



BARKER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 8, 2024, 7:00 PM – High School Cafeteria

Present R. Atwater, C. Gancasz, D. Carnes, E. Gow, J. Harris, J. Sweeney, Jr., V. Voss

Excused None

Also Present J. Reimer, M. Carter, C. Cornwell, M. Eadie, M. Love
Public: 48

Call to Order Mr. Atwater called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The pledge of to the flag was given.

**Approve
Agenda** The agenda was reviewed. Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Carnes, to approve the agenda as presented.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

**Accept
Minutes** The Board reviewed the minutes. Mr. Atwater suggested an edit to the sentence pertaining to the Inflation Reduction Act to change it to "Mr. Reimer discussed the Inflation Reduction Act and noted he knows how it will be applied and will take a massive amount **of** work to do." Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Harris, to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meetings dated December 11, 2023 as amended, and December 20, 2023 as presented.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Public Forum Mrs. Weller inquired about the status of the \$20,000 voucher from 2020 for the cancelled International Club's trip to Madrid. Mr. Carter informed her that based on conversations he had with the travel agency, AAA, as well as Mrs. Dewart, the voucher had expired in 2021. Mrs. Weller commented that a Melissa at the agency had told her otherwise, and she therefore was going to do more investigating as it is a large sum of money. Mr. Carter stated would also go back and look at his records for that name, as well as his contacts and information received, so she would have that information available.

Mrs. Fisk read a statement on behalf of parents of students who are interested in the District having a boys' soccer team, noting that some of the student and families are present this



evening in support of the development of a team as well, and noted letters sent to the District regarding the same. She commented that data analysis can be presented in different ways and interpreted differently too and wanted the Board to consider that when making their decision. She also noted that the numbers are fluid with regard to participation from year to year. She stated there are currently only 3 boys Fall sports while there are 5 girls Fall sports available. Of the students who expressed interest in a participating, she noted 14 do not currently play a Fall sport and would therefore have a sport if a team was to be created. She noted an outside consultant should look at the data.

Presentations Music Department Presentation – Mr. Burke, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Rappold

Mr. Burke discussed the strategic goal of the Music Department which, even with declining enrollment, is that the Department wants to provide the best music education possible. The teachers then recognized students who went above and beyond the offered music program by trying-out and/or participating in opportunities such as All County and Area All State in which the students compete against all of Niagara County or the State respectively to be part of the group(s). He noted that Level 1 is the easiest piece and level 6 the hardest which the students can't do until sophomore year. The following students were recognized for All-County:

- Elementary Chorus: Lilah Kelemen, Maxwell Liuzzi, Jeremy Weakland
- Elementary Band: Ayla Riches, Tierza Rose, Tessa Seward, Adalyn Snell, Kasey Thering
- Jr. High Chorus: Addisyn Weller
- Jr. High Band: Riley Marciszewski, Addisyn Weller
- Jr. High Jazz Ensemble: Riley Marciszewski
- Sr. High Chorus: Alexis Dauphinee, Shelby Dauphinee, Connor Dwyer, and,
- Sr. High Band: Matthew Goodwin, Michael Kalynycz, Lillia Peace.

The teachers then discuss music curriculum including the overall goal of the teachers for the classroom learning experience to align learning sets grade by grade to ensure skills sets are mastered and result in a cohesive program from grade PreK through grade 12 overall.

Mr. Rappold introduced Adler Detschner, who spoke about band and the breakout of participation through the grades. Grades 4-6 have 57% of population or 90 students in band. Grades 7-12 have 26% of population or 76 students in band. Jazz Band, has a total of 32 students participating. Fourteen 7th and 8th graders participate in the Jr. High Jazz Band which rehearses once a week during 10th period, and there are 18 students in the Sr. High Jazz Band that participate after schools in the evening once a week. He noted the upcoming Spectrum Band Concert on March 21, 2024. He spoke of his experiences as a percussion player, meeting and developing friendships with students from Barker and others through NYSMA and various opportunities. He noted that in the upper grades scheduling can make it difficult to participate, especially with BOCES. He says the members work hard, it is a fun experience, and the results show.

