

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #86
BARNSTEAD SCHOOL BOARD**

MINUTES

Barnstead School Board
Wednesday April 10, 2013
Barnstead Elementary School

I. CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Diane Beijer, Chairperson
Keith Couch, Vice-Chairperson
Kathy Grillo, Member
Maureen Fitzpatrick, Member

Others Present: John Fauci, Superintendent
Donna Clairmont, Business Administrator
Tim Rice, Principal
Scott Young, Assistant Principal
Misty Lowe, Director of Special Education
Members of the Faculty
Members of the Public

Absent: Eunice Landry, Member

Chairperson Beijer called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM in the Library of the Barnstead Elementary School.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present rose to pledge allegiance to the flag.

III. AGENDA REVIEW

On a motion made by Mr. Couch and seconded by Ms. Grillo, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Mr. Couch and seconded by Ms. Grillo, the Board voted to approve the Board Meeting minutes of March 26, 2013.

V. PUBLIC INPUT

None

VI. RESIGNATION

The board was provided with a copy of a letter from Linda Nelson stating that she will not be seeking another position at Barnstead Elementary School. Mr. Fauci noted that she has worked for BES for 41 years.

On a motion made by Mr. Couch and seconded by Ms. Fitzpatrick, the Board voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Linda Nelson, after 41 years of service, with gratitude.

VII. RESTRUCTURING PRESENTATION

Mr. Rice gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed BES restructuring. Mr. Rice explained the rationale for this move and noted the positions that would be effected:

- 1) Guidance will be increased to 1 FTE
- 2) A 2nd Speech Pathologist position will replace a Speech Therapist
- 3) A 1FTE Reading Teacher will be added for grades 5 - 8
- 4) The Technology Integration position will be increased to 1FTE from .7 FTE.
- 5) The Math and Reading Enrichment Programs will be eliminated to fund the new positions

The goals of restructuring are:

- 1) To improve student achievement and teacher effectiveness
- 2) To improve student achievement by using all administrative staff to ensure the use of high quality practices

Mr. Rice explained that there are currently 4 grant funded reading teachers that work with grades K-4. There are currently no Tier II or Tier III supports for grades 5 – 8. By eliminating the enrichment programs we would be able to fund a reading teacher for the upper grades, as well as adding time to the Technology position.

Mr. Rice went over the enrollment of the enrichment programs and noted that many of the 4's scored on the NECAP were from students that did not attend enrichment. He believes that the brightest students will still be challenged through differentiated instruction.

There was a discussion about enrichment enrollment and what is needed to no longer be a SINI/DINI. It was noted that the teachers at BES are fully capable of challenging all students in their classes.

The floor was opened to the public for questions and comments.

Each parent that spoke acknowledged the need to assist the neediest students, but do not want to lose the enrichment program. Concerns were noted from several parents that high achieving students will not get the appropriate challenges without an enrichment program.

Mr. Fauci explained how improving our technology will open new windows to enhance enrichment.

There was a question about Special Education students having their needs met through the Special Ed program. Mr. Rice noted that students that are below proficient need more than just Special Ed services.

Some parents were concerned with the apparent lack of transparency, with several voicing concern that this was not a topic of discussion at the District Meeting. It was explained that staffing issues are handled at the board level all of the time.

It was suggested that additional grants be sought to support the enrichment program.

There was a question about reducing class size in order to provide more individual instruction. Mr. Rice stated that class size in grades 1 – 3 are less than 15, but the classes are larger for grades 4 – 8 and this is where they need more support.

There was a concern that the school will be teaching to the lowest common denominator and the bright students will be bored. Mr. Fauci took exception with this statement and noted that through differentiated instruction all students will be challenged at the level of their abilities.

There was a concern that parents and teachers were not made aware and were not a part of the discussion regarding the restructuring. It was noted that during the 2011 District Meeting the citizens strongly supported an enrichment program and expect there to be one.

The fact that NECAP scoring is driving this issue is of concern because it is a faulty measure of a school's effectiveness.

One student stated that she was not challenged in reading until she was in the enrichment program. Another student read a letter asking the board to keep the enrichment program. A third student stated that the enrichment program gives the students more of a challenge in a fun way.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

On a motion made by Mr. Couch and seconded by Ms. Grillo, the Board voted unanimously to enter into a Non-Public Session under the provisions of RSA 91-A: 3 II (c), personnel at 7:21 PM.

Public Session resumed at 7:34 PM.

On a motion made by Mr. Couch and seconded by Ms. Fitzpatrick, the Board voted unanimously to establish a Board Committee that will work with the Administration to determine the needs of the school in regards to the SINI/DINI plan. The committee will seek input from teachers and community members.

On a motion made by Mr. Couch and seconded by Ms. Grillo, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Administration as to the restructuring of the Reading and Enrichment programs as presented tonight.

VIII. BES ADMINISTRATION

A. Action Items

1. Nominations

On a motion made by Ms. Beijer and seconded by Mr. Couch, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation of the Administration for contract renewals for Administrators as presented.

On a motion made by Ms. Beijer and seconded by Mr. Couch, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation of the Administration for contract renewals for Non-Tenured faculty as presented.

