

BFA/NWTC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

June 7, 2016 - Minutes

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

Unable to attend:

Student Representatives: Cordelia Bell, Kamryn Montague

Administrators: Chris Mosca, BFA Principal; Kevin Dirth, Superintendent; Joanne Wells, Assistant Special Education Director; Leeann Wright, NWTC Director; Preston Randall, Guidance Director; Geoff Lyons, Assistant Principal; Shannon Warden, Assistant Principal; Martha Gagner, Business Manager, Julie Regimbal, Special Education Director, Jesse Byers, Curriculum Director

Visitors: Caitlyn Phelps, Kenderlyn Phelps, Kristi Leet, Paula Johnson, Karen Yandow, Jordan Dukas, Logan Gaboury, Carolyn Zak, Emily Benkert

1. **Call to Order – Nilda Gonnella-French called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.**

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Al Corey made a motion to approve the agenda as written; second by Sally Lindberg. The motion carried unanimously.

4. **Visitors**

- A. Appointment of Board Member Ms. Gonnella-French stated that we were lucky to have two quality candidates willing to serve on the Board. Al Corey reported that the Personnel Finance Committee recommended Tim Clark for the Board position.

Al Corey moved to appoint Tim Clark to the Board until June 30, 2017; second by Sally Lindberg. The motion carried unanimously.

Tim Clark joined the Board but did not act on any business because he has not yet been sworn in.

- B. Vt. Health Department Presentation – Valarie Lipka, the School Nurse, Destiny Cadieux, Public Health Nursing Supervisor for St. Albans District Office and Christine Finley, Dept. of Health Immunization Program Chief of Vermont provided information about a vaccine clinic that will be offered to the children in the fall and the spring. They will be marketing this to reach as many people as possible. The HPV vaccine is a series of three shots. Franklin County has one of the lowest HPV vaccination rates in the state. The vaccinations will be free of charge. The goal is to move the 25% rate to 80%. They answered questions.

- C. France Field Trip Presentation – Kristi Leet, Paula Johnson and Kaitlin and Kenderlyn Phelps made a presentation to the Board and answered Board member questions.

5. **Student Recognition/Presentations**

- D. Student Recognitions/Presentations - Chris Mosca recognized Maria Magnan and Cordelia Bell were recognized as Academic All-Stars in the Buyers Digest. Alek Wolfe was acknowledged in THE VOICE, a publication from the VT Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired on his commentating abilities at sports events. Jennie Brown, Desiree Dutkiewicz, Matilda Plumb, Gabby Savoie and Delaney Tatro art works were shown at the Congressional Art Competition in Montpelier on May 9th. Gabby Savoie received Congressman Welch's Choice Award for her untitled piece. Logan Gaboury, Jordyn Dukas and Emily Benkert presented their zooplankton research at the STEM Challenge Initiative Recognition Night at the Bliss Auditorium. Mark Connor was named the Gatorade Player of the Year for Vermont baseball, the program's third player to receive the award.

6. **Consent Agenda**

- E. Approval of Minutes

Al Corey made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2016 Board meeting; second by Sally Lindberg. The motion carried unanimously.

Jeff Morrill and Kevin Dirth explained the process for using the consent agenda. Items placed on the consent agenda are anticipated to be approved without discussion. If an item needs discussion, then any Board member can ask that that item be removed from the consent agenda before it is approved. Then there is one motion to approve the entire consent agenda, thus saving time.

- F. Student Representative Report – Nilda Gonnella-French thanked Cordelia Bell and Kamryn Montague for their service over the past year. Kamryn was re-elected and Jens Ulrich-Verderber will be joining us next year. Kamryn and Cordelia reported on recent student activity and events. The graduation speaker this year will be BFA teacher Polly Rico, one of the first female graduations speakers. The seniors are creating a scholarship which will be \$1,000 annually to a BFA student. Ms. Bell listed several upcoming events: Senior Brunch, June 5; Awards Night: June 9th; Underclassmen 5:30 PM; Seniors at 7 PM; Graduation, June 11 at 11 AM CPSC; End of Year Luncheon (Brunch) June 13 at 10:30 AM Cordelia presented the Board with a *thank you card which was read into the record: Dear BFA Board of Directors, Thank you for the opportunity to become a member of the Board this year. I have enjoyed representing the BFA student body and I have learned a lot about our community during my time on the Board. During every meeting I learned something new about negotiation, public policy, the administration of a local high school. I am excited to continue an education in local government at American University, where I will be studying communications, law, economics and government. – Cordelia Bell ~end~* The Board thanked her for her involvement and wished her luck in the future.
- G. BFA Administrator's Report - Chris Mosca stated that his report was attached for the Board.
- H. BFA Guidance Report - Preston Randall expressed his gratitude to the community for their support to the scholarship program. His report was also attached.
- I. NWTC Director's Report - Leeann Wright indicated that her report was attached.
- J. Supervisory Union Report - Kevin Dirth reported on the Franklin West request to bring their students to NWTC. The Agency of Education (AOE) made a recommendation not to allow them to send their students here. However, the State Board of Education did not take their recommendation, but chose to table it instead. There was a Board Chair training that Nilda Gonnella-French, along with other FCSU Chairs, attended. Nilda reported that she was happy with the day. Kevin reported that this will be the last Board meeting for Jesse Byers, who is moving on to teach Science in Fairfield.
- K. FCSU Board Report - Nilda Gonnella-French no news to report.
- L. BFA Board Committee Reports
 - L1. Personnel/Finance - Al Corey reported that the committee met earlier in the evening, and several items will be brought to the Board later in the agenda.
 - L2. Curriculum - Sally Lindberg reported that the number of seniors in danger of not graduating has been reduced, and the staff is still working hard on it. Oftentimes the problem is something small like a Community Service form that hasn't been turned in yet. She then went on to say that she hopes the new district continues to have a Curriculum committee and gets input from the community. For example, one idea that has been discusses is to have Community Service requirements in all 4 years of high school. BFA has begun using CANVAS learning management system.
- M. Collins Perley Report - Al Corey reported the primary discussions at the board meetings have focused on possible improvements. Chris Mosca added that the Bocce Tournament

