

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING**

Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
October 6, 2025 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Michael Boutin (BC) – Chair
Giuliano Cecchinelli II (BC) - Vice Chair
Emily Wheeler Reynolds (BT) - Clerk
Alice Farrell (BT)
Catherine Whalen (BT)
Garrett Grant (BC)
Jackie Wheeler (At-Large)(online)
Ian Campbell (BT)
Jeff Eddy (BC)

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Andrew Evans
Evelyn. Kalat

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

JoAn Canning, Superintendent
Denise Maurice, Principal SHS
Jamie Evans, Director of Facilities
Melissa Greenwood, Asst Principal BCEMS

GUESTS PRESENT:

Alex Alexander-Scott, Alexis Gilkey, Christie Omodeo, Christine Parker, Colleen Kresco, Dalton Routhier, David Delcore - Times Argus, Deb Beaucage, Diane Solomon, Gilles Owen, Jasmine Wible, Jenna Hallstrom, Jennifer Trombly, Kim Benson, Kirsten Evans, Laura Ficek, Lauren Buck, Lindsey Wells, Mackenzie Kovaka, Prudence Krasofski, Rachel Van Vliet, Sarah Attig, Sarah Hill, Sonya Spaulding, Steven Thompson, Tyler Watkins

1. Call to Order

The Board Chair, Mr. Boutin, called the meeting on Monday, October 6, 2025, to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Spaulding High School Library, Barre, and via video conference.

2. Pledge and Mindfulness Moment

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance and held a Mindfulness Moment.
The Chair reviewed how public comment works and proceeded with introductions.

3. Additions and/or Deletions with Motion to approve the Agenda

Add 6.4 Snow Removal Contract
Add Executive Session after 10 a disciplinary or dismissal action 1 VSA 313 (a)(4)
Remove 8.5 Policy Discussion

Mrs. Farrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell, to approve the amended agenda; the motion passed unanimously.

4. Comments for Items Not on the Agenda

4.1. Public Comment

Parents expressed concerns over the incident which occurred at Barre Town Middle & Elementary School. Mainly how to support their children with limited information and lack of follow-up from the school. How can parents ensure children get support going forward, ways to talk about what happened, and what steps are being taken in response?
Parents are encouraged to reach out on an individual basis to speak with the superintendent.

4.2. Student Representatives

Andy Evans and Evelyn Kalat, Student Council representatives from Spaulding High School, shared that homecoming was a great success. The parade, band played, Pep Rally, game, and halftime show had a larger turnout (community and students) than previous years. A blood drive and Trunk-or-Treat are planned for the end of October. The Student Section Reboot Challenge is to attend a certain number of events (sports games, concerts, drama club) by the end of the year to get entered into a raffle.

5. Board Education

5.1. Ed Rousse Presentation - SHS Foundations

The Spaulding High School Foundation was created to raise funds for High School projects that are outside the scope of the normal school budget. The foundation has a 501 (c) (3) you donate to and a board that meets at least four times a year. Three areas of focus for the foundation are academic enhancements, visual and performing arts, and athletics. Reach out to Ed Rousse to donate or discuss this further.

5.2. Redistricting Discussion

There's a committee in the phase of receiving feedback from individual community members and Boards, with a charge to be completed by December. Ms. Canning provided questions they've posed to poll board members in hopes of writing a letter to the committee on behalf of the board, letting them know what's important to this board. Board members were asked to pick the top three importances for each question. Ms. Canning will capture the Board's conversation in a letter and share it with the board before sending it out.

6. Consent Agenda

6.1. Regular Meeting Minutes: September 8, 2025

6.2. Warrant Approval: September 11, 2025, September 18, 2025, September 25, 2025, October 2, 2025

6.3. New Hires: E. Koons

6.4. Snow Removal Contract (added)

Ms. Canning provided additional information about the candidate and explained the snow removal contract.

Mr. Grant made a motion, seconded by ????, to approve the consent agenda; the motion passed unanimously.

7. Board Reports

7.1. Buildings/Director Reports

Reports were provided in the board packet. Questions and feedback were discussed. October 22nd Special Education Community Forum at 6:00 p.m. in person at Spaulding High School Library or virtually.

7.2. Quarterly Reports

Reports were provided in the board packet. Questions/feedback were discussed.

7.3. Facilities: Met September 8, 2025; Next Meeting: October 13, 2025

7.4. Finance: Met October 6, 2025; Next Meeting: November 3, 2025

7.5. Policy: Met September 10, 2025; Next Meeting: October 8, 2025

Committee chairs provided verbal reports of their meetings.

7.6. Superintendent & School Board Goals 2025-2026

In the board packet, Ms. Canning provided her goals and recommended goals for the board. The superintendent's goals focus mainly on supervising and evaluating teachers, support staff, and school leaders.

Board Goal recommendations focus on reviewing and updating required policies, strengthening community engagement, completing contract negotiations, and developing, adopting, and publicly presenting a balanced budget. The board agreed on a fifth goal to complete self-evaluations. Recommended after each meeting a formative evaluation. It's quick and gives feedback for improvement in the next meeting.

8. Current Business

8.1. Second Reading and Adoption of Behavioral Threat Assessment Team Policy (F5)

Mrs. Farrell made a motion, seconded by ????, to approve the second reading and adoption of Policy F5; the motion passed unanimously.

8.2. VSBA Resolutions/Appoint Voting Delegate & Alternative

???? made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Farrell, to approve the resolutions per the VSBA recommendation; the motion passed 8 to 1, Mr. Boutin voted against the motion.

Mr. Grant made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wheeler, to appoint Ms. Wheeler Reynolds as the delegate and Mr. Campbell as the alternate; the motion passed unanimously.

8.3. Annual Meeting Update

Our attorney recommended having the annual meeting next year, 2026, and voting to move to the Australian ballot then. This is brought up due to low attendance and confusion with last year's meeting. An informational meeting will still be held annually to discuss ballot articles.

8.4. Superintendent Evaluation - VSBA

???? made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Farrell, to authorize the chair to sign the contract with the Vermont School Boards Association for the superintendent evaluation; the motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Farrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cecchinelli, to appoint Mr. Boutin, Mr. Campbell, and Ms. Wheeler Reynolds to the Superintendent Evaluation Committee; the motion passed unanimously.

~~8.5. — Revision of Policy B8 Discussion~~ (Removed - Policy Committee to discuss)

9. Round Table/Superintendent Report

Opened for board members

10. Next Meeting Date

November 3, 2025, Spaulding High School Library/via Google Meet.

11. Proposed Executive Session

11.1. Disciplinary or Dismissal Action 1 VSA 313 (a)(4)

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Whalen, to enter into executive session to discuss 1 VSA 313 (a)(4), inviting the superintendent; the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wheeler, to exit the executive session at 8:17 p.m.; the motion passed unanimously.

12. Adjournment

On a motion by ????, seconded by Mr. Grant, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Gilbert