

BFA/NWTC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

August 11, 2015

Minutes

Present for a Quorum: Al Corey, Nilda Gonnella-French Sally Lindberg, Jeff Morrill

Unable to Attend: Richard Bettinger

Administrators: Chris Mosca, BFA Principal; Kevin Dirth, Superintendent; Rebecca Day, Assistant Principal; Geoff Lyons, Assistant Principal; Shannon Warden, Assistant Principal; Leeann Wright, NWTC Director; Lisa Durocher, NWTC Assistant Director; Preston Randall, Guidance Director; David Kimel, CPSC Manager; Kathy Finck, Human Resources Director; Julie Regimbal, Special Education Director; Joanne Wells, Assistant Special Education Director; Martha Gagner, Business Manager

1. Call to Order - Nilda Gonnella-French called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the BFA library.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Agenda

Al Corey made the motion to approve the agenda as submitted; Sally Lindberg seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0-0.

4. Visitors

5. Consent Agenda

Al Corey made the motion to approve the consent agenda; Sally Lindberg seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0-0.

A. Approval of Minutes

Sally Lindberg made the motion to approve the minutes of June 2, 2015 and June 18, 2015; Al Corey seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0-0.

B. BFA Administrator's Report - BFA Principal Chris Mosca noted that on August 19, 2015, teachers will be returning to school; August 26, 2015 will be the first day for all students. He also noted that the renovated gymnasium is nearly complete, with the new bleachers being brought in yesterday. Mr. Mosca remarked on how well everything looks, which is good for the community and athletics. They will be able to meet with parents for orientation there, and hold an assembly with students on August 26. He thanked the Board for their generosity and support with the renovation.

C. BFA Guidance Report - Preston Randall reported that BFA's dropout rate is at 2.4%, half of what it was a year ago, and the lowest rate in five years. After talking with other counselors and administrators, they remarked that the new focus on culture and climate

1 has made BFA a more welcoming place for students. Mr. Randall did not know the
 2 dropout rate in the state of Vermont, but will have the information at the next Board
 3 meeting.

4
 5 D. NWTC Director's Report - NWTC Director Leeann Wright noted that NWTC will
 6 also participate in the same orientation as BFA students. She reported on the automotive
 7 renovation, and thanked Chris Mosca for seeing the need for more space there.

8
 9 E. Supervisory Union Report - Kevin Dirth spoke about the Vermont Principals'
 10 Association conference he and other BFA administrators recently attended in Killington.
 11 He felt the conference was very successful, and provided good networking and
 12 professional opportunities. Dr. Dirth also spoke about the FCSU Convocation; on August
 13 20, 2015, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., all FCSU staff and central office employees will be
 14 meeting at the Collins Perley Sports Complex. The event is a chance to get everyone
 15 together, and show that they are all part of the same SU. There will be an hour and a half
 16 of presentations, and a barbecue. Dr. Dirth invited any Board members to attend if they
 17 are able. He noted that they are working hard on Act 46; Sally Lindberg and Nilda
 18 Gonnella-French are both members of the Act 46 subcommittee. Dr. Dirth noted that his
 19 Superintendent's Report included a quote from Donna Stafford of the Agency of
 20 Education, stating how much she enjoys the newsletter, and sends it along to Rebecca
 21 Holcombe to read as well.

22
 23 F. FCSU Board Report - Nilda Gonnella-French reported that the FCSU Board has not
 24 had a meeting since the last BFA Board meeting. She will have an update at next month's
 25 meeting.

26 G. BFA Board Committee Reports

27 1. Personnel/Finance - Al Corey had nothing new to report.

28
 29 2. Policy - Richard Bettinger was unable to attend, and therefore could not report
 30 on the Policy Committee.

31
 32 3. Curriculum - Jeff Morrill and Sally Lindberg had nothing new to report.

