

The Bolton Board of Education held its regularly scheduled business meeting on June 14, 2012. Karen Bergin called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the following board members in attendance: Matthew Giuffre, John Hambrook, Rich Hayes, Trace Maulucci, Joe Muro and Ron Rousseau. Superintendent Paul K. Smith and BHS Student Representatives Jenna Luck and William Whedon were also present.

B. Celebration of Excellence: Employees of the Month – Kyle Osborne, Chris Crahen, Wendy Pagani, Tracy Wunch, Rebecca Sullivan, Elaine Allegretti, Pam Browning, Tiffany Novak, Heather Warner, Michele Dayton, Megan Williams, Martine Scott, Heather Ranson and Andy Gonzalez. Patricia Lewis Writing Award Recipients: Daniel Coman, Hannah Osborne, Madelyn Szatkowski, Ryan Ursin, Samantha Bailey, Jacob Dufour, Sydney Ledoux, Sierra Auletta, and Victoria Johnson. BCS Scholar Leaders – Elena Harvey and Michael Welch. BHS Representative to the BOE – Jenna Luck; BHS Class of 2012 Salutatorian Nevin Ounpuu-Adams and Valedictorian Sara Harmon. BCS Retirees Noreen Hoisington, Luci Leone and Veronica Longo.

C. Comments from the Audience – Mr. James Aldrich provided information and handouts to clarify some emails that were circulated in town on the recent budget referendums. There was discussion on retaining and growing the Columbia student base and that impact on the budget and per pupil costs (Bolton and Bolton/Columbia), declining enrollment, the budgeting process for RHAM and the towns attending there, and the basis of the information used by the Town and Board of Education (BOE) in preparation of their respective budget submissions. Mr. Aldrich expressed appreciation to Superintendent Smith for his leadership over the years.

Mr. John Toomey thanked the Bolton Public Schools for allowing the Historical Society to hold their Rochambeau celebration on June 2<sup>nd</sup> (very well attended by political figures) in the Student Commons and invited all to attend alum teacher Mr. Falcetta's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration at the British American Club in Manchester on August 18<sup>th</sup>;

D. Additions to Agenda – Superintendent Smith added item E7d on the Healthy Food Certificate which will require a BOE vote.

E. Routine Business Items

1. Communications to Board Members – Rich Hayes was made aware of a communication sent to the Board of Finance (BOF) in the last few months from the town attorney on the allowance of participation in meetings of board members by phone and wants to know if it's going to be applicable to the Board of Education. Karen Bergin stated that CABA (Connecticut Association of Boards of Education) took up the position that board members can participate. John Hambrook stated that the discussion at a recent BOF meeting indicated that the meeting needs to be a public meeting and that there needed to be a physical quorum for any votes to be official. The Board of Selectman (BOS) were going to discuss it as a town issue but there hasn't been any further information made known. There has been a member vote by phone in the past at a BOE budget workshop meeting. Superintendent Smith will provide the BOE with information from CABA on this matter. There was discussion on the typical flow of information to, from, and among the BOE and the Superintendent's office regarding information released to the public and/or received. Karen Bergin read a note from Susan DePold again thanking the Bolton Public Schools for the use of the Student Commons for the Historical Society event, she also read a note from a community member in support of full-day K and shared a collection of staff signatures reflecting their support of full-day K.

2. Approval of Minutes – April 5, 2012- John Hambrook presented a **motion** to approve the minutes; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Giuffre – MUP.

