

BARKER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 14, 2023 Board Room

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

Excused None

Also Present J. Reimer, M. Carter, C. Cornwell, M. Seaton, J. English, M. Love, R. Mucha
Public1

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 Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gow, to approve the agenda as presented.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Accept
Minutes The Board reviewed the minutes. Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Carnes to accept the minutes as presented from the Reorganization and Regular Board Meeting dated July 2023, as presented.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Public
Forum None.

Presentations Principal's Update Mrs. Love
Mrs. Love discussed the search process for the clerical position for coverage in the High School resulting in the recommendation of Kristina Nagel for the position. Ms. Nagel has three years experience in special education at another district, and administrative experience in the insurance field.

Summer school was a week, 1-day program this year which ran from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Grades 4-5 focused on math;



or grade level. He discussed the gap screening as a result of COVID. He reviewed the results of Early Reading, aReading which is adaptive reading, Auto Reading, and CMBReading (Curriculum Based Measure Reading). He noted that the CMB reading is done in small groups and is progress monitoring which tends to be used for students that are struggling the most with reading. He noted that the District has seen improvement in the younger grades, noting the positive impact of the usage of the online program with this progress in addition to the District having two reading specialists.

Mr. Cornwell then reviewed the Math results including the longitudinal Early Math results noting there tends to be higher results in the beginning and some incremental growth with the same cohort of students. Math, which measures broad math abilities, has seen incremental growth year over year. Math Automaticity results for level 2 and level 3 were reviewed and discussed and the concern over Mr. Cornwell also commented that stronger growth tended to be at the elementary level. NES assessments Grades 3-5 were reviewed and he explained the impact of retesting, and that there was no embargo on data. He and Mr. Reimer discussed the targets being hit year over year and the normalization and testing process. Mr. Atwater inquired as to how the District performs in comparison to other schools. Mr. Cornwell discussed that and the need to dig deeper into the views of the teachers regarding looking at ways to increase the results and engage the students. drilling down will be done on additional numbers and Regents are applied and analyzed which will result in ways to address gaps and the correlation between the gaps in assessments.



that reserve over the next few years. This will allow the District to increase its unappropriated fund balance.

Mr. Carter discussed the tax levy warrant, commenting that some tax rates increased mainly due to the low equalization rate for some towns. He commented that even dropping the tax levy by \$50,000 only affects the tax rate a few cents. The District kept the levy the full planned voter approved amount, and will not lose out on revenue over the next several years as that \$50,000 will never come back.

Mr. Reimer noted that the school does the levy and how it is appropriated to the District. Reevaluations of properties were discussed and their impact on homeowners as well as the lack of resources and the amount of time for areas to do the work. Reimer noted that in his letter to be distributed with the tax bills, he will reiterate that the District determines the tax levy which is remaining at 2% but does not determine the tax rate and as a result all tax rates or tax bills will be increasing by the 2% amount. He noted he will explain that at the time of this issue to how tax bills are calculated. (60)Tj 0.001



in one or more sports, and although the District may not be the most competitive, it is having students participate and pushing forward. He also noted that Mr. Mucha has done a lot to change eligibility for students and move the process forward.

Mr. Mucha was excused from the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

Superintendent's Report





opt for beacons. Mrs. Carnes agreed with the two options of bulldogs and beacons going out to the students for vote. Mrs. Voss felt it should be put out to the community for beacons and bulldogs. Mr. Atwater summarized the discussions that the options would be bulldog or beacons and to put out for a vote. Mrs. Gancasz suggested if put out to students or students/faculty the results could be announced at Homecoming with the mascot or logo waiting until December. Mr. Atwater wanted to ensure that when put forward to the students, they understood what it meant and represented. The discussion of results and controlling the end outcome by the Board was brought forward for discussion. Mrs. Harr and Mr. Sweeney noted that if you accept the vote, you take the decision and control away from the Board. Mrs. Gow noted why put out for vote if you do not want to outcome provided. After a lengthy discussion, the Board agreed to have a vote done internally by students and staff with the results revealed at Homecoming.

Policies/Plans Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gow, the 2023-24 District Wide School Safety Plan.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.
School Building Emergency Response Plan
Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gow, the 2023-24 Pratt Elementary Building Emergency Response Plan.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.



Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz, to approve the transportation agreement between Barker Central School District and Victoria Whitman and John Mott for the 2023-2024 school year
Yes: 7, No 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz, to approve the transportation agreement between Barker Central School District and Whitney Wittcopp and Thomas Fulcher for the 2023-2024 school year
Yes: 7, No 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Gow, seconded by Mrs. Gancasz, to approve the Intermunicipal Cooperation Agreement between the Lyndonville Central School District and Barker Central School District for the sharing of opportunities and resources of Interscholastic Girls Soccer at the Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Modified levels for the 2023-2024 school year
Yes: 7, No 0
Motion carried.

