

Barnet - Walden - Waterford
Caledonia Cooperative Unified Union School District
Full Board of Directors Regular Meeting
February 19th, 2018 – 6:00PM
Barnet School in Barnet, Vermont

Board Members Present: Heather Gonyaw (Waterford), Mary Em Saar (Waterford), Kim Willey (Waterford), Judy Clifford (Walden), Raymond Lewis (Walden), Sue Roberts (Barnet), Dave Warden (Barnet)

Administrators Present: Pat Amsden (CCSU Business Manager), Shawn Gonyaw (Barnet Principal), Liz Benoit (Walden Principal), Kelley Brooks (Waterford Principal), Donna Gaston (CCSU E.L.O), Mike Bigelow (CCSU Facilities Director)

1. Meeting Opened at 6:15pm

2. Approve Meeting Minutes

a. February 5th, 2018, as amended

- Judy Clifford makes a motion to accept the February 5th, 2018 meeting minutes as amended, Sue Roberts seconds, motion passes

New Business

3. First Reading of Policies

- B1 Substitute Teachers
 - B2 Volunteers and Work Study Students
 - B3 Alcohol & Drug-Free Workplace
 - B4 Drug & Alcohol Testing: Transportation Employees
 - B5 Prevention of Employee Harassment
 - B6 HIPPA Compliance
 - B7 Tobacco Prohibition
 - B8 Staff/Student Conduct and Boundaries
 - B9 Personnel Recruitment, Selection & Background Checks
 - B10 Professional Development
 - B12 Personnel Files
 - B13 Registrations
 - B14 Employee Conflict of Interest
 - B15 Standards of Behavior
- The Board discussed and wordsmithed the first readings of the policies.

Old Business

4. ELO Summer Session

- The grant document proposal was sent to the Board for review prior to the meeting.

- Donna Gaston, ELO Coordinator, discusses the recent survey that went out to community parents. There is great interest from Barnet in continuing the summer ELO programming. Donna is still waiting on retrieving survey data from Walden.
- The Board inquired about the amount of volunteering that takes place for staffing. Donna says that this summer is projecting the average number of staff volunteers to help summer lessons and activities.
- Mary Em Saar shares her concern over the costs of this proposed summer programming after consolidating into the new district. There is concern of students being transported to school properties they aren't familiar with as well as accommodating the younger students within the programs.
- The Board discussed the potential of operating a summer program without the ELO grant funds and implement more individualized school-directed programs. Kelley Brooks, Waterford Principal, shared with the Board how the Waterford School implements their planning, documentation, and staffing process with their summer programming. The activities for students are much more organic, and are engaged in more science and the outdoors.
- The Board weighed in on the aspects of continuing the ELO program versus the schools administering their own summer programming. Donna will know of the grant approval decision at the end of April. The Board also discussed other avenues of local sourcing for funds that could be applied to summer programming. There was also acknowledgement of not wanting to impose more work onto the principals. **The board agreed to have the Principals work on a program for the cost of \$30,000, and bring a proposal to the board next meeting. (added by Pat)**

5. School Program

- The Barnet, Walden, and Waterford Principals have met together to begin planning on how they would equalize school programming within the new CCUUSD district. They provided a report of where things coordinate along the lines of school curriculum and school budget.
- Walden has discussed meeting the needs of a library media specialist who would also work within the classrooms on the use of technology and to develop tech plans for the school. A guidance counselor position is needed, who would not only provide therapeutic services but also meet the needs of helping students move onto secondary school or higher level education. Walden school is also looking at meeting the goals of reading and literacy intervention. Currently there is a guiding reading pilot program in place which the school would like to continue in order to provide the necessary reading resources for students.
- Barnet has discussed holding off on implementing a spanish language program to aid in the Walden school reaching its goals.
- The Board agreed that the current curriculum within Barnet and Waterford schools are strong enough to remain in place so Walden can increase their staffing to meet the needs of the CCUUSD district students.

6. Budget

- Pat Amsden, CCSU Business Manager, provided a summary of the recent CCUUSD budget recommendation, which includes the possible estimates of E-rate reimbursement, homeschool student costs, and transportation costs.
- Pat also provided estimates of the town tax rates and common level of appraisals for the homestead tax rates.
- The Board noted that aligning the budget within this new district for all three schools shows a modest step forward in providing equity for the students and families within the communities.
- (name) makes a motion to accept the newest Walden positions and curriculum additions to the CCUUSD budget, (name) seconds, motion passes
- Shawn Gonyaw suggests that the Board consider a rate amount for the position of Facilities Director for Peacham over paying a stipend. Currently the Barnet Facilities Director fills this position. The Board discussed the limitations Mike Bigelow faces regarding the amount of hours and traveling this position demands. The Board would like to see a proposal entailing what the new payment should be for the Facilities Director position.

7. School Reciprocity

- The letter of request process for school reciprocity within the CCUUSD district will be due at the beginning of April; school decisions would be provided by the end of the month. The Board agreed to send out a call informing the communities of the new school reciprocity agreement and to follow up with a letter to go home with students.
- The Board discussed and agreed to consider foremost the class sizes and needs of the school before approving reciprocity letter requests, the goal being not to shorten the average student populations within the schools.
- This discussion will be sent to Mat Forest who is updating the current school reciprocity agreement.

8. S.U. Board District Representation

- Waterford now has advisory capacity within the CCSU Supervisory Board.
- The Board discussed and assessed the opportunities of proportional representation or determining weighted vote of Board Members and when the decision would need to be made.

9. Other

- The Board briefly discussed the required steps it would take to undergo expelling “unified union” from the district name.
- Judy makes a motion to propose and appeal to change the school district name to Caledonia Cooperative School District, Dave seconds, motion passes

Closure

10. Set future agenda items

- School reciprocity update and discussion
- Facilities Director discussion
- District name change update
- Budget update and discussion
- Summer programming proposal

- First reading of Charlie Policies
- **Next meeting is March 19th, 2018** at Waterford School, 6pm

11. Meeting Adjourned at 8:45pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Sabra Anne Snyder
Minutes Clerk