

APPROVED MINUTES

Bradford Academy & Graded School District Board of Trustees

Bradford Elementary School

Bradford, VT 05033

Location: Bradford Elementary School

**** Approved Minutes **** December 17, 2018

Present

Board Members: Kim Frydman, Lucas Barrett, Angela Colbeth, Emily Shipman, Julie Bingell

Administrators: Bruce Williams, Kate Paxton

Guests: Heidi Allen, Darlene Sanborn, School Counselor, Skip Barrett, Oxbow students

Call to Order

The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Agenda Review

Add Low St. John Forest update after bus policy.

Approve Minutes

A motion was made and seconded (Angela Colbeth/Emily Shipman) to approve the November 19, 2018 minutes as presented. Approved 5-0.

Correspondence

Kim Frydman read the Certification of The Oxbow Unified Union School District letter from the Secretary of Education and the State Board of Education Chair.

Contracts

A contract was presented for Nicole White-Fogarty, long term elementary substitute teacher for 126 days, \$24,229.80, Salary Schedule B, Step A. A contract was presented for John Scahill, long term paraprofessional substitute for 123 days, \$9,686.25, Salary Schedule B.

A motion was made and seconded (Lucas Barrett/Angela Colbeth) to approve the contracts and authorize the Board Chair to sign. Approved 5-0.

Board Orders

A motion was made and seconded (Emily Shipman/Julie Bingell) to approve the board orders as presented. Approved 5-0.

Other

None

Public Comment

Skip Barrett was checking on the status of transferring the Bugbee Landing trust fund over to the Town of Bradford now that the town has taken ownership. Lucas Barrett agreed that would be great if they are willing to accept responsibility for the trust fund and as long as there is an accurate balance to transfer. Skip Barrett noted that last year Melanie Elliott was working on a list of all the trust funds and their initial amounts and what they were designated for. An attorney gave an opinion in the spring and made some recommendations but not sure what those were. Julie Bingell recalls gaps in what happened with some of the trust funds. Skip Barrett spoke about the Low St. John Forest and its intended use. Emily Shipman noted that the Board approved \$4,000.00 this past summer for improvements to the pond and surrounding areas. Skip Barrett asked for clarification from the board on whether the Elizabeth Hale fund was specifically designated for Memorial Field even though it is listed in the unrestricted trust funds. Lucas Barrett

would like to know the principal of each fund so that the board could determine how much they could spend beyond the dividends. Skip Barrett looks forward to hearing what the board finds out when he returns in May. Kim Frydman thanked Skip Barrett for bringing this to their attention.

Act 46 On January 23, 2019 there will be a special meeting of the Oxbow Unified Union School District at 6:00 p.m. at Oxbow High School. The first order of business will be to organize the transitional board. Board members should email the superintendent or assistant superintendent with suggestions for a moderator. It is unclear at this time if representatives from Newbury will be at the meeting but should have a better idea closer to the meeting date. In early April the budget will be voted on. Bruce Williams let the Board know he and Emilie Knisley are recommending not changing the articles of agreement the first year in order to meet deadlines from the state and to also engage the community as much as possible. Emily Shipman will be assisting with community engagement. With the Act 46 implications the board plans to do its due diligence reviewing whether or not trust funds and/or properties should be transferred to the town and what those implications may be.

2nd Reading Bus Policy A motion was made and seconded (Lucas Barrett/Julie Bingell) to approve policy F9: Transportation Standards. There was discussion about the superintendent and the parent community coordinator coordinating new bus stops with families and the bus company. The parent community coordinator will continue to play a role in this coordination. The motion is approved with changes made at this meeting 5-0.

Low St. John Forest Update The board will review the Low Forest Advisory Committee policy and discuss further at the next meeting. The board discussed the timber sale contract. Bruce Williams reviewed the contract and forestry plan. He noted the contract was well written and the restrictions in the contract for land repair are extraordinary. Lucas Barrett is concerned about not putting the timber contract out to bid, does not want to damage community relations as there are several local loggers in the community. Other board members and Bruce Williams value and understand Lucas Barrett's point. After further discussion Lucas Barrett agreed with the original plan based on the timing and specifics of the contract to go with the recommendation of the forester. A motion was made and seconded (Lucas Barrett/Emily Shipman) to approve and authorize the board chair to sign the timber contract. Bruce noted that Bradford Academy and Graded School District is listed as an additional insured after the logger's insurance. This is standard practice. The other consideration is the winter activity program snow shoes in the forest on six Fridays in January and February. The location of logging was reviewed and it was decided to add the dates of the winter activity program on the contract to ensure the logger is aware of the possibility of students in the forest. The students will snow shoe in the opposite direction of the logging. Kate Paxton noted that there was a lack of clarity on a point person for the timber contract which is most likely due to her and Emily Shipman being new to these positions. Approved 5-0.

Principal's Report Kate Paxton distributed and reviewed the principal's report. OESU received grant funding to send a team to the BEST institute. Work on the master schedule will begin shortly after break and focus on a model that supports MTSS. Our schools ALICE trainer, Susie Tann is leading a safety working group to improve safety protocols and plans. Kate Paxton asked the board what they would like her to report on. Kim Frydman noted that she would like and update on how project based learning is being integrated this year and/or projects that have taken place. The expectation at the beginning of the year was two exhibitions per class. The staff is generally interested and excited about PBL however, are at different levels of incorporation. Kim Frydman is mindful of the big investment the school has put into PBL. Kate Paxton noted there is not a clear

plan for ongoing professional development after the initial PBL training but moving forward setting clear goals for next year and aligning our professional development and resources with our goals will help. Lucas would like to know what happens when projects are done, such as the chicken coop and pizza oven. Emily Shipman would like to hear reflections on behavior and social emotional issues.

Lucas Barrett let the board know negotiations are going well so far and a first proposal has been presented.

Adjournment A motion was made and seconded (Julie Bingell/Lucas Barrett) to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Approved 5 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Liz Kingsbury, Clerk

These minutes are approved by the Board