

The Bolton Board of Education held its regularly scheduled business meeting on January 12, 2012. Karen Bergin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following board members in attendance: John Hambrook, Trace Maulucci, Richard Hayes, Joe Muro, Ronald Rousseau, and Matthew Giuffre. BHS Student Representatives Jenna Luck and William Whedon were also present.

- B. Celebration of Excellence: The following staff and students were recognized: January Employee of the Month – Eric Verner, BCS January Student Achiever - Skyler Jeffrey, BCS December Student Achiever Timothy Krawic and BHS Student Achievers for advanced placement on CAPT testing Catherine Allegritti, Christopher Armstrong, Michael Buckson, Rachel Chambers, Caitlin Eaton-Robb, Samantha Rosicke, Benjamin Teller and Mackenzie Williams.
- C. Comments from the Audience – Tom Manning followed up with his comments from last month on technology in the classroom and keeping costs down. PTA President Kate Galle congratulated and welcomed Mr. Hayes and Mr. Rousseau on their recent elections to the BOE and encouraged their involvement in the PTA and expressed her support for the technology available to teachers and that we use it to its fullest extent. Fourth grade student Brian Galle expressed the need for new text books. Joe Jankowski requested the BOE to consider rescinding the current “pay to play” requirement for extra-curricular athletics. John Toomey expressed his appreciation to the Board for their support of the Winter Faire, noted that the Wall of Fame is being reinstated with the posthumous induction of BHS alum Craig Pepin, and that the Scholarship Fund will hold a 40-year celebration brunch on April 29.
- D. Additions to the Agenda – none.
- E. Routine Business Items
 - 1. Communications to Board Members – none
 - 2. Approval of Minutes – December 8, 2011 – Motion to approve the minutes from John Hambrook and 2nd by Matt Giuffre. MUP.
 - 3. Board of Education Committee Reports
 - a. Personnel – met to discuss impending contract negotiations for the Part-time Instructional Assistants.
 - b. Policy – no meeting
 - c. Curriculum – John Hambrook reported the committee will continue to review, align and revise the Course Specific Goals for a March presentation and 2012-2013 school year implementation.
 - d. Building and Grounds – no meeting
 - e. Finance – no meeting
 - f. Transportation – meeting scheduled
 - g. Pupil Services – no meeting.
 - h. Community Information/Development – Joe Muro reported that his years Project Grad celebration will, for the first time, be held at BHS allowing for a budget reduction of approximately \$10,000 over last year which was held off-site. This effort is funded completely by volunteer fundraising efforts and community contributions.

