

Bolton Board of Education  
Special Business Meeting Minutes  
May 11, 2015  
**Approved**

The Bolton Board of Education held a Special Business Meeting on May 11, 2015. Members present were Chair Karen Bergin, Julie Begin, Kate Galle, Matt Giuffre, Rich Hayes, Liz Krueger and Alison Romkey. Superintendent Kristin Heckt and BHS Student Representatives Elena Harvey and Jacob Dayton were also present.

- A. Call to Order – Chair Bergin called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
- B. Celebration of Excellence – The following students were recognized:  
CAPSS Student Recognition Award recipients –Erica Dean and Ethan Hull (BCS) and Bryan Duffy and Laura Rockefeller (BHS).  
CABE Student Leadership Award recipients – Lillian Minicucci and Samwell Pagani (BCS) and Jacob Dayton and Madelyn Teller (BHS).  
Rockville Vo-Ag Program Bolton Student Graduates – Michelle Barrett, Samantha Fazzino and Kailie Zampino.  
Superintendent Heckt also recognized and thanked Chair Karen Bergin who will resign her position this month.
- C. Comments from the Audience – none
- D. Routine Business Items
  - 1. Communications to Board Members – none
  - 2. Approval of Minutes
    - a. April 9, 2015 – A **motion** to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Rich Hayes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Giuffre; MUP.
    - b. May 8, 2015 – A **motion** to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Alison Romkey, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Giuffre; motion passed 6-0; Rich Hayes abstained.
  - 3. BHS Student Representatives Report – Elena Harvey reported the AP and Honors students are finishing up exams and that the prom will be held this Friday at Georgina’s Restaurant in Bolton from 6:00 – 11:00 PM. Jacob Dayton reported that the Social Justice Club packaged over 12,000 meals with over 50 volunteers on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and that they are wrapping up their toiletries drive for MACC.
  - 4. Board of Education Committee Reports
    - a. Curriculum – no report
    - b. Finance – did not meet, but Finance Director Kusal Huynh reported the current budget status which reflects an anticipated under expenditure of approximately \$123K. The fixed SPED reimbursement rate came in at 80.17% and applies to all filed expenditures as of the end of March. Expenditures incurred after that date are not reimbursable to the BOE. Superintendent Heckt provided clarification on the current billing process that provides for direct payment from the appropriate facility/town rather than Bolton paying up front and then requesting reimbursement, including IEP driven billing, as well as billing and payment for Open Choice and Columbia students. The billing for Open Choice students begins after we reach the \$8,000 tuition threshold.

- c. Personnel – Chair Bergin reported the committee met and will continue negotiations conversation in the scheduled Executive Session.
    - d. Policy – Matt Giuffre reported the committee met on April 21<sup>st</sup> and identified several policies that will be presented for First Read later in the agenda.
  - 5. Community Meeting Reports / Board of Education – Rich Hayes reported that he, Chair Bergin and Superintendent Heckt attended the 2+2+2 meeting and that the bonding project for September 2015 is now being proposed to only include BCS parking lot/sidewalks, a town fire truck and a septic/fire/water system at the Town Hall. Mr. Hayes noted there were assurances that there will be meetings scheduled with the contractor awarded the BCS parking lot/sidewalks project and the appropriate representatives of the Building Department and Police and Fire Departments to address any and all safety issues. The Fields Project is now scheduled for September 2016 and should include funding for the entire project, including lighting, press box and a concession/bathroom building. Chair Bergin suggested that the BOE members inform the Board of Selectman of their concerns on the safety of the fields and proposed delay of the project. The Town is further exploring a wants/needs assessment for the Town Hall and Rose Farm. Mr. Hayes further reported that a Finance and Administrative Subcommittee has been formed as a result of a Charter Review Committee recommendation with the focus of developing a code of ethics and Ethics Board for the town. Concern was also raised on the inaccurate information being printed in the Journal Inquirer as it relates to certain budget information and the Board should address how to better provide information to assure its accuracy and to have a possible future discussion with 2+2+2 committee members on this topic. There was no future 2+2+2 meeting date set, but Mr. Hayes will inform the Board as soon as he hears of one. Chair Bergin also noted that several Board members and the Superintendent attended multiple Board of Finance meetings, as well as the Public Hearing.
  - 6. Superintendent of Schools Report
    - a. 2015-2016 Budget Update – Superintendent Heckt noted that since this meeting was rescheduled to before the Town Budget Referendum, there is no update to report. Superintendent Heckt reminded the Board that new officer elections will be on the June agenda in light of Mrs. Bergin's resignation.
    - b. Field Trip Insurance Update – Finance Director, Kusal Huynh reported that the Grand Classroom offers to add us as an additional named insured. Our insurance consultant reviewed the sample policy provided by Grand Classroom and feels it is adequate for the trip's purposes.
    - c. Healthy Food Certificate – Superintendent Heckt requested the Board to approve the school's option to not participate in this program as has routinely been done in past years. A **motion** to not participate in the Healthy Food program was presented by Rich Hayes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alison Romkey; MUP.
- E. Unfinished Business
- 1. Second Read Policies – The Board agreed to approve items E.1.a through E.1.g as one motion. Matt Giuffre presented a **motion** to approve Policies 3323, 3324, 5141.25, 9131, 9250, 9325.2 and 9400, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rich Hayes; MUP.

F. New Business

1. First Read Policies – Matt Giuffre requested the Board to review the policies presented in F.1.a through F.1.d and, if no changes are presented, to be prepared to vote on their approval at the June meeting.
2. First Read Text Books – Director of Instructional Technology and Curriculum, Sarah Malinoski presented information on the extensive review process and rubric developed for the selection of the new Geometry (item F.2.a) and Algebra II (item F.2.b) text books for BHS for the 2015-2016 school year. Some considerations in the selection process were Common Core alignment, alignment with the new SAT testing material, and academic flow from the Algebra I text introduced last year. Feedback from staff regarding the Algebra I text was that students were well prepared for the next level of math instruction. Superintendent Heckt added that the new proposed text books will put us in alignment through the junior grade and will be an important piece for the juniors taking the new SAT test. Purchasing costs for the proposed text books will be forwarded to the Board.
3. First Read Courses
  - a. Peace Studies – Director of Technology Instruction and Curriculum, Sarah Malinoski reviewed the information provided on the proposed curriculum for the Peace Studies course to be offered as a half-semester English elective to be taught by a current staff member. The need for additional BHS electives has been well documented and this course would be a good follow-up option for students who have chosen the half-semester Speech elective. Superintendent Heckt noted she would like to have this approved in the First Read stage if the Board was willing to allow immediate scheduling selection. Julie Begin presented a **motion** to approve the Peace Studies course; there was no second and the motion was withdrawn. The course will be voted on at the June meeting.

G. Future Business – none

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

1. Security Update
2. Personnel – Negotiations
3. Superintendent's Evaluation

The Board came out of Executive Session by consensus at 8:35 PM.

A **motion** was made by Katherine Gallè to accept Superintendent Heckt's request for a salary increase of \$17,500, inclusive of her receiving insurance benefits, her contract to be modified to reflect that inclusion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Giuffre. Motion passed 5 -0 with Alison Romkey, Katherine Gallè, Julie Begin, Matt Giuffre and Karen Bergin voting in favor, and Rich Hayes and Liz Krueger abstaining.

I. Adjournment – A **motion** to adjourn was made at 8:45 by Rich Hayes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Giuffre; MUP.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd  
Board Clerk