

December 17, 2020

A virtual meeting of the Berlin Board of Education was held beginning at 6:16 pm. Present were, Ann Nolin, Jeanne Charest, Matthew Buteau, Julie King, Marion Moore, Autie Hamilton, Michael Kelley, Sandy Pouliot, Tammy Fauteux, Jason Hook, Sonya L'Heureux, Lily Capmbell, staff members, and a member of the press.

MINUTES

On a motion by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Jeanne Charest, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2020 meeting, public and nonpublic sessions. All members voted in the affirmative.

WARRANTS

On a motion by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Jeanne Charest, the Board voted to approve the warrants dated December 8, 2020 and December 21, 2020 for the amounts of \$16,625.99 and \$136,615.15. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Board reviewed and approved the financial report.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

SCHOOL BOARD SCHOLARSHIP

Ann Nolin discussed the use of the \$1500 budgeted for the School Board Annual Scholarship. Last year the monies were used towards teacher/staff appreciation. Discussion ensued. A motion was then made by Ann Nolin, seconded by Jeanne Charest to use the \$1,500 again this year towards staff appreciation. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

SECOND READING POLICY JLDBB - Suicide Prevention & Response

On a motion by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Jeanne Charest, the Board voted to approve the second reading of Policy JLDBB - Suicide Prevention & Response. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

FIRST READING POLICIES

On a motion by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Jeanne Charest the Board voted to approve the first reading of policies as amended - AC - Non-Discrimination, AC-E - Annual Notice of Contact Information, ADC - Use of Tobacco Products, BEDG- Minutes, EBCA - Crisis Prevention, EBCb - Fire and All Hazard Drills, EH - Public Access to School Records, EH-R - Administrative Procedures for Public Access. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

WITHDRAWAL OF POLICIES

On a motion by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Jeanne Charest, the Board voted to withdraw policies - AC-R - Grievance Procedure, GBA- Equal Opportunity Employment, GBED - Tobacco

Products Ban, JICG - Tobacco Products Ban, BEDG-R - Access to Minutes, EBCB-R, Fire Exit Drills. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

STUDENT REPORT

Lily Campbell informed the Board on the following:

- PSAT's and SAT's were taken by the Juniors and Seniors
- Her perspective about Remote vs On-Site Instruction
- New events and activities- Video Club, Bible Study, Winter sports have been postponed
- The YearBook club is holding a photo contest in hopes of getting photos for the yearbook
- The food pantry helped many families during Thanksgiving and are hoping to do the same during Christmas
- The Perkins Grant of \$79, 035 was awarded to the CTE program

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent informed the Board on the following:

- COVID Update - Most quarantined or isolated staff are close to completing their designated time. Community update shows pediatric cases are down and that transmission at the state prison increased due to an outbreak. The AV Dashboard(site) was reviewed. The first round of vaccinations were given at AVH today and the school nurses are in line to also receive it. Matthew Buteau asked where staff were on the vaccination plan, the Superintendent informed the Board that they are in the top of the second Tier to receive the vaccine.
- COVID Funding -\$179,000 was submitted in round two of the SPSRF allocation and Berlin was awarded \$120,000, this number will be increased by the submission of Milan and Dummer Towns to support the tuition students enrolled in SAU 3.
- CTE - Advisory meeting- The regulations require a CTE Advisory Board and that a School Board member is on the Advisory Board. Matthew Buteau volunteered to be on the CTE Advisory Board.
- Budget Book Binders will be mailed and presentations by building administrators are scheduled for January 14, 2021.
- Sports Update- 2 unrelated athletes tested positive, the Superintendent, Principal Kelley, and AD Craig Melanson met and decided to cancel sports for the week and review. A meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2020 to review the current situation.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ted McCormick mentioned that the administration had a nice discussion on sports. He stated that the CTE students still need hours and can have the same small group as sports. Mr. McCormick expressed that he hopes if the consideration is made for winter sports to resume that the CTE students should be included in that decision or at least discussed. He also discussed the School Board Scholarship and although the trinket by the Board is much appreciated he believes the \$1,500 should be given as a scholarship to a student.

NEW MEMBER BUSINESS

Matthew Buteau stated that he has two sons in remote learning and although it has been difficult, the staff has been very responsive. Mr. Buteau expressed his gratitude to all staff.