3. Board of Education Committee Reports
  - a. Personnel – John Hambrook reported they met for Part-time Instructional Assistant and Custodian contract negotiations.
  - b. Policy – John Hambrook reported the committee met to discuss policies on community relations and disenrolling. Discussion on Board Bylaws will be addressed in the future.
  - c. Curriculum – Ron Rousseau reported the committee met and focused discussion on the Common Core as to what’s been done and what needs to be done.
  - d. Building and Grounds – Rich Hayes reported they met with members of the PBC on May 14<sup>th</sup> and discussed punch list items, completed work, HVAC issues, sound insulation, locks and hardware, and the status of remaining furniture deliveries. Superintendent Smith will keep the committee updated on the furniture issue. There was also discussion with the newly formed Recreation Facility Field committee and members from the town on the analysis of the field needs.
  - e. Finance – Joe Muro reported that the committee met with discussion centered around projected savings on SPED and developing future conversations on additional give backs to the Town.
  - f. Transportation – did not meet
  - g. Pupil Services – Ron Rousseau reported the committee did meet but there was no report given.
  - h. Community Information/Development - did not meet
4. Community Meeting Reports/Board of Education – John Hambrook reported he went to a very lengthy CREC meeting to review all reports for the annual review. Topics of discussion included concerns over the new magnet schools being opened and/or reconfigured, curriculum challenges with CCSS and teacher evaluations and how CREC can help with that. The Commissioner listened to committees concerns. There was discussion on the districts requirement to pay for PK students attending magnet schools, the potential for any changes in financial allocations to towns, and the State’s obligation under certain CREC agreements regarding enrollment impact. Rich Hayes reported he attended the Legislative Wrap-up on May 15<sup>th</sup> with Superintendent Smith and found it very informative although sparsely attended by state school district personnel.
5. Report from BHS Student Representatives – Bill Whedon reported the last day of classes was 6/14 and now finals begin. Eight BHS student athletes made all conference in their sport; the Bigs and Littles, run by Catherine Allegretti held a welcoming event for incoming freshman on 5/30. The “Littles” got to meet their “Bigs” and had a tour of BHS. While this was an optional event, 95% of the students signed up. The organization is looking to have an event in Columbia to better accommodate those students. Out of the 66 Columbia students at BHS, 50 are involved in Bigs and Littles program. Jenna Luck reported on the Senior Demo held on 5/24; Bolton’s Got Talent was held on 5/25 - Miranda VanAllen won the competition with Amanda Hanson and Sami Ray placing 2<sup>nd</sup> and Ian Butterfield and Jackie Ray placing 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Senior Outing was at High Meadow. Senior Celebration was on 6/8 with the presentation of awards and scholarships. 6/12 was the last day of classes for seniors, the Cap and Gown Breakfast will be on 6/20 and GRADUATION will be next Friday, 6/22 at 6:00 p.m.  
Chair Karen Bergin stepped out at approximately 7:40 p.m. and the meeting was continued by Vice Chair John Hambrook. Chair Karen Bergin returned at approximately 7:50 p.m. to continue the meeting.
6. Administrators Reports –Claudia Danna presented information on the Conn Academy report. There are free online summer refresher courses, in particular math, to enrich and remediate. These courses can challenge students to prepare for next/higher level in a course. No other comments.

## 7. Superintendent of Schools Report

- a. BCS/BHS Safety Issues – Superintendent Smith reminded the Board that on 5/10 the buzz-in system and door locks for BCS were approved. Mr. Maselli recapped the recent “incident” at BHS regarding the gentleman that was let in. The matter is now in the hands of the police and Trooper Cook is keeping Mr. Maselli updated. Superintendent Smith read the revised policy initiated by this incident and Joe Maselli noted that lock down procedures are always a work in progress and are updated as needed. Unidentified guests will be asked to identify themselves and provide the reason for their visit prior to buzz-in entry.
- b. CCSS Implementation: Math Textbook Pilot – Claudia Danna reported that in preparation for CCSS, we need a new math textbook and will pilot one next year in grades K-5 with the exception of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade because of publishers cost restrictions. The staff reviewed 4 textbooks and the teachers chose My Math (McGraw-Hill). The pilot book is appropriately sequenced in accordance with CCSS, is student friendly, engaging, and includes a literacy piece. Instruction is scaffolded; learn, practice, apply and review for assessment; virtual books are available, texts for kids and teachers, assessment system available for teachers to use and this pilot was vetted for CCSS. Feedback on the pilot will be provided to the Board three times throughout the year. There was discussion on cost, implementation transition, Singapore math, ongoing communication with Columbia, stop gap measures needed if its decided to keep current math textbooks and how to filter in CCSS.
- c. Summer Schedule of Meetings/Retreat – Superintendent Smith suggested this be discussed in executive session and it was agreed.
- d. Healthy Food Certification – Superintendent Smith presented the State’s document on Healthy Food Certification and explained that in the past we have not sought such certification because of cost constraints associated with implementation. John Hambrook presented a **motion** to not certify; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trace Maulucci; MUP.
- e. Furniture Update – Superintendent Smith met with Joyce Stille to finalize the furniture list. The district was able to negotiate lower prices to allow us to obtain more furniture than originally thought, no furniture has been ordered to date; if not ordered by 7/1 we will lose ability to obtain discount resulting in a potential loss of \$85-90K in furniture purchase power. There was discussion on the 5 year cycle as regards furniture being purchased, cause of the order being held up, lack of proper communication to the BOE on the situation, and the agreement that the BOE can request the PBC (Public Building Commission) to investigate potential liability on the part of the architect. Ron Rousseau presented a **motion** to request the Town/PBC to investigate the potential liability issue of the architect not advising the Bolton community on the 5 year issue, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rich Hayes, MUP. Superintendent Smith will forward this request.

