A meeting of the Berlin Board of Education was held in the Berlin High School library beginning at 6:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mitch Couture, Martha Laflamme, Nathan Morin, Nicole Plourde, John Moulis, Marion Huntley, Georgia Caron, Beverly Dupont, Dan Record, Gary Bisson, Tim Forestall, Corinne Cascadden, Jane Provencher, Ken Proulx, Roland Pinette, Cheryl Pinette, Jan Millis, Cathy McDowell, Victoria Buckley, Naomi Levesque, Bryan Lamirande, Mark Lapointe, Mary Stewart, Robert Rodrigue, and members of the press.

MINUTES

On a motion by Martha Laflamme, seconded by Nicole Morin, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the October, 1, 15, and 28, 2008 meetings, public and non public sessions. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Marion Huntley reviewed the latest financials and answered various questions asked by the Board.

WARRANTS

A motion was made by Nicole Plourde, seconded by Nathan Morin, to approve the warrant dated November 10, 2008 for the amount of $217,249.73. Discussion ensued. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

COMMENTS

None

READING FIRST

Corinne Cascadden gave the Board information on Reading First Program and was available to answer questions on the National Reading Conference that was held in July as well as Reading First in general.

403(b) PLAN

On a motion by Nathan Morin, seconded by Martha Laflamme, the Board voted to approve the district's 403(b) plan as outlined in the packet.

AFTER SCHOOL

The Board amended the agenda to include the After School Program's presentation. Cathy McDowell explained the next steps in the after school program; we can apply for funding for five more years. We should know if we will receive funding by February or March. There needs to be some show of local effort to continue the program since the maximum that can be applied for is this year's current allocation; which is already shy of what is required to run the program. FRC is requesting that SAU 3 fund $15,000 per site for a total of $60,000. On a motion by Nicole Plourde, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to include the $60,000 for the after school program in the 2009-2010 school budget. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

SUPER REPORT

Mechanical Services proposal was explained to the Board by the Superintendent. The Board discussed the next steps. A suggestion was made to have all schools reviewed regarding needed boiler changes by a non vendor. Based upon these recommendations RFP's could be requested. Discussion ensued regarding long term use of some of our buildings. The Board instructed the Superintendent to bring information to the Board at the first meeting in December.

The Board was made aware of our NHSBA membership

The Board was given the October 1 enrollment figures

As per the Board's request they were give a list of attendees to an Autism Workshop

The Board was informed of the CTE five year plan approval. The Board would like to see the CTE Advisory Committee become more active.

A draft of Administrative evaluation forms were given to the Board for their review. Discussion ensued regarding changes that the Board would like to see on the forms. The administration will review these forms at their meeting on November 6th. On a motion by Nicole Plourde, seconded by Martha Laflamme, the Board voted to table administration evaluation. Further discussion ensued regarding who reviews final evaluations, are they being done already, do all staff complete the evaluations or do they have a selected number of staff to review administration. Gary Bisson will share the form he uses. The motion to table passed unanimously.

The Board was handed a list of NEAS&C committee members for their information.

The Board was given information on technology updates as per their request.

Discussion ensued regarding coordination of busing/transportation efforts with Gorham and surrounding districts.

The Board was given information on students who are attending a mock trial at Harvard University.

The Superintendent recognized the efforts of the law enforcement agencies for their assistance during the threat to BHS.

The Board was given a letter from a Somersworth parent commending the BHS athletes, parents and fans.

As per their request, the Board was informed of the process used in deciding which sports uniforms are updated.

COMMENTS

None

NEW BUSINESS

On a motion by Nicole Plourde, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to accept the resignation of Board member Melissa Wedge effective November 5, 2008. The administration will forward the resignation to the city council for appropriate action.

Martha Laflamme asked the administration about a men's basketball program at the middle school. Mrs. Dupont explained the need for a certificate of insurance if they are going to use our gyms.

Martha Laflamme inquired about the four day school week, The Superintendent is setting up a committee in December.

The Board Chair asked about the status of the electrical panel. The Superintendent informed the Board he is still working on the electrical panel. The Assistant Superintendent indicated that other capital improvements items are on track.

The status of the building committee was discussed. The Superintendent will make a proposal to the city council to request funding for a study. The cost of this study could be $70,000 to $100,000.

The Board reminded coaches/advisors to be aware of the fiscal constraints of students especially the costs of meal when students are traveling.

Mitch Couture spoke with Laura Viger about the lights at the BHS track. A proposal will be forthcoming from a local electrician.

NON PUBLIC

On a motion by Nicole Plourde, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to go into nonpublic session at 8:10 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A3II (a), (b), (c). On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative.

On a motion by Martha Laflamme, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to come out of nonpublic session at 11:05 p.m. The motion passed unanimously. No additional votes were taken in nonpublic session.

STAFFING

On a motion by Nicole Plourde, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to accept the following staffing changes:

NOMINATIONS:
Christopher Anderson – Individual Aide – BHS
Laura Ouellette – Boys Basketball Coach – Hillside
Lori Henry – Boys Basketball Coach – Hillside
Paula Landers – Boys Basketball Coach – Hillside
Karen Turgeon – Boys Basketball Coach – Hillside
Reggie Coulombe – Girls Basketball Coach - Hillside

RE-NOMINATIONS:
Gary Roy – Boys Basketball Coach – Hillside
Joanne Murphy – Girls Basketball Coach – Hillside
Lisa Davis – Girls Basketball Coach – Hillside
Mandy Lafleur – Girls Basketball Coach – Hillside
Lynda Arsenault – Girls Basketball Coach – Hillside
Kevin Meehan – Boys Basketball Coach - Hillside

All nominations are contingent on the applicant passing a criminal record check. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Nicole Plourde, seconded by Nathan Morin, the Board voted to adjourn it's meeting at 11:15 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary, Berlin Board of Education