

August 19, 2021

A meeting of the Berlin Board of Education was held in the Berlin Middle High School library beginning at 6:00 pm. Present were Ann Nolin, Nathan Morin, Jeanne Charest, Matthew Buteau, Scott Losier, Julie King, Marion Moore, Mike Kelley, Tammy Fauteux, Sandy Pouliot, Jason Hook, Danielle Demers, and Autie Hamilton. Attending virtually were Sonya L'Heureux, Martha Miller, several staff, community members, and a member of the press.

MINUTES

On a motion by Nathan Morin, seconded by Jeanne Charest, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2021 and August 6, 2021 meetings public and nonpublic sessions. All members voted in the affirmative.

WARRANTS

On a motion by Scott Losier, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to approve the warrants dated August 23, 2021 and August 24, 2021 for the amounts of \$32,168.06 and \$44,032.68. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Marion Moore reviewed the fiscal year end financial report with the Board. She informed the Board the reasons for the excess revenue and unexpended expenses which will result in a return of funds to the city. These numbers are subject to a final reconciliation with City Hall and any auditor adjustments.

She also reviewed the 2020-2021 Food Services Report with the Board. Food Services ended the school year with a positive operating budget of just over \$117,000 and continues to be self-supporting. Based on the financial data presented, the administration recommended the meal and milk prices remain the same for the 2021-2022 school year. A motion was then made by Nathan Morin, seconded by Matthew Buteau to approved the 2021-2022 meals rates as follows:

Breakfast	\$1.80
Lunch K-5	\$2.80
Lunch 6-12	\$3.00
Lunch Adult	\$3.75
Breakfast Adult	\$2.25
Milk	\$0.50

On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

TUITION RATES

On a motion by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Scott Losier, the Board voted to table the approval of the 2022-2023 tuition rates until the final approval of the MS-25 and the DOE 25 for the 2020-2021 school year. The motion passed unanimously.

ARPA ESSER FUNDS

Julie King informed the Board of the Use of Funds Form that is required to obtain the ARPA ESSER funds. The grant also requires input from the public, which was requested at this meeting. There were no comments from the public at this time. She informed the Board that 20% of the allocation is required to be set aside for educational improvements. The summer program, new reading program and academic hiring are expected to be funded by this grant. Funding will also be used for servicing of special education students. Capital improvements include a new HVAC system, roofing, and an outside learning station at BES as the top three priorities, dependent on cost.

Jeanne Charest inquired if funds were available for mental health services if needed. The Superintendent responded that if funds were needed for this service, they could come from this grant.

COMMENTS

None

SCHOOL RE-ENTRY PLAN

The Superintendent commented that the district needs to learn how to provide a complete learning environment with the pandemic. It is a divisive subject that requires flexibility and the use of local factors, not global reports in making decisions. It is similar to the use of a local weather report, rather than a state or even county report. We are in this for the long haul and need to keep our schools safe and be ready to change whenever necessary, while at the same time keeping our learning experiences as normal as possible. Remote learning is not good for the vast majority of students. It is expected there will be less quarantining this upcoming school year due to current DHHS guidance,. The plan presented to the Board has the backing of the local pediatrician.

Matthew Buteau inquired who is on the group who determines what phase we are operating under in the 2021-2022 SAU 3 Covid Mitigation Plan. The Superintendent informed him that it was a diversified group of community and health leaders with the Superintendent making the final decision.

The Superintendent emphasized that it remains important for staff and students who have any new and unexplained symptom to stay home. There is no such thing as a simple cold during a pandemic. Even with all the controversy surrounding the vaccine, reports show that vaccinated people are not becoming as ill or needing hospitalization as much as non vaccinated people. Please get vaccinated. Hopefully, the vaccine will be available for children under the age of 12 sometime this fall.

Matthew Buteau inquired how fall sports would look. He was informed that at this time all fall sports at every level are moving forward as normal and the higher levels will follow NHIAA guidelines.

A motion was made by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Nathan Morin to approve the 2021-2022 SAU #3 Covid Mitigation Plan as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

STUDENT PARENT MANUALS

The Board was provided the changes to the Student Parent Manuals and asked if they had any questions or concerns. Jeanne Charest commented that the medical terminology was not uniform between the manuals. She specifically mentioned physicals. Discussion ensued.

