

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

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

6:13 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair Shellie Samuels.

6:13 p.m. Lori Werdenschlag made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel issues and negotiations; seconded by Shannon Larocque. **Approved**

6:32 p.m. Motion was made by Louis Bushey and seconded by Shannon Larocque to adjourn the Executive Session. **Approved**

6:34 p.m. The public portion of the meeting began.  
Members of the public present: Katie Young, David Warden, Sandra Mings-Lamar

Shannon Larocque made a motion to authorize the Superintendent to address the personnel issue per our discussion; the motion was seconded by Lori Werdenschlag. **Approved**

**Approval of October 11, 2011 Minutes**

Changes to the minutes were discussed and noted. Louis Bushey made a motion to accept the minutes as amended; seconded by Lori Werdenschlag. **Approved**

**Public Input**

There was no public input.

**Principal's Report**

Principal Gonyaw introduced the group to Barnet's literacy data wall, explained its purpose and how it was put together. This is part of a supervisory union-wide plan. Students' progress will be checked periodically and data saved for a student's career at Barnet School.

**Superintendent's Report**

-Common Core Curriculum will be in effect Spring 2015. The shift in instruction will be huge with a bigger focus on literacy. Training will begin by next summer for administrators and staff interested in literacy and math. There will be a training day with the Department of Education followed by seven days of training throughout the year. Go to the Department of Education website, click educators and administrators, curriculum and assessment, scroll down to common core to view models and information.

-A VSA/VSBA Conference was recently held at Lake Morey. Governor Shumlin, Peter Welch, representatives from Leahy's and Sanders' offices, and Department of Education staff were in attendance.

**New Business**

-2013 Budget Discussions/Instructional Program Recommendation. Principal Gonyaw presented information on three proposals for tiers of instruction. Discussion was held on the different proposals. Superintendent Tucker asked Board members for direction on which proposal they would like more information on, including the cost. Board members agreed that Proposal #1 would be their choice. At the next meeting, information regarding Proposal #1 will be presented as well as the current year

program.

-Census Update. Two different census reports have been found that are very similar. Jim Schenck and Principal Gonyaw will be looking at both those reports.

### **Old Business**

Transportation Update. Jim Schenck attended a recent Transportation Committee meeting. Discussions on requirements of Act 153 were discussed. Superintendent Tucker mentioned the VSBA has hired someone to work on Act 153 requirements; the Committee will need to talk with that person at some point. In Barnet, the busing contract expires this year; Jan Ouellette thought it would need to go out for bid as it is a large contract.

### **Financial Report**

-Revenues have remained the same as last month's projections. Expenditures remain stable.

Professional Development has been spent almost to the budgeted amount; this needs to be monitored closely. Food Services received a \$3,000 transfer. Expenditures still need to be monitored.

-Last week letters were sent out to seven firms regarding audit services; proposals are due December 9<sup>th</sup>. The proposals are for the FY2012 audit, for FY2013/2014 audits, and for any discount if all schools in the Supervisory Union go with the same firm.

-Blue Cross/Blue Shield has stated there will be no less than 3% but no more than 5% increase in rates for the coming year.

### **Other Business**

-Email Etiquette. Responses to emails would be appreciated so the sender knows the email has been received. It was suggested the school email be checked by School Board members at least once a day. In response to this, Lori Werdenschlag asked for some instruction on the school email. Principal Gonyaw suggested this could be an agenda item for another meeting.

-Newsletter. Principal Gonyaw will be the keeper of the email list for the newsletter. Jim Schenck would like to hand out the newsletter at the recycle center; Louis Bushey suggested having a sign-up sheet there for the email distribution list.

-Soccer field bridge. Louis Bushey mentioned again that the bridge is dangerous and needs repair.

-Future meetings. Is a second meeting in November necessary? There are two meetings scheduled for December and January. This means a meeting will be necessary between Christmas and New Year's. This was not an issue and the Board agreed to no second meeting in November and two meetings in December and January.

### **Future Agenda Items**

-Hot Lunch Changes (for the February meeting)

-Update on Census Information

-Budget

-Email

-New Transportation Policy

### **Adjournment**

At 8:18 p.m., Jim Schenck made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Shannon Larocque seconded the motion.

**Approved**

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Hinman  
Jim Schenck