



**Barker Central School District
Board of Education
July 1, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.
Barker Library Media Center**

Present	R. B. Atwater, R. Atwater, D. Carnes, C. Gancasz, J. Sweeney, Jr., V. Voss
Excused	S. Mason
Also Present	J. Reimer, M. Eadie, M. Love, C. Miner Public: 1
Approve Agenda	Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Carnes, to approve the agenda dated July 1, 2026 as presented. Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion carried.
Approve Minutes	A motion was made by Mrs. Carnes, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., to approve the June 8, 2026, Board of Education Meeting minutes as presented. Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion carried
Public Forum	None.
Presentation	<u>Principal's Update - Dr. Love</u> Dr. Love reviewed a handout from Mr. Cornwell regarding the preliminary Regents results for June 2026. She noted that the results are being reviewed by the State, who performs a deeper dive on the information. Mr. Cornwell will report back on the final results once received. She commented that the results of the exams were super strong. Algebra I, a required exam, received 100% proficiency rating with 23% at the mastery level which is a grade of 85%+. Geometry received 88% proficiency with 15% at mastery level. Algebra II had 100% proficiency with 35% mastery. Global History was at 98% proficiency with 22% mastery. US History was at 95% proficiency with 16% mastery. Biology was at 96% proficiency with 19% mastery. Earth Science has a 98% proficiency with 55% mastery. Chemistry had 69% proficiency and no mastery this year. Dr. Love noted that this is a



brand-new Chemistry exam and the new teacher and the district opted to have the students take the new exam this year, rather than waiting until next year, to be able to analyze the results and inform of curriculum shifts that could be made and how to have the students understand information through changes to increase results. She noted the exam was very large and heavy on reading comprehension and a new format, which was a challenge for the students. Dr. Reimer noted that this same performance happened when the changes occurred with Earth Science across the state, but the district opted to take the new Earth Science exam next year rather than this year, and noted the feedback across the state as a result. He said it was not really an issue related to curriculum but understanding how it is presented to the students so they can understand how to take the exam as the information is already covered in the curriculum. Dr. Love noted that the science exams will be changing over the next year or two, and noted that Biology will also be a new exam next year. Dr. Love gave a shout out to the students and teachers to push to the finish line at year end with exams and that the mastery numbers are phenomenal.

Dr. Love then provided a discipline report on behalf of Mrs. Lingle. She commented that she was very proud of the general decline in incidents and noted it was less than last year. She reviewed the incident count by month which reflects higher numbers at the beginning of the year as students learn the rules and for some, challenge them. The year ended at 31 incidents which was broken out by type of behavior for the Board. Disorderly conduct, violent behavior, and AWOL were the top three reasons. Dr. Love commented that the number could be lower too given the Jr/Sr. High was out of school for a part of the month. She also reviewed the discipline incidents by behavior type for the school year. Overall, insubordination was the highest with 133 incidents, followed by disorderly conduct with 126 incidents when both remained the most common behavioral concern. Cell phone violations with 91 incidents and AWOL from class with 62 were next highest. Mrs. Atwater asked what was the different between violent behavior and physical altercation. Dr. Love noted that violent behavior would be something that happens to a person where as physical altercation is usually an incident between two students. Mr. Atwater asked about AWOL vs. late to class. AWOL is skipping a class or leaving school unauthorized vs. just being late walking into a class. Mrs. Voss inquired about fighting. Dr. Love said most incidents are the result of horse play. Mr. Sweeney, Jr. asked about bullying/harassment and Dr. Love noted that most of the incidents happen outside of school time but as it goes against the Code of Conduct, it is investigated. She noted that most of the occurrences are in the Jr./Sr. High School. Dr. Love mentioned there were Workplace Violence reports that were looked into as well. The school continues to utilized a progressive approach to discipline, which demonstrates a commitment to addressing student behavior through corrective and restorative practices before more restrictive disciplinary



actions are necessary. She stated that overall, there has been a conscious change to address behavior with the Administrative Team with a clear pathway for people to work with. She noted that she works closely with Mrs. Lingle, and together, they know the students and what is happening with regard to discipline. She noted that Mrs. Lingle is the boots on the ground and felt the progressive discipline is working and the District is seeing the results. It is building capacity with the teachers and staff, which is linked to our district goals and we are seeing changes to behaviors. The progressive discipline framework also provides teachers with the tools to change the behavior and be proactive, which is evident in the decrease in discipline. Dr. Love noted the majority of the disciplinary responses reflected in the school's commitment to progressive discipline. The data indicates, that while disruptive and aggressive behaviors continue to require attention, the school remains focused on using graduated interventions, partnering with families, and providing opportunities for students to improve behavior before more significant disciplinary measures become necessary.

