 2019.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

## **BUSINESS & FINANCIAL ITEMS**

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to accept the Warrant Report dated July 8, 2019.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to accept the Extraclassroom Report through June 30, 2019.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to accept the 2019 Year-end Extraclassroom Report.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the transfer of the remaining treasury balance from the Class of 2019 to the Class of 2020 for use towards their class trip.



Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the appropriation transfer request as attached for the retirement sick payment to retirees.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the Barker Central School District's Strategic Plan for 2019 – 2023.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the agreement between the Barker Central School District Superintendent of Schools and Janice Stoll, Senior Account Clerk effective November 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the contract between the Barker Central School District Superintendent of Schools and the Barker Central Support Staff effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the Agreement of Lease between the Research Foundation for the State University of New York and Barker Central School District with effective July 7, 2019 - August 3, 2019, acknowledging the typo of 2018.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the AHERA Periodic Surveillance and Inspection Report as of July 2019.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Motion carried.

**END OF PUBLIC**

**SESSION**

Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Mead to end the Public Session and enter into Executive Session at 8:19 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Superintendent's Evaluation; review of a legal matter; and discuss matters of a particular personnel.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.



**EXECUTIVE**

**SESSION** Motion by Mrs. Clemens-Harris, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, to approve the adjournment of the Executive Session at 9:07 p.m. and return to Public Session.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz, to approve the end of the Public Session and adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary H. Eadie  
District Clerk