

**Barnet School Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 9, 2016  
Peacham School**

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

6:30 pm The meeting was called to order by Chair Louis Bushey.

6:31 pm A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by David Warden to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel, a student issue, and contracts. **Approved**

7:15 pm A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by Robert Farlice-Rubio to exit Executive Session; no action was taken. **Approved**

7:16 pm The public portion of the meeting was called to order by Chair Louis Bushey. Ellen Hinman joined the meeting.

A motion was made by Robert Farlice-Rubio and seconded by David Warden to approve the request from the family sending their child to Utah. The motion passed unanimously with no discussion. **Approved**

A motion was made by Sue Roberts and seconded by David Warden to approve hiring Audrey Coleman for 5-8 Humanities, Shannon Jefferson for preschool, and Elizabeth Simpson for Special Education Interventionist. The motion passed unanimously with no discussion. **Approved**

A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by Robert Farlice-Rubio to accept the resignation of Candace Guyer. The motion passed unanimously with no discussion. **Approved**

A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by Sue Roberts thanking Candace Guyer for her years of teaching at Barnet School. The motion passed unanimously with no discussion. **Approved**

A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by Robert Farlice-Rubio accepting the request for a leave of absence from Cathy Browne. The motion passed unanimously with no discussion. **Approved**

A motion was made by David Warden and seconded by Jim Schenck to ratify the support staff contracts. The motion passed unanimously with no discussion. **Approved**

**Approval of Minutes**

**April 11, 2016** - A motion was made by Sue Roberts and seconded by David Warden to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2016 Barnet School Board meeting as written. The motion passed unanimously with no discussion. **Approved**

**April 25, 2016 Joint Meeting** - A motion was made by Sue Roberts and seconded by David Warden to approve the April 25, 2016 Barnet/Peacham School Board joint meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously with no discussion. **Approved**

## **Public Input**

There was no public input.

## **Administrative Reports**

-Business Manager’s Report. There were no additions to the report and no questions about the report.

-Principal’s Report. Louis Bushey asked about the restorative justice workshop. The Barnet School has invested in the PBiS program for years. There is a concern that students do not understand how their behavior affects other students. The restorative justice program can make real the actions that people do on a daily basis. The program advocates getting groups of students together and teaches staff skills to facilitate these groups. Some staff will be going with Principal Gonyaw to the workshop at Springfield College on Friday. Louis asked if this program was for all grade levels. It will be done with younger grades (pre-K to 3<sup>rd</sup>) first and 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grades later. Louis expressed concern that students could be humiliated in a group setting. Staff would be getting training on how to handle this in a way that students would not feel humiliated. Parent outreach might be necessary; it may cause some concern with parents. Sue Roberts mentioned Barnet used to have a program that used 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to work with other students in a similar manner that worked very well.

-Superintendent’s Report. There was a question about the facilities work being shared with CCSU. Mike Bigelow has been very willing to work with CCSU and Peacham on this new role. There was discussion on reimbursement for Mr. Bigelow’s time spent at Peacham. Pat Amsden said she had not heard any discussion regarding reimbursement for Mr. Bigelow’s time. Principal Gonyaw suggested this should be discussed; it may not be an issue during the summer but some reimbursement should be done during the school term.

-Special Services Report. There was no report to discuss.

## **New Business**

-Tax Anticipation line of credit and investment. Historically, the tax anticipation note has been bid out every year. Last year Barnet went with the Passumpsic Bank and a line of credit and sweep system. Barnet made about \$1,000 this year. Pat Amsden said she has not found anything that requires this be bid out every year. The Central Office would like to remain with Passumpsic Bank and the system in place now. A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by Robert Farlice-Rubio to stay with the credit plan at Passumpsic Bank. Louis said he was fine staying with the Passumpsic Bank, but in the past more money has been made than the \$1,000. Following this discussion, a motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by David Warden to approve the line of credit amount of \$1,242,701 effective July 1, 2016 with the Passumpsic Bank, and to have the tax anticipation line of credit brought to the Board each year for review. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion. **Approved**

-Federal Grant Money. A motion was made by Robert Farlice-Rubio and seconded by David Warden to accept all federal grant money offered to the Barnet School. The motion passed unanimously with no discussion. **Approved**

## **Old Business**

-Act 46 Updates. A document was shared with the Board that both Louis Bushey and Principal Gonyaw received regarding Peacham’s self-study committee findings. This document has a potential to confuse the K-8 discussions taking place. Many of the options listed in this document involve

**“APPROVED”**

Barnet but Barnet is not part of the discussion. Some of the options also explore bringing other K-6 schools into the SU. There was discussion on whether Concord had made a decision yet. There was a general feeling that Concord had not received a very warm welcome from Peacham during the initial conversation. Louis suggested if Peacham is looking at other K-6 options, perhaps Barnet should be looking at other K-8 options as well and should be looking at Concord. Louis suggested bring this up next week at the joint K-8 meeting in Walden. Waterford has voted to join CCSU.

-VSBA training on “Negotiating the New VEHI Plans”. Jim Schenck attended this training on April 18<sup>th</sup>. The current VEHI plan will be going away. There are four replacement plans and all four have to be offered. The “platinum” plan is going to cost the most and it is felt the union will be pushing this plan. Plans will not be available until the first of the year, which is in the middle of the contract term.

-2016/2017 Staff Listing. A motion was made by Jim Schenck and seconded by Robert Farlice-Rubio to approve the Barnet support and teacher contracts with the understanding that the Superintendent will inquire about the Peacham support staff person on the Barnet list. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion. **Approved**

**Future Agenda Items**

-Act 46 Discussion

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Sue Roberts and seconded by David Warden to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with no discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

**Approved**

Respectfully Submitted,

*Ellen Hinman*

Jim Schenck, Board Clerk

Ellen Hinman, Meeting Recorder