

Barnet School Board
Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2011

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

6:26 p.m. Meeting called to order by chair Shellie Samuels.

6:27 p.m. Lori Werdenschlag made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a student issue and personnel. **Approved**

6:40 p.m. Shannon Larocque made a motion to come out executive session **Approved**

The meeting recessed

6:45 p.m. The public portion of the meeting began and was attended Ellen Hinman.

Approval of Minutes

June 14, 2011 - Louis Bushey made a motion to accept the minutes as written; seconded by Lori Werdenschlag. **Approved**

July 12, 2011 - Louis Bushey made a motion to accept the minutes as written; seconded by Lori Werdenschlag. **Approved**

July 20, 2011 – Lori Werdenschlag made a motion to accept the minutes as written; seconded by Shannon Larocque. **Approved**

Public Input

There were no members of the public in attendance and therefore no public input.

Principal's Report

-Barnet School received a grant to host an Americorps volunteer; a young man named Tyler Scher from Greensboro with a Community Resources Management degree. He is interested in working with students on trails and will work with students on relationship building and climate and also use community members as volunteers.

-Work on updating the handbook continues.

-Seven teachers, Principal Gonyaw, and the Administrative Team are attending a two-day literacy workshop.

-The mailing will be going out soon.

-An amazing job has been done this summer at the school; Due to job reassignments, many teachers had to move their classrooms. The hallways still need to be done.

Superintendent's Report

- July was spent getting people hired across the Supervisory Union.
- Retreats were held for all CCSU school boards.
- Superintendent Tucker has been working with the Administrative Team.
- Superintendent Tucker prepared and taught a graduate course that two Barnet teachers attended last week.

New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

Old Business

-School board newsletter – Lori Werdenschlag had a portion of the newsletter written and asked for comments. Jim Schenck had some input on formatting that he had sent out via email. The writing assignments for the newsletter were as follows:

Lori Werdenschlag – bios

Martha Tucker – important dates and schedule

Louis Bushey – the role of the school board

Shannon Larocque – how to bring an issue to the board/communicating with the board

Information should be sent to Lori Werdenschlag by August 15th. The draft should be pulled together by August 26th and sent to Principal Gonyaw by August 30th. There was a question on the time to publish for Executive Session – 6:30 or 6:45? Principal Gonyaw suggested a line stating Executive Session does run over from time to time. Louis Bushey suggested telling people what can be discussed at Executive Session; Superintendent Tucker suggested checking VSBA for that information.

There was discussion on the wording used in the role of the school board and communicating with the school board. There are two separate issues here that should be explained. Wording will be changed to explain the role of the school board and how to communicate with school board members.

There was discussion on whether home telephone numbers for school board members would be included in the newsletter. Board members preferred having the school emails listed instead of home telephone numbers.

Financial

There will be a financial update at the September meeting.

Other Business

Principal Gonyaw asked about the process for contract negotiations. In the past, Superintendent Tucker collected input from the Principal, the School Board and the Administrative Team. This process will most likely remain in place for the coming year. Principal Gonyaw will discuss his ideas with Superintendent Tucker.

Opening day for teachers this year will be “opening afternoon” and will start at noon on Wednesday, August 24th. School Board members should attend if possible.

Executive Session time was discussed. Shannon Larocque suggested the time be put on the agenda so the public is aware when Executive Session begins and ends. Superintendent Tucker will put 6:30 p.m. as the beginning of the public portion of the meeting on the agenda. If Executive Session is not finished by 6:30, another session would need to take place after the public portion of the meeting is finished.

Future Agenda Items

- Financial Update/Beginning of the School Year Information
- Budget (probably at the October meeting)
- Policy Review. Some material in the handbook has been changed and some of the policies could be rescinded.
- Tour of the school with Principal Gonyaw
- Update the census information. (Jim Schenck and Principal Gonyaw will work on this issue)

Adjournment

At 7:29 p.m., Jim Schenck made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Louis Bushey seconded the motion.

Approved

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Hinman
Jim Schenck