

**Barnet School Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 12, 2015
Barnet School**

Members in Attendance: Louis Bushey, Robert Farlice-Rubio, Sue Roberts, Jim Schenck, David Warden; Principal Shawn Gonyaw, Superintendent Mathew Forest

- 7:05 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair Louis Bushey.
- 7:06 p.m. A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by Sue Roberts to enter Executive Session to discuss a student issue. The motion passed unanimously. **Approved**
- 7:12 p.m. A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by Robert Farlice-Rubio to exit Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously. **Approved**
- 7:30 p.m. The public portion of the meeting began. Superintendent Forest, Susan Jensen, and Ellen Hinman joined the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

September 14, 2015 - The minutes of the September 14, 2015 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by Sue Roberts to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion. **Approved**

Public Input

There was no public input.

Administrative Reports

- Business Manager’s Report. This is the first report using the new software. This software can encumber items so the numbers are more accurate. The Board liked the new format. There were no questions on the report.
- Principal’s Report. There were no questions on the report.
- Superintendent Report. Superintendent Forest clarified the high school choice issue for a pre-K to 8 merger. If schools currently offer choice, there can still be choice and the Board would designate up to three high schools to choose from. There was discussion regarding Danville School. Danville is setting up a meeting with Cabot School, to happen before their November Board meeting.
- Curriculum Coordinator’s Report. Principal Gonyaw asked when Jodie Elliott would be presenting SBAC scores; Superintendent Forest will check with her. Jim Schenck asked about STAR and SBAC assessments. He suggested more information be provided to the Board before Town Meeting on the assessments so accurate information is given to the community. Reports will be looked at and there will be some discussions on the areas with movement from one tier to another, numbers of groups in extension or intervention, what the objectives are, and what is used to measure progress. David Warden asked if the Barnet information could be compared to other schools in the district and statewide. SBAC can be but the STAR assessments are not used by all schools in the state.
- Special Services Report. There were no questions on this report.

New Business

-Act 46/RED Side by Side Discussion. At their last meeting, the Walden Board voted to pick this option to move forward with. The CCSU Executive Committee has agreed this is the model they would like to pursue. Danville is in agreement but needs to explore partners on the pre-K through 12 side. Barnet should start discussions on partners as well; Waterford is interested in discussions with Barnet. Superintendent Forest suggested Barnet does not need to wait for Peacham to decide what they are doing to begin discussions. Louis met with Heather Gonyaw, the Chair of the Waterford School Board and the ECSU Board. Waterford would like to form a supervisory district and would like to include other pre-K through 8 schools that offer choice. Barnet could join Waterford’s district, or Barnet could start driving the process and should start selling to Waterford what Barnet can offer. A RED side by side has to consolidate four different districts of like schools, such as Barnet, Walden, Waterford, and Concord, or must have 1250 students. This consolidation could be done while Danville is still working on their side. Danville is interested in working on their side, but if they do not find any acceptable partners, it is possible the Agency of Education would accept them as a stand-alone. In that case, the four merged pre-K to 8 schools and Danville could be part of the CCSU. Barnet is in a good position to work with many different partners, but should be mindful who these partners are and make sure any partner really wants to be with Barnet. There was discussion regarding the \$5,000 grant and what that money should be used for. Before Superintendent Forest can get the grant application going, he needs to know what direction to go in and needs to have at least one other school on board. There was discussion on formation of an expanded SU and keeping individual boards. In this option, the small schools grant would be lost and tax hikes are likely. There was discussion on the educational benefits of a school district compared to a supervisory union. There was discussion on the magnet school concept and on moving to Australian ballot.

A motion was made by David Warden to officially explore the RED side by side model as a governance structure. The motion was seconded by Robert Farlice-Rubio and passed unanimously with no further discussion.

Approved

A motion was made by Robert Farlice-Rubio to invite the Walden School Board to have a joint meeting to discuss the model with them. The motion was seconded by Jim Schenck and passed unanimously with no further discussion.

Approved

A motion was made by Sue Roberts authorizing Louis Bushey to have discussions with the Waterford Board regarding future meetings with the Barnet Board. The motion was seconded by Robert Farlice-Rubio and passed unanimously with no further discussion.

Approved

-CCSU Policy Meeting. There is a meeting scheduled for October 20, 2015 for the CCSU Board to review the policy manual. Barnet Board members should review the policies and send comments to Superintendent Forest. The CCSU Board will review and revise the policies first, then the local Boards will review them. The required policies will be reviewed and approved first, then the recommended policies will be worked on.

-Milepost Software. Milepost is a data processing software being purchased with Medicaid funds. This software will house all student data – STAR, SBAC, Fountas and Pinnell, MTSS intervention data. Currently the data is kept by Jodie Elliott and reports are difficult to pull together.

-Debriefing from Cabot/Twinfield and Waterford meetings. Superintendent Forest asked for any thoughts or comments generated by the two meetings.

-Joint Board Meeting with Peacham. Peacham is having discussions tonight regarding merging with Barnet. The Peacham Board will be approached regarding their decision.

Old Business

-Roof Update. Three bids were received on the roof replacement project. A decision will be made at Town Meeting; a special article will be voted on to use surplus funds to cover the cost. Principal Gonyaw suggested looking at the section of the roof that has the valley which always ices up in the winter. The Board suggested Superintendent Forest approach the low bidder and ask if this is the best they can do. The wording of the warranty needs to be clarified with the contractor as well.

Other Business

-A motion was made by Robert Farlice-Rubio to approve the parent request to advance the student to the 5th grade. The motion was seconded by David Warden and passed unanimously with no further discussion.

Approved

-School Calendar Adjustment. Principal Gonyaw requested a change in the school calendar to adjust the parent/teacher conference schedule. The dates were set before the contract was finalized, and wording in the contract now requires the dates be changed. A motion was made by Jim Schenck to make the adjustments to the school calendar as requested by the Principal. The motion was seconded by David Warden and passed unanimously with no further discussion.

Approved

-Surplus Property. The school has a lot of stuff that is not needed, such as printers that are no longer used, old computers, desks, and chairs. There was a discussion on the best way to get rid of these items. Money raised from the sale of the items could go towards the 8th grade. Principal Gonyaw will put together a list of the items. It was suggested that the Town be asked first if they could use any of the items. The remaining items could be sold by silent auction or advertised on the Facebook page.

-Substitute for Math. A long term substitute has not been found for Caroline Adams, so the accelerated math teacher has been teaching regular math classes and accelerated math classes. There is a volunteer willing to come in and teach the regular math class so the accelerated math teacher can go back to that class.

Future Agenda Items

- Budget Discussions
- Busing Policy
- Staff Updates
- Act 46 Discussion/Discussions with Walden, Waterford, and Peacham
- Assessment Scores
- Walk through the school with Principal Gonyaw

Adjournment

A motion was made by Robert Farlice-Rubio and seconded by David Warden to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with no discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Louis Bushey, Board Chair
Ellen Hinman, Recorder