Unapproved Minutes

Caledonia Central Supervisory Union

CALEDONIA COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' BOARD MEETING

March 9, 2026

Call to Order by Matt Foster

Attendance: Jay Miller, Dan Gingue, Erin Hill, Bobbie Roy, Victoria Atwood, Brit Korsh, Dana Maxfield, Allison Gulka, Asst Superintendent Mike Moriarty, Superintendent Matt Foster, Barnet School Principal Sam McLeod, Walden School Principal Jessica Kenyon, Waterford School Principal Chris Miller.

Additions or Changes to the Agenda:
None.

Reorganization of the Board

- Elect Chair
  MOTION: Dan made a motion to nominate Jay as Board Chair. Erin seconded. This was put to a vote. All in favor.
- Elect Vice-Chair
  MOTION: Bobbie made a motion to nominate Dan as Vice-Chair. Erin seconded. All in favor.
- Elect Clerk
  MOTION: Dan made a motion to nominate Brit as Clerk. Bobbie seconded. All in favor.
- Elect CCSU Board representatives (3 members and 1 alternate)
  Jay gave an explanation of what being on the CCSU board entails. Discussing the budget at the SU level, policy review and adoption, receiving updates from VSBA members.
  MOTION: Dan made a motion to nominate Brit, Victoria, and Jay as the three members, and Bobbie as alternate. Erin seconded. All in favor.
- Committee Assignments
  - Negotiations Council
    MOTION: Bobbie made a motion to nominate Dan to the Negotiations Council. Erin seconded. All in favor.
  - Superintendent Evaluation Committee (comprised of CCSU board members)
    This committee will be comprised of CCSU board members, no further action is needed at this meeting.
- Signer of Warrants
  MOTION: Bobbie made a motion to nominate Dan as the signer of warrants. Erin seconded. All in favor.
- Alternate Signer of Warrants
  MOTION: Dan made a motion to nominate Bobbie as the alternate signer of warrants. Erin seconded. All in favor.
- Authorize Board Chair to sign contracts and warrants

MOTION: Bobbie made a motion to authorize Jay as Board Chair to sign contracts and warrants. Victoria seconded. All in favor.

- Board member to conduct tuition student audit
  MOTION: Bobbie made a motion to nominate Jay as the board member to conduct a tuition student audit. Dan seconded. All in favor.
- Set regular board meeting schedule
  The current schedule is the second Monday of the month, rotating between all three schools, with virtual access over Zoom.
  MOTION: Bobbie made a motion to keep the current schedule. Seconded by Dan. All in favor.
- Discuss timing of annual board retreat
  The past retreat was held in August on the second Monday of the month. This year, that would be August 10, 2026. Jay suggested at the June meeting that they could start an agenda for the retreat.
  MOTION: Dan made motion to hold the retreat on August 10, 2026 at Walden School, time to be determined. Bobbie seconded. All in favor.
- Designate official newspapers and posting locations
  The current newspapers are the Caledonian Record and the Hardwick Gazette. The posting locations are the town clerk's office, the three schools, and the website. All in agreement to keep as-is.
- Discuss and adopt Code of Ethics
  Code of Ethics was sent to all board members for signature.
- Communication process and handling complaints
  Matt reviewed the proper communication channel for handling complaints. Complaints should be brought to school administration first. If that channel has already been pursued, the next step is to bring the complaint to Jay and Matt.

Citizens or Staff to Be Heard (Public Comment)
Shirley Ward made a public comment regarding the town meeting/town report, and board communications.

Approve Minutes

- February 9, 2026
  MOTION: Dan made a motion to approve the February 9, 2026 minutes. Bobbie seconded. All in favor.
  After the motion, Jessica noted new hire Tamara Feldman's name is Tamara Thompson. Matt will make the correction.
- February 11, 2026
  MOTION: Bobbie made a motion to approve the February 11, 2026 minutes. Dan seconded. All in favor.
- March 2, 2026

Erin said she was not at this meeting so her name should be removed from attendance. Matt will make this correction.
MOTION: Dan made a motion to approve the March 2, 2026 minutes with the one correction. Bobbie seconded. All in favor.

