

January 10, 2019

A meeting of the Berlin Board of Education was held in the Berlin High School library at 6:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Nicole Plourde, Denise Valerino, Louise Valliere, Lynn Moore, Scott Losier, Corinne Cascadden, Bryan Lamirande, Kevin Carpenter, Julie King, Tammy Fauteux, Melanie McCoy, Martha Miller, Autie Hamilton, Susan Griffin, approximately 115 parents, staff, and members of the community and a member of the press.

MINUTES	On a motion by Lynn Moore, seconded by Scott Losier, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2019 meeting, public and nonpublic sessions. The motion passed unanimously.
WARRANTS	On a motion by Denise Valerino, seconded by Lynn Moore, the Board voted to approve the warrant dated, January 14, 2019 for the amount of \$20,198.41. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.
GRADE RE-ORG	The Superintendent gave a presentation on the results of a full day work session on grade re-organization. The group had a representation of parents, teachers, administrators, and School Board members.
COMMENTS	<p>Deborah Beaudoin did not feel it would be safe teaching K-2 at Hillside School, it is a sad day. Safety needs to be considered for these students.</p> <p>Josh Ewalt had an excellent education here, he wants to know why we are not regionalizing. He feels that option should continue to be looked at.</p> <p>Karen Bradley asked what the situation will be the year after? Is it worth doing if not part of a bigger solution?</p> <p>Amy Huter feels that the 7-12 option would be one less transition the students would have to make</p> <p>Nicole Palmieri feels that having the students together in one place would be great, she requested that when making the transition, please give the teachers enough time to move.</p> <p>Dean Stiles asked if Brown School was closed, could it be reopened? The Superintendent replied yes based on guidance from Berlin Fire Chief Lacasse.</p> <p>Sam Stiles inquired how the CTE programs would be affected and how the students would be kept separate if there was one Band and one Chorus.</p> <p>Kelley McCormick feels that having grades 6-12 would be intimidating for 6th graders. She feels 7-12 would be much better and would not take up so many classrooms.</p> <p>Paul Grenier informed the Board that he was one of 327 students to graduate at BHS. The enrollment keeps dropping. School Board always puts interest of kids first. We have always done without on the City side to provide funding for our schools. He will be in Concord as much as it takes to advance funding for our schools.</p> <p>Ted McCormick, teacher at BHS for 39 years at BHS, does not feel we have a good sampling of staff opinions. He agrees with the assessment that Gorham is not interested in regionalization. He feels that K-2 at BHS would be the best option.</p>
MEMBER BUSINESS	<p>Louise Valliere thanked everyone for coming</p> <p>Scott Losier thanked Mr. McCormick, he feels that safety and a nice bright building are priorities. He knows that K-2 at BHS would be the best solution. If people don't speak up, they will get 7-12 at the high school. He feels he can't do it alone.</p> <p>Nicole Plourde stated if changes are not made next year, we will be in a "pickle". There is no more cutting, no fluff or place to cut. We are in trouble and the state needs to hear from us.</p>

ADJOURN

On a motion by Denise Valerino, seconded by Lynn Moore, the Board voted to adjourn it's meeting at 7:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education