

The Bolton Board of Education held its regularly scheduled Business Meeting on October 8, 2015. Members present were Chair Matt Giuffre, Julie Begin, Chris Davey, Kate Gallé, Rich Hayes, and Liz Krueger. Superintendent Kristin Heckt was also present. BOE member Alison Romkey was absent. Chris Davey arrived during the Celebration of Excellence and Julie Begin left the meeting at 9:00 PM.

- A. Call to Order – Chair Giuffre called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.
- B. Celebration of Excellence – Superintendent Heckt read the names of the new 2015-2016 staff members and introduced the three who were present (Megan Bellody, Christine Feeney and Cristina Lambros). BHS students Alexis Frame, Victoria Johnson and Rose Zimmerman were recognized for being named Commended Students for the 20126 National Merit Scholarship Program.
- C. Comments from the Audience – BHS staff member Jen Carvalho encouraged the Board to continue their support of Professional Development time for staff and to also continue their support of technology in the district.
- D. Additions to Agenda – Superintendent Heckt requested item G.1, BHS Ski Trip, be moved up to the next item in the agenda.
- E. Routine Business Items
 - 1. Communications to the Board – Kate Gallé was contacted by a parent with a request for the Board to reconsider the policy regarding the prohibition of outside snacks and food items being brought in for various celebrations at BCS. She referred the parent to BCS Principal, Mary Grande. Chair Giuffre received an email from resident and Bolton Alumni Association President, John B. Toomey, Jr. requesting, on behalf of the Alumni Association, that the BHS gym be named after former, long-time staff member, coach and Bolton Alumni Association member, Michael A. Landolphi. The topic of naming BPS building spaces in honor or dedication of specific people will be put on the agenda of the November BOE Business meeting. The old weight room had a plaque hung in Mr. Landolphi's name in 2000 and that plaque now hangs in the fitness room. Chair Giuffre will advise Mr. Toomey of the plan to address his request.
 - 2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. August 20, 2015 – Chair Giuffre reminded the Board that these minutes were not approved at the September 10, 2015 meeting and were tabled to this evening to allow BOE member Kate Gallé to comment on her requested amendment to them. A **motion** to approve the August 20, 2015 minutes as amended was presented by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Chris Davey. Rich Hayes asked if we shouldn't be reviewing the procedures of requesting amendments to minutes and feels the amendment was inappropriate; Chair Giuffre noted while that might be a valid discussion, the process brings us to this point of discussion and the discussion should be limited to the **motion** presented. Mr. Hayes requested the amended

wording be removed; Kate Gallé requested it remain. After further discussion on suggested changes, the vote was called and the **motion** failed 2-2-2 with Chris Davey and Kate Gallé voting yes, Chair Giuffre and Rich Hayes voting no and Julie Begin and Liz Krueger abstaining. Chair Giuffre presented a **motion** to amend the minutes to remove the wording "...between the BOE members and the disrespectful way that some members were speaking to others and to the Superintendent."; 2nd by Kate Gallé; the **motion** passed with a vote of 3-1-2 with Chair Giuffre, Chris Davey and Kate Gallé voting yes, Rich Hayes voting no and Julie Begin and Liz Krueger abstaining. Mr. Hayes requested the minutes be further amended to reflect he was being cross-examined by BOE member Kate Gallé and Chair Giuffre noted he was not willing to make that amendment.

- b. September 10, 2015 – A **motion** to approve the September 10, 2015 minutes was presented by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Chris Davey. Rich Hayes requested the minutes for E.2.b. be amended to reflect his request to look at the policy on how minutes are amended and this will be added to the September 10 minutes. Chris Davey requested the statement in E.4.b. "firmer number" be replaced with "firmer dollar value" and this change will be made. Mr. Davey further requested the statement in E.5. "Chris Davey requested the status of" be revised to note "Chris Davey shared the status of" and this will also be made. The **motion** passed 4-0-2 with Julie Begin and Liz Krueger abstaining.
3. BHS Student Representatives Report – Justin Wiles reported the BHS band is selling Lyman Orchard pies and provided information on the current records and upcoming games for the various BHS sports teams. Elena Harvey reported the first Student Council sponsored school dance will be next Friday and is the Homecoming/Bonfire. Leaf raking will again be available and Karen Cordero should be contacted to schedule it. The Trick-or-Treat for canned goods will be expanded to include Columbia and Hartford participants. The playschool program at BHS has begun and there are still openings in the program.
4. Board of Education Committee Reports
 - a. Communications – Kate Gallé reported that she, Chris Davey and Liz Krueger met with Superintendent Heckt on September 17 and will be looking at the policy(ies) on communication. Chris Davey is researching other school districts using social media for communication purposes and the subcommittee Chair will be contacting the Boards of those schools for further information. Liz Krueger suggested using Press Releases as one method and Rich Hayes noted that CABE recently published an article on the use of press releases and suggested the subcommittee members review it. The subcommittee will meet next month.
 - b. Finance – Rich Hayes reported the subcommittee met on October 6 and SPED has transferred \$5K in \$4K and \$1K increments and that approximately 13% of the total BOE budget has been spent. He also requested when the final figure of funds to be returned to the Town will be

