

Bolton Board of Education
Business Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2015
Approved

The Bolton Board of Education held its regularly scheduled Business Meeting on January 8, 2015. Members present were Chair Karen Bergin, Kate Galle, Matt Giuffre, Rich Hayes, Alison Romkey and Ron Rousseau. Superintendent Kristin Heckt and BHS Student Representatives Elena Harvey and Jacob Dayton were also present. BOE member Julie Begin was absent.

- A. Call to Order – Chair Bergin called meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
- B. Celebration of Excellence – The following students were recognized:
BCS Student Achievers Grade 3 – Owen Bonnano, Ciara Bryk and Marina Juan;
Grade 4 – Zoe Allyn, Nora Carini and Molly Martin
BHS Student Achiever – Amanda Frame – 2015 Day of Pride Scholarship recipient.
- C. Comments from the Audience – none
- D. Additions to Agenda – Superintendent Heckt requested that BCS Sidewalks and Driveway repairs be added and Chair Bergin requested that BOE member appointments to committees be added to Unfinished Business, Items F.3 and F.4, respectively.
- E. Routine Business Items
 - 1. Communications to Board Members – none
 - 2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. December 11, 2014 Special Meeting – **motion** to approve the minutes was presented by Kate Galle; 2nd by Matt Giuffre; motion passed 5-0; Rich Hayes abstained.
 - b. December 11, 2014 BOE Business Meeting – **motion** to approve the minutes was presented by Kate Galle; 2nd by Matt Giuffre; motion passed 5-0; Rich Hayes abstained.
 - 3. BHS Student Representatives Report – Elena Harvey reported the standings for the winter sports teams and their next scheduled games; Varsity Girls Basketball coach, Wayne Hapgood, received his 100th win; Student Council held the Snowball dance and are preparing for the Lock-in for Heating Oil. Jacob Dayton reported over 30 students joined residents of the Wells Senior Living Center in Vernon for a holiday sing-a-long; the National Honor Society is sponsoring a Blood Drive at BHS on January 30 and anyone interested can contact BHS staff member Peter Turgeon; mid-term exams begin next week.
 - 4. Board of Education Committee Reports
 - a. Curriculum – Ron Rousseau reported the committee discussed curriculum updates, grant opportunities and initial planning for next year's items.
 - b. Finance – Superintendent Heckt reported there has been no change and that SPED is still running a \$50K deficit. There was discussion on the new financial system and the lack of transfer information being available to BOE members. Superintendent Heckt explained this budget is being prepared with a combination of the old and new data systems as the budget parameters are being built during this budget process and believes

the rollover will be completed by July 1. She will provide an update to the Board regarding where we are with the rollover process.

5. Community Meeting Reports / Board of Education – Rich Hayes reported both the Town and BOE CAPA committees met. A Town CAPA meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 12 and the BOE is waiting for Town response to previous inquiries. Chair Bergin added that she and Mr. Hayes are appointed to this committee, but that all are encouraged to attend these meetings.
6. Superintendent of Schools Report
 - a. BPS – Making a Difference – Superintendent Heckt read an extensive list of activities by both BCS and BHS staff and students in support of community and global humanitarian efforts which included Toys for Tots, food drives for local families and food pantries, sponsoring children in Haiti and Latin America, shoveling driveways, etc. The Bolton Public Schools do much to help those in need throughout the year.
 - b. SBAC Testing – Superintendent Heckt restated that SBAC is the required State Assessment this year and that this will be the first year data will be distributed to school districts. She also reminded all that because of the new, rigorous standards, it is anticipated that test scores will drop, but there should be no cause for concern. Students in grades 5, 8 and 10 will continue to take the science CMT and grade 11 students will be required to take the SBAC assessment. Districts are still waiting to hear from CSDE on the continuation of CMT testing. Administrators are working on the testing schedules for the spring. Pertinent information on this topic has been and will continue to be communicated to parents. Chair Bergin thanked the administrators for their continued extra efforts in support of our students.
 - c. BHS Building Project – Choice Bonus – Superintendent Heckt provided the following information. The Choice bonus for building projects is defined in statute. The school construction grant permits the highest eight-year projected enrollment count, beginning with the October 1 enrollment following the grant application, to be used in the grant calculation. The computation of the Choice bonus based upon the current 19 Choice students on October 1st would be: $19/350 = 5.43\%$; combined ‘bonus’ reimbursement rate for the project would be: $54.64\% + 5.43\% = 60.07\%$. Using an estimate of \$20,000,000 for the project, if the project is closed out this year, reimbursement with the bonus would be approximately \$12,014,000. She also noted that until the number of Choice students was increased two years ago, the number was $8/350 = 2.29\%$ for the bonus; a combined ‘bonus’ reimbursement rate for the project would have been: $54.64\% + 2.29\% = 56.93\%$. Using an estimate of \$20,000,000 for the project, if we had not increased our Choice student numbers, our reimbursement with the bonus equaling 56.93% would be \$11,386,000. The approximated difference as a result of increasing our Choice student numbers based on the reimbursable part of the project costing \$20,000,000 is approximately an additional \$628,000 for the town. This, and other information, was presented at last month’s Grants Presentation to the

Board of Finance with members of the Board of Selectman also present. There is no set date to close this project out and the Board agreed that Superintendent Heckt will share this information with the Board of Finance directly.

F. Unfinished Business

1. BCS Roof Update – Rich Hayes presented a **motion** to remove the BCS roof project from the Town Bond package; 2nd by Kate Galle; MUP. A maintenance and repair coverage policy was obtained for an annual premium of \$750 for the older portion of the BCS roof for the remaining seven years. This will put the entire BCS roof and anticipated BHS roof projects on a 10-year differential cycle.
2. BHS Fields Plan – Rich Hayes presented a **motion** to approve the Fields project conceptual layout at a cost of \$2.65 million which includes additional provisions for the concession stand/press box and required sewer runs to support that and \$70K for lighting poles, wiring and fixtures; 2nd by Kate Galle; MUP. At this point, the Fields Plan package includes all items the Board has discussed; scoreboards, bleachers, etc.
3. BCS Sidewalks/Driveway Repairs – Rich Hayes presented a motion to include paving and sidewalk repair at BCS in the Town Bond package for 2015; 2nd by Ron Rousseau; MUP.
4. Chair Bergin noted that she and Rich Hayes have been appointed to the 2+2+2 Committee. Superintendent Heckt will send an email requesting a meeting date. The ad hoc Superintendent's Evaluation Review Document Committee members are Matt Giuffre, Rich Hayes and Ron Rousseau and Chair Bergin and Alison Romkey are members of the Strategic Planning Committee.

G. New Business

1. Retirements – Superintendent Heckt read letters of retirement she received from staff members Claire Fazzina, BHS Librarian; Debra Huntington, BHS Guidance Counselor and Nancy Melough, Speech and Language Pathologist. A motion to accept the three letters received was presented by Matt Giuffre; 2nd by Kate Galle; MUP.

H. Future Business – none

I. Anticipated Executive Session – Discussion/Possible Action on:

1. Superintendent's Mid-Year Review of goals
2. School Security

A **motion** to adjourn to Executive Session was presented at 7:30 PM by Matt Giuffre; 2nd by Kate Galle; MUP.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd,
Board Clerk