Mr. Burke introduced Sahara Holland who spoke about the choir program. She noted that chorus participation in grades 3-6 is very large with 76% of the population participating



which is 104 students. In grades 7-12 there are 54 students participating in chorus which represents 20% of the population. She stated she felt as the school is very small having this many participate is very important. She noted the upcoming Spectrum Choral Concert on March 14th and Spectrum Band on March 21st. She discussed her experience with the music program and the importance of it to her. She concurred with Mr. Detschner about the scheduling conflict and wondered what could be done.

Ms. Johnson introduced Connor Dwyer. He spoke about the musical theater for which he has participated in for a number years and the positive experience and friendships as a result. He noted the musical for the Junior/Senior High this year is Anastasia in March. He stated his concern about storage area for costumes and props, as well as support regarding the replacement of 50-year old equipment supporting the program such as lighting, sound, etc. The timeline to fix the issues were noted and he was also thankful for the support of the program and the issues being addressed.

Ms. Johnson introduced Shelby Dauphinee who discussed the overall program, trips, special events, and her experiences with the Music Department. She noted she has had great experiences through music and commented that additional resources to continue to make the program better were needed. She stated she felt it was a strong program as they win awards such as the Kenny last year, and appreciates the support from the Music Parent's Club, teachers and staff, and Board.

Mr. Atwater thanked everyone for participating this evening, and noted the Board and his appreciation and pride of the staff, students, and Music Department.

Ms. Johnson, Mr. Rappold, and a number of students and guardians exited the meeting.

Principal's Update – Mrs. Love

Mrs. Love thanked the Music Department, Mr. Burke, Ms. Johnson, and Mr. Rappold for their presentation and all they do for the students. She congratulated the students on their accomplishments in music.

Mrs. Love and Mrs. Thibault, along with some student in a Government class presented to the Board a token of appreciation. They thanked the Board and celebrated them recognizing all they do now and for the long-term growth of the District and students, knowing it has been very busy with the name change, construction project, and many other items. The cookies, with the Barker "B" and Bulldog theme are a thank you for them and were made by a student, Emma Evans.

Mrs. Love commented that December was a magical month here at Barker. She thanked everyone who made the holiday season so special for our students. Students enjoyed holiday dress-up days, the PK-4 participated in breakfast with Santa with a performance from the high school dance class, Santa and Mrs. Claus served breakfast in the hallway to the 5th and 6th grade students, the Grinch came to Barker, and there was even the opportunity for grades 1 and 4 to go on a horse-drawn sleigh ride.

With the new year here, students and staff are back to learning after a well-deserved break. She noted that January brings the ELA regents exam on Tuesday, January 23rd



that the 11th grade students will be taking. Students in grades 3-8 will also start preparing for state tests by practicing the Computer Based Testing simulation this month.

For staff, January's Faculty Meeting professional development topic focus was surrounding student disciplinary consequences, looking at the District's discipline data together as a team, and moving staff mindsets toward proactive strategies to support student behavior in the classroom. This topic will continue to drive staff conversations during the February meeting, which will include a look into some literature surrounding proactive behavioral interventions to increase classroom engagement.

Looking forward, she noted that June will be here before we know it. She stated that last year, the students in the Class of 2024 selected Friday, June 28th as their graduation date. This is a change from the traditional Saturday morning graduations. The student leaders of the Class of 2024 were tasked with helping Mrs. Love select the time of the ceremony. They selected 7:00 p.m., as the students felt more people would have time to attend the ceremony at the end of the workday. The alumni speaker has been selected and the students are working on choosing the student-selected guest speaker. Mrs. Love commented that the District looks forward to celebrating all of the seniors and their accomplishments in the months ahead.

Mrs. Love closed her report by wishing the Board a Happy Board of Education appreciation month. She stated everyone appreciates all they do to support this learning environment, and thanked them for their service to the school and the Barker community. She then thanked Mrs. Thibault for organizing the celebration and helping the students share their Bulldog love, to the GOV/PIG students for helping today, and to Emma Evans for making the cookies.

