

March 22, 2018

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, Scott Losier, Corinne Cascadden, Debora Payeur, Amy Huter, Tim Forestall, Steve Foster, Julie King, Autie Hamilton, Kristen Goyette, Sarah Clark, Judy Arsenault, Heather Kaufman, and a member of the press.

MINUTES	On a motion by Louise Valliere, seconded by Denise Valerino, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2018 meeting public and nonpublic sessions as amended removing Denise Valerino's name from the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.
WARRANTS	On a motion by Scott Losier, seconded by Louise Valliere, the Board voted to approve the warrants dated, March 13, 2018 and March 26, 2018 for the amounts of \$4451.66 and \$423,065.34. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.
FINANCIAL REPORT	The Board reviewed and approved the financial report
COMMENTS	None
PROJECT YOUTH	Judy Arsenault, Project Youth Director, gave the Board a summary of the staffing and activities they sponsored at Brown, Hillside, and Berlin Middle School. She informed the Board on training cost and difficulty recruiting qualified staff. She commented on how well the program has been treated at each level. She also commented that plans are underway for the Summer Program which would run from July 5, 2018 to August 3, 2018. All programs have strong enrollments with no wait list.
FY 19 BUDGET	<p>Discussion ensued regarding the Administration's FY19 Budget reductions which were made to adhere to the City Council's directive to reduce the budget request by an additional \$450,000. The Superintendent informed the Board that decreases have been made in capital improvements, salaries, benefits, and furniture. The administration still needs to reduce the budget by \$244,531 and will now look at staffing and reorganization.</p> <p>The Superintendent updated the Board on the status of the City Charter and Grade Re-organization studies.</p>
STUDENT REPORT	<p>Kristen Goyette and Sarah Clark informed the Board of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Junior SAT date was Wednesday, March 21st• Students are scheduling for next year• Visitation of other North Country Schools• Quarter Auction for National Honor Society• Unified Basketball – State Runner-up• All- State Athletes• Key Club – Reading to 1st graders in Gorham , Milan, and Berlin
SUB PAY RATE	Discussion ensued regarding raising the rate of pay for substitute teachers, educational assistants, bus drivers, nurses, office management, and cafeteria workers effective March 25, 2018. A motion was then made by Louise Valliere, seconded by Denise Valerino, to table this issue until the FY19 budget is closer to being finalized. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

COMMENTS
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None

MEMBER BUSINESS

Louise Valliere commented on a segment of Good Morning America which she felt glorified home schooling. The Superintendent informed the Board that 41 students have left the district to home school since the beginning of the school year. She is disheartened by the number of families who show no means to provide an education for their children.

Nicole Plourde wanted to publicly thank our local state representatives who have advocated for public education.

Tim Forestall commented that he also was disheartened with the lack of accountability in home schooling. He feels that students are struggling and do not realize their future is tied to their high school diploma. He stated the high school is always looking for and implementing other options for students. He also thanked the Superintendent for being such a sincere advocate for the education of our children.

NON PUBLIC

On a motion by Louise Valliere, seconded by Denise Valerino, the Board voted to go into nonpublic session at 6:35 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A3II, (a), (b) & (c). On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

On a motion by Louise Valliere, seconded by Denise Valliere, the Board voted to come out of nonpublic session at 6:45 p.m. The motion passed unanimously. No additional votes were taken in nonpublic session.

BOARD REQUEST

The Board requested the Superintendent prepare a strategic visionary plan for delivery of Pre-K through Grade 12 Education.

STAFFING

On a motion by Louise Valliere, seconded by Denise Valerino, the Board voted to approve the following staffing changes:

RESIGNATIONS:

Rachael Imperial – Kindergarten Teacher – Brown School

The motion passed unanimously.

All nominations are contingent on the applicant passing a background check and the completion of a successful physical.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Denise Valerino, seconded by Scott Losier, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting at 6:55 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education

MINUTES
BERLIN BOARD of EDUCATION
NONPUBLIC SESSION
March 22, 2018

On a motion by Louise Valliere, seconded by Denise Valerino, the Board voted to go into nonpublic session at 6:35 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 staffing.

The Board discussed Project Youth staff incident.

On a motion by Louise Valliere, seconded by Denise Valerino, the Board voted to come out of nonpublic session at 6:45 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary
Berlin Board of Education