

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING**

Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
February 2, 2026 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Andrew Evans
Evelyn Kalat

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

JoAn Canning, Superintendent
Denise Maurice, Principal SHS

GUESTS PRESENT:

David Delcore - Times Argus, Kirsten Evans, Martha Blaisdell, Prudence Krasofski

1. Call to Order

The Board Chair, Mr. Boutin, called the meeting to order on Monday, February 2, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Spaulding High School Library in Barre, and via video conference.

2. Appoint New Board Member & Oath

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eddy, to appoint Chris Parker to the vacant board seat; the motion passed unanimously.

3. Pledge and Mindfulness Moment

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance and held a Mindfulness Moment.

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

Add Superintendent Announcement after approval of the agenda

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

Ms. Canning read an appreciation letter to the Board Members in honor of February Board Appreciation Month. She thanked Mr. Boutin for his service during his term, and thanked Mr. Grant and Ms. Wheeler Reynolds for their service during their terms and for running again for their seats.

5. Comments for Items Not on the Agenda

The Chair reviewed how public comment works and proceeded with introductions.

5.1. Public Comment

None

5.2. Student Representatives

Andy Evans and Evelyn Kalat, Student Council representatives, shared events and upcoming plans. Held successful assemblies highlighting sports teams and clubs, the Alumni night for the boys' basketball was successful, and hoping to schedule another for the girls' team. Fundraiser "Tones for the Table" raised \$1700 and 872 pounds of food. Currently planning another Dinner & Dance (Winter Themed) at the Labor Hall, 6:00 p.m. with Locarno's Catering.

6. Consent Agenda

6.1. Regular Meeting Minutes: January 5, January 12, January 20, 2026

6.2. Warrant Approval: January 7, January 14, January 21, 2026

6.3. New Hire: M. Fix

Ms. Canning provided details about the candidate.

6.4. Ratify Motion - Superintendent Committee Charge - Motion made at last meeting, but the item was not on the agenda. Mr. Cecchinelli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell, to approve the consent agenda; the motion passed unanimously.

7. Board Reports

7.1. Building Reports: BCEMS, BTMES, SHS, SEA

Ms. Canning shared that this time last year, there were 47 Barre Town (BT) and 45 Barre City (BC) HHB investigations, which have been reduced to 25 BT and 16 BC. Positive things are happening with their prevention methods.

7.2. Facilities: Met Cancelled: January 12, 2026; Next Meeting: February 9, 2026

7.3. Finance: Met on February 2, 2026; Next Meeting: April

7.4. Policy: Met January 14, 2026; Next Meeting: February 11, 2026

Committee chairs provided verbal reports of their meetings. Mr. Cecchinelli will connect with Mrs. Emerson at CVCC about the meeting tomorrow night regarding facilities expansion. Mrs. Wheeler indicated she may be able to attend the meeting.

8. Current Business

8.1. Informational Meeting for Articles on the Ballot - February 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Clarified that this is not a Board meeting. Informational only for questions about ballot articles. Will be virtual only.

8.2. First Reading of Policies: C11, C13, C14, C15

Mr. Grant made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eddy, to approve the first reading of C11, C13, C14, & C15; the motion passed unanimously.

8.3. First Reading of Non-Substantial Changes Policies: B7, B8, C1, C2, C4

Ms. Canning made a recommendation to remove B8 due to VSBA alert that the model policy is inconsistent with Act 72 (2025). VSBA has been alerted to the need for revisions.

Mrs. Whalen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell, to approve the first reading of B7, C1, C2, & C4; the motion passed unanimously.

9. Round Table/Superintendent Report

Mr. Grant - Wonderful time at the Modern Band Concert

Mr. Campbell - Careful with the ice

Mrs. Parker - Excited to hear the Dinner & Dance is coming back

Mr. Eddy - Art show at the Aldrich Library, nice reflection of our community coming together

Ms. Canning - Great to have full district participation in events. The Bowls fundraiser is coming back. Lots of things are going on, and many things to celebrate in our schools. Ms. Canning invited all to join the activities and events.

10. Next Meeting Date

Monday, March 9, 2026, BUUSD Board Reorganization Mtg, 6:00 p.m., SHS Library/via Google Meet

11. Tentative Executive Session

11.1. Personnel 1 VSA 313 (a)(3)

11.2. Negotiations 1 VSA 313 (a)(1)

Mr. Grant made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell, that premature general public knowledge clearly places the board at a substantial disadvantage, as it risks disclosing sensitive information; the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eddy, to enter into executive session, inviting in the superintendent, to discuss 1 VSA 313 (a)(3) and 1 VSA 313 (a)(1); the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Whalen, to exit the executive session at 7:11 p.m.; the motion passed unanimously.

12. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Grant, seconded by Mr. Campbell, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Gilbert