Coordinator of Curriculum & Prof. Learning/AP Update's - Mr. Cornwell

Mr. Cornwell presented on New York State Learning Standards and Assessment Overview as of January 2024. With regard to the Visual & Performing Arts, he discussed the changes in arts standards from 2018 to now, and a potential graduation pathway program being developed and may be available to students soon. Some schools are piloting this pathway program now. Career Development & Occupational Studies had no changes in standards from the corresponding time periods. Computer Science & Digital Fluency standards have been revised since the 1990 standards. Although the Jr./Sr. High has standards embedded already, the challenge will be to have the standards embedded in every grade level and to the depth the state wants in the upper elementary grades, grades 4-6. English Language Arts standards in 2018 were common core, 2023-2024 is Next Generation. The grades 3-8 assessments are now aligned to the Next Generation. As of June 2026, Regents exams will be aligned to the new standards. The current Freshman Class will be the first to take the new Regents based on the Next Generation standards. Mr. Cornwell noted there are not large differences between Common Core and Next Generation. He commented that some items were moved around and more creative writing has been placed back in. Family & Consumer Science has not had changes, as well as Health Education. Mathematics has changed from Common Core to Next Generation, although there is not a lot of difference between the two. Like ELA, grades 3-8 assessments for Math align to the Next Generation standards. This June, Algebra will be the first math exam to align to the new standards. Geometry and Algebra will follow,



with Algebra II in subsequent years. As with ELA, he noted there were not large differences between Common Core and Next Generation standards with Math, primarily movement of items between grade levels. The Physical Education standards are more broken down and include emphasis on personal/emotional/social behaviors such as sportsmanship, as well as overall physical wellbeing, fitness and health, and career development. Science standards have been revised a few times, 1996, 2016 and then after 2016 with quite a bit of change. New grade 5 and 8 assessments will be taken this Spring and the changes will be phased into the Regents beginning in 2025 with Earth Science and Living Environments, and in 2026 for Chemistry and Physics. He noted there would be some overlap with old exams. The new standards for Science will focus not just on content (core ideas) but also on the application, science and engineering practices, disciplinary core ideas and cross-cutting concepts with new exams reflecting this. Mr. Cornwell commented he expects to hear more relative to the Science changes in the Spring or Summer of 2024. Social Studies are utilizing the same standards but with new framework/conceptual understanding. There is a greater link to literacy with the discipline, and there will be a much more thematic approach to history vs. chronological. The new assessments for Global will be 2024, and US History in 2023. Technology Education has remained the same. World Languages has new standards with a heavier emphasis on the cultural component. The District does have the bi-literacy seal at the High School level for students in this area. It is anticipated that the new assessments will be seen at the introductory level/middle school in a few years.

Financial Update - Mr. Carter

Mr. Carter stated now that the solar project is up and running, the District is starting to get electric bills reflecting a cost reduction from the impact of the energy generated. He noted that when he reviewed the November/December bill for 2023 to 2022, the rate was \$0.01 per kilowatt vs. last year of \$0.04 per kilowatt. The bill went from \$4,400 to approximately \$1,100. He noted that savings will also be more during the summer months. He plans to do a year over year comparison to provide to the Board again in a couple months.

Mr. Carter noted that within the Board package materials is the Corrective Action Plan letter for fiscal year-ending June 30, 2023 as part of the Office of Audit Services audit which is a follow-up as part of the process.

Also included in the package, as discussed last month, is the resolution regarding the agreement between the District and NYSCLASS, an investment fund institution, that would name NYSCLASS as a depository for the District for the 2023-2024 school year. This will be an additional investment fund to JP Morgan Chase and could potentially give the District options for better rates on investments.

Mr. Carter provided an update on the asset and investment management audit. The District will be working through Questar BOCES with Assetworks. Another meeting is scheduled in a couple weeks to begin planning out the audit in anticipation of a potential start date of February 5th. Mr. Carter will be informing the staff once things are in place. As it has been some time since this has been performed, it needs to be done Mr. Carter stated.



The silent auction for Yorker House items and miscellaneous school items resulted in \$7,765 sales for which most items being picked up and paid for to date.

Mr. Carter continued with a review of the initial rollover budget, preliminary department budgets, and update on aid. With regard to the state aid and foundation aid, no additional information has been released with regard to foundation aid which is estimated at higher than expected level. As noted last month, this did not seem correct to him and Dr. Reimer. As such, Mr. Carter reached out for additional information to the state aid planning department over break and completed a thorough analysis of the data that was used to create that estimate. He stated that basically, the state data had 652 students in grades K-12 in the building. The District actually has 620 students as of BEDS day in October. Mr. Carter believes the extra 32 students that were erroneously added are a part of the District's PreK group, and PreK students do not generate state aid. State aid planning and Mr. Carter also ran through the rest of the foundation aid formula. He is seeing an increase of around \$1,000 in foundation aid per pupil. He commented that the District's special education students are also weighted at 1.4x, and Barker has a high number of special education students as a percentage of its population. As such, he is estimating an increase which is pretty close to what has been budgeted for in the projection runs. With more information to be received, the February run should give a much more accurate projection.

