

Arlington School District Study Committee
Minutes—October 10, 2017

The Arlington School District Study Committee met on October 10, 2017 from 7:00AM to 8:20AM. Study Committee members present at the meeting were Dr. Joshua Sherman (Chair), Marshall Cross, Kate Bryan, Kevin Smith, Elizabeth Berger, Dr. Brian Allen, and Florence Belnap. Also present at the meeting were Nicol Whalen, Bill Bazyk and Mary Ann Carlson.

On a motion made and seconded, the group approved the minutes from the last meeting held on September 25, 2017. It was agreed that Ms. Belnap would send the minutes to Superintendent Bazyk and request that they be posted on the website, so that minutes are available to the public.

Mary Ann Carlson asked if the group was studying whether Arlington School District should be merged with Taconic and Green. Dr. Sherman explained the path the study group had pursued thus far, which included focusing on the implications of joining another supervisory union (e.g., cost and effect on local control).

Bill Bazyk announced that the cost savings in joining the BRSU would be around \$100,000. The group questioned why this had changed since the group's last meeting, when Bill had presented numbers showing no savings. Bill explained that the BRSU determined that no Curriculum Director would be needed, which would result in savings of \$100,000. After further discussion, Bill concluded that the Fisher would still need a curriculum director so the savings would be half of the \$100,000. The group discussed additional possible cost savings if the BVSU continued in existence.

Dr. Sherman presented the group's work on strengthening the Arlington School District in a report titled "Arlington STEAM." See attached report. Florence Belnap summarized discussions with Donna Russo Savage (attorney for the VT Board of Education) and Mike Lawler of the CDC. Superintendent Bazyk and Chair Nicol Whalen both commended the self-study group on their efforts to explore all possibilities and create new opportunities for the students of the ASD/BVSU.

There being no further business, the group agreed to adjourn.