

**BETHLEHEM BOARD OF EDUCATION
BETHLEHEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
BETHLEHEM, NH 03574**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 9th, 2021
TIME: 5:30 PM**

BOARD MEETING MINUTES - Draft

PRESENT: Principal Sue Greenlaw, Chairman Bob Weir, Superintendent Tari Thomas, James Noyes, Becky Beno, Tim Fleury, Jennifer Lucas, Nancy Martland, Mary Kranbeer, Bruce Caplain, David Van Houten

VIRTUAL: James Noyes

I. CALL TO ORDER

CHAIRMAN ROBERT WEIR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 5:42 PM ROLL CALL: CHAIRMAN ROBERT WEIR, BECKY BENO, JAMES NOYES, TIM FLEURY, JENNIFER LUCAS

II. PUBLIC INPUT

Solar Project - There were many bids that came in. The committee did choose a developer. The developer would want to use the forested area behind the school. They would have to cut down trees and eliminate a bike path behind the school. There would be a fence around the solar panels. If they were to use the library property it would cost more to run the power to the school. Bob Weir asked to have interested board members and Van Houten to walk down to the site and take a look sometime soon. The Solar Committee would like to know if this site is a possibility soon, so the project can move forward. The Board let the committee know that they need to be put on the agenda to allow time to discuss the project with the Board, staff and the public. The Solar Committee is going to put the discussion on the town agenda as the property behind the school belongs to the town.

Mary Kranbeer and Bruce Caplain spoke regarding the finances to fund the project and the savings over time. They asked the school board to consider funding the project, \$25,000 for 2 years. Most solar panels last over 25 years, the estimated savings for BES would be \$250,000 over the next 25 years. At this time BES did not vote to fund the project. The Committee has worked hard to secure grants, and find other ways to fund the project to keep the tax base low. They will come to the next meeting for further discussion on the project's location and funding.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 12TH, 2021 MEETING

MOTION MADE BY BECKY BENO SECONDED BY JENNIFER LUCAS FOR THE APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 12TH, 2021 MEETING. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

IV. FINANCIAL

A. General Information/ Financials

Business Manager Butterfield will give an update at the December meeting. She is absent tonight as she is in the superintendent search meeting tonight.

DocuSign update - manifest needs to be signed tonight, as there were technical difficulties with DocuSign.

B. Supt. Search Update

The Supt. Search has its second meeting tonight, they are discussing timelines for finding a superintendent and characteristics. They are recording all the superintendent search meetings. If anyone would like to watch the meetings, reach out to Libby and she can send that link.

V. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

A. General Information

Principal Greenlaw gave an overview of her Principal's Report. She gave an update on the vaccine clinic for students, 53 kids will be vaccinated in house and 28 adults getting their boosters.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. COVID Update

Superintendent Thomas gave an overview on the COVID numbers in the area. Thomas states Principal Greenlaw, Nurse Tammy Reardon and the staff are doing a wonderful job navigating each case professionally and confidentially.

B. General Information

Thomas gave an overview on the Supt Report. The report has inclement weather information, budget hearing and development information and updated featured videos from the district, Sue is in North Country Rising video, check it out. Also in the report, BES has ranked 29th in the State of NH according to US News & World Report. The Budget Hearing is February 15th and March 15th for the Annual Meeting.

C. GADA - Employment Reference and Verification (Prohibiting Aiding and Abetting of Sexual Abuse)

Thomas stated that this is a required policy for the State of NH and also for our federal grants. She is asking to approve as written. We have been cited for not having it and need to have it on the books as soon as possible. It is about how the District shall act in good faith when providing employment references and verification of employment for current and former employees.

MOTION MADE BY TIM FLEURY, SECONDED BY BECKY BENO TO APPROVE GADA - EMPLOYMENT REFERENCE AND VERIFICATION POLICY FOR A FIRST READING. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTIONED PASSED.

VII. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS

The E-Board will meet next week. There will be a full Board Meeting on December 1st at 5:30pm at Lisbon Regional.

VIII. POLICY COMMITTEE

None

IX. NON-PUBLIC SESSION AS PER RSA 91A:3 I, II (If Needed)

None

X. OTHER BUSINESS

None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION MADE BY JENNIFER LUCAS SECONDED BY BECKY BENO TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:19 PM . ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.