

November 19, 2020

A meeting of the Berlin Board of Education was held in the Berlin Middle High School library beginning at 6:00 pm. Present in the Berlin Middle High School library were, Louise Valliere, Ann Nolin, Jeanne Charest, Matthew Buteau, Julie King, Marion Moore, Craig Melanson, Peter Peare and Autie Hamilton. Attending virtually were Michael Kelley, Sandy Pouliot, Tammy Fauteux, Jason Hook, Sonya L'Heureux, staff members, and a member of the press.

MINUTES

On a motion by Jeanne Charest, seconded by Ann Nolin, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2020 meeting, 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 warrants dated November 11, 2020 and November 23, 2020 for the amounts of \$18,942.30 and \$227,529.72 respectively. Electricity costs were discussed and if there were any other alternatives. The Superintendent explained that would come with the redesign of the HVAC system. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Cheryl McCormick inquired if someone could video winter athletics to broadcast over facebook or another avenue.

WINTER SPORTS APPROVAL

Craig Melanson and Peter Peare presented the winter athletics plan to the Board. Discussion ensued. There will be no fans in the facilities, masks will be worn at all times. If in remote learning mode due to high levels of community or school COVID cases, there will be no athletics. If remote for other reasons, such as staffing issues, sports may proceed if staffing allows. The games will be broadcast with NSN. A motion was made by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Jeanne Charest to approve the winter athletics plan as presented. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

Alpine Skiing was discussed. A motion was made by Matthew Buteau, seconded by Ann Nolin to allow an individual Alpine skier to represent Berlin High School by training and competing with the Gorham High School team. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent informed the Board on the following:

- Transition back to onsite learning went well, though there are some anxieties amongst staff and students. Some families are choosing to keep their children remote however, other families have requested to come back onsite.
- 350 students took advantage of the meal service during the 2 week remote learning
- Community Leaders regular update call has received some attention from NPR, PBS and Berlin Daily Sun

- Masks were lent to the Androscoggin Valley Chamber of Commerce as their shipment was delayed and they have a give-away planned tomorrow for local businesses. They will return the supply when their shipment arrives next week.
- Predicting we will need to purchase an additional 16,000 masks for this school year based on the current rate of usage. Will wait to see if another free allotment is given.
- CTE - Building Trades is onsite. Looking for opportunities for Health Science students to earn their required hands-on hours. All local health facilities are closed to CTE students due to strict protocols to guard against viral transmission.
- Funding is on track- HVAC repairs will be funded through the CARES ACT.
- The NHDOE FY19 Single Audit review went well.
- Re-entry after Christmas Break. SAU 20 will now follow the new guidelines regarding travel, which allows for a pcr test on day 7 of quarantine and returning to work/school with a negative result. We are developing a plan for a supervised remote accommodation for parents who must work and have no access to childcare during our remote periods. The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve re-entry after Christmas break in a remote mode for 1 week (Jan 4-8) then returning to onsite "green mode" on Jan 11.

CHRISTMAS BREAK RE-ENTRY

On a motion by Ann Nolin, seconded by Jeanne Charest the Board voted to return from Christmas break on January 4, 2021 in a remote mode for 1 week then returning to our onsite hybrid model on Jan 11. On a roll call vote, Ann Nolin, Jeanne Charest and Louise Valliere voted in the affirmative and Matthew Buteau voted in the negative. The motion passed by a 3 to 1 margin.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

NEW MEMBER BUSINESS

A Board meeting will be held on December 29, 2020 at 7:30am in the Superintendent's office for warrants only.

OMS POSITION

On a motion by Ann Nolin, seconded by Jeanne Charest, the Board voted to amend the 10 hour a week temporary OMS position to a 20 hour a week position. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

NON PUBLIC SESSION

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

STAFFING

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

Resignations

Nominations:

Evan Arsenault - JV Boys Basketball Coach - BMHS (9-12)

Scott Turmel -Asst Varsity Girls Ice Hockey Coach -BMHS (9-12)

Teacher

RENOMINATIONS NOT REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL

BMHS - Winter Coaches (9-12)

Colleen Colwell - Varsity Spirit

Donald Picard - Girls Varsity Basketball

Peter Peare - Girls JV Basketball

Jared Lauze - Boys Varsity Basketball

Michael Poulin - Boys Varsity Hockey

Corey Riendeau - Boys Varsity Hockey - 1st Asst

Daniel Mackin - Boys JV Hockey

Craig Bartoli - Girls Varsity Ice Hockey Coach

Karen Turgeon - Unified Basketball

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 Ann Nolin, the Board voted to adjourn it's meeting at 7:25 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education