

## OUUSD BOARD MEETING

Bradford Elementary School and via Zoom

November 10, 2021

Present:

Board Members: Maegan Ballou, Angela Colbeth, Danielle Corti, Carol Cottrell, Chelsey Perry, Tim Ross

Administration: Emilie Knisley, Marla Ianello

Others: Ted Pogacar, Amy Hayward, and other members of the public

- I. The meeting was called to order at 5:34 PM by Danielle Corti, Chair. The Chair welcomed those present and reviewed the protocols of hybrid meetings.
- II. Board Business
  - A. The agenda was reviewed and approved
  - B. Motion by Angela Colbeth, seconded by Chelsey Perry to approve the Board minutes from 10-27-21. Correction of typo of Angela Colbeth's name. Motion voted on, and minutes were approved unanimously as corrected.
  - C. Correspondence
    1. Letter from Heather Long resigning as of December 3, 2021.
    2. Motion by Angela Colbeth, seconded by Carol Cottrell to accept her resignation with regret. The Chair expressed much appreciation for Ms. Long's time and effort during her time at NES. In answer to a question, the position has been posted.
  - D. Committee Reports
    1. School/Community Relations: no updates
    2. Strategic Plan Committee: no updates
- III. Public Comments
  - A. Ted Pogacar: Some teachers are reporting positive, engaged classes, while some others are reporting students struggling and not engaged. The union is asking the SU to use some of the ESSER funds to offer a more generous wage for the paraprofessionals. They also asked for a more detailed explanation of how these funds are being spent
- IV. Supt. Report and COVID Update
  - A. The administration got an estimate of the expense involved to split the cost of solar credits for Oxbow and RBCTC. They were given an estimate of about \$350,000 to split the costs between those two entities, so the SU will not be doing that
  - B. Shout out to two Teachers of the Year: Jen Dube from BMU and Kelley Houde from NES. They will be recognized at UVM with a celebration in the spring
  - C. The SU is working through the process of Test to Stay and getting those set up with the testing company. They plan to start in NES, then expand to other schools in the SU. Staff/students will be able to do PCR tests in the nurse's office and also send the test materials home.
    1. Maegan Ballou: questioned about the accuracy and consistency of the tests

D. The SU Leadership team met yesterday regarding winter sports. It was decided to allow spectators at games, masked. No eating or drinking will be allowed in the gym. No spectators will be allowed at practices. This is consistent with what other schools are doing.

1. Tim Ross: Some controls will be in place in both Newbury and Bradford on the number of spectators allowed.

E. School Transfer Agreements: Supt. Knisley had shared a history of agreements that existed. The BMU Board moved them forward to be acted on next month. 1:1 transfer is in place between NES and BMU. No one is taking advantage of that at this time. In 7/8 grade, 3 students could go to BMU and 3 could go to Oxbow. Now, 1 student is attending BMU. Public high school choice exists. Between NES and BES, families fill out an application in the spring, and the application is looked at and approved as long as there is space at that grade level.

F. It was suggested that information be put out that vaccination clinics are happening, but at this time they will not be in the school system.

V. Finalize Plan for sharing Strategic Plan

A. D. Corti: After consulting with Monique Priestly and the administration, it seems better to have it via Zoom rather than in person. It is also hoped that more people would participate using that format. The date has not been finalized at this point. D. Corti invited input as to the best way to share the Strategic Plan

VI. Public Comment

A. Amy Hayward: Two BES outdoor winter concerts are planned for this year, with K-1 one night and Grades 2-3 another night. Ms. Hayward encouraged Board members and SU administrators to attend. The K-1 concert will be December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00, and the Grade 2-3 concert will be December 16<sup>th</sup>, also at 6:00. They will be presenting right outside Bradford Academy.

B. Ted Pogacar: This coming Friday at 7:00 PM, the play *Epic Fail*, presented by OHS, will be shown on YouTube and Facebook. About 30 students are involved. The play will be available all weekend on those two sites.

C. On January 4<sup>th</sup>, the vaccine mandate goes into effect. This applies to anyone with over 100 employees. Supt Knisley: just received basic guidance from the Feds.

VII. Motion by Chelsey Perry, seconded by Maegan Ballou to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 PM. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

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.**