had been held at Collins Perley, and it is a wonderful event with students from all over the state attending.

N. Collins Perley Manager's Report – This was attached to the Board packet.

O. Personnel/Finance Committee Recommendations

O1. Unpaid Leave Request – Meredith Potter requests some unpaid leave.

Al Corey made a motion to allow the requested unpaid leave to Ms. Potter as recommended by the Personnel Finance Committee; second by Sally Lindberg. The motion carried unanimously.

O2. Administrators Contracts – Nilda Gonnella French asked if this item was qualified for executive session. Discussion determined that it was because it would involve employee evaluations.

O3. Alumni Position – Shirley Raymond would like to continue in this position. Personnel Finance Committee recommends she be allowed to continue.

Al Corey made a motion to appoint Shirley Raymond as Alumni Coordinator as recommended by the Personnel Finance Committee; second by Sally Lindberg. The motion carried unanimously.

O4. New Hires Update/Resignations Update –

Al Corey made a motion to regretfully accept the resignation of Rebecca Day; second by Sally Lindberg. The motion carried unanimously.

O5. Recommendation for Recruiting Coordinator

Al Corey made a motion that Kristen Corrigan be appointed as the Recruiting Coordinator as recommended by the Personnel Finance Committee; second by Sally Lindberg. The motion carried unanimously.

O6. Trust Management Update – this was tabled for future meeting.

O7. Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) – Options were discussed, and it was determined that People's United provided the lowest interest rate.

Al Corey made a motion that Bellows Free Academy/NWTC USD#48 will take out a tax anticipation loan for FY17, in the maximum amount allowable by law, with People's United Bank, and that the majority of the Board members and school Treasurer will sign the necessary documents; second by Sally Lindberg. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Old Business

P. * Negotiations – Discussion on this item as well as the next item found that having discussion in open session would put the Board at a substantial disadvantage.

Q. * Grievance – moved to Executive Session, see above.

R. Unification – Kevin reported that the Unification meeting was held last week. Most of the information is in his newsletter. At the organization meeting there was a recognition of the five districts that have merged. The second meeting was the Board's first meeting where they organized themselves. They chose a name – Maple Run Unified School District. Jim Farr, was elected Chair, and Michael Malone was elected vice-chair. The group selected the first and third Wednesday of the month for meetings. The first monthly meeting will be rotated through the schools to help Board members to become familiar. The second monthly meeting will be a business meeting held at Central Office. Kevin Dirth also reported that we have acquired mrusd.org and mrusdvt.org.

S. D1 Proficiency Based Graduation Policy Adoption – This policy has been warned and reviewed.

Jeff Morrill made a motion to adopt the D1 Proficiency Based Graduation Policy as warned; second by Al Corey. The motion passed unanimously.

8. New Business

T. Appoint New Minute Taker – Abby has a new job and can no longer take minutes.

Al Corey made a motion to appoint Brenda Comstock as minute taker; second by Sally Lindberg. The motion passed unanimously.

148 9. **Other Business**

149 U. Monthly Financial Report – The report was included for the Board’s information.

150 V. Department Reports – This report was provided for the Board.

151 W. *Employment Matters – There was nothing this month.

152 10. **Approve Warrant**

153 X. Current warrants were included for Board approval.

154 **Al Corey made a motion to approve the warrants; second by Sally Lindberg. The motion carried**
155 **unanimously.**

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157 11. **Agenda Items for Future Meeting**

158 • Trust Management Update

159 • Architect Summary Report

160 • Breakfast/Lunch Prices

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162 12. **Potential Executive Session**

163 Add Negotiations and Grievance Updates

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165 **Sally Lindberg made a motion to go into executive session at 7:48 p.m. to discuss Negotiations and**
166 **Grievance updates, and Administration contracts because it was found that doing so in open**
167 **session would put the Board at a substantial disadvantage; second by Al Corey. The motion**
168 **carried unanimously.**

169 **Exited Executive Session at 8:22 p.m.**

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171 **Al Corey made a motion to have Administration contracts be one-year; second by Sally Lindberg.**
172 **The motion carried unanimously.**

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174 13. **Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

175 Respectfully Submitted,

176 Brenda Comstock