

**Barnet School Board Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, June 11, 2013  
Barnet School**

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**Members in Attendance:** Shellie Samuels, Mary Skovsted, Lori Werdenschlag, David Warden; Principal Shawn Gonyaw, Janice Ouellette

- 6:00 pm      The meeting was called to order by Chair Shellie Samuels.
- 6:03 pm      A motion was made by Lori Werdenschlag to enter Executive Session to discuss contracts; David Warden seconded the motion.
- 6:25 pm      A motion was made by David Warden to exit Executive Session; the motion was seconded by Lore Werdenschlag.
- 6:30 pm      The public portion of the meeting began. Ellen Hinman and Jim Schenck joined the meeting.

A motion was made by Lori Werdenschlag and seconded by David Warden to offer Burleigh Huntoon a contract for 2013/2014 with a 3% increase, which is consistent with contracts for teachers and support staff. **Approved**

A motion was made by Lori Werdenschlag and seconded by David Warden to grant Angel Roy’s request for a contract change. **Approved**

A motion was made by Lori Werdenschlag and seconded by David Warden to authorize the Superintendent to act on behalf of the Barnet School Board with regard to a teacher’s contract grievance dated June 4, 2013. **Approved**

**Approval of 5/14/2013 Minutes**

The date of the minutes was incorrect and will be changed to 5/14/2013. Principal Gonyaw requested the second sentence in the first bullet of the Principal’s Report be changed to read “From this point forward we will require...” A motion was made by Lori Werdenschlag and seconded by David Warden to approve minutes from the 5/14/2013 meeting as amended. **Approved**

**Public Input**

There was no public input.

**Principal’s Report**

- \* The school year ended on a great note. May was very busy with rehearsals for the play. Principal Gonyaw reported 550 people attended the two showings of the Ballad of Barnet. People who do not normally attend school functions came to see the play. Sue Persson, James Lamar, and Val Gombas played a huge role in the success of the play. David Warden reported the Barnet Historical Society appreciated all the “250” work done by the school.
- \* At in-service day, staff decided to have a school wide theme. The theme next year will center around the bread oven, the gardens, and outdoor curriculum. Every Tuesday afternoon will be dedicated to the school wide theme. A cultural theme might be worked in around the breads. Next year’s Vermont Rural Partnership grant may be written to cover

equipment for events like the play with a focus on drama. The community will be encouraged to play a role in the school theme.

- \* Working with technology outside school walls has been identified as a priority.
- \* Work will continue on writing. Writing stamina in the school is poor and the word study board may need to be revamped. The staff wants to work together on scoring for writing and work on the 3-tiered approach to make it better.
- \* Next year Barnet will have 4.5 para-educator positions. This is down from the 12 or so positions needed three or four years ago. This is encouraging and shows the school is going in the right direction.
- \* The action plan is being finalized and is focused on literacy. Principal Gonyaw is pleased with the progress and pleased with the expertise of the staff.
- \* Principal Gonyaw is on the committee that will be hiring the director of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Grant. Resumes will be reviewed on Friday and interviews held on Monday. The hope is to have someone hired by July 1.

### **New Business**

Dates for the retreat were discussed and some days were ruled out. Shelly Samuels suggested an evening meeting would work best. Mary Skovsted offered to hold the retreat in her barn on the Joe's Brook Road.

### **Old Business**

Discussion of the Esden Fund was tabled until the next meeting.

### **Financial**

- \* Tax Anticipation Note. Janice Ouellette presented information received regarding the tax anticipation note. Bids were requested from five banks; three of those replied. Janice explained the two methods of dealing with the tax anticipation note. She suggested the Board do the cash management (investment) option and use Passumpsic Bank as their investment rate is higher. A motion was made by David Warden and seconded by Lori Werdenschlag to accept the Passumpsic Bank's bid and follow the investment option.

**Approved**
- \* Janice presented the Board with updates on expenditures and revenues. It still looks like the fiscal year will end with a surplus.
- \* Annual audits will begin for 2013/2014. Janice will begin working with Mary Collins in July to prepare for the audit.
- \* There was discussion regarding the food service program. Information has not been entered into the computer in some time. Janice will check with Mary on this. Janice reported the money from the six cents program should be coming in soon. Principal Gonyaw mentioned Barnet had gotten their information in early but others did not. He felt it was unfair to be penalized because others did not get information in on time. This may become more of a problem as more consolidation takes place in the future.

### **Other Business**

School Board members recognized and commended the hard work put into the Ballad of Barnet by Sue Persson, James Lamar, and Val Gombas.

### **Future Agenda Items**

- \* Esden Fund

\* Board Leadership Responsibilities

**Adjournment**

Having no further business to discuss, a motion was made by David Warden and seconded by Lori Werdenschlag to adjourn; the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm. **Approved**

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Skovsted, Board Clerk  
Ellen Hinman, Recording Secretary