



Berlin Public Schools

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Climbing to achieve academic excellence for college and career readiness for all students.

Berlin Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 1, 2023

DRAFT

Board Members: Chair Ann Nolin, Secretary, Nathan Morin, Eamon Kelley, Aric Huter (Student Representative)

SAU #3 Administration: Superintendent Julie King, BES Principal Tammy Fauteux, BES Assistant Principal Sandy Pouliot, Director of Student Services Martha Miller, CTE Director Danielle Demers, Title I Director Karen Moore, Business Administrator Marion Moore, IT Administrator Autie Hamilton.

Guests and Public: Cari Perreault (minutes), Jamie Welch, Cheryl McCormick, Holly Paquette, Susanne Styles, Lisa Connell, Emily Frizzell, Amelia Snyder, Angela Duquette, Tricia Walsh, Lucille Lambert, Lisa Thompson, Aisha Rai Vien, Carissa Dupont, Jane Provencher.

A meeting of the Berlin Board of Education was held in the Berlin Middle High School Library beginning at 6:02pm.

Minutes

On a motion by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2023 public and nonpublic sessions. All members voted in the affirmative.

Warrants

On a motion by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to approve the warrants dated June 5, 2023 for the amount of \$177,516.54. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

Approval of Title I Co-director Position

A request for a Title I co-director was submitted to the School Board. Karen Moore stated to the board that having a co-director will allow her to properly train her replacement as she is retiring next year. In addition, there is an educational assistant as well as a part-time staff member leaving. The co-director positions would assist with services to students in the absence of those two employees so there would be no gap in services. Karen stressed the importance of passing along grant management knowledge along with other pieces of the director position.

The board questioned whether having a co-director was the right decision because there are several supervisors in the Title I department already and fears the services to the students would decrease.

On a motion by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Nathan Morin, the board voted to approve the Title I Co-director position. On a roll call vote, the motion was denied with Ann Nolin and Nathan Morin both voting no and Eamon Kelley voting yes.

Comments from the Public

None

Principal and Director Reports

Reports from the Title I director, BES Principal, BMHS Principal, and Director of Special Education were handed out to the board.

Aric Huter noted that there was no student report submitted but provided a few updates, including NWEA testing, the Key Club's "Kiss a Senior Goodbye", and the upcoming awards ceremonies this weekend.

Danielle Demers noted this week there was a preschool graduation and NH Scholars ceremony. In addition, the welding students had AWS testing with 100% pass rate and the LNA students tested with 100% pass rate.

Martha Miller informed the board that there is a group of students going to Durham to compete in a Special Olympics event on June 2nd.

Tammy Fauteux added that the bookfair earned \$5,700, which allowed each student to receive two books. Also, an update on the Brown School playground equipment was added to the newsletter. It was noticed that the public was commenting about the move on facebook so it was best to notify families where the equipment is being moved to.

Superintendent Report

The Superintendent offered her kudos for the elementary school open house and concert. It was well attended, which was nice to see.

The Superintendent also mentioned that she attended the North Country Scholars event, which recognizes Valedictorians, Salutatorians, and CTE students from all over the North Country. She always enjoys that event but found less parents and families attended this year. The event now has the option for zoom attendance.

The Superintendent informed the board that there was a viewing in the auditorium of the film "Anxious Nation" in collaboration with Northern Human Services. The film featured Lynn Lyons, who has been a speaker here at Berlin Public Schools for professional development purposes. The film was not well attended by the community, but the staff that did attend, received it well.

The Superintendent shared a brief building update. All projects are still in progress. The roofing project was moved from ESSER III to ESSER II to utilize funds that were to expire in ESSER II on September 30, 2023. Berlin Water Works has agreed to assist with fixing the retaining wall outside the Elementary School playground. Work will begin after the school year.

The Superintendent distributed a template for a "District Report Card", which she has been wanting to create to give the community a snapshot of the district. She asked for feedback from the board and administrators. The plan for distribution is not in place yet, although the report card will likely be distributed on the new app and website.

There was a public hearing for the city budget on Tuesday night which went smoothly. There are two more meetings on June 5th and June 19th. On the 19th, the City will adopt the budget.

Comments from the Public

Carissa Dupont - 9-0 Maynesboro Street, Berlin, NH

Carissa referenced the District Report Card and questioned what information will be on the Student Discipline page. Julie explained that it is to be determined, but can include various points of data regarding student discipline.

New Business/Member Comments

Eamon Kelley reported that the state Senate is amending the funding formula that would cut funding from smaller communities, including Berlin. He is not sure that it will pass. The cut will be from the house version of the budget, but still allow an increase from what the governor proposed. Julie noted

that the district's budget that is sent to City Council is based on what is known, not what may be approved later.

Nonpublic

On a motion by Nathan Morin, seconded by Eamon Kelley, the Board voted to go into non-public session at 6:32 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 7:10pm. The motion passed unanimously. No additional votes were taken in the nonpublic session.

Approval of Staffing

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

Nominations:

Andy Rancloes - High School Assistant Principal

Teacher Nominations:

John Paine - Student Support Center (3-5) Teacher - 2023-2024 School Year

Rachel Welch - English Teacher (6-8) - 2023-2024 School Year

NOMINATIONS/ RENOMINATIONS NOT REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL:

Berlin High School Fall Coaches:

Holly Munce - Head Coach Girls Varsity Soccer

Amy Drapeau - First Assistant/JV Coach Girls Soccer

Travis Houle - Head Coach Boys Varsity Soccer

Robert Lord - Boys and Girls Varsity Cross Country

Nicole Arguin - Head Coach Varsity Field Hockey

Paul Arguin - First Assistant/JV coach Field Hockey

Adjourn

On a motion by Eamon Kelley, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:15pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education