Dr. Love noted that the elementary school schedule was basically completed by the end of June, which was a goal for the staff this year and took a lot of hard work to accomplish. She noted there is still some fine tuning but is the first time in a while that it was complete at that point in the year. The grade 7-12 teachers were informed in June of their tentative schedules, but completion was dependent on student results. It is anticipated to be done by mid-July. The Counseling Office was proud to get 89% of this information into PowerSchool already which is great as reaching 70% at this point in the year is considered good. Based on an inquiry, Dr. Love noted that AI could be used to set the schedules but as the District tries to get every student in all the classes requested, it would not work as it would not consider all the requests and students would lose out. The current processes are very difficult but is done to provide the maximum opportunities for the student. It is a gift to the students with what the District tries to do with scheduling.

Dr. Love then noted some of the year-end activities for the students including the 250 celebration, prom which was brought in-district at a family's space, Moving Up Day, and graduation. She thanked everyone who were able to participate to make it such a special day. She noted that PreK-12 reports cards were mailed today.

Mrs. Voss inquired if any teachers were changing grades next year. Dr. Love noted there were not, other than a change occurring when Mrs. Mocarski retires in December as there will be an AIS assignment needed. Mrs. Atwater commented that she loved Moving Up Day and to pass along to all those who planned it as it was really nice. Dr. Love noted that this



year a townhall was held with staff to plan the day and collaborate with anyone who wanted to be involved.

Financial Report – Ms. Miner

Ms. Miner noted that the revenue and appropriation reports were provided as of June but the other reports will be provided in August due to the short turnaround time for this meeting and year-end. Ms. Miner noted that Ms. Dengler-Smith is leaving the CBO in August. She and staff are working on closing out the 2025-2026 fiscal year and fine turning the information. She has asked staff to complete healthcare enrollment forms for health and dental to ensure the selections are what is wanted. She noted that every month the bill is reviewed to ensure accuracy and for budgeting purposes. She also noted that books were received from Highmark to provide information on the coverage options for employees and new hires to make it an informed decision. The costs associated to the plans ties to the spreadsheets used for tracking and so employees can understand what will be coming out of payroll with regard to their various coverage choices. Ms. Miner noted that retiree healthcare letters were issued and verifying coverage. She also noted that she is now the President of Healthcare Consortium which will be a good opportunity to learn more and keep staff more informed.

Dr. Reimer provided a finance update. He noted that as of last Friday, unspent appropriations will decrease to \$500,000-\$550,000 as more bills were received, and the District will make some purchases ahead of schedule to create a cushion for next year, such as a new mower. The decrease in fund balance this year may allow the balance next year to remain as projected. He noted however, this does not always work, noting the example of special education expenses last year, but it is the goal of the District.

Dr. Reimer reviewed the total fund balance and commented that the \$250-300,000 decrease overall is almost spot in line with projections when the budget was built last year. This is reflective of what the District was projected to spend vs. actually spent funds. He noted the was proud of the team for the work they did. Debt Service is close to the original projection, not where the District anticipated it to come in but close to original amount.

Dr. Reimer then provided a report on behalf of Ms. Duerr who was unable to attend. He noted that the District will be starting a new 15:1 multi-age elementary special class for grades 3-5 next year for students with similar academic and management needs. Some of the students are in-district and other out-of-district students will be brought back in-district. Many of the students will participate in a hybrid instruction model by receiving specialized instruction in the classroom for a portion of the day while also participating in general education classrooms with a consultant teacher



support for other academic instruction. There will also be a resource room as part of the classrooms continuum of services. This program will really tie the programs the students need with the resources. It was developed with a lot of people and buy-in with families to try this model, which as a result took time to build to ensure the number of participants and the needs. Dr. Reimer noted that in August the Board will need to create a position for this classroom and appoint a person.

Superintendent's Information

Dr. Reimer noted that the 2025 Capital Improvement Project is moving along fast. Paint is being put on the walls, flooring will be in; sound panels for the music room will be in in approximately 2-4 weeks; and windows are about 12-14 weeks out. Dr. Reimer noted that none of the classrooms being done will have air conditioning as it was too expensive to do all the rooms. He commented that some stand-alone air conditioners have been put in as an option and in use from the past project. This can be done on the second floor but not the first floor for safety and security reasons. The campus is cooler than in the past as a result of the renovations and due to a purge option of the system for the fans to move air out and cool areas. This cools the envelope of the building a few degrees too. Dr. Reimer noted that if there is extra money from the current project, another phase could be added and possibly air conditioning depending on the amount available.

