

**Barnet School Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 9, 2015
Barnet School**

Members in Attendance: Louis Bushey, Robert Farlice-Rubio, Sue Roberts, Jim Schenck, David Warden; Principal Shawn Gonyaw; Superintendent Mat Forest, Business Manager Pat Amsden

- 6:09 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair Louis Bushey.
- 6:10 p.m. A motion was made by Robert Farlice-Rubio to enter Executive Session to discuss contracts, personnel, and negotiations. The motion was seconded by Dave Warden and passed unanimously with no further discussion. **Approved**
- 6:30 p.m. A motion was made by Robert Farlice-Rubio to end Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Jim Schenck and passed unanimously with no further discussion. **Approved**
- 6:34 p.m. The public portion of the meeting began.
A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by Robert Farlice-Rubio authorizing Superintendent Forest to negotiate a settlement on a warranty claim with the appropriate parties. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion. **Approved**
A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by Robert Farlice-Rubio accepting the resignation letter dated June 8, 2015, from Ingrid Reed. The Board appreciates the hours of service provided by Ms. Reed and thanks her for that service. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion. **Approved**

Approval of Minutes – May 12, 2015

The minutes of the May meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Robert Farlice-Rubio and seconded by Jim Schenck to approve the May 12, 2015 minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion. **Approved**

Public Input

There was no public input.

Administrative Reports

- Business Manager Report. There were no questions on the report. Tuition costs were discussed.
- Principal Report. There were no questions on the report.
- Superintendent Report. The MTSS Model was discussed. Principal Gonyaw said the system is working well in Barnet. More discussions on the model will take place over the summer. There was discussion on the legislative session and what changes may be coming. The Agency of Education is suggesting that schools have a clear plan that is fiscally responsible and shows proactive and creative ways to meet the needs of students. The Board chairs and Superintendent Forest are meeting with AOE and VSBA on Monday to discuss this issue.
- Curriculum Coordinator Report. There were no questions on the report.
- Special Services Report. There were no questions on the report.

New Business

-Tax Anticipation Note and Investment. There was discussion on the bids received from local banks. In the past, a loan has been taken for the full amount needed and an investment account is used to store the funds not being used. Barnet made \$15,000 using this method but lost \$17,000 the year before. Pat Amsden suggested using a sweep account option that is being developed by the Passumpsic Bank. The bank would watch rates and do the sweeps. This approach could be used along with the line of credit account. A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by Robert Farlice-Rubio to support the Passumpsic Bank line of credit and sweep account as recommended by the Business Manager. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion. **Approved**

-Special Education Waiver. A waiver has been received from the Agency of Education giving CCSU until June 30, 2016 to consolidate special education services within the district. All special education staff except the para educators would be brought under CCSU. It would make sense to bring the paras under CCSU as well. Doing this would increase CCSU staff to a level where health insurance would need to be offered to non-union employees. Offering health insurance will help when hiring staff but will cause an increase in the CCSU budget.

-Nominations for Open Positions. Principal Gonyaw offered the following nominations to fill three of the open positions – Elizabeth Nutt for 5th grade teacher, Beverly McCarthy for Art, and Melinda Pilner for the preschool teacher position. A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by David Warden to accept Principal Gonyaw’s recommendations to fill the three teaching positions. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion. **Approved**

Old Business

-Principal Wish List. There was discussion regarding the wish list items. The computer cost of \$7,000 is for computers to accommodate the change in the Middle School. Sue Roberts pointed out that the younger students need more hands on experience with computers now to be prepared later for SBAC testing. There is a grant for the playground and match is being used in labor and materials. Everything is ready to go on the playground and the requested \$20,000 could be spent on materials now. The amount of \$18,000 for furniture is to replace chairs and other old furniture throughout the school. A motion was made by Robert Farlice-Rubio and seconded by Jim Schenck authorizing Principal Gonyaw to spend \$45,000 from surplus funds to purchase computers for 6th grade, investing in playground improvements, and for replacing furniture. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion. **Approved**

-Busing. Jim Schenck asked about the issues with the bus company. A meeting is needed with the bus company but a bussing policy is needed for the CCSU first.

Other Business

-Busing Policy. Most of the work on this policy has been done by Principal Gonyaw already. The administration needs to sit down and work through the details. The current contract for busing runs through 2018.

Future Agenda Items

-Busing Policy

-Retreat. It was decided to have the regularly scheduled Board meeting in July.

-Hiring. A special meeting in June may be needed to complete the hiring process.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Robert Farlice-Rubio and seconded by David Warden to enter Executive Session to discuss a student issue. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion

and Executive Session began at 7:55 p.m. A motion was made by David Warden and seconded by Robert Farlice-Rubio to exit Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion and Executive Session ended at 8:10 p.m. **Approved**

Adjournment

A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by Robert Farlice-Rubio to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m. **Approved**

Respectfully Submitted,

Louis Bushey, Board Chair
Robert Farlice-Rubio, Board Clerk
Ellen Hinman, Recorder