

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, Eamon Kelley, Julie King, Marion Moore, Sonya L'Heureux, Tammy Fauteux, Sandy Pouliot, Martha Miller, Danielle Demers, Aric Huter, Dominick Couture, Debora Payeur. Attending virtually were Alaina Huot, Michael Kelley and Jason Hook.

MINUTES

On a motion by Nathan Morin, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2023 public session. 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 March 10, 2023, March 17, 2023, and March 27, 2023 for the amounts \$21,006.58, \$529.75, and \$159,791.68, respectively. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

A motion was made by Nathan Morin, seconded by Matthew Buteau to approve the second reading of Policies- JLCJA - Emergency Plan for Sports Related Injuries and IHBAC - Developmental Delay As Qualifying Disability. The motion passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

The Superintendent informed the Board on the following:

- Email received from St. Thomas Aquinas, on how impressed they were with fans at the championship hockey game
- Accolades to Bus Driver, Norm Giroux, for keeping his bus students safe during a recent incident in the vicinity of a drop-off.
- NEAS& C - went well. The staff was recognized for their work and dedication.
- HB640 - Creating a committee for a Pre-K Study and a pilot program

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

NEW BUSINESS/MEMBER COMMENTS

Eamon Kelley informed the Board of a bill that would increase the free lunch program. Matthew Buteau stated it was clear that there was respect between Julie, Marion, and the Mayor and how important it was. He was impressed with the Budget presentation. Ann Nolin was also pleased with the meeting between the Board and City Council.

Jeanne Charest inquired about the status of a SRO in the schools. Julie King informed her that the officer selected and trained for the School Resource Officer position remains out on medical leave. Upon return, the officer will be in schools.

Aric Huter informed the Board that despite no SRO, there are police officers who walk the halls of the middle high school. It is not permanent but there is a presence. Julie informed the Board that this was an agreement worked out between the Berlin Police Department and Berlin Public Schools..

Matthew Buteau feels that a good relationship between students, teachers, and administrators is key to preventing violence. It is important that students have a staff member they feel is there for them. It was noted that many of the students at BMHS feel they do have a person they can go to.

Jeanne Charest mentioned a media story from another district where a student spent time with a school janitor and how well they related with each other.

Nathan Morin thanked Julie for her work on the budget.

Dominick Couture informed the Board that the Open Campus program with Gorham is not easily available to the students. Students are not aware of this option and have to work for it on their own. Julie King informed the Board that she and Superintendent David Backler are working on this and will meet with the guidance counselors to discuss how to make this work for all students.

Aric Huter and Dominick Couture informed the Board of an issue that may be brought to them in writing at a future meeting. It entails having students recognized at award ceremonies and graduation for their accomplishments with school clubs, such as the Key Club and FCCLA. They feel that the National Honor Society should not be the only organization that is represented by wearing sashes at graduation.

Aric and Dominick also mentioned that the Dress Code Committee met. One option they discussed is allowing students to wear hats in the school hallways and cafeteria, but not in the classrooms. They feel this will take the burden off the teachers and still allow the students to wear hats. They are proposing a test run this spring and if it works have it take effect in the fall.

NONPUBLIC

On a motion by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to go into a nonpublic session at 6:29 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 Nathan Morin, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to come out of a nonpublic session at 7:02 pm. The motion passed unanimously. No additional votes were taken in the nonpublic session.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR POSITION

A motion was made by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Matthew Buteau to begin the new Business Administrator position as of April 3, 2023. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

STAFFING:

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

Resignations:

Lana Gilcris- Special Education Teacher - BES

Nominations:

Mark Knowlton - BMHS (6-8) Baseball Coach

Trishia Guilmette - Educational Assistant - BES

NOMINATIONS/ RENOMINATIONS NOT REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL

Rollie Poirier - Varsity Softball Coach - BMHS (9-12)

Andy Rancloes - Varsity Girls Tennis Coach - BMHS (9-12)

Robert Lord - Varsity Boys & Girls Track & Field Coach - BMHS (9-12)

Kieran Finnigan-Allen - Varsity Boys & Girls Track & Field Asst Coach -BMHS (9-12)

Dan Mackin - Varsity Baseball Coach - BMHS (9-12)

Travis Houle - JV Baseball Asst Coach - BMHS (91-12)

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

Amy Welch - Track & Field 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.

NONPUBLIC

On a motion by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to go into a nonpublic session for a second time at 7:05 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 Eamon Kelley, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to come out of a nonpublic session at 8:00 pm. 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 8:02 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education

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MINUTES
BERLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION
NONPUBLIC SESSION
March 23, 2023

On a motion by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to go into a nonpublic session at 6:29 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A3II 9a), (b), (c). On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

The Board discussed staffing

On a motion by Nathan Morin, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to come out of a nonpublic session at 7:02 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

On a motion by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Matthew Buteau, the Board voted to go into a nonpublic session for a second time at 7:05 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A3II 9a), (b), (c). On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

The Board discussed the Berlin Board of Education Scholarship

The Board discussed the Superintendent's Evaluation

Matthew Buteau left the nonpublic session at 7:35 pm.

On a motion by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to come out of a nonpublic session at 8:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education