

The Bolton Board of Education held its regularly scheduled Business Meeting on November 9, 2017. Members present were Chair Liz Krueger, Andrew Broneill, Chris Davey, Kate Gallé, Stacy Reed, Scott Rich and Alison Romkey. Superintendent Kristin Heckt was also present.

- A. Call to Order – Chair Krueger called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.
- B. Celebration of Excellence – Superintendent Heckt recognized the following students:
7th Grade Student Achievers: Samuel Brudz and Hannah Osborne
8th Grade Student Achievers: Finneas Alibrio and Emma Dutil
- C. Comments From the Audience – None
- D. Additions to Agenda – None
- E. Routine Business Items
 - 1. Communications to Board Members – Chris Davey heard from a parent with concerns on recess being withheld and whether the purchase of snack items could be restricted for a specific student. The parent was asked to contact Mr. Giard, BCS Principal, with their concerns. Chair Krueger received a request from a self-defense instructor to offer the classes as an afterschool program and they were referred to the Recreation Department.
 - 2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. October 12, 2017 – A **motion** to approve the minutes was presented by Andrew Broneill, 2nd by Alison Romkey; motion passed 6-0, Kate Gallé abstained. Chris Davey asked that the last sentence in Item C.3 be corrected to read “to draw kids”. The minutes were approved with the correction noted.
 - 3. BHS Student Representatives Report – No report
 - 4. Board of Education Committee Reports
 - a. Communications/Community – Kate Gallé reported the subcommittee met and plan to meet with the heads of the town softball, soccer, baseball and school administration to brainstorm how to get the middle school Columbia and Bolton students together through athletics and/or clubs to hopefully increase Columbia students’ interest in attending BHS. In line with communications conversation, Chris Davey asked if there was a BHS Twitter account and Mr. Maselli clarified that BHS does have a Twitter account and that he also uses Instagram to communicate with students.
 - b. Finance – Alison Romkey reported the budget is 24% expended with SPED continuing to be a fluctuating line.
 - c. Personnel – Liz Krueger reported the subcommittee will be discussing the BEA negotiations in Executive Session at the end of the meeting.
 - d. Policy – Kate Gallé reported the subcommittee is continuing their review of the 9000 series and Superintendent Heckt added that she is working on the next series.
 - 5. Community Meeting Reports / Board of Education – Alison Romkey attended the CREC Council meeting where the primary discussion was on the State budget. The next meeting is November 15. Chris Davey attended the Bolton Scholarship Fund meeting. They held their officer elections and are looking for new members to replace some who resigned. He also attended the Public Zoning and Commission meeting where there was discussion on possible use of an adjoining

parcel of property behind the tennis courts and softball field and what portion will be designated as Open Space with possible use by the school.

6. Superintendent of Schools Report

- a. Budget Update – Superintendent Heckt thanked the BOE, BOS and BOF for their collaborative work in protecting the Town and schools during the uncertainty of the State budget. The BOE is now moving forward with certain approved programs. Rather than create a third Kindergarten class, which wouldn't be up and running until mid-winter at the earliest, the district will hire two permanent substitutes with early elementary background for these two classes for the remainder of the school year and next year's budget will have provisions for three first grade classes for these students and three kindergarten classes. Mr. Giard will formally communicate this with the Kindergarten families next week. Additionally, the district was informed by CSDE that the mandated TEAM mentoring program will not be funded as it has been in the past and the district must now cover the \$3,500 for payment to the staff that are serving in this capacity. Savings in the salaries/benefits line will absorb the cost of the permanent substitutes and TEAM program. Information was also received to today from TRB requiring participants to contribute 8.25% effective January 1, 2018. This is an increase from the current 7.25% contribution rate. Superintendent Heckt sent an email to all teachers and administration staff communicating this just prior to the meeting. This does not have a fiscal impact on the district, but it does on the certified staff. In response to a huge desire from BHS students to be able to participate in indoor track competitions, the district has approved the request. The Pay to Play fees will cover bus and meet fees and the team will wear the Cross Country uniforms for competition.
- b. BHS MBL Presentation – BHS Principal, Joe Maselli, shared a new You Tube video that provides a student/principal question and answer forum on how things have changed with the Mastery Based Learning or Mastery Approach that has been implemented at BHS. Topics such as grading structure, eligibility for test re-takes, class rank and homework were discussed. Mr. Maselli added that the BHS Mastery approach has been tailored to what works best for BHS and isn't necessarily the same landscape that other districts might be using in their implementations of Mastery Based Learning. The video will be to be released to BHS families and posted to the BHS webpage tomorrow. In follow up to Board queries, Mr. Maselli also noted that colleges are still requesting information on student placement within their class, but it is more of a percentage placement (i.e., top 10%) rather than an individual class rank. He is also planning a question and answer presentation for parents in the near future.
- c. Title IV Grant – Sarah Malinoski, Director of Instructional Technology and Curriculum, shared that the district is applying for a \$10K grant under Title IV which was established as part of the Every Student Success Act (ESSA). The grant requires that the district inform the Board of their application. The funds will be used to purchase: K-5 STEM supplies that align to a NGSS-aligned (science) curriculum; Finch Robots that run off the code our middle schools student write in computer class; and an additional VEX Robotics kit for BHS so that more students may enroll in the class. A **motion** to approve the grant was presented by Alison Romkey, 2nd by Stacy Reed; MUP. There was additional discussion on the development of middle school robotics and Mrs. Malinoski shared that through the exceptional leadership of BCS Tech

