A meeting of the Berlin Board of Education was held in the Berlin High School library beginning at 6:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Nicole Plourde, Lynn Moore, Louise Valliere, Donald Labrecque, Kenneth Proulx, Corinne Cascadden, Bryan Lamirande, Georgia Caron, Amy Huter, Julie King, Gary Bisson, Dan Record, Tim Forestall, Roland Pinette, Cheryl Pinette, Ann Nolin, Lucie Remillard, Denise Morgan Allain, Nancy Brannen, Jennifer Lyon, Michelle Figella, Jessica DeYoung, Adrienne Backer, Elaine Connary, Erving Connary, Travis L'Heureux, Brandon, Steady, Kelly Ort, Maurice Tibbetts, Mike Poulin, Tony Valliere and member of the press.

**MINUTES** 

On a motion by Kenneth Proulx, seconded by Donald Labrecque, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2013 meeting, public session. The motion passed unanimously.

**WARRANTS** 

On a motion by Louise Valliere, seconded by Lynn Moore, the Board voted to approve the warrant dated, October 7, 2013 for the amount of \$365,865.60. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Board reviewed and approved the financial report.

COMMENTS

None

NHIAA HOCKEY

Craig Melanson, Athletic Director, reviewed the ice hockey restructuring and how the program had run in the FY 13 school year. He projects the hockey program will have 24 students in FY15 and feels it is going well in its current Division III.

**GUIDANCE PLAN** 

The Superintendent reviewed the K-12 Comprehensive Guidance Plan as presented to the Board and introduced each of the individual school's counselors. Each counselor reviewed some of the programs they conduct during the course of the year. A motion was then made by Kenneth Proulx, seconded by Donald Labrecque, to adopt this guidance plan. The motion passed unanimously.

**FAMILY CONSUMER** 

Denise Palmer and Elaine Connary reviewed the Family Consumer Science grades 5-12 curriculum and programs with the Board. On a motion by Lynn Moore, seconded by Kenneth Proulx, the Board voted to approve the Family Consumer Science curriculum. The motion passed unanimously.

BERLIN/MILAN AREA

The Board reviewed discussions from the AREA Withdrawal Committee meeting with Milan. The committee will review a draft AREA that would allow flexibility for grades 7 & 8 in Milan or flexibility should Milan choose to form a co-operative school district with Gorham, Randolph, and Shelburne. The Board Chair discussed how towns might be involved in the operation of the school and curriculum. Some Board members requested that the Board ask the City Council to review the Charter to allow the Milan Board to have a voice on the Berlin School Board. Nicole Plourde is looking for a way to bring the communities together within the Berlin School District. Ken Proulx felt it should be approached with caution and should be reviewed in detail before approaching the City Council. The Superintendent mentioned that the process is for the city to form a charter commission to review school governance in the city charter. Louise Valliere felt that it is Milan's desire to be able to choose the school they want. Lynn Moore felt that reviewing the issues with the City Council would be a good first move. The Superintendent also reminded the Board on the Manifest Hardship provision and Best Interest of a Child, allows a certain percentage of students to attend another school, Donald Labrecque felt very frustrated by the discussions at the AREA Withdrawal Committee meeting as he felt a few dominated the discussion. He did not approve of a tuition agreement because of the budgeting uncertainty it would cause. He agreed with curriculum discussion not budgeting. Nicole Plourde felt strongly about offering a say from a Milan representative about curriculum. She then requested a motion to request a charter commission review. No motion was made. Lynn Moore felt it was worth exploring with the City Council. Louise Valliere felt it is important to discuss the issue with the council to see what they thought, and the importance of keeping Milan in our schools.

COMMENTS

Lucie Remillard, City Council member, does not agree with a new concept, she feels we have an outstanding school system and an AREA Agreement is the best option.

Gary Bisson informed the Board that the students of Berlin and Gorham High Schools have had preliminary discussions on having one prom for the two high schools.

Denise Morgan Allain inquired about how many members could be on the Berlin School Board. The Superintendent informed her number was five.

**NEW BUSINESS** 

The Superintendent requested the Board review the staff, student, and parent manuals in order to have them approved at the next meeting.

**NON PUBLIC** 

The Board consensus was a nonpublic session was not required.

**STAFFING** 

On a motion by Louise Valliere, seconded by Donald Labrecque, the Board voted to approve the following staffing changes:

## **NOMINATIONS:**

Nancy Brannen - PBIS Advisor - Hillside Jenna Girardi – Educational Assistant – Hillside Matthew Pearson - Educational Assistant - BMS

## **RE-NOMINATIONS:**

David Arsenault - Band Advisor - BHS Amy Blanchette - HOSA Advisor - BHS Jean Bouchard - Drama Advisor - BHS Carole Chabot - SADD Advisor - BHS Elaine Connary - FCCLA Advisor - BHS Sonya Dube – ECE Advisor – BHS Linda Lafleur – FCCLA Advisor – BHS Ted McCormick – JCWA Advisor – BHS Ted McCormick – Student Council Advisor – BHS

Ben Murphy – Drama Advisor – BHS

Beth Pahigian - World Language Club Advisor - BHS

Heather Piche – Yearbook Advisor – BHS Beth Sargent - Senior Advisor - BHS Alan Woodward - AM Supervision - BHS

Alan Woodward - National Honor Society Advisor - BHS

The motion passed unanimously.

All nominations are contingent on the applicant passing a background check.

**ADJOURN** 

On a motion by Donald Labrecque, seconded by Kenneth Proulx, the Board voted to adjourn it's meeting at 7:56 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education