

A meeting of the Berlin Board of Education was held in the Berlin Middle High School library beginning at 6:00 pm. Present were Ann Nolin, Nathan Morin, Jeanne Charest, Eamon Kelley, Matthew Buteau, Julie King, Autie Hamilton, Cari Perreault, Kayla Steady, Karen Moore, Tammy Fauteux, Sandy Pouliot, Danielle, Demers, Linda Pivin, Marion Moore, Jamie Welch, Sonya L'Heureaux, Matthew Buteau, Dominick Couture, Aric Huter, Michael Kelley, Rachelle Gilcris, Brian Lamirande, Jason Hook, Martha Miller, Alaina Huot, Elaine Connary, Susanne Styles, Nicole Fortier and a member of the press.

### **MINUTES**

On a motion by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2023 public and nonpublic sessions. All members voted in the affirmative.

### **WARRANTS**

On a motion by Jeanne Charest, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to approve the warrant dated May 8, 2023 for the amount of \$393,903.07. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None

### **ADMINISTRATOR/DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Reports were presented and there were no further comments.

### **STUDENT REPORT**

Aric Huter stated AP testing at the high school is occurring this week.

### **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

The Superintendent informed the Board on the following:

- Julie informed the board and presented a handout about the new phone application for SAU3 to go along with the new website. Julie also handed out a packet of Spring events but mentioned that all events can also be found on the website and app.
- The Student Support Professional Learning Committee met this week and there was a visit from the Family Resource Center to give an overview of programs offered for family support and the referral process.
- Julie presented a slideshow to update the board on building and grounds projects. It was noted that some projects are funding and/or timing dependent and have multiple constraints to be completed. A team is meeting weekly and a Gantt chart is being used to track progress for the many projects occurring. Building and grounds projects are occurring in the following areas:
  - Boilers at both facilities

- Buildings and grounds maintenance: the district is looking at software (FMX) that will give the maintenance team the ability to keep track of maintenance in the building
- Buildings and ground upgrades: includes upgrades at both facilities
- HVAC: some components of the system at BES and more substantial work including electrical panel overhaul at BMHS
- Playgrounds: Brown School equipment will be removed by a company (Ultiplay) and moved to storage until September, when it will be placed in the designated spot on High Street.
- Safety: many of these projects are already complete, including classroom door locks at BES, magnetic door system at BES, and window security film at BES. There is currently a structural assessment being completed on the coal bin area (space under door B at BES). Future projects include replacement of the fire doors at BES and the BMHS fire alarm panel.
- Water testing will be completed soon.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Rachelle Gilcris - 449 Madison Ave, Berlin, NH - who has been a teacher at Berlin Public School and an advisor to the Key Club, spoke about the achievements of the Key Club and voiced her disappointment with the administration's decision to not allow the members of the Key Club to be recognized at graduation.

Aric Huter presented a letter to the board and explained that the Key Club members being recognized at graduation has been brought to both the Principal and Superintendent, where it was denied. Due to this, the members have decided to bring the issue to the board.

Linda Pivin - 28 Ramsay Street, Berlin, NH - is a Kiwanis advisor to the Key Club and described the values and achievements of the Key Club. She spoke of her further support of their recognition at graduation.

### **NEW BUSINESS/MEMBER COMMENTS**

Nathan Morin confirmed with Aric that as a student member of the board, he is able to add items to the agenda for discussion.

Nathan Morin voiced his appreciation for the new phone application.

Nathan Morin discussed the After School Program report regarding their upcoming summer program and asked for the reason behind the staffing issues and asked if there was a way the Board could support finding staff. Julie confirmed that it has been hard to find staff and she is hopeful that through advertising season enough staff will be found to run the planned summer program without limited registration numbers.

Nathan Morin asked for a cybersecurity update at the next board meeting.

Matthew Buteau expressed his appreciation for the summer After School Program, but voiced his wish for it to be longer to accommodate parents better. Julie responded by discussing that the length is dictated by the grant funding, staff needing a summer break, and the building projects that need to be completed.

Matthew Buteau asked if there would be enough time to prepare for graduation should the Board support the Key Club's recognition. Rachelle Gilcris responded by stating that she would order the cords immediately and they would be in on time.

Julie responded to the Key Club discussion by stating that it is important for the Board to hear the student voices and the reasoning behind the denial of their request but it is not the Board's place to make the decision, as this is not a matter of policy or finance.

#### **NONPUBLIC**

On a motion by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Eamon Kelley, the Board voted to go into a nonpublic session at 7:01pm in accordance with RSA 91-A3II, (a), (b), & (c). On a roll call vote all members voted in the affirmative.

On a motion by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to come out of a nonpublic session at 7:27pm. The motion passed unanimously. No additional votes were taken in the nonpublic session.

#### **STAFFING:**

On a motion by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to approve the following staffing changes :

#### **Resignations:**

Sonya L'Heureux - BMS Assistant Principal

Elaine Connary - BHS Family and Consumer Science

#### **Teacher Nominations:**

Ryan Goulet - High School Math Teacher (2023-2024 School Year)

#### **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS PAY SCALE**

On a motion by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to approve the Occupational Therapists recently hired to move from the Nurse's pay scale to the Psychologist/Speech Therapist's pay scale. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

#### **NONPUBLIC**

On a motion by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to go into a nonpublic session at 7:29 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 Matthew Buteau, seconded by Eamon Kelley, the Board voted to come out of a nonpublic session at 8:05pm. The motion passed unanimously. No additional votes were taken in the nonpublic session.

#### **ADJOURN**

On a motion by Jeanne Charest, seconded by Eamon Kelley, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:06pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education