

The Bolton Board of Education held its regularly scheduled business meeting on March 14, 2013. The following board members were in attendance: Karen Bergin, Matthew Giuffre, John Hambrook, Rich Hayes, Trace Maulucci, Joe Muro and Ron Rousseau. Superintendent Kristin Heckt and BHS Student Representative Zoe Ounpuu-Adams and Bill Whedon were also present.

- A. Call to Order – Chair Karen Bergin called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
- B. Celebration of Excellence – The following staff and students were recognized:
Employees of the Month - Director of Operations Ray Boyd and his custodial staff Steve Berk, Vance Burba, Mayland Clark, Jimmy Henderson, Jeff Johnson, Art LaJoie, Peter Morra, Dan Sanders and Dave Vincent. Custodian James Simons was also recognized for his upcoming retirement. BCS Student Achievers from Grade 3 – Dylan Bonanno, Mackenzie Caruso and Holly McNamara and BHS and BCS Eastern Region students Zoe Ounpuu-Adams, Jon Hermann, Luke Mastrangeli, Hannah Bythrow, Kate Armstrong, Lexi Norris, Noah Hawks-Ladds, Ryan Lukas, Philip Bythrow, Christina McDonnell, Sydney Martin, Alexiss Labb, Rachel Allsop and Maeve Christ. Superintendent Heckt also commended and recognized the BHS Drama Club on their recent presentation of *Godspell*.

Board Member Rich Hayes was excused from the meeting to attend the PBC meeting at 7:00 PM.

- C. Comments from the Audience – none
- D. Additions to Agenda – none
- E. Routine Business Items
 - 1. Communications to Board Members - none
 - 2. Approval of Minutes – A **motion** to approve the February 13, 2013 minutes was presented by John Hambrook, 2nd by Joe Muro; 5-0 the minutes were approved. Matt Giuffre abstained.
 - 3. Board of Education Committee Reports
 - a. Curriculum – John Hambrook reported the committee met at both BHS and BCS. Topics of discussion were: *Psychology* and *Contemporary Issues* submitted for first read. It was decided to hold these until the template related to Common Core could be reviewed; schedule of the revised K-6 Math and Language Arts curriculum; Teacher Evaluation document; Fourth Tuesday updates; curriculum writing plans for music and culinary updates, School Climate Survey results, appropriation of Title I funds and the relocation of the existing BCS Pre-K program to BHS in coordination with the Bulldog Nursery program.
 - b. Finance – Joe Muro reported the current budget deficit is \$121,261 but there were significant savings in anticipated SPED expenditures.
 - c. Community Information – Joe Muro reported the committee discussed ways to improve communications with Columbia students and families.

4. Community Meeting Reports / Board of Education – Karen Bergin reported on the multi board meeting. Matt Giuffre reported on the PTA meeting where Superintendent Heckt presented information on the 2013-2014 proposed BOE budget and approved 2013-2014 School Calendar. PTA representatives provided information on the upcoming Rachel’s Challenge with programs scheduled for April 3rd at BCS and April 4th at BHS which will also include an evening program for the community. The PTA is working with both building principals to finalize the details and get the word out to students’ families and the Bolton community.
5. BHS Student Representatives Reports – Zoe reported the student “lock in” night raised over \$2200 for the local fuel bank supporting families in Bolton, twenty-five BHS students attended a leadership conference held at Wesleyan University and BHS Poetry Out Loud Winner Mary Sumislaski and runner-up Leah Seften competed in the state wide competition where Mary placed 3rd. Bill reported the Girls Basketball team won the conference championship and competed in conference and state tournament play. The BCR Hockey Team will be playing in the finals this weekend. Bill also noted the Drama Club presented Godspell the first weekend in March and that CAPT testing had ended today. Chair Karen Bergin thanked the students for their reports and reminded them that next month they will participate in the meeting.
6. Administrators Report – Trace Maulucci noted that the current 26 Kindergarten registrations seemed low and BCS Principal Mary Grande commented this was the first time Kindergarten registration was held this early in the year and that it will remain open from now forward.
7. Superintendent of Schools Report
 - a. ERASE presentation – Superintendent Heckt provided a brief background on the development of the ERASE survey taken by BHS students and introduced ERASE representative Bonnie Smith who provided a power point presentation of the results. ERASE services 13 local school systems that are used in the comparison data.
 - b. New Teacher Evaluation – Superintendent Heckt commended the committee for their diligence in preparing the evaluation document in the last few months and that as recently as last evening, information from the State had changed the parameters from which this document is to be prepared. The document is due to the State by April 15, 2013 and requires BOE approval prior to submission. Committee members Richelle Pinette, Jen Carvalho and Eric Verner provided commentary on the power point presentation. There was discussion on various topic points presented, including the ground rules for the development of teachers’ goals (teacher feedback on observations, both formal and mini’s; how goals will be developed in relation to student growth and/or classroom/grade level needs and that goals will be developed jointly between the teacher and evaluator). Superintendent Heckt cautioned that data will be changing from the current CMT results to the new state wide assessment results and not to be overly concerned on changes that might be noted as the testing data will be quite different. The State has indicated that system support will be made available to districts as needed and at this point any

