

Barnet School Board Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2012
Barnet School

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

- 6:11 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair Shellie Samuels.
- 6:13 p.m. Louis Bushey made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue; seconded by Jim Schenck. **Approved**
- Lori Werdenschlag recused herself; John Cook left the room.
- 6:24p.m. Louis Bushey made a motion to come out of Executive Session; seconded by Jim Schenck. **Approved**
- 6:30 p.m. The public portion of the meeting began.
Shannon Larocque, Business Manager Jan Ouellette, recorder Ellen Hinman, food service manager Annette Burrington, Nancy Lewis from Child Nutrition/State of Vermont, Cindy Mosedale, and John Cook joined the meeting, as did a news crew from Channel 7.

Approval of Minutes – 3/6/2012, 3/13/2012, and 3/20/2012

- 3/6/2012 – Jim Schenck made a motion to approve the minutes from the 3/6/2012 Town Meeting as written; Lori Werdenschlag seconded the motion. **Approved**
- 3/13/2012 – One correction was made in the third paragraph of the public portion of the meeting. Louis Bushey made a motion to approve the minutes of the 3/13/2012 as amended; seconded by Lori Werdenschlag. **Approved**
- 3/20/2012 – Louis Bushey made a motion to approve the minutes from the 3/20/2012 meeting as written; Jim Schenck seconded the motion. **Approved**

Public Input

John Cook spoke regarding town meeting, hiring new teachers, having a School Board report in the Town Report, class sizes, and executive sessions held at School Board meetings. Board members addressed his concerns.

Food Service Report

Annette Burrington provided information on a summer meal program. Nancy Lewis from Child Nutrition was introduced. Barnet serves free and reduced meals to over 50% of their students and Annette has concern about those students having meals while school is out. Annette would like to work with other towns and serve meals in multiple areas, five days a week. A statement of intent must be submitted to the State by April 15, so Nancy Smith encouraged that to be done. The reimbursement rate is \$3.38 per meal. Board members agreed it was a good idea and asked Annette to gather more information. A survey is planned to get an idea of the number of families interested.

Principal's Report

- Barnet School is building a leadership team; the first meeting was held today. The team discussed the Essential Arts Program, the integrated arts approach, school community and climate, and school assemblies.

- Three finalists have been chosen for the 5th & 6th Grade Humanities teacher. The finalists taught lessons in the 5th grade class room; the 5th grade students gave Principal Gonyaw good feedback on each candidate. The hiring committee meets one more time, then one or two finalists will be sent on to Superintendent Tucker.
- The committee to hire a 7th and 8th Grade Humanities teacher is being developed. One School Board member needs to be on this committee. This position is needed to replace a teacher moving to the 5th and 6th grade level.
- NECAP scores were discussed. These scores are available on the state's website. The scores indicate some deficiencies in math and reading. Staff has been asked to look at the results, come up with action plans to address the deficiencies, and present the action plans at their next meeting.

Superintendent's Report

- Central Office is busy with hiring and contracts.
- The curriculum coordinator finalists have been interviewed by Superintendent Tucker and the Executive Committee will interview one candidate at the Thursday night meeting.
- Administrators are looking at what needs to be done over the summer to meet fall expectations and what needs to happen this spring to get the summer work accomplished.

New Business

- Transportation Update. Jan Ouellette has spoken with Jim Ingerson regarding the bus contract. The contract amount would need to fall within a 2.1% increase over the last contract to be considered without going out to bid. Mr. Ingerson came in higher than the 2.1% increase so the contract will need to be put out to bid. Jan will need the bus routes to send out to transportation companies; she plans to send out requests to five different companies. Jan also spoke with Mr. Ingerson about putting a proposal together for the Supervisory Union for the consolidation process and will ask one more transportation company to do the same.
- School Calendar. Superintendent Tucker asked for approval of the proposed calendar. The other schools have set August 28 as the first day of school, making the first week a short one. There are fewer breaks in this calendar to increase student learning opportunities. November 9 is an early release day. The February and April breaks coincide with St. Johnsbury Academy's breaks. The last day of school will be June 5. There was some discussion about in-service being held in August. CCSU in-service is scheduled for August 24. Barnet cannot hold in-service before the first week of school. Principal Gonyaw suggested in-service at Barnet on August 27 and 28 and the first day of school be August 29. Shannon Larocque made a motion to adopt the school calendar for the 2012/2013 school year as presented; Louis Bushey seconded the motion.

Approved

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

Financial

- Jan Ouellette asked the Board to sign a tuition agreement with Blue Mountain. The original amount of tuition was incorrect and the corrected tuition amount is higher.
- Food Service projections were discussed. The school's sales figures did not match the State's sales figures; Annette is doing research on this to find out why. There is the chance for a deficit in Food Service this year.
- CCSU books were audited, and a receivable amount shown due from Barnet School was

questioned. Jan did research to see what the amount was for and found all but \$195 of it to be a legitimate expense. Jan will take steps to prevent this type of receivable from showing on the books in the future.

- Jan explained the E-Rate figure to the Board and said because checks were requested for the E-Rate instead of a credit, the amount expected for this year will not actually be received until next year. That amount was projected to be \$22,000. Next year credit will be requested and that should be received in the same year.
- The heating system bid process needs to begin. The school is ready to move forward but has not heard from the town on whether they are planning to go in with the school on the purchase. John Cook said he thought the town was not interested in going in on the boilers but might be interested in going in with the school on fuel and maintenance. Principal Gonyaw will get information on the bid process to Jan.

Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

Future Agenda Items

- Drug and Alcohol Testing, Transportation Employees Policy
- Strategic Plan Update (May)
- Budget Committee (May)
- Opening bids for the boiler (May?)
- Summer Meals Program (with Annette Burrington)

A meeting is needed to review the 5th & 6th Grade position and to approve recommendations. This meeting will be set up by Robin and will need to be warned.

7:56 p.m. Shannon Larocque made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue and negotiations; Louis Bushey seconded the motion. **Approved**

8:05 p.m. Louis Bushey left the room himself during discussions of negotiations.

8:12 p.m. Jim Schenck made a motion to come out of executive session. Seconded by Lori Werdenschlag. **Approved**

8:13 p.m. The public and Louis Bushey rejoined the meeting.

Shannon Larocque made a motion to authorize Chair Shellie Samuels to sign a contract side letter. Seconded by Lori Werdenschlag. **Approved**

Louis Bushey spoke to let the minutes reflect.

The Barnet School Board has accepted Mr. Mosedale's resignation as Computer Technician. This is to inform the public that Mr. Mosedale contributed much to the school over the six years he was an employee. His resignation has nothing to do with any wrongdoing regarding any student.

8:20 p.m. Louis Bushey made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Lori Werdenschlag. **Approved**

Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Hinman & Jim Schenck