

The Bolton Board of Education held its regularly scheduled Business Meeting on August 24, 2017. Members present were Chair Liz Krueger, Andrew Broneill, Chris Davey, Kate Gallé, Stacy Reed and Alison Romkey. BOE member Scott Rich was absent. Superintendent Kristin Heckt was also present.

- A. Call to Order – Chair Liz Krueger called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
- B. Comments from the Audience - none
- C. Additions to Agenda – Superintendent Heckt requested Items D.5.e – PTA Donation, D.5.f – OPEN Choice and D.5.g – Budget be added.
- D. Routine Business Items
 - 1. Communications to Board Members – None
 - 2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. June 8, 2017 – BOE Business Meeting – A **motion** to approve the minutes was presented by Andrew Broneill, 2nd by Chris Davey; MUP.
 - b. June 22, 2017 – BOE Special Meeting – A **motion** to approve the minutes was presented by Andrew Broneill, 2nd by Stacy Reed; Chris Davey abstained; motion passed 5-0.
 - 3. Board of Education Committee Reports
 - a. Building and Grounds – Andrew Broneill reported there were no meetings and building walk-throughs are scheduled for Monday, August 28, 2017 at 5:00 PM.
 - b. Finance – There was no meeting, Superintendent Heckt provided a summary of the 2016-2017 FY close out. The district will be returning \$273,170 to the Town and noted that the SPED expenditures ended up in the black. There has been limited spending for the 2017-2018 FY.
 - c. Personnel – Kate Gallé reported the subcommittee is preparing for BEA negotiations. Superintendent Heckt added that the two school nurses requested to join the Administrative Assistants Collective Bargaining Union and the district is waiting for information from the Union for the next step.
 - d. Kate Gallé reported there are a number of policies from Series 1000 being presented for first read and/or recommendation to be deleted. Superintendent Heckt added the Board can expect to see lengthy lists of policy updates and she currently is reviewing Series 9000.
 - 4. Community Meeting Reports / Board of Education – Kate Gallé reported the PTA has a new president, Lauren Marx. Chair Krueger reported there will be a 2+2+2 meeting next Monday. Superintendent Heckt reported that she and BOE member, Scott Rich, attended a BOS subcommittee meeting regarding the property south of BHS. Town Administrator, Joyce Stille, noted that the property is sub-divided and there is a provision that a certain amount of sub-divided parcels can be designated as open space. The BOS has requested that a certain section of that parcel bordering the BHS property be allocated for use by BHS, but the final determination is at the Planning and Zoning Commission's discretion. Alison Romkey noted that Bolton resident and BHS Alumni, Ron Hainsey, also a defenseman for the Pittsburgh Penguins, brought the Stanley Cup to the Bolton Ice Palace on August 21st.
 - 5. Superintendent of Schools Report
 - a. Facilities Update –Director of Operations, Ray Boyd reported that the BHS soccer, baseball and softball fields received much needed attention this summer with the collaborative work of the Town engineer and Buildings and Grounds

department. The PTA also donated funds to replace the original softball backstop and safety fencing. There are plans for additional improvements to the baseball field pitchers' mound and batters' box in the spring. The Town Highway department was a crucial part of the parking lot re-paving project at BCS. The gas conversion project at BCS is underway and CNG is in the process of charging their lines and the meters are scheduled to be installed on Monday, August 28. The boilers are in place and, by contract, must be completed by October 15. Ray Boyd also mentioned that the summer students hired for the last two weeks of June did an outstanding job. Superintendent Heckt noted that Ray did a great job managing all of the summer projects and that his custodial staff did a fabulous job at both schools. It was further noted that the parking lot, carpet-to-tile and locker room/restroom renovations at BCS have made an amazing transformation to that building.

