

April 16, 2020

A virtual meeting of the Berlin Board of Education was held beginning at 6:00 pm. Present for the meeting were, Louise Valliere, Ann Nolin, Matthew Buteau, Jeanne Charest, Julie King, Marion Moore, Tammy Fauteux, Sandy Pouliot, Michael Kelley, Jake Moore, Sonya L'Heureux, Autie Hamilton, Martha Miller, Jennifer Buteau, Candy Richard, Elaine Connary, Jon Dubey, Amelia Alton, staff, members of the community, and a member of the press.

#### MINUTES

On a motion by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Ann Nolin, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2020 and April 7, 2020 meetings, public and nonpublic sessions. The motion passed unanimously.

#### WARRANTS

On a motion by Scott Losier, seconded by Ann Nolin, the Board voted to approve the warrants dated, April 7, April 13, and April 20, 2020, for the amounts of \$2237.98, \$13,156.10 and \$251,990.85 respectively. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

The Board reviewed and approved the financial report. Discussion ensued regarding year end and the amount of monies to be returned to the City. Superintendent King discussed the Cares Act and how the funding could potentially work. The purchase of Chromebooks and cases to provide remote learning was discussed. The Superintendent discussed an email she received from the Mayor indicating that the funding should be the anticipated funding from the state in the next fiscal year. Mrs. King discussed the potential cost savings from kids and staff being out of the buildings for the remainder of the school year along with the savings from printing, electricity, and fuel. The Superintendent indicated that there would be a loss of revenue from food services due to the additional cost of packaging and labor that is required. She reported further that she had a meeting with Food Services Director Candy Richard, Recreation Department Manager, Terry Letarte, and Business Manager Marion Moore, regarding what the summer meals program could potentially look like. Matt Buteau asked a question regarding graduation and if we could request reimbursement from the Cares Act. The Superintendent explained that we could only request reimbursement for any items that were above our normal expenses due to COVID-19.

#### SPC BID

Autie Hamilton reviewed how the bid process works with SPC and the recommendation to go with Canon for the District's printing needs. Discussion ensued. A motion was then made by Matt Buteau, seconded by Ann Nolin, to approve the SPC bid as presented and agreeing that the original document would be electronically signed. On a roll call vote, Louise Valliere, Ann Nolin, and Matt Buteau voted in the affirmative, with Jeanne Charest not voting due to connection issues. The motion passed by a 3 to 0 margin.

#### COMMENTS

Cheryl McCormick asked if we could request that families who can afford it pay for the meals they are receiving from food services.

#### SUPER REPORT

The Superintendent informed the Board on the following:

- Summer School Program may be remote with uncertainty throughout the state. The Governor is advising districts to plan that there may be interruptions in accessing buildings for periods of time next year depending on the path of COVID-19.
- Letter sent out to Seniors to discuss and receive input of remote graduation ideas and upcoming meeting with seniors and parents.
- School vacation days will be April 20, 2020 and April 21, 2020. Food service will continue to provide meals to students

- Plans for celebrating the Winter Sports Champions are underway.
- Remote learning- cameras will be allowed to be turned on Thursday of next week with some guidelines and expectations. Teachers will have the availability to turn cameras off.
- Medicaid to schools – last year we took in \$285,000 and this year due to the emergency order we were unable to submit claims. Claims continued to be logged; we now are able to submit with the exception of OT.
- Staff is working hard and reaching out to students. There are a few students not engaging and if needed Officer Arsenault is reaching out. Matt Buteau asked what we do if we can't reach a child. The Superintendent replied that we reach out to DCYF. Tammy Fauteux and Mike Kelley agreed that there were very few students not engaging at all.

## COMMENTS

Candy Richard responded to Cheryl McCormick's kind remark that she is willing to pay for the lunches her kids are receiving. She indicated that the numbers actually help the meals program and the reimbursement from the USDA and that kids were not allowed to pay.

Jen Buteau indicated that she loves the idea of cameras to see teachers and classmates, she commented that not all kids have the same backdrop and the perhaps there needs to be some consideration to that.

Elaine Connary reminded everyone of the food bank availability and to notify Danielle Demers in advance. The Food Bank hours are from 1-2 pm on Fridays

Jon Dubey commented that he is new this year as part of the Berlin School District team and is thankful to all administration for the continued communication.

Amelia Alton indicated that she uses \*67 when she contacts parents on the phone to keep her personal number from appearing when she makes these calls. She says parents won't answer a blocked number. Discussion ensued regarding obtaining burner phones for teachers. Mrs. King said she would talk to the IT Director about other non-cost solutions like google phone.

## MEMBER BUSINESS

Matt Buteau talked about his four kids and sent out kudos to the teachers and staff that made an impact on his family.

Louise Valliere thanked all the teachers and staff.

## NON PUBLIC

On a motion by Matt Buteau, seconded by Jeanne Charest, the Board voted to go into nonpublic session at 6:55 pm in accordance with RSA 91-A3II, (a), (b) & (c). On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

On a motion by Ann Nolin, seconded by Jeanne Charest, the Board voted to come out of nonpublic session at 7:24 pm. The motion passed unanimously. No additional votes were taken in nonpublic session.

## STAFFING

On a motion by Matt Buteau, seconded by Ann Nolin, the Board voted to approve the following resignations:

Whitney Lewis –Science Teacher – BMHS  
James DeLizza – English Teacher – BMHS  
Rebecca Oberti – Grade 5 Teacher – BES

The motion passed unanimously.

## TENT. AGREEMENT

On a motion by Ann Nolin, seconded by Jeanne Charest, the Board voted to approve the Tentative Agreement with the BEA as presented. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

## BOARD STIPEND

On a motion by Matt Buteau, seconded by Jeanne Charest, the Board voted to allow the Administration to use the Board stipend monies as needed. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Ann Nolin, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to adjourn it's meeting at 7:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education

MINUTES  
BERLIN BOARD of EDUCATION  
NONPUBLIC SESSION  
April 16, 2020

On a motion by Matt Buteau, seconded by Ann Nolin, the Board voted to go into nonpublic session at 6:55 pm. in accordance with RSA 91-A3II (a), (b), and (c). On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

The Board discussed the Tentative Agreement with the BEA

The Board discussed staffing

The Board discussed the first week of May being Teachers' Appreciation Week

The Board discussed the use of the Board's \$1500 Stipend.

On a motion by Ann Nolin, seconded by Matt Buteau, the Board voted to come out of nonpublic session at 7:24 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary  
Berlin Board of Education