

Bolton Board of Education
Business Meeting Minutes
August 21, 2014
Approved

The Bolton Board of Education held its regularly scheduled Business Meeting on August 21, 2014. Members present were Chair Karen Bergin, Julie Begin, Kate Galle, Matthew Giuffre, Rich Hayes, Alison Romkey and Ron Rousseau. Superintendent Kristin Heckt was also present.

- A. Call to Order – Chair Karen Bergin called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
- B. Comments from the Audience – Resident Jen Viot of 31 Bayberry Road informed the Board she is the PTA Treasurer this year.
- C. Additions to Agenda – None
- D. Routine Business Items
 - 1. Communications to Board Members – Kate Galle was contacted by a parent requesting the Board consider setting Professional Development days to provide for long weekends for families. Superintendent Heckt stated that the early dismissal PD days are spread throughout the year intentionally for better use of that time by staff and to be less interruptive to instruction. The parent request will, however, be communicated to the PD Committee for further review.
 - 2. Approval of Minutes – A **motion** to accept the June 12, 2014 BOE minutes was presented by Matt Giuffre, 2nd by Alison. Kate Galle abstained, the motion passed. A **motion** to accept the June 19 BOE minutes was presented by Kate Galle, 2nd by Matt Giuffre; MUP. A **motion** to accept the June 24, 2014 BOE minutes was presented by Matt Giuffre, 2nd by Kate Galle. Alison Romkey's name will be added as being present. Rich Hayes abstained; motion passed.
 - 3. Board of Education Committee Reports
 - a. Finance – Rich Hayes provided information on FY13-14 dollars returned to the Town and total fund transfer requests.
 - b. Personnel – Karen Bergin stated the first teacher negotiation meeting will be next Thursday, August 28 at 5:00 PM. Future meeting dates will be communicated to the Board.
 - 4. Community Meeting Reports / Board of Education – Rich Hayes reported that the Fields Committee will meet on Tuesday, August 26 at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Building. Superintendent Heckt, Rich Hayes and Ray Boyd will attend the meeting. This project is expected to be included in a multi-project bond that will be presented to the Town through referendum. The Board of Selectmen have requested all bond project committees to pare down the total expenditure in the area of 25-30% from current projections. Rich Hayes will provide information on field surface options at the next BOE meeting.
 - 5. Superintendent of Schools Report
 - a. Staffing Update – Superintendent Heckt provided information on the new staff at BPS.
 - b. Enrollment – Superintendent Heckt provided information on student enrollment at BCS and BHS and noted that Columbia enrollment is currently +1 and that 31 additional CHOICE students were enrolled in the

district (10 at BHS and 31 at BCS). The Enrollment Table will be provided in the next BOE agenda packet.

- c. Teacher Evaluation – Superintendent Heckt provided the latest information from the CSDE and requested Board approval of the current document. A motion to approve the current Teacher Evaluation document was presented by Rich Hayes, 2nd by Matt Giuffre; MUP. Superintendent Heckt provided clarification on proposed changes to the teacher focus and noted that similar changes will be made to the Administrator Evaluation document.
- d. OPEN Choice Capital Grant – Superintendent Heckt provided information on the technology purchases made from this grant. One school had to be selected to be awarded the funding and BCS was chosen. Updated information on the status of technology in the district will be provided to the Board in the near future.
- e. Facilities Update – Superintendent Heckt provided information on the various projects that were completed over the summer which include window caulking at BCS, water heater replacement at BCS and main office renovation at BCS. Rich Hayes asked that the Board be informed of any necessary mid-project changes on future projects.

Superintendent Heckt requested the Board to approve the posting of the proposed 10-month Dean of Students position. This position will be supported by Choice funds. There was discussion on the mental, social and emotional needs of students and that enrollment numbers aren't the sole indicator of these needs. Examples of other small districts with similar positions were provided. Staff member Jennifer Carvalho provided first-hand examples of situations where this position would positively affect the students and staff and lessen interruption to classroom instruction. Concerns were also raised on continued Choice funding of this position, lower enrollment, and the continued need of the position on a year to year basis. Superintendent Heckt also provided some basic requirements of the position job description, but noted that the Personnel Committee will complete the full job description for future Board review/approval. A **motion** to approve the posting of the Dean of Students position was presented by Matt Giuffre, 2nd by Kate Galle. Members Bergin, Romkey, Begin, Galle, Giuffre and Bergin voted for. Members Rousseau and Hayes voted against. The motion passed.

E. Unfinished Business

F. New Business

- 1. Resignations – Superintendent Heckt presented the resignations of staff members Anne Iovanella and Sarah Thomas. A **motion** to accept the resignations was presented by Kate Galle, 2nd by Matt Giuffre; MUP.

G. Future Business

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

- 1. Security Upgrades – a motion to move into Executive Session was presented at 7:20 by Matt Giuffre, 2nd by Kate Galle; MUP.

I. Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd
Board Clerk