## F. Unfinished and On-Going Business

1. 2012 – Superintendent Smith advised the Board they are going to need to consider \$168K in potential reductions and handed out his recommended reductions based on the final budget referendum figures. There was discussion on State grant and Choice monies and the use of those anticipated funds, expected PK student numbers (SPED and typical peers), guidelines for the return of money to the Town, the determination and approval of surplus and the timing of known costs/savings, projected savings on energy costs, IA staffing, other ways to fund larger items such as bleachers when there is not a safety issue, pay-to-play, potential increase of Choice enrollment and what impact that enrollment has on district (+/-), in-house capability to support technology training needs, status of swipe cards and the need to complete wireless access at BCS all at once due to original RFP specs and time constraints to make any changes (30 vendors came for voluntary tour of BCS), the bids close on 6/28 at 11:00 a.m. when they will be opened and the bid awarded at the BOE. Rich Hayes proposed a **motion** that we wait for the bids on 6/28 and request additional money from BOF to

supplement quote STIQ4129 for the swipe cards at BCS, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Hambrook; after the presentation of information from Mary Grande on several incidents of non-staff entry into BCS resulting in theft and threatening phone calls made from BCS classroom phones and further discussion, Rich Hayes withdrew his motion. Rich Hayes then presented a **motion** to use the \$11K earmarked for surplus return for installation of the swipe card system at BCS and supplement surplus return with any savings from the wireless access bid project, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Hambrook. MUP. Chair Karen Bergin requested that all outside doors be locked until the swipe card system is installed. There was additional discussion on developing methods for improved planning of capital expenditures. A **motion** was presented by Rich Hayes to waive the need for bids for the swipe card project, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Giuffre, MUP. Superintendent Smith recapped that the surplus figure will be reduced by the cost of the swipe card system. A **motion** was presented by Rich Hayes to accept budget recommendations presented by Superintendent Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ron Rousseau. Motion tabled by Chair Karen Bergin.

G. New Business

1. First Read - Superintendent Smith presented a revision to policy 1250 (Community Relations) and a new policy 5112.4(b) (Disenrollment).
2. Contract Approvals – will be voted on in Executive Session
3. Assentance of Resignation – Superintendent Smith advised the Board of the resignation of 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade teacher Tiffany Goodin due to relocation and the retirement of Administrative Assistant Joan Stuckart. A **motion** for acceptance was presented by John Hambrook, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Muro, MUP.

I. Executive Session – A **motion** to recess into Executive Session was presented by Matt Giuffre at 9:45 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Hambrook, MUP

The Board Clerk was allowed to leave the meeting at this time.

The following minutes from the Executive Session were submitted by Board Secretary Matt Giuffre. Consensus vote to come out of executive session was taken at 10:40 p.m.

**Motion** to approve the Custodian Contract for 2012-2015 was presented by John Hambrook, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trace Maulucci, approved 5-2 (Rich Hayes and Ron Rousseau voted no). **Motion** to approve the Part-Time Instructional Assistant Contract for 2012-2013 was presented by John Hambrook, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Muro, MUP. **Motion** to rescind the non-tenured staff non-renewal letters was presented by John Hambrook, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Giuffre, MUP. **Motion** to approve the Superintendent's Contract for 2012-2013 was presented by Trace Maulucci, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Muro, MUP. It was agreed to review BOE meeting protocol at the summer retreat. **Motion** to adjourn the Board business meeting was presented at 11:10 p.m. by John Hambrook, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Muro, MUP.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd  
Board Clerk