Mr. Carter distributed the projected 2024-2025 budget projections for General Support, Instruction, Transportation, Community Services, and Undistributed noting the figures reflects the rollover of expenditures which are the same as last year with the differences reflected in changes from known items such as contractual changes, retirements, employee benefits, ect. General Support has a projected increase of 1.62%. Instruction has an approximately increase of about 7% in instructional salaries. Transportation is projected to increase 1.81%. Community Service remains flat but Mr. Carter pointed out the Summer School budget of \$30,000 which was not used due to federal funds which were available noting that will change when the funds do not continue to be received by the federal government after the 2024 summer. This needs to be a dialogue for the Board as well as when the federal stimulus money is not available in other areas. Undistributed, which the majority is Employee Benefits at approximately \$4 million, will increase about 7%. The largest components of that figure are the teachers' retirement, Social Security, and Health Insurance. Overall, the total budget for these categories is projected to increase 4.28%. He noted that the various areas of the budget continue to be reviewed weekly by Administration.

Dr. Reimer noted that the rollover takes current structure and leaves programs and offerings the same, and will take into account the financial projections, and the impact on the long-term rollover, how foundational aid will look, and the future of federal stimulus funding. The projection will ebb and flow through April as it continues to be evaluated and more is known. There is a solution, he commented, the question is how it will look.

Mr. Carter noted that the Budget Advisory Committee will also review the rollover budget at its meeting on January 22, 2024.



Superintendent's

Information

Dr. Reimer continued the budget discussion in relation to the tax cap and levy question from last month, whether the District goes forward with a flat 2% as it has done in the past, or increase it at a higher levy level at more than 2% to capture more monies to grow the revenue base earlier knowing some current revenue will not be available. The need for more than a simple majority of votes if it does go above the tax cap was discussed, and he reviewed the differences the District would receive at 2% vs. 3%. At 3% it would provide an approximated additional \$37,000 per year to the District, which over seven years would have an impact. If the District goes for more than the simple majority and goes above the tax cap, it would result in approximate \$50,000 additional per year which would equate to approximately \$600,000-\$700,000 for the District over the long-term which in 2027-2028 could be considerable with the Energy Mitigation Fund going away. He commented that he does not expect volatility this year as seen last year with the Somerset plant due to the assessment valuation as a result of the tax certiorari, and the tax growth factor remains flat. Dr. Reimer asked the Board if they wanted to stay at the 2% level, go for simple majority, or go for super majority. Mr. Sweeney thought the Board should wait until the Budget Advisory met and provided input. Mr. Atwater thought the Board should go with a simple majority. The Board concurred to continue the discussion at the February meeting.

Dr. Reimer then compared the status of the Federal Stimulus Funding from what dollars were obligated as of September 2024, and what has been spent out as of year-end 2023, as projected at December 2024, and through the end of the funding period of December 2026. He noted the big change is that the District has to ensure it follow the guidelines for the usage of funds through the end of the time period. If the District does not use the funds appropriately, it will need to pay it back. He gave an example if the District were to purchase a contract for services such as Paper, the tutorial program used by the District, and the agreement is for three years, if the District initiates the contract by December 2024 for two years, it has obligated the money and is able to spend it out of the stimulus funds as that satisfies the requirement. He noted that he is looking to see how to obligate the three stimulus funded teacher positions based on the guidelines and funding requirements. He is working with Lumsden & McCormick to ensure the auditors agree with the process as they will be signing off on the District audits and use of funds. Dr. Reimer also noted that another hearing will be required on the plan by the District for the usage of the funds. He said that some of the costs projected to spend for the plan came in under budget and Administration is analyzing how to maximize these stimulus funds and develop in parallel with the budget to obligate them by year-end 2024.