Dr. Reimer noted that Administration is working on closing out 2025-2026 with regard to reporting and planning for the 2026-2027 school year which includes working on UPK and other grants and getting applications in.

Dr. Reimer then discussed the work and building at the plant and the potential volatility with relation to taxes and the school. One concern he noted was with the IDA and the plant with the massively reduced tax burden for the plant and the resultant depressed values used for the tax-based growth factor. He also discussed the impact of the reduced tax rate and impact on the ability to increase the tax levy. With the reduced value on new building, once it goes to full value it would likely result in a tax rate reduction. This impacts the building of the levy in the future. In order to increase the levy to cover potential future needs, it is anticipated that the District might need to go out with a supermajority vote to increase levy in order to bring the tax rate back to where it was before the reduced rate. He noted that the District will have to wait and see how the process at the plant goes on the books and the impact on the tax-based growth factor. His concern noted last month about the plant going on at the lower rate was verified and will need to be evaluated very carefully in the next year. Dr. Reimer continues to have discussions with the Office of Real Property on this matter. He provided all applicable information to them so they could understand the figures and potential impact to the District that he has been



discussing with them. He said it is a challenge to make the pieces fit together.

Dr. Reimer noted that the memorial plaques were not done in time for this meeting so he will bring the information to the August meeting.

Dr. Reimer provided potential dates for a Board Retreat when Ms. Colacino was available to meet with the Board. As the dates did not work for some, Dr. Reimer will see what other dates may work. The group also discussed doing before or after a Board meeting. After the August meeting was noted and they will get back with Dr. Reimer on that option.

Policies/Plans

Mr. Atwater noted the policies up for review. Dr. Love commented on the changes in the two Codes of Conduct, stating the only major change was regarding the dress code portion with regard to pajama pants and leisure wear. She said that she met with the BTU, Administration, the Behavior Task Force on this topic to develop clear, more defined descriptions of what would be considered pajama pants and leisure wear. These changes were to assist faculty with the enforcement of the dress code. Mr. Atwater asked if the changes implemented last year to make more prescriptive were positive. Dr. Love said yes, and in general, the students followed the changes, while some did not. She noted that there will always be a few students that do not follow the guidelines and give pushback. If someone was out of dress code, they were given the opportunity to change and make adjustments. She noted that there was not a lot of opposition from parents, and most parents supported. Where the most pushback from parents and students came from was from pajama pants. Mr. Atwater then asked about the phone policy change. Dr. Love noted that, in general, it worked, and the process went very smoothly and the progressive discipline went well. She commented that there was a lot of parent support overall, and there were a few students who frequently disregarded the policy that an individual contract was developed for. She also noted that many parents asked the District to hold the phone longer as a consequence. Dr. Reimer noted that pretty much everyone has seen a decrease in cell phone-related issues and the resultant distraction of cell phones is not there, with less struggles for staff. He noted that when speaking with others across the region this is the case too. He also noted that the Barker dress code is more restrictive than at other schools but there is a general feeling it worked out well. Dr. Reimer also commented that the changes in the dress code were made more restrictive by Administration than the originally proposed language of the teachers. This was done to make it clear and help Administration and faculty. Mr. Atwater commented that he was happy with the changes and that it was working out for the District.



Dr. Reimer then discussed recommended language for changes to the Code with regard to discipline in certain instances and what the District's response should be as proposed by Miss Mason. He noted that he sent the suggested language to the school attorney and was recommended to not include such language as it would likely be a violation of student rights. He asked the attorney to see if there was language that could meet the intent, and they said there is no language that could be added, as without evidence, it would be arbitrary and capricious, and again, a violation of student rights. She said if the Board chose to include language, it could but to do so has potential liability or other issues. Dr. Reimer commented that this is a Board decision and to let him know what they would like to do, and/or if they wanted any language added around the process it could be done. He noted that changes would not be in for the hearing on July 7th but then it could be reviewed in August, hold another hearing, and then approve. Mr. Atwater commented that Administration has extensive training on how to handle student issues and procedures and steps in place; if the Board wanted more Administrative steps, it could add without infringing on student's rights it could be looked at but he felt it was okay as is. Mr. Sweeney, Jr. noted that if the attorney was okay with the current language, reviewed, and did not have any recommendations nor did she have any language to add, he felt it should be left as is. Mrs. Carnes agreed. Mrs. Voss agreed and trusted that the facts in situations are investigated and that there can't be handouts for every situation. She also noted that she is good as long as there is an investigation. Administration noted there always are. Mrs. Atwater was told one matter in particular was confidential due to student rights but there was a thorough investigation process. Dr. Love noted that each instance has to be approached during an investigation as the student is innocent until proven otherwise, and Dr. Reimer commented that the students have even more rights. Dr. Reimer noted that if there is an issue under question and if something is withheld from a student due to it and without evidence, it can be a challenge, and the District could potential get into trouble with regard to a violation of student rights. With regard to medical clearances and activities, if there is a note for clearance, the District accepts it if it is from a professional source. The only thing a District could question is the validity of the medical note. Dr. Reimer noted that the District has to look at student rights on issues. Mrs. Gancasz said the Board should go with the attorney's recommendation. Mrs. Atwater noted that based on what she knew, she concurred. Dr. Love then reviewed the timeline for the approval of the Codes and Safety Plans. With regard to the Safety Plans, Dr. Love noted that Desha's law resulted in a couple minor changes to the safety plans with regard to certifying with AED and CPR, and having drills in the upcoming school year when the school is in session without students. She also noted that water safety has been incorporated into the curriculum in Physical Education classes and not a change in the safety