additional support material needs are not known. Chair Bergin noted that we should hold off on using the new data as a source of course selection/elimination until we have a better handle on what these new results will be indicative of. A **motion** to approve the New Teacher Evaluation document was presented by Matt Giuffre, 2nd by John Hambrook; MUP.

- c. 2012-2013 Budget Update – Superintendent Heckt reported the Board of Finance did not approve the requested \$218,215 appropriation to offset the current deficit at the February 21, 2013 meeting and that it was agreed the Board of Education would wait until the March Board of Finance meeting to make another request. Currently, there is a \$194,887 deficit in unanticipated special education costs. With the shifting of grant allocations to focus on Common Core alignment, which is in the best interest of all students, and an unexpected operational expense savings, Mrs. Heckt recommended that a significant portion of the savings from operations be used to offset the request to the Board of Finance for a supplemental appropriation for unanticipated SPED expenditures. She recommended requesting \$150,000 of the Board of Finance. It was also noted there is no plan to use any allocated funds for regular education money or funds resulting from the budget freeze for this offset. There was additional discussion on how unused supplemental monies would be returned and how. A **motion** was made by John Hambrook; 2nd by Trace Maulucci to approve a \$150,000 request of supplemental funding to reduce the SPED deficit from the Board of Finance; MUP.
- d. 2013-2014 Budget Update – Superintendent Heckt noted that our locked in heating and diesel fuel costs will now be less than expected, but that we also recently received information that there are currently 14 Columbia students who have selected Bolton High School for next year. Per a request from Ron Rousseau, actual expenditure information will be forwarded to BOE members but will not be made part of the budget book. A **motion** was made by Matt Giuffre, 2nd by Joe Muro to approve the current 2013-2014 Budget Book for presentation to the Board Finance. The motion passed 5-1. Ron Rousseau opposed.
- e. Strategic School Profiles – While there were no questions or comments from board members on the information, Superintendent Heckt noted that CMT and CAPT scores that were reported in the 10-11 SSP and the scores that will be noted in the 11-12 and 12-13 SSPs may be higher/lower than the 13-14 SSP as the shift is made to Common Core and the new Smarter Balanced Assessment. This change is a shift for students and teachers and we do not know what the scores will look like. Once the new testing results have been received, we will look at how to address the data.

- F. Unfinished Business
1. Second Read Textbooks: Envisions Math K - 6 – John Hambrook presented a **motion** to approve the text books, 2nd by Ron Rousseau. Motion passed 5-0. Matt Giuffre abstained.
 2. PTA Career Day Appropriation – Superintendent Heckt noted that last month’s approval of the PTA Career Day Stipend did not conform to the BEA Contract and requested that the approval be rescinded and noted as an appropriation. Trace Maulucci presented a motion to rescind the \$350 stipend amount and approve a \$350 appropriation for the PTA Career Day Committee; 2nd by John Hambrook; MUP.
- G. New Business
1. BHS Class of 2013 Graduation Date – Superintendent Heckt requested approval of a recommended graduation date of June 21st. This allows for a one day cushion of future, unexpected no school days. A motion to approve June 21st as the graduation date for the BHS Class of 2013 was presented by John Hambrook, 2nd by Trace Maulucci; MUP.
- I. Executive Session – A **motion** to move into Executive Session was presented at 8:05 by Matt Giuffre, 2nd by John Hambrook; MUP. Members discussed personnel issues and security improvement. The BOE came out of Executive Session by consensus at 9:25 PM. Joe Muro **motioned** to approve Superintendent Goals with suggested revisions. Trace Maulucci 2nd; MUP. Joe Muro **motioned** to approve the release of non-renewal letters to non-tenured staff. Trace Maulucci 2nd; MUP. John Hambrook **motioned** to adjourn at 9:27 PM; 2nd by Joe Muro; MUP.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd
Board Clerk