Reports

- Superintendent Report
  Mike went over the most recent work on the search for a new Waterford principal. A search/interview committee is being established, made up of teachers, administrators and community members. The job has been posted. Five resumes will be brought to the committee to review, and then determine whom they would like to interview. Ideally, a candidate will be brought to the April board meeting.
  Matt and the Board sincerely thank Chris Miller for a successful six years leading Waterford School.
- Principals Report
  Sam shared a few hands-on, art-centered, and collaborative learning opportunities happening at Barnet School. The 3rd and 4th grade will be going to the Hood Museum and the Montshire Museum. The Vermont Stage will be performing "Gracie vs The People" for 5th-8th grade. Middle School students from Walden, Peacham and Waterford will also be attending. Barnet & Peacham students will also be performing a play written and directed by James Lamar called "1787" on April 14th. The PTF is hosting a "Sweetheart Dance" on March 13 from 6-8pm. The 8th grade class will be visiting Norwich University on March 11th.

  Jessica highlighted the Winter Carnival Week at Walden School featuring a Winter Olympics theme. Two 6th grade students participated in the National Civics Bee. Several grades are exploring different STEM projects, and others participated in programming with the VT Dept. of Fish & Wildlife.

  Chris was happy to report both bus routes are running for Waterford School. A theater artist-in-residence will be coming in April/May. She will work across all grades. St. J Academy Freshman Orientation Day is March 13th. The Spelling Bee took place just before Winter Break with fierce competition. Jay asked for an update from Chris on Grade K/1/2 and multi-grade classroom planning for next year. Chris is having meetings with the teachers of the preliminary grades in March. By end of March/April, communications will go out to Grade K families. Chris has spoken with Consultant Martha Dubuque who has experience with multi-age classrooms and will help teachers with this process. The board wants to have a more detailed conversation regarding staffing and community correspondence next meeting. Erin wants to have planning conversations on this arrangement at the next meeting as it may last for several years. Chris and Sam said this multi-age classroom arrangement is common, and Grades 1/2 are a complimentary group to merge together. Erin asked Chris if a teacher-leader should be designated for this process, since Chris will be leaving at the end of June and a new principal will be coming in July 1. She does not want a repeat of when Chris

came into this situation years ago with negative feedback from parents and what was perceived as poor planning. Chris said the primary teachers have all been very involved as a group. Mike and Matt said there will be a lot of planning and support on the transition before the new principal arrives, and having that responsibility put on one person may not be necessary as there is a group distributing the responsibilities. Chris said he learned a lot from that last experience and is ensuring planning, teamwork and communications begin way in advance of the start of the new school year.

- Student Service Report
  No questions.

New Business

- Legislative Updates (Discussion)
  Jay said last week was town meeting week, so legislators were in recess, but he spoke to Deb Powers and Scott Beck. The Senate map has more support than the House map. Jay said he wants to keep the momentum going with the community letters. He received feedback that Waterford is being heard loud and clear, so the letters are working. Jay thanked Matt for his recent testimony in Montpelier.
  Jay shared that St. J Academy has a parent advocacy group that has recently started. A community survey from them has been sent out. He attended their recent Zoom meeting.
  Erin asked regarding the momentum of the community letters if the ones that were sent to the House Committee should now be forwarded to the Senate Committee. Jay and Matt said yes. The template information for these letters will be shared via Parent Square.
  Dan asked if the recent Senate Map proposed by the state has any merge execution plan to go with it. Matt said it does not.
  Jay said the Senate Map proposes school choice for elementary, middle and high school if the town does not operate a school for those grade levels.

- Open Board Vacancies (Discussion)
  There is an open board seat for Barnet. Brit has spoken with a resident that is very interested; they intend to go to the next board meeting. Jay will be in contact with them. Dan would also like the opening for Barnet to be shared via Parent Square. Matt will arrange this.

- Set the next agenda
  - Waterford Principal candidate
  - Waterford K/1/2 discussion
  - Legislative updates

Meeting adjourned by consensus.
Minutes respectfully submitted by Ellie Keefe