plan or our processes, but publishing the water safety curriculum on the website is a change in safety procedures for the District.

There was no additional discussion relative to the following policies/plans:

- 2026-2027 Pratt Elementary Grades PK-6 Code of Conduct;
- 2026-2027 Junior/Senior School Grades 7-12 Code of Conduct;
- 2026-2027 District-Wide School Safety Plan (includes: Public Health Emergency Continuation of Operations Plan and Emergency Remote Instruction Plan); and
- 2026-2027 Building Level Emergency Response Plan (Confidential Safety Plan).

Education

Motion by Mrs. Mrs. Carnes, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., to approve the overnight 8th Grade Trip to Washington DC trip from Tuesday, May 18, 2027 - Friday, May 21, 2027.

Yes: 6

No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Mrs. Carnes, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., to approve the following books as listed within be declared excess property and that the Superintendent, or his designee, be authorized to dispose of said items.

Yes: 6

No: 0

Motion carried.

Personnel Items

Mr. Atwater asked for a motion to approve the Personnel Items. Motion by Mrs. Carnes, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve.

Mr. Sweeney, Jr. noted that he would like to go into Executive Session to discuss an employment history of a particular person.

Executive Session

Motion to convene an Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. to discuss matters of a particular person was made by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Voss.

Yes: 6

No: 0

Motion Carried

Public Session

Motion by Mrs. Carnes, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz, to return to Public Session at 8:45 p.m.

Yes: 6

No: 0

Motion Carried



Personnel Items

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Voss amend the motion of the approval of the Personnel Items A-J to be the approval of Personnel Items A-E, and G-J.

Yes: 6

No: 0

Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve Item A, the acceptance of the resignation of Scott A. Tanyi, full-time Spanish Teacher, effective June 26, 2026.

Yes: 6

No: 0

Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve Item B, the appointment of the following Department Chairs with a stipend of \$2,000.00 for the 2026-2027 school year:

7-12 Vertical Chairs

ELA/Social Studies

Michael O'Sullivan

Mathematics/Science

Joel Strong

Business/Tech./Foreign Lang./Art

Christopher Post

PreK-12 Vertical Chairs

Health/PE/Music/FACS/Library

David Carson

Guidance/Speech/Psych.

Meghan Black

Special Education

Ashley Atwater

PreK-6 Chairs

Grades PreK-1

Christine Donovan

Grades 2-4

Erin Zablocki

Grades 5-6

Sherri Ober

Yes: 6

No: 0

Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve Item C, the appointments of the mentors with a stipend of \$750.00 as well as the Teacher Mentor Coordinator for Melissa Phillips with a stipend of \$350.00 for the 2026-2027 school year:

Mentee

Shae Owens

Max Cool

Sarah Bowman

Karin Gelz

Mentor

Mark Scofill

Mary Dudek

Melissa Phillips

Meghan Black



Julia Domiano	Erin Stockwell
Michelle Pask	Aileen Gilbert
Kim Roberto	Deanna Nestoros
Ashley Cieslewicz	Ashley Atwater
Jessica Bush	Melissa Phillips
Jadyn Wagner	Joel Strong
Molly Handrich	Joel Strong
New Spanish Hire	Erin Stockwell
Madeline Myers	Drew Burke
Sari Arrow	Mark Scofill
Colin Knight	David Carson
Nathan Sutch	David Carson
Darian Papia	David Carson
Rachel Chunco	David Carson
Joshua Glaubitz	Virginia Hambruch
Stephanie Gooding	Virginia Hambruch
Michael Olsen	Christopher Post
Maggie Marody	Eric Gerstung
Alexa Holler	Eric Gerstung
Kara Choate	Ashley Atwater

Yes: 6

No: 0

Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve Item D, the appointment of Jeffrey Costello as a Public Relations/Banner Content Creator with an annual stipend of \$3,638.84 for the 2026-2027 school year.

