

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Spaulding High School Library and via Video Conference – Google Meet
April 6, 2026 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Garrett Grant (BC) - Chair
Giuliano Cecchinelli II (BC) - Vice Chair
Emily Wheeler Reynolds (BT) - Clerk
Catherine Whalen (BT)
Jackie Wheeler (At-Large) (virtual; arrived 7:08 pm)
Ian Campbell (BT)
Jeff Eddy (BC)
Samn Stockwell (BC)
Lindsey Wells (BT)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

JoAn Canning, Superintendent
Amanda Riggleman, Director of Curriculum
Brenda Waterhouse, Principal BCEMS
Jennifer Bisson, Asst. Principal BCEMS
Denise Maurice, Principal SHS
Shannon Miller, Co-Principal BTMES

GUESTS PRESENT:

Amanda Badeau, Ashley Young, Bern Rose, Brandi Dewey, Carl Mintken, Courtnie Lange, Darby Hiebert, David Delcore - Times Argus, Gina Galfetti, James Carpenter, Jasmine Wible, Justin Bolduc, Martha Blaisdell, Michael Boutin, Mike Deering II, Nancy Leclerc, Paul Malone, Prudence Krasofski, Senka Valle.

1. Call to Order/Pledge/Mindfulness Moment

The Board Chair, Mr. Grant, called the Wednesday, April 6, 2026, meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. at the Spaulding High School Library in Barre and via video conference. The pledge and mindfulness moment followed.

2. Additions or Deletions with Motion to Approve the Agenda

None

Mr. Eddy made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell, to approve the agenda as presented; the motion passed unanimously.

3. Comments for Items Not on the Agenda

Mr. Grant explained the procedure for public comment

3.1. Public Comment

Mr. Carpenter shared comments about the Work-Based Learning Program.

3.2. Student Representatives

Andy Evans and Evelyn Kalat, Student Council Representatives, are not present for comments.

4. Board Education

4.1. Assessment Data Presentation

Presentation provided by Amanda Riggleman, Director of Curriculum.

- District uses both state (BTCAP) and local (STAR) assessments to monitor student progress in ELA, math, and science.
- BTCAP: Grades 7–9 are performing near state averages, especially in math. Lower grades show some progress but require further support.
- STAR: Early literacy, reading, and math show positive trends, with more students moving out of intervention categories.
- Professional development and curriculum alignment are ongoing priorities to address gaps and improve results.
- Data-driven decisions and teacher collaboration are helping target student needs and celebrate progress.
- Continued focus on accountability, targeted support, and community involvement is key to ongoing improvement.

Student Representative Evelyn Kalat arrived and provided the following update: planning fun events to celebrate the past school year, organizing a senior send-off, teacher appreciation activities, and preparing for upcoming elections.

5. Consent Agenda

5.1. Meeting Minutes - March 2, March 9, March 16, 2026

5.2. Warrant Approval: March 12, March 19, March 26, April 2, 2026

5.3. New Hire: S. Kelley

Ms. Canning shared details on two large cost items on the warrants, which are being paid with FY26 unused SRO funds, and provided details on the new hire.

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Ms. Stockwell, to approve the consent agenda; the motion passed unanimously.

6. Board Reports

6.1. Building Reports (BCEMS, BTMES, SHS, SEA)

6.2. Superintendent Report - Congrats to Robotics Team; Staff Appreciation week: May 4-8 (Board Breakfast); Resignation of Brenda Waterhouse.

Board members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

7. Current Business

7.1. Committees/Charges/Assignments

The board discussed moving from three separate committee meetings to a "carousel" structure, where all committees meet simultaneously in the same location on the third Monday at 6:00 PM. At least two (preferably three) board members should be assigned to each committee, along with two community members (some up for reassignment).

Mrs. Wheeler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Stockwell, to adopt the carousel schedule for the committees on the second Monday at 6:00 p.m.; the motion was amended.

Mrs. Wheeler amended the motion to the third Monday of each month with the carousel schedule at 6:00 p.m., seconded by Ms. Stockwell; the motion passed unanimously.

Committee charges were provided in the packet. Mr. Grant asked for feedback on each charge and a discussion about adding a Culture & Climate Committee.

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Ms. Stockwell, to approve the committee charges as discussed; Mr. Grant called the question; the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Grant appointed board members to committees: Finance: Mr. Campbell, Mrs. Wheeler, and Mrs. Wells; Policy: Ms. Stockwell, Ms. Wheeler-Reynolds, and Mr. Eddy; Facilities: Mr. Cecchinelli II and Mrs. Whalen.

Community committee members in their first year will be provided new schedule. Need to advertise open seats: 2 for policy.

7.2. Briefing Memo re: Community Engagement

The robocall system will use a pre-recorded message with voting details. Ms. Canning would like to appoint Ms. Wheeler Reynolds and Mrs. Wheeler to coordinate with her.

Ms. Wheeler Reynolds made a motion, seconded by Ms. Stockwell, to appoint Ms. Wheeler Reynolds and Mrs. Wheeler to coordinate the get-out-the-vote message and staff get-out-the-vote flyer with the superintendent; the motion passed 6 to 2. Mrs. Whalen and Mrs. Wells voted against the motion.

8. Next Meeting Dates: Monday, May 4, 2026, 6:00 p.m., SHS Library & via Google Meet

Town Hall on Monday, April 13th, virtual. Mr. Grant and Ms. Canning will be in person at the Spaulding High School Library.

9. Tentative Executive Session

None

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Ms. Wheeler Reynolds, seconded by Ms. Stockwell, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Gilbert