With regard to the Capital Projects, Dr. Reimer provided an update on the \$100,000 capital outlay project relating to the auditorium. He talked about the lighting system which has failed. The company that installed the system original is now out of business and parts can't be found to repair it. The replacement cost estimate is approximately \$300,000 and the District will need to get approval by the state for aid to cover the work which is now considered an emergency project for the lights. Including the rigging, the total project to fix is estimated at \$500,000 so he reiterated the importance of receiving aid back. He noted that to address all the issues of the auditorium, the next capital outlay for 2024-2025 will focus on the sound system. The repairs themselves are estimated to take eight months, but the overall process will be much longer due to requirements and approvals needed through the state. To address the current needs by those using the auditorium especially



the musicals, concerts, and graduation, the District is renting lighting and other related equipment as necessary. Dr. Reimer stated he would like to have the project completed by Fall as he noted that emergency projects can start immediately.

The first phase of the \$25 million 2022 Capital Improvement Project approval is complete, drawings and specs are at the printers and will be ready tomorrow. The legal ad for the RFP is approved and ready for print, and the walk thru for contractors is set for January 15, 2024. Dr. Reimer said he will be in District that day to do the tours. He discussed the plan for updating and/or replacing windows and the goal to make them appear all to be the same even though they are not, and where the repairs are focused. Window work will not be done for the start of the school year due to product delays for resources but the parking lots, fields, and courts are scheduled to be done at that point. Phase II is a bit behind schedule and will go into 2025-2026 but will commence at the start of the year. He then discussed the status of the Certificate of Completion and cost reports which need to be finalized and submitted to begin the receipt of aid. With regard to the Yorker House demolition, most items from the silent auction have been picked up at this point. The RFP for demo should be out next week. Dr. Reimer noted that the attorneys are being used for this this project as there are a lot of areas to consider, such as liability and insurances, and must all align for the demolition. The date will also correspond to the Phase I of the project to utilize fill from the project for the location of the Yorker House.

Dr. Reimer noted there may be some news articles regarding the grade 3-8 ELA assessments. Regionally, 52% proficiency was reported but he noted that is not all encompassing as it is only those assessed. He noted that Gov. Hochul is pushing science of reading standards which the District has already been doing and incorporated into its curriculum, even more so with the focusing on the Orton-Gillingham approach. As a result, the District, hopes to continue to see gains in its students and the scores increasing as evidence. The first assessment with the alignment of scores is usually lower and the results increase as the curriculum adjusts to the new standards.

Dr. Reimer noted that Mr. Learo, who was appointed last month, will be starting January 23, 2024. Information will be distributed to staff with regard to him now that the start date is official. The confirmation of this date and his probationary period will be brought forward in February. He will be visiting the school January 15, 2024 on his day off with Dr. Reimer.

Dr. Reimer noted that the confidential regional calendar draft for the 2024-2025 school, if followed, presents some challenges to the traditional breaks employees and families are accustomed to as a result of the addition two new holidays being added and with Christmas/New Year's being on a Wednesdays. He has met with Mrs. Martell, the Union President, to work through options. He noted some potential options will not be favorable to some people, such as having professional development dates before September 1, coming back to school after graduation, changing a traditional break, not following the BOCES calendar which has been done in the past and liked by some and not by others due to its challenges, and he noted about trying not to change some holiday breaks such as the Wednesday-Friday break at Thanksgiving. There are union contract issues that must also be considered with the decisions. He will talk with the various groups once the final regional calendar comes out. He noted that there is discussion about added additional holidays in other parts of the state which he expects would roll to the other



regions and then the problem would be in order to fit the required mandatory dates in, Spring break could be impacted or not happen.