4. Community Meeting Reports/ Board of Education - John Hambrook reported he met with the selectmen and CREC representatives for a planning session and will be reviewing statistical information on per pupil costs, etc. at the next meeting.
5. Report from BHS Student Representatives – Jenna Luck reported that Seniors Kenzie Goldsnider and Amanda Fritsche produced the Mr. BHS Pageant and for the first time a freshman won. Mr. Brian Duffy from Columbia was crowned Mr. BHS. Seniors Tom Donlon and Ian Butterfield came in 2nd and 3rd respectively. Letters and Treats for Troops were sent out. Mid-term exams start next week and an orientation for freshman will be held to help prepare them on what to expect during this time. Bill Whedon reported on the Snow Glow dance being held January 14 and the status of the BHS sports teams.
6. Administrators Reports – It was noted that a reference to the Girls Varsity team should have been Girls Varsity Soccer Team.
7. Superintendent of Schools Report
 - a. Tablet Courses – Pilot – Spanish teacher Senor Paco Ruiz and Science teacher Ms. Jen Carvalho presented an overview of their AP Spanish and Human Biology courses to be piloted with tablet instruction in the next semester. There will also be a virtual studies course available for tablet pilot. In total, 36 tablets will be handed out to students at BHS for use with various courses this upcoming semester. A meeting for parents, students and involved staff will be held January 25 in the BHS LMC. Specific usage agreements will be presented and signed by each student and parent/guardian. There was discussion on how the success of these pilots will be measured, will testing be done on tablets or conventionally, security and actual use concerns, who will monitor the use, how will the Board be kept informed of progress, who should monitor what apps are downloaded for classroom use and what approval, if any, might be appropriate and by whom, is our current Internet Use policy sufficient and applicable, what's the relationship between current curriculum use guidelines and apps used in the classroom and should there be one. Mr. Smith asked that these concerns be added to the next Curriculum Council meeting. A list of teacher requested apps will be presented to the BOE. The BOE will look to develop some sort of rubric to determine the success of this pilot and future staff development needs to support such a classroom environment. Mr. Smith, Senor Ruiz and Ms. Carvalho were commended for their preparation so far. The entire Tablet Course Pilot is funded by grant money.
 - b. 2012-2013 Budget Report – Mr. Smith presented a 2.9% budget proposal for the 2012-2013 school year. BOE Budget Works are scheduled for January 19 and 26 and February 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the BOE Conference Room. Board members were encouraged to email budget questions to Chair Karen Bergin prior to the scheduled workshop budget dates. Initiated by Mr. Robert Munroe, Board of Finance, there was discussion on budgeting for expenses associated with the support of tablet courses, text book expenses, increased time spent on student testing, and the upcoming meeting with Ovation on future insurance costs for Bolton and Columbia. Attendance at that meeting on February 6 at Horace Porter School in Columbia at 6:00 p.m. was encouraged.

F. Unfinished and On-Going Business

1. Second Read Policies – John Hambrook presented a motion to approve the policies as presented (5141.4 – Reporting of Child Abuse; 7230.2 – Indoor Air Quality; 3524.2 – Green Cleaning Program; and 9000 – Bylaws of the Board) and was 2nd by Matt Giuffre. MUP
2. Approval of Texts – After a short discussion on the costs of the texts and the availability of electronic support, a motion to approve was presented by Joe Muro, and 2nd by Matt Giuffre. MUP.
3. BOE Sub-Committees. After discussion on how committee assignments are made and a review of member responsibilities per the BOE By-Laws, it was decided the BOE will separately address these assignments and will notify the Superintendent's office of the final assignments made.

G. New Business

1. Safe School Climate Plan - Mr. Smith presented Bolton's Safe School Climate Plan for BOE approval and noted this is a State mandated program. Information was provided on student and parent communication, selection of Bolton's Safe School Specialist, and continued BOE updates. Concern was expressed on what forms are available to the public, especially as it pertains to those with student names on them. A motion to approve was presented by Joe Muro and 2nd by John Hambrook. MUP.
2. Acceptance of Resignations – A motion was made by Matt Giuffre and 2nd by John Hambrook to accept the resignations of 5th grade teacher Noreen Hoisington with 33 years of service and 7th grade science teacher Veronica Longo with 24 years of service. MUP.
3. Permission for European Trips 2013 - Itineraries were presented for the proposed Spanish Club trip to Spain from April 10-20, 2013 and the French Club trip to France from April 12-20, 2013. A motion to approve the trips was presented by John Hambrook and seconded by Joe Muro. MUP

H. Executive Session - A motion to recess to executive session was presented by Joe Muro and 2nd by Matt Giuffre.

1. Superintendent's Mid-Year Review – Mr. Smith offered to postpone his review due to the length of the meeting already. Karen Bergin asked for member input and after discussion it was agreed the BOE would individually read the review information and email any questions/comments to Mrs. Bergin and a meeting would be set-up in the future to discuss with Mr. Smith. A motion to adjourn the executive session was presented by Matt Giuffre and 2nd by John Hambrook. MUP

K. Adjournment – A motion to adjourn the BOE Business meeting was presented by Ron Rousseau and seconded by John Hambrook at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd
Board Clerk