Ed teacher, Christopher Garratt, there are plans for some variance of robotics instruction for our middle school students for next year. Superintendent Heckt also noted that the Title IV Grant may be available next year and certainly a more formal expansion of robotics for middle school students is on the list.

F. Unfinished Business

1. Policies

- a. Second Read – Chair Krueger asked for one motion to approve the policies in items F.1.a.1 through F.1.a.20. BOE member Chris Davey further added that these policies have been submitted by the attorney’s office and are all required by statute or at legal counsel’s recommendation, with little flexibility in wording. Alison Romkey presented a **motion** to approve the policies identified in F.1.a.1 through F.1.a.20, 2nd by Stacy Reed; MUP. The policies are identified below.

1. 9000 – Bylaws and Role of Board and Members
2. 9010 – Limits of Authority
3. 9120 – Election of Officers
4. 9121 – Official Duties of Chairperson
5. 9122 – Official Duties of Vice Chairperson
6. 9123 – Official Duties of Secretary
7. 9130 – Committees
8. 9221 – Filling Vacancies
9. 9222 – Resignation from Office
10. 9230 – Orientation of Board Members
11. 9240 – Board Member Development
12. 9250 – Remuneration and Reimbursement
13. 9270 – Conflict of Interest
14. 9271 – Code of Ethics
15. 9321 – Board of Education Meetings
16. 9322 – Public and Executive Sessions
17. 9325 – Meeting Conduct
18. 9325.1 – Quorum and Voting Procedure
19. 9325.43 – Attendance at Meetings via Electronic Communications
20. 9400 – Board Self-Evaluation

- b. Recommended to be Deleted – Chair Krueger again asked for one motion to address all identified policies in items F.1.b.1 through F.1.b.7. BOE member Chris Davey noted that these policies were recommended by the attorney’s office to be deleted. A **motion** to approve the removal of policy items F.1.b.1 through F.1.b.7 as recommended by the district attorney’s office was presented by Alison Romkey, 2nd by Stacy Reed; MUP. The policies are identified below.

1. 9124 – Recording Secretary
2. 9131 – Committee of the Whole
3. 9133 – Special Committees/Advisory Committees
4. 9325.2 – Order of Business for Regular Meetings
5. 9325.3 – Parliamentary Procedures
6. 9327 – Electronic Mail Communications
7. 9330 – School District Records

2. Text Books – Second Read

- a. AP U.S. Government and Politics – Sarah Malinoski, Director of Instructional Technology and Curriculum, requested approval of the text book. A motion

to approve the AP U.S. Government and Politics text book was presented by Andrew Broneill, 2nd by Kate Gallé; MUP.

3. Non-Fiduciary Account – Chair Krueger reported there was no change in and discussion will be part of the overall finance agenda item at the Three Board meeting scheduled for Monday, November 13, 2017.
 4. Close Out of BHS Project – Superintendent Heckt noted that she received a request today from the Town that the State auditors have requested a copy of all BOE minutes from the start of the project to date. Lori Boyd and Finance Director, Kusal Huynh will coordinate producing these documents.
- G. New Business
1. Policies – First Read
Policies 9160 – Student Representatives on the Board of Education, 9311 – Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Policies, 9314 – Suspension of Policies, Bylaws and Regulations and 9325.4 – Minutes were presented for First Read and will be brought forward next month as Second Read requesting action.
- H. Future Business – None
- I. Anticipated Executive Session and Possible Discussion on:
1. Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Teachers
A **motion** to adjourn at 7:50 PM to Executive Session was presented by Alison Romkey, 2nd by Stacy Reed; MUP. The Board came out of Executive Session by consensus at 8:44 PM. A **motion** to approve the mediated professional agreement between the BOE and the BEA for 2018-2021 was presented by Chris Davey, 2nd by Stacy Reed; MUP.
- J. Adjournment – A motion to adjourn was presented by Alison Romkey at 8:45 PM, 2nd by Stacy Reed; MUP.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd
Board Clerk