available. Both Business Director, Kusal Huynh, and Superintendent Heckt stated the information will be available next month.

- c. Policy – Chair Giuffre noted there will be a number of First and Second Read policies will be presented later in the agenda.
5. Community Meeting Reports / Board of Education – Kate Gallé reported that she attended the first PTA meeting of the school year and that the PTA has an author visit scheduled, has begun their No Kid Hungry campaign in town and have several fundraiser events for further enrichment. Rich Hayes reported that he, Superintendent Heckt and Kate Gallé attended the 2+2+2 meeting. Topics of discussion were changes to the Code of Ethics proposal and the scheduling of another public meeting, bond projects for the fire truck, BCS paving/sidewalk repairs and the barn project were moving forward, and feedback on continuing the 2+2+2 was favorable. There is a Tri-Board meeting scheduled for October 13 and a meeting on October 20 on the finance department report. Superintendent Heckt asked at the 2+2+2 meeting if the BOE should bring any information to the upcoming meeting. The BOE will bring updated Columbia and Open Choice projections and CAPA projects not on the current list. Chris Davey attended the District Safety Council meeting on October 5 with discussion on school improvements that had been made and the best space to be used in a severe weather event such as a tornado. Town Fire Marshal, suggested an architect or engineer possibly be consulted for that determination. Superintendent Heckt added that a State Wide Emergency Drill is scheduled for October 21 at the Town Hall from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. She, Operations Director Ray Boyd, Director of Student Support Services Beth Goldsneider, and BHS Principal Joe Maselli will be attending. Superintendent Heckt has also requested First Student Supervisor Phil Desrosiers to also attend when available that day. Superintendent Heckt and BHS Principal Joe Maselli also noted that information between and state and public schools on emergency protocol is a constant communication. As situations arise and are dealt with (e.g. snowstorms and hurricanes), information is shared and protocols are updated with input from various local and town officials. Chair Giuffre also reported he attended the BOS meeting on the Code of Ethics and that there would be one more public meeting because of the amendments. He also noted that the BOE, with input from legal counsel, will have to interpret the scope of the “employee” definition; does it include BOE members or only BOE staff.
6. Superintendent of Schools Report
- a. Grant Information – Superintendent Heckt noted that BHS received a grant for VEX Robotics Competition from the REC Foundation Team that will allow for our first competition of the BHS Robotics Club. Superintendent Heckt also shared that a technology grant previously applied for with the state is still pending Bond Council approval.
 - b. A Presentation of Assessment Results – Sarah Malinoski, Director of Instructional Technology and Curriculum, Mary Grande, BCS Principal and Joseph Maselli, BHS Principal, provided information on a power point presentation of the assessment results for 2014-2015 SBAC testing, CMT and CAPT. Individual student SBAC test results were sent home to families on September 17 and administrators noted there has been no

notable feedback from families on the results. Districts are still waiting for the CMT and CAPT results. Overall, the state was pleased with the results considering this was the first round of CT Core online testing. Bolton scored above state results in all grades and tested subjects on the SBAC with grade 5 math and ELA placing 12th and 20th out of 175 school districts and grade 11 placing 9th in ELA. Administrators reminded BOE members that these SBAC results are a baseline and only one data point of assessing students' performance. The staff has begun looking at their students' results in combination with other evaluation tools, work portfolios and overall general observation to get a truer meaning of the results and to identify any areas of adjustment for student improvement. Kate Gallé noted she would love to see some a follow-up communication to families noting these positive aspects of the results and how they play into the overall performance factors used by staff and administration to evaluate the whole child. Superintendent Heckt noted that additional communications would be forthcoming once all results are received from the state and administration has had time to review them. The AP test results were 90% of all AP students taking exams passed with a score of 3, 4, or 5 and 100% of AP students passing the Music Theory, European History, US History and Spanish AP exams. ACT and SAT results were also presented. Mr. Maselli shared that at this point the SDE has stated that the 11 grade SBAC will be replaced with the new SAT. Superintendent Heckt noted that the SAT the students will take in school will only include reading and math and not the writing portion. There was discussion on the lack of a SAT writing portion and possible impact on students seeking college admission. Superintendent Heckt and Chair Giuffre offered that most colleges have their own writing/essay portion on their applications and the general consensus at the state level is that students shouldn't be adversely affected with that piece missing on any SAT scores.

