

## BLUE MOUNTAIN UNION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Via Zoom

July 13, 2020

Present:

Board Members: Angeline Alley, Paul Hazel, Allison Ingerson, Judy Murray, Kristen Murray, Allana Ricker, Kelsey Root-Winchester

Administration: Emilie Knisley, John Barone, Scott Blood, Lori Blood

Others: Alex Nuti-de Biasi

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Angeline Alley, Chair. Those present were welcomed, and the agenda was reviewed. The Financial Report and Principal report were flip-flopped
- II. Approval of minutes of June 3, 2020
  - A. Motion by Paul Hazel, seconded by Kristen Murray to approve the Board minutes of June 3, 2020. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
- III. Correspondence--None
- IV. Financial Report (Lori Blood)
  - A. Lori Blood reported that the balance sheet currently shows a \$200,000 surplus. Some more adjustments will be coming in.
  - B. There have been savings on athletic officials, electricity, and supplies
  - C. COVID Impact funds are coming to us, but undetermined as to amount. More information will be forthcoming as to what to claim
  - D. The State Education Fund has quite a large hole.
  - E. Food Service: \$33,000 was budgeted to cover the food service deficit. As of now, about \$6,000 more will be needed to cover the deficit.
  - F. The Theater production didn't take place, but the process had started. The Auditor has given permission for the Board to vote to set the balance aside to use if the production takes place in 2021 or 2022.
  - G. For COVID expense, the grant money will come into the school to cover eligible expenses. Possibly when ed fund money comes into the school, it may be reduced by the amount of the COVID expenses. They want us to use all of the COVID money by December 31<sup>st</sup>, or it will go back to the Federal government. They want the schools to use it, but then the State may take it back.
- V. Principals' Report
  - A. Update on Action Plan
    1. BMU 5-year action plan. Part of the Ed Quality review process. Target goals are aligned to State of VT MTSS plan. By the end of this year, we will be at the end of this 5-year plan. The plan is updated yearly and shared with the Board. By the end of 2021, we will have met all the action steps as recommended. In 2021, we are due to have another Integrated Field Review visit. This may or not be happening due to COVID-19.

## B. COVID-19 Planning

1. On June 19<sup>th</sup> the State came out with a document of steps that schools need to follow

2. BMU will focus on plan 2 (hybrid version) to open in the fall. Schools will put together a planning team. The School Nurse will be the leader. 21 people are on the BMU team. The goal is that by August 3<sup>rd</sup>, they will have a plan in place for reopening of school in the fall. They intend to have a virtual (Zoom) meeting for parents to ask questions and talk about the plan. The team needs to think about what is important for school wide instruction, and what will be differentiated based on age of students. Health screenings will be conducted upon entering the bus and when students and adults enter school. School nurses throughout the state have been working to put this together. The SU put out a survey regarding feedback regarding the last 3 months of school. If we have to go to Step 1 (remote learning), we will be prepared to do that again. Professional development opportunities for teachers this summer have focused on the topic of remote learning.

C. E-mail conversion. On July 31<sup>st</sup> they will be transitioning accounts from BMU to OESU. Board members will receive communication from Jason or Todd to reset their password.

D. Summer Drivers' Ed: with school shut down, 6 students were unable to complete their driving hours. During the last week of July and the first week of August, Neil Emerson will work with those students to offer them the hours they need.

## VI. OESU Report

A. The Board met June 24<sup>th</sup>. They talked about transition of central office staff to their new space at the Copeland Building. A handicap access was needed.

B. Received staff satisfaction survey. The Board will talk about BMU's portion in August or September. Growth was shown in the majority of areas. Additional supports are being developed to continue growth.

C. Waiting for Superintendent's evaluation. It will be brought to the next Board meeting.

D. A number of policies adopted by OESU will be coming to the BMU Board. Many are part of BMU's policies already.

## VII. VSBA Update (Judy Murray)

A. Last met on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Board members were sent a member engagement survey. A Virtual retreat is coming up. Resolutions are being submitted for the upcoming year. South Burlington school has asked for legal assistance on a lawsuit. VSBA will be offering help to them.

## VIII. Public Participation

A. Alex Nuti-de Biasi asked Scott Blood if August 3<sup>rd</sup> was the date to get information in front of parents?

S. Blood: yes.

## IX. Action Items

A. Motion by Paul Hazel, seconded by Allana Page, to submit the attached resolution to VSBA, on behalf of BMU. Motion voted on and approved unanimously. (See attached resolution)

- X. Executive Session: None needed
- XI. Other Business
  - A. A candidate from the from Jr. Class will be selected to be a representative on the School Board. Interested Juniors will be invited to speak to the Board at the next meeting as to why they would like to serve.
  - B. Schedule for coming year: Kimberly French will be teaching Spanish I and Health. She will also be pushing into elementary classes with some health education. Dr. John Barone will teach Spanish II, and those students who want Spanish 3 and 4 will be taking it through Virtual high school.
  - C. Negotiations Update: still moving forward, meeting, and working on negotiating a new contract. The present contract ended June 30<sup>th</sup>, but it will continue in effect until a successor contract is signed.
- XII. Next Agenda—August 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00
  - A. Guidance update: tuition information update
  - B. Retreat? Suggested starting at SU level first. Will talk about a BMU retreat, as well
  - C. Reopening Plan, including Open House.
- XIII. The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Perkins, Minutes Clerk

**The minutes are in draft format and are unofficial until formally approved by the Board at a subsequent meeting.**