

**Barnet School Board
Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2011**

Members in Attendance: Louis Bushey, Shannon Larocque, Shellie Samuels, Lori Werdenschlag, Principal Shawn Gonyaw, Superintendent Martha Tucker

6:05 p.m. Meeting called to order. Shannon Larocque made a motion to elect Shellie Samuels chair; Lori Werdenschlag seconded the motion, and the motion passed without further discussion.

6:10 p.m. Executive Session called to order. Discussion was held regarding a student issue and a personnel issue. Louis Bushey made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 6:40 p.m.; Lori seconded the motion, and the motion passed without further discussion. Meeting recessed until 6:46 p.m.

6:46 p.m. The public portion of the meeting began at 6:46 p.m. Kelley Glentz-Brush and Shirley Warden in attendance.

Approval of Minutes - February 28, 2011 Meeting

In the Superintendent's Report, Louis asked that "application" be inserted after grant. Superintendent Tucker will make the change. Louis then made a motion to accept the minutes as amended; Shannon seconded the motion, and the motion passed without further discussion.

Approval of Minutes - February 17, 2011 Special Meeting

Louis made a motion to accept the minutes as written; Lori seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Public Input

Kelley said she was pleased that the budget came together nicely for Town Meeting and thanked the Board for a good job.

Principal's Report

NECAP - Principal Gonyaw presented the NECAP Reporting Website to the Board and reviewed the various reports available on the site. NECAP assesses students on the grade previous, shows progress of a student from the third grade on, and is a snapshot of what a student can do over the three days of the testing. Discussion followed regarding the testing. Kelley asked about having the NECAP information available throughout a student's career; perhaps on the student report. Superintendent Tucker informed everyone that the information is presently available in the student files. Principal Gonyaw also said the information could be made available to parents or teachers on request.

Principal Evaluations – Principal evaluations were handed out. Principal Gonyaw and Superintendent Tucker will be working on the first two items: vision of learning and culture of teaching and learning in the school.

Primary Teacher – More discussions are necessary on this issue. Principal Gonyaw still recommends an additional teacher and an additional class. There is estimated to be 25 kindergarten

and 26 first grade students next year. With three classes, there would be 17 students per class. With the additional teacher and class, there would be 13 students per class. Discussion was held on the benefit of multi-age classes, the need for an additional class, and an additional teacher.

Action Item: By the April 12, 2011 meeting, this issue needs to be settled.

Other – Shannon asked Principal Gonyaw about a number of children that were separated in third and fourth grades that may now be put back together in the fifth grade class and any issues that may arise from this. Principal Gonyaw explained there are a number of para-educators for this class and the situation is different now than in the third and fourth grade classes.

Student Presentations – Principal Gonyaw asked for guidance from Board members regarding student presentations. He proposed asking the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students to do a presentation first, then the third, fourth, and fifth grade students, and then the younger students. Louis suggested getting ideas from the students on where improvements could be made, especially in the older classes, to better prepare them for high school. Shannon suggested the younger students may be too shy to present something to the Board; Principal Gonyaw suggested the younger students prepare something for the Board to review rather than do a presentation.

Professional Development – Three teachers have completed studies at Southern NH University. There are other professional development activities occurring. Shellie asked if the teachers share information from these activities with others; Principal Gonyaw replied the teachers all do a good job of sharing information.

Superintendent's Report

- Budgets passed in Danville and Walden at Town Meeting.
- A meeting is scheduled April 29, 2011 for review of the 21st Century Learning Grant.
- The administrative team is looking at curriculum for next year. Two team members are leaving. Team is also looking at literacy in grades K through 3 and is working at Danville High School.
- A second administrator will be hired at Danville so there will be two team members working on the curriculum project next year.
- Danville is interviewing for two administrators and an administrator at Walden is in the works. Those positions should be filled by mid-April.

Board Reorganization

Board Clerk – Jim Schenck

CNSU Board Members – Shellie Samuels, Louis Bushey, Jim Schenck

Chair authorized to sign contracts – yes

Board Meeting Schedule – second Tuesday of each month, meeting at 6:00, Executive Session until 6:30, and regular meeting beginning at 6:30. Meeting dates 4/12/11, 5/10/11, 6/14/11, 7/12/11, 8/9/11, 9/13/11, 10/11/11, 11/8/11, 12/13/11, 1/10/12, 2/14/12, 3/6/12.

Board Meeting Location – Barnet

Exceptions – fourth Tuesday for alternate meetings or special meetings.

Organizational Meeting – 3/13/11

Person responsible for meeting minutes – to be determined

Person responsible for getting minutes to CCSU office – minute taker

Method of posting special meetings – same as before plus on the school website

Procedure for handling directors' orders – NA

Person to sign warrants – Shellie Samuels

Confidentiality – same

Everyone agreed on the above organization.

Town Meeting Discussions

Superintendent Tucker congratulated the Board for getting the budget passed. She asked if there were any discussions held at Town Meeting that should be brought before the Board. Reviving the hot lunch committee was mentioned. Discussion was held regarding this issue. **Action Item: Principal Gonyaw will gather information regarding the former committee and hot lunch issues, and then report the findings to the Board.**

Financial

No update

Old Business

- Class Size Policy. Unless there are changes to be made, the policy should be ready for adoption. Kelley asked how the numbers were derived and Superintendent Tucker explained the process. Shannon made a motion to approve the class size policy, Lori seconded, and the motion passed.

Other Business

Shannon mentioned he had two freshman interested in coming to school to give a presentation, one from Peacham and one from Barnet. Shellie and Principal Gonyaw will work on this. Principal Gonyaw thought this might be a better place to start with the presentations, then work backwards to other grades. Louis suggested bringing in students from high schools other than St Johnsbury Academy.

Shirley asked about the process for warning the meeting. She was under the impression the meeting began at 6:00 and discussions on the class size policy would occur at that time. The warning did not indicate the Executive Session would be first. Louis explained the first part of the meeting is usually Executive Session with the general portion of the meeting after.

Future Agenda Items

Attendance Policy

Hot Lunch Committee

Student Presentations

Special Meeting regarding contracts

7:56 p.m. Shannon made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue; Lori seconded the motion, and the motion passed without discussion.

7:57 p.m. General session of the meeting was adjourned.

8:02 p.m. Shannon made a motion to come out of Executive Session, Louis seconded the motion, and the motion passed without discussion.

Lori made a motion to approve the parent request for enrollment for the 2011/2012 school year, Louis seconded the motion, and the motion passed without discussion.

8:06 p.m. Louis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lori seconded the motion, and the motion passed without discussion. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Hinman

Recording Secretary