Dr. Reimer then brought forward for discussion and determination by the Board of Education the continued dialogue of the development of a boys' soccer program at Barker. He commented about how the determination by the Board could set a precedent relating to future activities at various areas. The Board has heard from community members and received information from the Athletic Director regarding his summary of the evaluation of the addition of the program, findings, and his final recommendation for consideration in order to make an informed decision. Mr. Mucha went through all offerings throughout the year, Title IX review which based on projected interest should keep the District in compliance but it would not be known for certain until the team and player counts were added to the analysis if it was to take place. The impact on other teams and students was reviewed. He also noted comparison to other schools the same size as Barker. He noted the estimated cost of \$19,352 which could be reduced if a share was done with another district. The more offered means more the teams compete for students and thus what current teams look like would more than likely change. Dr. Reimer stated the Board must think about the direction of the sports program and decide on a path. Some of the considerations would be if it wants more shared teams, less teams, Barker only teams, costs, etc. Dr. Reimer noted in his opinion, it is not cost prohibitive, but control can't be predicted perfectly. The Board asked if the current proposal would be a precedent to what is offered and it would not. Dr. Reimer noted it depends on the makeup and what levels were offered. He outlined how shares are usually expensed on a per student basis vs. 50/50 split and other related costs for coaching, transportation, which is predicated on the number of students participating. He estimated it would be between \$10,000-\$20,000 to add the boys' soccer team. Mr. Sweeny asked how many students would play Varsity. Determination for that would not be known until after sign-ups and the skill level of the students assessed. An example of how it could impact another team was provided. If golf players leave, five would be needed to host a varsity team otherwise the students could not compete. Mr. Mucha also discussed the disconnect with shared sports at times and ways the District purposefully has tried to make students feel included to develop community and student awareness. He noted his opinion that the District tries to build what it has but sometimes with shares the students are missing the pride of being part of Barker athletics when the school is not the host. It is a difficult decision and the Board will need to look at it as the greater good as a whole in Mr. Mucha's opinion. Dr. Reimer noted he understood the students and support of the parents. Mr. Mucha noted for consideration also at what point does the District stop shares and he commented he respected the decision to be made either way. Dr. Reimer commented that this is an extremely difficult decision before the Board. Mr. Atwater concurred as did every member of the Board, and Mr. Atwater asked each of the members their opinion. Mrs. Voss appreciated the emails and participation of parents and students with regard to this matter as she felt they had their children at heart which she would too. She noted the Board has had to look at the whole sports program and what is best and for the District and students which involved a lot of time and consideration. She said this was a very difficult decision but her decision would be to not opt to offer boys soccer. Mrs. Harris commented that this was very hard decision also and appreciated the information from the students and parents. She stated she sees the impact of music with fewer and fewer students with declining enrollment but she agrees with Mr. Mucha's recommendation to not offer soccer. She stated if it was her



kid, I would fight for it too. Mrs. Gancasz commented that this has been discussed many times, not just recently relative to adding something to the offerings of students, and they are interested and then have seen where they don't actually come to play. She also agreed with Mr. Mucha's recommendation and asked those in attendance to tell the students not to give up as things change. Mrs. Gow stated the decision is hard, very hard, and she was torn but she too agreed with the recommendation. Mrs. Carnes agreed she was torn and it was difficult, but was agreeing with Mr. Mucha's recommendation. Mr. Atwater summarized the discussion and concurrence to accept Mr. Mucha's recommendation to not offer boys soccer although noting it is disappointing to all.

Policies/Plans Mr. Atwater brought forward the first reading of the following policies: 8110, 8130, 8242, 8243, 8250, 8260, 8270, 8271, 8272, and 8273.

Mr. Atwater suggested a change to the second sentence of Policy 8110, Curriculum Development, Resources and Evaluation, to strengthen the language from "The Board of Education supports and encourages" to "directs" the development of a District-wide.... The Board agreed with the change.

He noted he did not see any wording regarding AI in Policy 8270, Instructional Technology, as the importance of this topic has been discussed. Dr. Reimer noted that the District is not at a point to recommend language on AI currently, but possibly in the Fall.

With regard to policy 8250, Animals in the School (Instructional Purposes), Mr. Atwater asked if there is a separate policy for service animals. Dr. Reimer noted there is and it is dictated by law and he would forward it on to the Board.

No additional questions or comments were brought forward.

Mr. Atwater then presented the second reading of policies: 7521, 7522, 7530, 7550, 7551, 7552, 7553, 7560, and 7570. Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to approve the policies as presented.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Education Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the Intermunicipal Cooperation Agreement between Royalton-Hartland Central School District and Barker Central School District for the sharing of opportunities and resources of interscholastic football from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 at the Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Modified levels.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the Intermunicipal Cooperation Agreement between Lyndonville Central School District and Barker Central School District for the sharing of opportunities and resources of interscholastic baseball from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 at the Varsity level.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.



