

BFA/NWTC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 1, 2015

Minutes

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

Student Representatives: Kamryn Montague, Cordelia Bell

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

Visitors: Julia Deziel, Pietro Lynn

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

All administrators and Board members introduced themselves; Nilda Gonnella-French welcomed Jeff Morrill as the new Board member, replacing Bruce Scott.

3. Approval of Agenda - It was asked to add under new business 7.1 Act 46 Study Committee; under Employment Matters, M1. Contract Matters; to add 5A. Student Recognition.

Al Corey made the motion to approve the agenda; Sally Lindberg seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0-0.

4. Visitors

5. Consent Agenda

A. Student Recognition - Chris Mosca recognized and welcomed the new student representatives to the Board, Cordelia Bell and Kamryn Montague. Mr. Mosca also recognized Julia Deziel, Student Council President, for recently welcoming the entire student body and parents during orientation. Veronica Farr, another student who presented to the school, was recognized though she was unable to attend.

Sally Lindberg made the motion to approve the consent agenda; Al Corey seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0-0.

Sally Lindberg made the motion to go into executive session at 6:38 p.m. for Negotiations Update, Grievance Update, Employment Matters, and Contract Matters; Al Corey seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0-0. The Superintendent and the Board's attorney, Pietro Lynn, were invited to join.

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2 The Board briefly came out of executive session at 6:40 p.m. to handle one business
3 matter.

4
5 A1. Student Request for Senior Privileges - Julia Deziel presented to the
6 Board her request for the senior class to be able to leave campus during
7 lunch, so long as they return in time for their classes, starting September 8,
8 2015.

9
10 **Al Corey made the motion to approve the senior privileges for the**
11 **2015-2016 school year; Jeff Morrill seconded the motion. The motion**
12 **carried 5-0-0.**

13
14 The Board went back into executive session to discuss the same matters stated previously
15 at 6:42 p.m.

16
17 Rich Bettinger recused himself at 6:50.

18 The Board came out of executive session at 7:40 p.m.

19
20 B. Approval of Minutes - Approval of the August 11 and August 25, 2015
21 meeting minutes

22
23 The location of the August 25, 2015 meeting was the Principal's Office, not the
24 BFA library.

25 **Al Corey made the motion to approve the minutes of August 11 and 25, 2015;**
26 **Sally Lindberg seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0-1 with Richard**
27 **Bettinger abstaining.**

28
29 C. BFA Administrator's Report - Chris Mosca thanked all of the community
30 members, families, and students for attending BFA's orientation; it was a great
31 opportunity for students and parents to meet teachers, work out their schedules,
32 and learn about the school's culture and climate. Mr. Mosca also stated that parent
33 support enhances student achievement, so he was very pleased at the turnout.

34
35 D. Supervisory Union Report - Kevin Dirth spoke about FCSU's Convocation
36 that was recently held for staff. The video is available online for anyone who
37 wishes to view it.

38
39 E. FCSU Board Report - Nilda Gonnella-French reported that the last FCSU
40 Board meeting was held on August 19, 2015. The Board handled some business
41 items first while they had a quorum. They passed several policies, and approved
42 several other items.

43
44 F. BFA Board Committee Reports

45 F1. Personnel/Finance - Al Corey had nothing additional to report.

1 F2. Policy - Richard Bettinger reported that the next meeting will be held
2 on September 15, 2015, and that the committee will be discussing several
3 policies, including hazing, harassment, bullying, and wellness.
4

5 G. Collins Perley Report - Al Corey had nothing additional to report.
6

7 H. Collins Perley Manager's Report - Dave Kimel had nothing additional to
8 report.
9

10 6. Old Business

11 I. Extra-Curricular Guidelines - Kathy Finck reported on a change to the
12 guidelines. Under section 3, Compensation, number 1D Increase to Wage
13 Schedule; one line was adjusted to say the Board would consider the NEEP and
14 input from the administration and the BFA Education Association.
15

16 **Al Corey made the motion to approve the extra-curricular guidelines; Sally**
17 **Lindberg seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0-0.**
18

19 J. Negotiations

20 K. Grievance

21 Items J and K were discussed in executive session.
22

23 7. New Business

24 7.1. Act 46 Study Committee - Kevin Dirth spoke about the progress of
25 committee so far; unfortunately, they were informed that the study committee was
26 not formed in the way that the state wishes such a committee to be formed. The
27 study committee was approved at the FCSU level, and there are two members
28 from each community. However, in order to receive money from the state, each
29 local board needs to do three things. First, they must vote on whether they think
30 the study committee is worthwhile; each board has to come up with a budget for
31 the study committee based on their equalized pupil count; and each board has to
32 appoint members, also based on the equalized pupil count. Based on the students
33 at Fairfield, BFA, St. Albans City, and St. Albans Town, the equalized pupil
34 count is at a 1:3:3:3 ratio, respectively.
35

36 **Al Corey made the motion to form a study committee with St. Albans City,**
37 **St. Albans Town, and Fairfield, to analyze the advisability of forming a**
38 **union school district under Act 46; Jeff Morrill seconded the motion. The**
39 **motion carried 5-0-0.**
40

41 Dr. Dirth recommended that the study committee should have a budget of
42 \$25,000.00 for consulting and legal fees. The state is offering \$20,000.00 as a
43 grant, and the additional \$5,000.00 would come from the individual boards,
44 collectively. Based on BFA's equalized pupil count, their portion of the
45 \$20,000.00 grant fund would be \$7,370.00, and the local portion, \$1,474.00.

1 **Al Corey made the motion to authorize the budget up to \$25,000.00 for legal,**
2 **consulting, and other expenses needed for the committee, and to share the**
3 **cost proportionally with the other districts on the study committee; Jeff**
4 **Morrill seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

5
6 **Al Corey made the motion to appoint three members to the study committee**
7 **in order to be compliant with 16 V.S.A. § 706, and the members shall be**
8 **Nilda Gonnella-French, Sally Lindberg, and Jeff Morrill; Richard Bettinger**
9 **seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

10
11 The Act 46 Study Committee will have a meeting on Thursday, September 3,
12 2015 at 6 p.m. at Central Office.

13
14 8. Other Business

15 L. Monthly Financial Report - FYI

16
17 M. Employment Matters - New Hires; three new hires were announced. Desiree
18 Gunter will be a Student Attendance Monitor, Laurie Briggs will be a
19 Paraeducator, and Scott Martin will be a Custodian II.

20
21 **Al Corey made the motion to approve the hiring of Scott Martin as**
22 **Custodian II; Sally Lindberg seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

23
24 M1. Contract Matters - This item was discussed in executive session.

25
26 9. Approve Warrants

27 N. Current warrants are included for Board approval.

28
29 **Al Corey made the motion to approve the warrants; Sally Lindberg seconded**
30 **the motion. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

31
32 10. Agenda Items for Future Meeting

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34 11. Executive Session

35
36 **Al Corey made the motion to go into executive session at 8:03 p.m. for Grievance**
37 **Update, Employment Matters, and Contract Matters; Sally Lindberg seconded the**
38 **motion. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

39 Executive Session ended at 8:56.

40
41 12. Adjourn The meeting adjourned at 8:56.

42
43 Respectfully submitted,

44
45 Abby DuBois