Personnel Items

Motion by Mrs. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve Jacob Reimer, Micaela Love, Christian Cornwell, and Michael Carter as APPR Teacher Evaluators
Yes: 7, No 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve the appointment of Michelle Weber as a Substitute Teacher Aide and Substitute Teaching Assistant at a rate of \$14.20 per hour, and as a Substitute Uncertified Teacher at the per diem rate, all effective August 15, 2023.
Yes: 7, No 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve the appointment of Kristin Nagel as a Full-time Clerical I (Secretary for Junior/Senior High School) effective August 16, 2023 at a prorated salary at Step 4, \$38,744.06, of the Support Staff Contract, probationary period from August 16, 2023 to August 15, 2024. Her Civil Service title is Typist I, and her probationary period is from August 16, 2023 to August 15, 2024.
Yes: 7, No 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve the appointment of Eve Moen as a Full-time Cleaner at the rate of \$14.48 per hour effective September 5, 2023 with a probationary period from September 5, 2023 through September 4, 2024
Yes: 7, No 0
Motion carried.



Motion by Mrs. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve the appointment of Janice McAdoo as a Substitute Cleaner effective August 15, 2023, Substitute Teacher Aide effective September 6, 2023, at a rate of \$14.20 per hour
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve Deborah Alsop as Part time Food Service Helper effective August 28, 2023, of \$14.20
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve the following individual parent/community volunteer: Megan Costich, Kimberlee Lambert, and Holly Rounds subject to background clearances
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve the appointment of Robert Mucha as Athletic Director for the 2023-2024 school year per the BTU Agreement
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gow to approve the appointments of the following coaches for the Fall sports season of 2023-2024 school year with a stipend per the BTU Agreement based upon the Steps as noted below

	2023-2024 School Year	Step
Menz		



Motion by Mrs. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gow to accept the resignation of Alexander McCabe as a Full Time Cleaner effective 10/1/23. Mrs. Sweeney, Jr. moved the motion.



WHEREAS Chapter 73 of the Laws of 1977, amended Section 1318, subdivision 1 of the Real Property Tax Law; and

WHEREAS the unencumbered, unreserved fund balance at the close of the last fiscal year must be applied in determining the amount of the school tax levy except for an amount not to exceed 4% of the current year budget; and

WHEREAS this latter amount may be held as surplus funds during the current school year;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education retain as surplus funds \$712,000 from the fund balance of \$7,394,859 there by applying \$0 to the reduction of the tax levy.

BE IT ADDITIONALLY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

To the collector of Barker School District Town(s) of Somerset, Hartland, Newfane, Ridgeway and Yates of Counties of Niagara and Orleans of New York State.

You are hereby commanded:

To give notice and start tax collection on September 1, 2023, in accordance with the provision of Section 1322 of the Real Property Tax Law.

To give notice that the collection will end on October 31, 2023.

To collect taxes in the sum of \$5,017,125 to meet the estimated expenses of the school district plus \$82,806 for library purposes in the same manner that collectors are authorized to collect town and county taxes in accordance with the provisions of Section 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law.

To make no changes or alterations in this tax warrant or the attached tax rolls but shall return the same to the Board of Education. The Board may recall its warrant and tax roll for correction of errors or omissions in accordance with the provisions of Section 131BMC 6 (ec)4 (t)2 (t)2 (ow)6 (n)10 (an)106,0(24r 0 0 (e





2023-2024 BARKER TAX RATES							
	2022-2023	2023-2024	% change				
Tax Levy	4,918,750.00	5,017,125.00	0.02				
Tax Levy Adj /Former Exempt	4,915,850.91	5,014,225.91					
Tax Levy Adj	4,915,850.91	5,014,225.91		Former Exempt	Somerset	1912.93	
Total Full Value	371,716,526.10	476,439,521.77	28.17%		Hartland	986.16	
Total Taxable Assessed Value	276,675,291.00	269,857,275.00	-2.46%		Newfane	0	
					Ridgeway	0	
					Yates	0	
Tax Rate TFV	13.224731	10.524370	-20.42%		Total	2899.09	
Tax Rate TAV	17.767582	18.581029	4.58%				
	SOMERSET	HARTLAND	NEWFANE	RIDGEWAY	YATES	0	

Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Voss, seconded by Mrs. Carnes to approve the approve the awarding of bid to NOCO Energy for the purchase of natural gas from September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024, using the one year Basis Rate of \$0.08 plus NYMEX close
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

End of Public Session

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gagnier to adjourn public session at 9: p.m., and move into Executive Session for the purpose of the Superintendent's contract.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Sweeney, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Gagnier to approve the adjournment of the Executive Session at 9:32 p.m. and return to Public Session.
Yes: 7, No: 0
Motion carried.

Board of Education Regular Meeting