Based on a question, it was confirmed that the arrival time back for the Music Department trip would be 9:00-10:00 PM vs. AM on Saturday, March 23, 2024. Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve High School Music Department (Band/Chorus) overnight trip from Friday, March 22, 2024 through Saturday, March 23, 2024 for students to visit Lake Erie State Park in Brocton as part of the NYS Parks grant and then travel to Cleveland, Ohio for music-related activities.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Based on an inquiry, it was noted that there is no exchange here, just a quick educational trip for the students. Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the International Club trip to Costa Rica with the approximate dates of April 2, 2024 - April 9, 2024.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Reimer noted that the Student Athletic Advisory Committee is seeking approval to hold a winter clothing drive and as it would be foregoing revenue, needed Board of Education approval. Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the Student Athletic Advisory Committee to run a warm clothing drive for JV and Varsity Basketball games between January 1 - January 19, 2024 in lieu of payment for attending the games.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz to approve the change to the 2023-2024 school calendar to include a Superintendent's Conference Day on April 8, 2024 (eclipse day).

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Personnel Items

Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve the agreement between the Barker Central School District and Christian Cornwell, Coordinator of Curriculum & Professional Learning/Assistant Principal, from July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2025.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve the appointment of Logan Harris as an unpaid volunteer coach for Boys Modified Basketball for the 2023-2024 sports season effective January 9, 2024.

Yes: 7, No: 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve the appointment of Vincent Strollo as an unpaid volunteer coach for Modified Boys & Girls Swim for the 2023-2024 sports season and as a Life Guard for the District at a rate of \$18.00 per hour effective January 9, 2024.



Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve the appointment of Vincent Strollo as a Lifeguard at a rate of \$18.00 per hour for the Winter Community Ed Program during the 2023-2024 school year from January 16 – March 28 2024, with the exception of a make-up classes is needed in April.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Voss, to approve the following individuals as community/parent volunteers as listed in the attached subject to Raptor clearances:

- Calandra, Cameron
- Calandra, Gabrielle
- Grissett, Dolores
- Murphy, Joshua, and
- Nagel, Kristina.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Business & Financial

Items Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Gow to accept the Warrant Report dated January 8, 2024.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Gow to accept the Extraclassroom Reports for December 2023.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Gow to accept the Treasurer's Report dated December 31, 2023.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve the following risers as noted be declared excess property and that the Superintendent, or his designee, be authorized to dispose of said items.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve the following resolution regarding the agreement between Barker Central School District and the investment fund institution, NYSCLASS, that NYSCLASS be named a depository for the Barker Central School District for the 2023-2024 school year.



Municipal Cooperation Resolution:

WHEREAS, New York General Municipal Law, Article 5-G, Section 119-o (Section 119-o) empowers municipal corporations [defined in Article 5-G, Section 119-n to include school districts, boards of cooperative educational services, counties, cities, towns and villages, and districts] to enter into, amend, cancel, and terminate agreements for the performance among themselves (or one for the other) of their respective functions, powers, and duties on a cooperative or contract basis;

WHEREAS, the Barker Central School District wishes to invest portions of its available investment funds in cooperation with other corporations and/or districts pursuant to the NYCLASS Municipal Cooperation Agreement Amended and Restated as of March 28, 2019;

WHEREAS, the Barker Central School District wishes to satisfy the safety and liquidity needs of their funds; Now, therefore, it is hereby resolved as follows: That Michael Carter, School Business Administrator of Barker Central School District, is hereby authorized to participate in the NYCLASS program under the terms of the NYCLASS Municipal Cooperation Agreement Amended and Restated as of March 28, 2019.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve the Office of Audit Services Corrective Action Plan letter for fiscal year-ending June 30, 2023.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve the MOA between the Barker Central School District and the Barker Teachers' Union pertaining to the collective bargaining agreement, Article XIX, Letter P, regarding a retirement incentive for the 2023-2024 school years.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Dr. Reimer inquired if any Board Member would like to attend the Legislative Breakfast with him and Mr. Carter. The event is scheduled for Saturday, January 20, 2024 at The Oak Room, 4185 Lake Ave., Lockport from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. Mrs. Carnes said she would attend.

**End of Public
Session**

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Harris adjourn public session at 8:48 p.m., and move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing collective negotiations with the Support Staff.

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.



Executive

Session Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs Gancasz, to approve the adjournment of the Executive Session at 9:20 p.m., and return to Public Session.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Public Session/

Adjournment Motion by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Gow, to approve the end of the Public Session and adjournment of the meeting at 9:20 p.m.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Prepared by,

Mary H. Eadie
District Clerk