On a motion made by Ms. Beijer and seconded by Mr. Couch, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation of the Administration for contract renewals for Non-Tenured faculty with the exception of teacher #21 as presented.

On a motion made by Ms. Beijer and seconded by Ms. Fitzpatrick, the Board voted to approve the recommendation of the Administration for contract renewals for Teacher #21 as presented. The vote was 3 in favor and 1 abstention (KC).

On a motion made by Ms. Beijer and seconded by Ms. Fitzpatrick, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation of the Administration for contract renewals for Professional & Other Employees as presented.

On a motion made by Ms. Grillo and seconded by Ms. Fitzpatrick, the Board voted unanimously to approve Christine Bergeron as Advisor to the Bridges program for the rest of this school year and next year.

On a motion made by Ms. Beijer and seconded by Ms. Grillo, the Board voted unanimously to approve Gordon Bilodeau as Baseball coach.

Ms. Lowe provided information on Kathleen McAnney and Brenda Lorrey as Paraprofessionals. These positions were discussed and approved at last month's meeting.

2. Resignation and Retirement

The board was provided with a copy of a letter from Donna DeTrude stating that she would be retiring at the end of the school year.

On a motion made by Mr. Couch and seconded by Ms. Fitzpatrick, the Board voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Donna DeTrude with gratitude.

3. VHS Tapes

Mr. Rice stated that we have an abundance of VHS tapes but do not have players. He would like approval to offer them to the community or to dispose of them.

On a motion made by Mr. Couch and seconded by Ms. Grillo, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Administration to dispose of the VHS tapes by notification to parents and the Library. Remaining tapes may be discarded.

4. School Calendars

The Board was provided with a copy of the proposed calendar for the 2013-2014 school year. Mr. Fauci recommended that no action be taken tonight as the 3 schools are still trying to coordinate 1 day of joint training.

B. Information Items

1. BES Enrollment Update

Mr. Rice provided information indicating that as of 4/8/13 the enrollment was 521.

IX. SAU ADMINISTRATION

A. Action Items

1. Approval of School District Meeting Minutes

On a motion made by Mr. Couch and seconded by Ms. Grillo, the Board voted to approve the School District Meeting minutes of March 23, 2013 as presented. The vote was 3 in favor and 1 abstention (KG).

2. Approval of Work Session Minutes

On a motion made by Ms. Beijer and seconded by Ms. Fitzpatrick, the Board voted to approve the Work Session minutes of March 20, 2013 as presented. The vote was 3 in favor and 1 abstention (KG).

3. Policies

The Board was provided with policies GBEF- Internet Access for Staff; IL – Evaluation of Curricular Programs and ILBA – Assessment of Educational Programs for a final reading.

On a motion made by Mr. Couch and seconded by Ms. Fitzpatrick, the Board voted unanimously to approve policies GBEF- Internet Access for Staff; IL – Evaluation of Curricular Programs and ILBA – assessment of Educational Programs for a final reading.

B. Information Items

1. Audit Report

Ms. Clairmont provided the board with a copy of the audit. There were no findings. This represents that we are fiscally sound with our practices at the SAU.

Mr. Fauci commended Ms. Clairmont for her thoroughness and noted that the favorable audit speaks to her outstanding abilities.

2. Expenditure Report

Ms. Clairmont provided an updated expenditure report. She has been working on a transfer request that will come to the next meeting.

Ms. Fitzpatrick questioned why Building and Maintenance is in the red. Ms. Clairmont stated that this is one of the transfer areas the noted above.

3. PMHS Enrollment

The Board was provided with information regarding enrollment at PMHS which shows that the total enrollment as of 4/13/13 is 528 with 238 of those students coming from Barnstead. This document also provided information on home schooled students and students in alternative learning programs.

X. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Personnel: DB & MF

Buildings & Grounds: DB & MF

Finance: EL & DB (subject to change)

Policy: MF & KG

Service Study: KC & DB

Space Needs: TBD

Negotiations: TBD

XI. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 30, 2013 at 6:00 PM in the Media Center of the Barnstead Elementary School. The agenda will include:

1. Calendar
2. Policy
3. Reading Program Presentation
4. Enrichment recommendations
5. Technology update
6. Transfer requests
7. Para nominations

XII. PUBLIC INPUT (Second Session)

Judy Chase stated that she appreciated the opportunity to sit down and talk with Mr. Rice and Mr. Fauci about the enrichment program. She stated that it would be

beneficial for the community to know all of the good things we do. She challenged the Administration to find ways to get this information out to the public.

Susan Grey inquired if the Policy Committee addresses the use of the gym. She noted that the Barnstead Parks & Rec wanted to use the gym for a group of Barnstead youth, but that AAU was using the gym. She hopes that the committee will develop a procedure that will allow Barnstead Parks & Rec to take precedence over private organizations.

Mr. Rice stated that the Policy Committee does look at these issues. Ms. Beijer stated that the meetings are posted and the community is invited.

Kristina Schram from Parks & Rec stated that the school did not do anything wrong regarding the use of the gym, there was just a lack of procedure when she went to use the gym and AAU was there.

Ms. Beijer noted that the first place to go for gym usage was the Athletic director since they would know the schedule.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Ms. Fitzpatrick and seconded by Ms. Grillo, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynette Rose
Recording Secretary