- b. Staffing Update – Superintendent Heckt reported there are two new teaching positions that needed to be filled due to resignations and there were also two paraprofessional positions vacated, also through resignation, but that they are not being filled at this time.
- c. Enrollment – Superintendent Heckt noted the enrollment numbers are changing constantly at the moment with six new enrollments at BCS just today. There are currently 45 students enrolled in the two Kindergarten classes. Changes will be made as is necessary dependent on the continuing enrollment changes at BCS. BHS is not in such a state of flux.
- d. BOE Non-Fiduciary Activity Fund – Superintendent Heckt asked for Board agreement to language for establishing and administering a Board of Education Non-Fiduciary Fund that was prepared by the Town at the recommendation of the Town Auditor. Monies collected through student activities such as class dues, pay to play, etc. would be held in the Non-Fiduciary fund for future disbursement. Town Administrator, Joyce Stille, added that most other town committees that have fund-raising activities have a Non-Fiduciary Fund established, that the language being presented is the same as those funds and there would be no operational impact. She further noted that the next BOS meeting is September 5 and they would like to be able to move forward. BOE member Kate Gallé asked Superintendent Heckt if the district's attorney has reviewed the language and Mrs. Heckt stated she had sent it to him, but had not yet heard any response. It was agreed that Superintendent Heckt would share the attorney's comments and the BOE agreed to the fund if there were no legal concerns on his part. Superintendent Heckt will communicate with all accordingly.
- e. PTA Donation – Superintendent Heckt reported the PTA had donated shade screens for the BCS play scape and that they had been installed over the summer. She asked for a motion to accept the donation and noted that a letter of thanks for the very generous gift will be sent. A **motion** to accept the PTA donation of screen shades for BCS was presented by Alison Romkey, 2nd by Kate Gallé; MUP. Chair Krueger asked that gifts of this nature be acknowledged in the schools' newspapers/bulletins, as well as the thank you letter.
- f. Open Choice – Superintendent Heckt shared that this year Bolton will be required to pay outplacement costs beyond the \$8,000 tuition payment that is received for any outplaced Choice student and be reimbursed monthly from Hartford. These payments and reimbursements will occur through the Open Choice Grant.
- g. Budget – Superintendent Heckt stated that she and her staff are focused on the start of another great year at Bolton schools and that the district is in a "holding pattern" until more definitive budget information is shared from the state. She asked BOE members to encourage any parents that may call them wanting

answers/plans, to contact Senator Cassano, State Rep Robin Green and any other local and state officials to express their concerns. She thanked First Selectman, Robert Morra, for attending a budget rally in South Windsor last evening along with representatives from Ellington, Tolland and South Windsor. Chair Krueger offered that the Republican caucus will be held on Tuesday and that budget documents have recently been released by both Republicans and Democrats. Town Administrator, Joyce Stille, also noted that the state's Attorney General is questioning the Governor's authority to make reductions in ECS funding. Kate Gallé thanked Superintendent Heckt for her above and beyond commitment to the Bolton Public Schools and her willingness to consistently communicate information with the Board members.

E. Unfinished Business

1. Close Out of BHS Project – Superintendent Heckt reported that the audit is scheduled to begin on October 31st. Chair Krueger asked Town Administrator, Joyce Stille, how much the Town has been reimbursed so far and she responded \$1.4 million to date.

F. New Business

1. Resignations – Superintendent Heckt presented resignations from the following staff members: at BCS – Patty Farrell, Food Service Worker; Vanessa Ferguson, Grade 1 teacher and Dawn Yonkunas, P/T Paraprofessional and at BHS – Brittany Boscarino, Math teacher and Janet Prior, F/T Paraprofessional. A **motion** to accept the resignations was presented by Stacy Reed, 2nd by Andrew Broneill; MUP.
2. Policies
 - a. First Read – the 15 policies presented for first read will be reviewed and brought forward for second reads next month, as is appropriate.
 - b. Recommended to be Deleted – the 14 policies recommended to be deleted will be voted on next month. Alison Romkey asked if they were being recommended to be deleted because they were covered elsewhere in the BOE Policies. Superintendent Heckt will forward the policy recommendation comments from Shipman and Goodwin to the BOE.

G. Future Business – None

H. Anticipated Executive Session – Discussion / Possible action on:

1. Superintendent's 2017-2018 Goals

A **motion** to adjourn to Executive Session was presented by Alison Romkey at 7:11 PM, 2nd by Stacy Reed; MUP. The Board came out of Executive Session by consensus at 7:45 PM.

- I. Adjournment – A **motion** to adjourn was presented by Alison Romkey, 2nd by Stacy Reed; MUP. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd
Board Clerk.