Yes: 6

No: 0

Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve Item E, the appointments for the 8th Grade Trip Advisors, changing from one appointment in June 2026 for Virginia Hambruch at Category B, Step 4, stipend of \$2,210.2 to a split appointment as outlined in the attached for the 2026-2027 school year with Virginia Hambruch, Category B, Step 4 at \$1,105.51 with Michael O'Sullivan, Category B, Step 1, \$1,052.55 in accordance with the BTU Agreement.

Yes: 6

No: 0

Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve Item G, the appointment of Nathan Sutch as Summer School Substitute Teachers at a rate of \$50.00 per hour for the program running July 1, 2026 through July 30, 2026.



Yes: 6
No: 0
Motion Carried

Motion was made by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve Item H, the appointment of Kaitlyn Goodwin as Summer School Substitute Teachers at a rate of \$50.00 per hour for the program running July 1, 2026 through July 30, 2026.

Yes: 6
No: 0
Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve Item I, the appointment of Rob Mucha as Athletic Director for the 2026-2027 school year in accordance with the BTU Agreement

Yes: 6
No: 0
Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve Item J, the following individuals as Coaches and/or Volunteers for the Fall Season of the 2026-2027 school year:

Bill Bruning	Head Varsity Football	Step 4
Chris Post	Assistant Varsity Football	Step 2
Colin Knight	Assistant Varsity Football	Step 4
Eric Lunde	Assistant Varsity Football	Step 1
David Schwab	Head Modified Football	Step 3
Blake Schwab	Assistant Modified Football	Step 1
Karin Menz	Varsity Field Hockey	Step 4
Bill Moeller	Assistant Field Hockey	Step 4
Jeffrey Costello	Modified Field Hockey	Step 4
Lee Dillenbeck	Varsity Girls Soccer	Step 4
Deanna Luckman	JV Girls Soccer	Step 3
Rachel Chunco	Modified Girls Soccer	Step 1
Paul DerSarkissian	Varsity Boys Cross-Country	Step 4
Sharon Lamb	Varsity Girls Cross-Country	Step 4
Kyle Sosnowski	Modified Cross-Country	Step 4
Rob Mucha	Varsity Golf	Step 4
Max Cool	JH Golf	Step 3
Jenna Snell	Football Cheerleading	Step 2
Emilie Preston	Soccer – unpaid certified coach	
Dan DiJames	Football – unpaid certified coach	
Amber Babel	Football Cheerleading volunteer	
Trinity Doepp	Football Cheerleading volunteer	
Jacob Bruning	Football volunteer	



Yes: 6
No: 0
Motion Carried

After the approval of Personnel Items A-E, G-J, a motion was made by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., to approve Personnel Item F by itself, the appointment of Katie Fisk as Jr./Sr. High Musical Producer/Director for the 2026-2027 school year at Step 2, Category A in accordance with the BTU Agreement, seconded by Mrs. Voss.

Yes: 0
No: 6
Motion not carried.

Business & Financial Items

The Board reviewed the Revenue and Appropriations Reports dated June 2026.

Yes: 6
No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Carnes, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., to approve the agreement between the Barker Central School District and the Barker Teachers' Union from July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2028.

Yes: 6
No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Carnes, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., to approve the agreement between Barker Central School District and the Occupational Therapy Assistant, Samuel Monaco from July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2028.

Yes: 6
No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Carnes, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., to approve the Shared Employee Contract between Barker Central School District and Royalton-Hartland Central School District for the sharing of services for the School Lunch Manager, Julie Fuerch, from July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027.

Yes: 6
No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Carnes, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., to approve the contract for Cooperative Education Services for 2026-2027 school year.

Yes: 6
No: 0



Motion carried.

Adjournment of Public

Session

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Carnes, that the Board approve the end of the Public Session and moved to Executive session for the purpose reviewing the Superintendent's evaluation at 8:47 p.m.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.

Executive Session

Motion by Mrs. Carnes, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to return to Public Session at 9:20 p.m.

Public Session:

Motion by Mrs. Gancasz, seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve the adjournment of the Executive Session, and return to Public Session. at 9:20 p.m.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Carnes, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., to approve the end adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Yes: 6, No: 0

Motion carried.

Prepared by,

Mary H. Eadie
District Clerk