The Superintendent will review the PODS with Principal Fauteux and Assistant Principal Pouliot and will evaluate its continuation. She indicated that the school model was reviewed with administration and teachers and staff feedback will be requested to determine if changes need to be made.

NON PUBLIC SESSION

The Board consensus was that a nonpublic session was not required.

STAFFING

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

Resignations

Kayleigh Chaloux - Long term substitute - BES

Nominations:

Teacher

RENOMINATIONS NOT REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL

The motion passed unanimously.

All nominations are contingent upon the applicant completing a successful background check and physical.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Jeanne Charest, seconded by Matthew Buteau the Board voted to adjourn it's meeting at 7:01 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education

December 28, 2020

A virtual meeting of the Berlin Board of Education was held beginning at 6:01 pm. Present were, Ann Nolin, Jeanne Charest, Louise Valliere, Julie King, Marion Moore, Jason Hook, Sonya L'Heureux, Matt Lambert, Robert Theberge, Jim Wheeler, Emily Frizzell, Kayla Steady, Erin Hennessey, Danielle Demers, Mayor Paul Grenier, Mark Eastman, Candy Richard, and a member of the press.

Louise Valliere expressed her deepest sympathies for the loss of colleague Joe Fortin.

WARRANTS

On a motion by Ann Nolin, seconded by Jeanne Charest, the Board voted to approve the warrant dated December 29, 2020, for the amount of \$191,494.44. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

ADJOURN

On a motion by Louise Valliere, seconded by Ann Nolin, the Board voted to adjourn it's meeting at 6:06 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education

JOINT MEETING OF BERLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION, CITY COUNCIL, AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES

A virtual meeting of the Berlin Board of Education, Berlin City Council and State Representatives was held beginning at 6:17 pm. Present were, Ann Nolin, Jeanne Charest, Louise Valliere, Julie King, Marion Moore, Jason Hook, Sonya L'Heureux, Matt Lambert, Robert Theberge, Jim Wheeler, Emily Frizzell, Kayla Steady, Erin Hennessey, Danielle Demers, Mayor Paul Grenier, Mark Eastman, Candy Richard, Matthew Buteau, Devin Atkinson, Cheryl McCormick, Denise Morgan- Allain, Larry Laflamme, Susanne Styles, Lucie Remillard, Eamon Kelley, Madison Boynton, Diane Berthiaume, Shelli Fortin, Peter Higbee, and a member of the press.

ADEQUACY AID AND FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH

Anticipated FY 22 Adequacy Aid and Free & Reduced Lunch loss was discussed. Superintendent King explained that the applications for free and reduced meals were just not being completed as all meals are free to students 18 years of age and under for the year and

there is no urgency to do so. This has caused the Free and Reduced Lunch Rate to drop significantly, impacting the formula used to anticipate FY22 aid.

Mayor Paul Grenier explained that the NH Mayors hold monthly meetings and that one is scheduled for tomorrow and on the agenda is the Free and Reduced numbers that faces not only Berlin but other cities in NH. There is movement within the NH Mayors to request a waiver from the state to use last year's free and reduced numbers as a bridge for one year.

Representative Hennessey addressed the participants and indicated that on the senate side there is a bill to use last year's numbers for this year. She further explained how we are fortunate to have remained level with our enrollment numbers, where other cities are seeing a decrease in free and reduced applications as well as a loss of enrollment which affects adequacy aid.

A question was asked on how Berlin will see a decrease of \$186,000 with the loss of only one student in enrollment numbers. Business Manager Marion Moore , explained the formula used has many layers and a detailed spreadsheet provided by the NH DOE would more clearly show the picture of the reduction. She would send this document to anyone who would like to review it.

Superintendent King explained that letters have been sent out to parents requesting the completion of the free and reduced application and that efforts are ongoing.

Representative Laflamme asked if the request for a waiver needed to come from Commissioner Edelbut. Superintendent King explained that it needs to come from legislative action.

Mayor Grenier thanked the council members and state representatives for participating in the joint meeting and for their support.

School Board Chair Louise Valliere, thanked all who participated in the meeting.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Ann Nolin, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to adjourn it's meeting at 6:49 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education