

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, Matthew Buteau, Julie King, Marion Moore, Michael Kelley, Sonya L'Heureux, Jason Hook, Tammy Fauteux, Danielle Demers, Aric Huter, Dominick Couture, Debora Payeur, and Autie Hamilton. Attending virtually were Alaina Huot, and Eamon Kelley

#### **MINUTES**

On a motion by Nathan Morin, seconded by Jeanne Charest, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2023 public session. All members voted in the affirmative.

#### **WARRANTS**

On a motion by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to approve the warrants dated February 21, 2023, February 24, 2023 and March 13, 2023 for the amounts \$158.25, \$10,584.45, and \$367,423.57, respectively. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None

#### **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST POSITION**

The Superintendent informed the Board that our current Occupational Therapist needs are provided by an outside contractor. She stated it would be a substantial cost savings to the district to hire our own Occupational Therapists. A salary schedule was developed to coincide with the current Nursing salary schedule. Discussion ensued regarding the nursing salary schedule. The Superintendent informed the Board that the hourly rate for our nurses is in line with the medical community.

A motion was then made by Nathan Morin, seconded by Matthew Buteau to approve the creation of a Occupational Therapist position, along with the salary schedule and benefits as presented by the Administration. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **SCHOOL BOARD STIPENDS**

Discussion ensued on how to use the monies for School Board Stipends within the district. The Board liked the idea of granting a scholarship to a high school senior who is pursuing a career in education. A motion was then made by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Nathan Morin to use the \$1500.00 in Board stipends as a scholarship for a high school senior going into the field of education. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

#### **SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES**

Discussion ensued regarding the approval of new, revised and withdrawn School Board Policies. Jeanne Charest had a concern with the Medical Provider terminology used in the Concussion Policy. The Superintendent will look into this wording and get back to her. A motion was then made by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Nathan Morin to approve the first reading of Policies- JLCJA - Emergency Plan for Sports Related Injuries and IHBAC - Developmental

Delay As Qualifying Disability. Matthew Buteau, Ann Nolin, and Nathan Morin, voted in the affirmative, with Jeanne Charest abstaining. The motion passed.

On a motion by Nathan Morin, seconded by Matthew Buteau the Board voted to approve the revisions to Policies - JLCJ - Concussions and Head Injuries, EBBB - Accident Reports, EBB- School Safety Program, EB - Workplace Safety, BEDH - Public Participation at Board meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

On a motion by Nathan Morin, seconded by Jeanne Charest, the Board voted to approve the withdrawal of Policies - ADD - Safe Schools, EBCA-R - Emergency Plans, JLI - Joint Loss Management Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

### **ADMINISTRATOR/DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Ann Nolin thanked the administrators for these reports. She appreciates the time and effort put into them. Mike Kelley informed the Board that SAT testing for Juniors will be held on March 23, 2023. It will be a fun day for the Middle School students and the Freshman, Sophomores, and Seniors will not be attending school that day. He also shared a letter from a person who attended a Unified Basketball game. This person was an aunt to one of the students and she stated how impressed she was with the game and with one of the referees.

### **STUDENT REPORT**

Aric Huter informed the Board that the Boys Varsity Hockey team were in the finals, which will be played on Saturday, March 11, 2023 at 5:00 pm. He also mentioned that a group of students were volunteering to help students who needed it with academics.

### **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

The Superintendent informed the Board on the following:

- NEAS&C Visit - March 19-22, 2023. Board members Ann Nolin and Eamon Kelley will meet with the committee on March 21, 2023 at 11:05-11:50 am in the library.
- District Needs Assessment for Grants
- SRO will be back in schools soon
- BMHS Bathroom Panel- HVAC Process at BES & BMHS- Boiler Replacement
- Grant Award, ASP Enrichment
- Joint Meeting with Milan and Dummer, tentatively scheduled on October 19, 2023 at 6:00 pm
- Electric Bus Demonstration at WMCC on March 14, 2023
- Emergency Drill- Table Talk Drill with Homeland Security and local agencies in May
- Budget Presentation to City Council on Monday, March 13, 2023

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None

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

Matthew Buteau commented that the school experience was very positive for his children. He wanted to express his gratitude to Anthony Mullins and Dan Mackin on their compassion and dedication to teaching. He also is impressed with the passion and crowd size at our sporting events.

Eamon Kelley informed the Board that it was not a good day for Public Schools in NH. The new state formula on School Choice will increase the funds available to students who do not attend public schools. Unfortunately, ninety percent of those receiving the funding were previously enrolled in private schools, hence, had the money to pay for it already. The system did not help low income students who are in public schools but are looking for an alternative that is a better fit. He is not against School Choice, but is against the funds being taken from public schools. Our public schools have expenses that do not decrease even if the enrollment is down.

#### **NONPUBLIC**

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

#### **STAFFING:**

On a motion by Nathan Morin, seconded by Matthew Buteua the Board voted to approve the following staffing changes :

#### **Resignations:**

Amanda Corrigan- Educational Assistant -After School Program

#### **Nominations:**

Jennifer Lawcewicz- Director of Special Services - District

Madison Comeau - After School Program - BES

#### ***NOMINATIONS/ RENOMINATIONS NOT REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL***

Karin Anderson - Science Club/STEM Advisor - BES

Anthony Mullins - Track & Field Coach - BMHS (6-8)

Amy Welch - Track & Field Coach - BMHS (6-8)

Trista Bruns - Softball Coach - BMHS (6-8)

Rachel Thompson - Softball Coach - BMHS (6-8)

On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative

All nominations are contingent upon the applicant completing a successful background check, physical and NH Certification or Statement of Eligibility.

#### **ADJOURN**

On a motion by Jeanne Charest, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education