Updates will be done to rectify this, along with updating School Board Policies on this issue. On a motion by Nathan Morin, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to approve the Student Parent Manuals as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

The Superintendent informed the Board on the following:

- COVID Update - Hospital admissions in the state are on the rise. At this time there are no admissions in the North Country Hospitals. We have about 18 positive cases at the present time.
- Building Projects - The NH DOE is requiring preliminary approval for all major projects. We have approval for the roofs and are working on approvals for the HVAC system at BMHS and the outdoor learning spaces/ playground at BES.
- Administrative Retreat - District goals were given to the Board as compiled during the retreat.
- AVEC Retreat - Goals and accomplishments were discussed.
- A third coach has been hired for the Cooperative Cycling Club

COMMENTS

None

NEW BUSINESS/MEMBER COMMENTS

Ann Nolin commented how good the summer program was at BES and how happy the students and instructors were. She enjoyed her visit and offered kudos to all who made it happen.

Mike Kelley informed the Board that the Berlin Middle School students built a shed at Memorial Field as part of their summer program. It was a great experience for all involved.

Matthew Buteau was appreciative of the goals set by the Administration, particularly promoting staff, and family involvement, Professional Development, and the opportunities with SAU 20 and WMCC.

Michelle Belanger inquired about how quarantining will be handled, especially if a student has close contact with a household member. At this time, a vaccinated student would be required to wear a mask and not quarantine unless they became symptomatic or test positive.

Unvaccinated students must still quarantine.. This is following the guidance of DHHS.

NONPUBLIC

On a motion by Nathan Morin, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to go into a nonpublic session at 7:10 p.m. in accordance with RSA91-A3II, (a), (b), & (c) . On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

On a motion by Jeanne Charest, seconded by Scott Losier the Board voted to come out of a nonpublic session at 7:51 p.m. The motion passed unanimously. No votes were taken in the nonpublic session.

SOCIAL WORKER POSITION

A motion was made by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Nathan Morin to hire a social worker for the district using ARPA funds. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

STUDENT ISSUE

A motion was made by Scott Losier, seconded by Jeanne Charest to approve the request from Superintendent Backler to allow a Milan student to attend Gorham Middle High School. The motion passed unanimously.

Nominations: Approved by the Superintendent

Danielle Demers - CTE Director

Anne Rodgers - SAP Advisor - BMHS/BES

Joele Losier - Athletic Director - BES

Zack Ellison - Educational Assistant - Meri Center - BES

Jill Hamacek - General Education Educational Assistant - BES

Roger Belanger - Educational Assistant - BES

Amy Michaud - Educational Assistant - BES

Teacher Nominations: Approved by the Superintendent

Ben Mayerson - Grade 3 Teacher - BES

Mark Saffian - Math Teacher - BMHS (9-12)

Nominations/Renominations Not Requiring Board Approval:

Non Athletic - Advisor -Renominations - BMHS (9-12) Nominations(9-12)

Christine Boulanger - PBIS

Lynne Mercier - Senior Class

Elaine Connary - FCCLA

Andy Rancloes -Senior Class

Ted McCormick - JCWA

Alan Woodward - Honor Society

Beth Pahigian - Language Club

Amy Blanchette - HOSA

Sonya Dube - FCCLA/ECE

Patty Hood - AM Supervision

Roland Simard - AM & PM Supervision

Amber Donato - HS Drama

David Arsenault - Band

Courtney High - HS Yearbook

Rachelle Gilcris - Key Club

Ted McCormick - Student Council

Advisors - BMHS - (6-8)

Jill Poulin - PBIS

Jared Lauze - Youth in Government

Nicole Arguin - PBIS

Jamie Welch - Cooperative Bike

Jessica Mullins - NJHS

Anthony Mullins - MS Math Club

Jamie Welch - Science/Outdoor Club

Brian Oberti- MS Drama

Amy Welch - MS Yearbook

All nominations are contingent upon the applicant completing a successful background check and physical.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Jeanne Charest, seconded by Scott Losier, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeanne Charest". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education

MINUTES
BERLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION
NONPUBLIC SESSION
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The Board discussed a Student Issue

The Board discussed staffing.

On a motion by Jeanne Charest, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to come out of a nonpublic session at 7:51p.m.. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted



Secretary, Berlin Board of Education