

The Bolton Board of Education held its regularly scheduled business meeting on October 11, 2012. Karen Bergin called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the following board members in attendance: Matthew Giuffre, John Hambrook, Rich Hayes, Trace Maulucci, Joe Muro and Ron Rousseau. Interim Superintendent Joseph Wood and BHS Student Representatives Zoe Ounpuu-Adams and William Whedon were also present.

- A. Call to Order – Karen Bergin called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
- B. Celebration of Excellence – Rosanna Chapman, BCS Health Room IA, was recognized as the October Employee of the month. Rebecca Salustri was recognized as the Student Representative to the State of Connecticut Board of Education. Catherine Baum and Zachary Manganella were the 8th grade Student Achievers. New Superintendent Kristin Heckt was introduced and will begin on November 26th.
- C. Comments from the Audience - Parent expressed appreciation for the support given to the PTA and newly formed SEPTA parent group.
 1. Staff Input on 2013-2014 Budget - none
- D. Additions to Agenda – none
- E. Routine Business Items
 1. Communications to Board Members – BOE received summons on CREC Workers' Compensation case. The attorney of record served all CREC and BOE representatives. There should be no liability found. The BOE, BOF and BOS will meet collectively on Tuesday, October 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Center. Matt Giuffre received a question on why there is a new study hall policy and would like additional information. The Transportation Subcommittee will look into a bus situation involving soccer and gymnastics students. Karen Bergin asked for a member volunteer to be representative to the Town's VCE grant committee; there will be approximately 9 meetings over the course of the year.
 - a. Tablet Follow-up – A memo from Joe Maselli was provided in response to the questions raised last month. Additionally, information was provided on how “new” teachers were prepared for using tablets in their classrooms. There was discussion on where the “pilot” stands now; what are the quantifiable metrics trying to be achieved, impact on budget, textbooks, student learning, technology plan, WiFi, etc. and where do we go from here. Karen Bergin suggested the Curriculum subcommittee assess the benefits of tablet use as well as other questions that would clarify how the BOE should proceed. Information was requested on the number of tablets issued in the district, the budget impact of the tablets, and the impact on teaching and student learning from those staff who are in year 2 of tablet use and an anecdotal report on those 2 year teachers vs. those who have only been using it for one year. Overall feedback on the use of tablets in the classroom has been very positive.
 2. Approval of Minutes – John Hambrook presented a motion to accept the September 13, 2012 minutes; Matt Giuffre 2nd; MUP
 3. Board of Education Committee Reports
 - a. Personnel – Karen Bergin stated the committee has completed the superintendent search with the appointment of Kristin Heckt and interviews for the Director of Pupil Personnel Services position are taking place.

- b. Policy – John Hambrook reported the committee reviewed information from CABB and identified five (5) items with potential impact on BPS policies.
 - c. Curriculum – The committee met and continued discussion on common core. Will meet with the new Horace Porter principal on aligning the math curriculum and next month will discuss parent override on student placement in higher level classes.
 - d. Buildings & Grounds – no report
 - e. Finance – There is currently a 45K deficit and discussion on the next step(s) and potential request to the Town for additional funds. The superintendent will provide a report to the BOF with information on current and anticipated future expenditure deficits including SPED costs. Discussion on what should be posted to website; determination to be made. There will be follow-up with the Town on the status of excess cost grant funds in preparation for the October 23rd Tri-Board meeting.
 - f. Transportation – A meeting was held with First Student to address the bus availability and capacity issues. There will be follow-up contact with them to address the additional concerns on proper directions being given to drivers.
 - g. Pupil Services – no report. There is a consultant in the office two days a week.
 - h. Community Information/Development – no report
4. Community Meeting Reports / Board of Education – Rich Hayes went to the PTA meeting and it was well attended. The PBC meeting was cancelled but there was a building walk-through on September 27th and there are currently 81 items on the punch list. A draft plan was provided at the facilities meeting on September 26th; they will meet again on October 25th. An update on the furniture deliveries was provided and administration will look into the possibility of providing left-handed desks. There are none currently.
 5. BHS Student Representatives Report – Bill Whedon provided the status of BHS sports and that there is a good chance both girls and boys soccer teams will make the state tournament. Seniors are busy sending out their college applications. Zoe Ounpuu-Adams reported that the BHS homecoming is this weekend with boys and girls soccer games under the lights, a powder puff football game, bonfire and dance activities. There is no charge. The BHS PoPs concert is Thursday, October 18th and Mrs. Cordero is presenting a program on her trip to South Africa, sponsored by the BCEF. Mrs. Cordero is hoping to bring students there on a future trip. Two visitors from South Africa came and presented information on African story-telling and Uganda social justice.
 6. Administrators Report – Joe Maselli shared that there is an intern in BHS Guidance for the school year, no cost to the district.
 7. Superintendent of Schools Reports
 - a. Staff Status (2011-2013) - Handout information was provided displaying the net staff impact for the last two years.
 - b. Enrollment Follow-up – Information on Columbia enrollment from 2007 through current year was provided. There are currently 71 Columbia students enrolled at BHS.
 - c. Budget Timelines - Copies were provided and it was requested that a copy be sent to BOF chair.
 - d. Veterans' Day Celebration - The Veterans' Day Tribute will be held at BCS on Friday, November 9th at 9:30 a.m. A mailing to Bolton Veterans will be sent using labels provided by the Town (same as last year) and the program is being worked on.
- F. Unfinished and On-Going Business
1. District Goals 2012-2013 – Copies of the final document were handed out.

G. New Business

1. Tri-Board Meeting Agenda Items – The meeting will be on October 23rd and topics presented for inclusion were capital planning for BOE, which will also be added to the BOE Retreat agenda; 80/20 Columbia formula; shared services; and facilities. The Policy subcommittee will look at the possibility of the Rec Department staffing the weight room for community and student use.
2. Trip Approval – Information on the proposed Ski Trip to Bethel, ME February 1-3 was presented. Motion to approve was presented by Matt Giuffre, seconded by Ron Rousseau; MUP.

H. Future Business – There was general discussion on the request for additional information regarding the new study hall guidelines; the topic of parent override for student placement in higher level classes will be addressed by the Curriculum subcommittee and wireless access being available to all students, as well the ability to bring in their own technology. The superintendent will follow-up with high school administration. The following topics were noted as Agenda items for the BOE Retreat, scheduled for November 1st : Columbia, Capital, Budget sustainability, Bylaws and Committees.

1. Review of Bylaws
2. Content of Minutes

I. Meeting Review

J. Adjournment – Matt Giuffre presented a motion to adjourn; John Hambrook 2nd , MUP. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

The Board Clerk would like it noted that these minutes were taken by substitute clerk, Paula Meyers but prepared by Lori Boyd.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd
Board Clerk