33
 34 H. Collins Perley Report - Al Corey reported on the bike tour that was recently held at
 35 Collins Perley. Many people were in attendance. He commented that David Kimel and
 36 the Collins Perley staff did an outstanding job making the event run smoothly. Football
 37 has already started, and fall sports will be underway shortly.

38
 39 I. Collins Perley Manager's Report - David Kimel expanded upon the bike tour; he
 40 thanked the Chamber of Commerce, the Abbey Group, Northwestern Solid Waste
 41 District, St. Albans Public Works Department, and the maintenance and custodial staff
 42 for their parts in helping with the event. He also commented that it was great for the
 43 community, bringing in extra revenue with all of the attendees spending money at local
 44 businesses. Mr. Kimel thanked the Board for ensuring that Collins Perley is a community
 45 facility as well as a school facility; otherwise, events such as this would not happen.

1 J. Personnel/Finance Committee Recommendations

2 1. Extracurricular Salary Table

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4 **Al Corey made the motion to accept the recommendation of the**
5 **Personnel/Finance Committee that the Board increase the extracurricular**
6 **salary table by the New England Economic Partnership (NEEP) of 3.1% with**
7 **no step advancement for FY16; Sally Lindberg seconded the motion. The**
8 **motion carried 4-0-0.**
9

10 6. Old Business

11 K. Negotiations

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13 L. Grievance

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15 The Board determined that items K and L should be taken up in Executive Session.
16

17 7. New Business

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19 8. Other Business

20 M. Act 46 Study Committee Status Report - Sally Lindberg gave an update on the Act 46
21 committee. The committee was formed to implement the school consolidation bill. They
22 drafted a charge of the committee, which Ms. Lindberg read aloud. They have an
23 accelerated schedule for implementation, as they feel it is their responsibility to try to get
24 it done. They chose the preferred model offered by the legislature, the Supervisory
25 District. This gives taxpayers the largest amount of tax incentives, which are 30 cents
26 over five years. This will be a K-12 district. There was discussion over high school
27 choice; most representatives were leaning towards maintaining BFA as the school of
28 choice, which would mean Fairfield would have to give up school choice. They also
29 discussed transportation, and grandfathering Fairfield students that currently attend a high
30 school other than BFA. They discussed governance; they were leaning towards having
31 the Board consist of five members from both St. Albans City and St. Albans Town, and
32 two from Fairfield. When electing the Board members, this ratio would always be
33 maintained; however, voters in all three towns would vote for each candidate. There will
34 be public hearings around this issue in the fall. They plan to draft and submit the articles
35 of agreement to all school boards by November so that this can be done by Town
36 Meeting Day 2016. The committee has had three meetings so far, and the next will be
37 held on August 20, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at Central Office. All are invited to attend.
38

39 M. Monthly Financial Report - Martha Gagner commented that this report is for FY15,
40 and is close to the final budget for the fiscal year. They are still getting the numbers into
41 system for FY16, so it is not helpful to view at this point, but Board members can view
42 where FY15 will most likely end up.
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44 O. Employment Matters - None

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46 9. Approve Warrants

1 O. Current warrants are included for Board approval & signatures.
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3 **Al Corey made the motion to approve the warrants; Sally Lindberg seconded the**
4 **motion. The motion carried 4-0-0.**
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6 10. Agenda Items for Future Meeting
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8 11. Executive Session
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10 **Al Corey made the motion to go into Executive Session at 6:58 p.m. for Negotiations and**
11 **Grievance Updates, as discussing these items in public session could put both the Board**
12 **and the Association in an adverse position; Sally Lindberg seconded the motion. The**
13 **motion carried 4-0-0.**
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15 **Al Corey made the motion to exit Executive Session at 7:59 p.m.; Sally Lindberg seconded**
16 **the motion. The motion carried 4-0-0.**
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18 12. Adjourn

19 **Al Corey made the motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.; Sally Lindberg seconded the motion.**
20 **The motion carried 4-0-0.**
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23 Respectfully submitted,
24

25 Abby DuBois
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