

Bolton Board of Education  
Business Meeting Minutes  
March 12, 2015  
**Approved**

The Bolton Board of Education held its regularly scheduled Business Meeting on March 12, 2015. Members present were Chair Karen Bergin, Julie Begin, Kate Galle, Matt Giuffre, Rich Hayes, and Ron Rousseau. Superintendent Kristin Heckt and BHS Student Representatives Elena Harvey and Jacob Dayton were also present. BOE member Alison Romkey was absent.

- A. Call to Order – Chair Karen Bergin called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
- B. Comments from the Audience – none
- C. Celebration of Excellence – the following students were recognized:
  - BCS 2015 Geography Bee winner Ethan Hull – Grade 8
  - BCS 2015 Spelling Bee winner – Jacob Dufour – Grade 8
  - BCS Eastern Region participants – Alison Bradley, Amanda Buckley, Shannon Cole, Taylor Connolly, Catherine Fiano and Julianna Larson
  - BHS Eastern Region participants – Kaitlin Armstrong, Philip Bythrow, Maeve Christ, Bryan Duffy, Alexis Frame, Alexandra Norris and Michael Welch
  - BHS Drama Club – “*The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*” – Kate Armstrong, Jacob Dayton, Maddy Teller, Lexi Norris, Bryan Duffy, Megan Zelesky, Lexi Frame, Ally Cianci, Victoria Johnson, Melissa Buckley, Christina McDonnell, Philip Bythrow, Sam Wilcox, Quinn MacDonald, Brian Law, Julianna Sansevero, Sierra Massey, Evan Wimer, Alex Prior, Cait Altermatt, Brianna Gurske and Laina McCarthyThe Board of Education members were also recognized and thanked for their dedicated service to the Bolton Schools and community.
- D. Additions to Agenda – Superintendent Heckt asked that item G.1 be moved up agenda.
- E. Routine Business Items
  - 1. Communications to Board Members – none
  - 2. Approval of Minutes
    - a. February 12, 2015 – Matt Giuffre presented a **motion** to approve the minutes as presented; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rich Hayes; approved 5-0; Kate Galle abstained.
    - b. February 19, 2015 – Rich Hayes presented a **motion** to approve the minutes as presented; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Giuffre; MUP.
  - 3. BHS Student Representatives Report – Elena Harvey reported the winter sports have ended; the Boys Varsity Basketball ended the season with a 12-12 record and were eliminated in the first round of the State Tournament; the Girls Varsity Basketball ended the season with a 19-3 record and were eliminated in the second round of the State Tournament; the Hockey Team ended up being ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in the State for D2 schools; the Student Council had 50 student participants and raised \$1000 from the Lock-In for Home Heating Oil and will be donated to the Bolton Fuel Bank and the BHS Social Justice Club; Jacob Dayton reported the Semi-Formal is this weekend; the National Honor Society will hold a Blood Drive on March 30 at BHS; the Social Justice Club will be packaging meals for Stop

Hunger Now on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and are only \$200 away from their \$3000 goal of fundraising.

4. Board of Education Committee Reports
  - a. Community Partnership – did not meet
  - b. Finance – Rich Hayes reported the subcommittee did meet and with the exception of SPED still running a deficit, there were no changes to report. Mr. Hayes also noted the recent article in the Journal Inquirer with information on the town's grand list and the possible impact on reprioritizing of the BOE CAPA item list. Ron Rousseau asked if there were specific items identified for the balance of budgeted funds in Operations and Maintenance. Superintendent Heckt stated that she and Director of Operations, Ray Boyd, have been working closely on developing several prioritized lists and that Ray is securing quotes as needed so the selected projects will be ready to go in the event monies are available. Superintendent Heckt further noted that actual available funds can't be determined until May, but she will provide a list of items for consideration for the Board to see in April.
  - c. Personnel – Chair Karen Bergin reported the Custodian's contract is in negotiations.
  - d. Policy – Matt Giuffre reported the subcommittee has presented five (5) policies for First Read and they will be addressed under agenda item G.2.a through e.
5. Community Meeting Reports /Board of Education – Chair Karen Bergin and Rich Hayes reported that they attended the Board of Selectman meeting and that a public input and presentation meeting will be held on March 30 at the Town Hall regarding the bond package. There was also discussion that no members of any Town boards can advocate for the bond package once it's been officially submitted and that it was hoped an ad hoc group would provide information on the bond package to the community. Mr. Hayes also noted there is a follow-up meeting scheduled on March 16 of the 'temporary' Building Committee for further discussion on the bond package preparation for submission to the Board of Selectman. It was also noted that the only standalone question at this time for the referendum is in regard to a new fire truck. Presently all other items (Fields Project, Town Hall, etc.) will be included as one question.
6. Superintendent of Schools Report
  - a. 2015-2016 Budget Update – Superintendent Heckt noted that copies of the approved 2015-2016 BOE Budget were mailed to all members of the Board of Selectman and Board of Finance. Copies were also hand delivered to the Town Hall for the Town Administrator, Finance Director and Town Clerk. The following dates were also provided for Board members to be mindful of: March 24 – BOE presentation of budget to the Board of Finance with March 31 also scheduled if needed; April 22 – Public Hearing in the Student Commons at BHS; April 23 – Board of Finance action on the submitted budgets; May 12 – first referendum. All meetings are at the Town Hall, except for the Public Hearing as noted. Superintendent Heckt also pointed out that, new this year, the Board of

Finance will take action on presented budgets on a separate date from the Public Hearing.

- b. Choice Capital Funds Grant – Superintendent Heckt stated the district is applying for a \$75,000 Choice grant with funds targeted at improvements for the BCS science lab which would include repairs/improvements to the green house, replacement of tables with sinks and reconfiguring the teacher work space.

F. Unfinished Business – none

G. New Business

- 1. Proposed School Trip to London, 2016 – BHS teacher, Mark Mishriky, presented information and copies of the proposed trip to the Board. Mr. Mishriky also noted he is hopeful that students from Bolton, UK would be coming in the spring of 2016 or fall of 2017 to stay with families in Bolton, CT. Rich Hayes presented a **motion** to approve the proposed trip in accordance with BOE policy; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Giuffre; MUP. Superintendent Heckt clarified that there are occasional trip conflicts with this and the language and band trips, but that it doesn't present a problem in only that students have to make a choice.
- 2. First Read Policies – Matt Giuffre presented the policies below and noted that Policy 3320 will replace Policy 3321 upon approval.
  - a. 3160 – Transfer of Funds Between Categories
  - b. 3320 – Business and Non-Instructional Operations
  - c. 4152.5 – Personal Leaves / FMLA
  - d. 9130 – Committees
  - e. 9221 – Filling Vacancies

H. Future Business – none

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

- 1. Personnel – Negotiations  
A **motion** to adjourn to Executive Session was presented by Matt Giuffre at 7:23 PM; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ron Rousseau; MUP.  
After discussion of contract negotiations, the Board came out of Executive Session by consensus at 7:33 PM.

J. Adjournment – A **motion** to adjourn the meeting was presented by Matt Giuffre ; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rich Hayes; MUP. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd  
Board Clerk