F. Unfinished Business

1. Policies – Second Read – for the purposes of the minutes, Superintendent Heckt requested the Board to accept the notation that a policy was approved with agreed changes, where applicable. The Board agreed.
 - a. 0500 – Code of Ethics – a **motion** to approve by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Rich Hayes; MUP.
 - b. 0200 – Goals for Bolton Public Schools – a **motion** to approve was made by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Rich Hayes; MUP.
 - c. 1331 – Smoke Free Environment – a **motion** to approve was made by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Rich Hayes; MUP.
 - d. 4112.2 – Personnel Certification – a **motion** to approve was made by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Rich Hayes; MUP.
 - e. 4131 – Staff Development – a **motion** to approve with requested changes was made by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Rich Hayes; MUP.
 - f. 4131.5 – CEUs – to be removed; no longer required – a **motion** to approve removal was made by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Rich Hayes; MUP.

- g. 5110 – Attendance – to be replaced with 5113 – a **motion** to approve was made by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Rich Hayes; MUP.
 - h. 5113.2 – Truancy Policy and Regulations – a **motion** to approve was made by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Rich Hayes; MUP.
 - i. 5131 – Conduct and Discipline – a **motion** to approve with requested changes was made by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Rich Hayes; MUP.
 - j. 5131.6 – Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco – a **motion** to approve with requested changes was made by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Rich Hayes; MUP.
 - k. 5144.1 – Use of Physical Force – a **motion** to approve with requested changes was made by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Rich Hayes; MUP.
 - l. 6172.12 – Magnet Schools – a **motion** to approve was made by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Rich Hayes; MUP.
 - 2. FOI Request – Superintendent Heckt stated she had mailed the requested information for 2014-2015 to Mr. Hayes with copies to Board members on September 23. Mr. Hayes had not yet seen the information and asked if it had been mailed to his office. Superintendent confirmed it had been mailed to his office by certified return receipt and that we had received confirmation of its receipt.
- G. New Business
- 1. BHS Ski Trip – BHS staff member and Ski Club Advisor, Karen Cordero, reviewed the itinerary for the student trip to Jay Peak, VT on January 29-31, 2016. They are hoping for 45 students and 4 chaperones. A **motion** to approve the proposed trip was presented by Julie Begin; 2nd by Liz Krueger; MUP.
 - 2. Authorized Signatures Change Form; CSDE Child Nutrition Program – Superintendent Heckt requested the Board to approve changing the current signees from her and Mary Grande to her and Kusal Huynh. A **motion** to approve the requested change was presented by Kate Gallé; 2nd by Rich Hayes; MUP.
 - 3. Policies – First Read – Chair Giuffre presented the policies below and requested the Board read them and be prepared for discussion at the November 12 meeting. He further clarified that First Read policy presentations are for Board review and Second Read policy presentations are for Board discussion and/or approval.
 - a. 1250 – School Visitors
 - b. 1324 – Soliciting Funds from and by Students
 - c. 1325 – Advertising and Promotion
 - d. 1411 – Relations with Law Enforcement
 - e. 1700 – Otherwise Lawful Possession of Firearms on School Property
 - f. 5141.4 – Reporting Child Abuse
 - g. 5141.7 – Concussions
 - h. 6146 – Graduation Requirements
 - i. 9325.43 – Attendance at Meeting via Electronic Communications
- H. Future Business – Superintendent Heckt requested that Chair Giuffre and Rich Hayes appoint another CAPA committee member before their departure from the Board. Kate Gallé volunteered either her or Alison Romkey to fill the position and they will decide which one. Liz Krueger asked if \$3K of the money being returned to the Town could be used to contract a programmer to retrieve data from the old accounting system. Rich Hayes noted that can't be done as the cost would need to be absorbed by current year

funds and further noted even if that portion of his FOI request were withdrawn, the data would still need to be retrieved to be in statutory compliance.

- I. Adjournment – a **motion** to adjourn was presented by Chris Davey; 2nd by Liz Krueger; MUP. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd
Board Clerk